NEW BUILDINGS IN BROOKLYN.

THE PLYMOUTH CHURCH AND THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The Rev. Dr. Storrs, of the Church of the Pilgrims, in Brooklyn, made the superior advantages of that pleasant neighbor of ours as a residence the subject of his Thanksgiving discourse last month. And very properly, too; for if anything could have warmed up the feelings of a Brooklyn audience to a pitch of thankful gratitude, it would—or a discussion of the relative grandeur, beauty, healthfulness, and convenience of their lovely city, in comparison with all the other great cities of the earth. If

"Albany lifts its steeples high in air,
Because the Governor lives there."

as Halleck sings, in his "Croakers," Brooklyn, may well be pardoned for lifting its pinnacles with lofty pride as the "City of Churches," *par eminence*.

It is about to vindicate its right to the title by the erection of the largest Protestant house of worship in Christendom. Not the largest church building, mind, but the largest house of worship.

In May last the Trustees of Plymouth Church advertised for plans for a church building to be erected on a site on Brooklyn Hights, containing twelve lots of ground, and with a capacity for seating 6,000 persons, the spacious building now occupied by the Church being entirely inadequate to the accommodation of the vast crowds attracted by the eloquent preaching of Mr. Beecher.

Architects of reputation have too much professional pride, in ordinary cases, to enter into competition of this kind, but the novelty and magnitude of this edifice tempted two, at least, of the distinguished architects of this city to send in plans, and last month, when the competing designs were exhibited in the parlor of the Church in Cranberry street, there were two, which by the beauty and novelty of their design, and the artistic ability and thorough knowledge displayed in the drawings, excited general attention. There were twenty-two designs in all, and to four of them premiums were awarded. The two designs whose beauty had attracted the attention of the public, however, were not among those which the Committee had honored by the award of a premium. The reason given for neglecting them was that they would demand too large an outlay of money if either were adopted. These two designs were by Richard M. Hunt and Jacob Wrey Mold. As these plans were not accepted, it is hardly worth while to attempt a description of them, as they are the private property of the architects and may be used hereafter.

The plan which was adopted by the Committee, and to which the highest preëminence was awarded, was by Mr. Charles Duggin of this city, a young Englishman who has been engaged chiefly, since his arrival here, in building some ornamental cottages in New-Jersey. All professional men have a rather unamiable way of describing each other's works; but architects excel all others in the vigor with which they dispraise each other's performances. Mr. Duggin's design for the Plymouth Church has come in for its full share of left-handed compliments from his brother architects, one of whom describes it as "a huge box," a quodlibet of architectural odds and ends, and a "rabble of barracks," &c. But the plans of Mr. Duggin, though not of a character to place him on a level with Bramante, are not altogether destitute of merit, and, if they do not possess the elegance and originality of those offered by Hunt and Mold, they had sufficient merit to win the approbation of the Plymouth Church people, who saw in them the elements of what they required for their new house of worship.

The site chosen for this large edifice is one of the most commanding in the neighborhood of New-York. It is on the Hights, in Montague street, just above the landing of the Wall-street Ferry, and when the church is completed it will loom up above the surrounding houses like the spectral dome in Cole's picture of the Voyage of Life.

The entire building covers an area of 150 feet fronting on Montague place, and extending 200 feet to Remsen street. The principal elevations, which is on Montague place, exhibits a three-storied gable front, franked by two square towers, with a mixture of classical and medieval characteristics not very easily described. The front is to be wholly of white marble and the towers are of red brick with marble dressings The towers, which are 26 feet square, contain the staircase leading to the galleries, and are 95 feet high. The eastern tower contains the clock and belfry, and is surmounted by an octagonal lantern. Since the adoption of the plan, it has been modified by the addition of a steeple 125 feet high to the eastern tower, and a change in the roof of the western tower, from the Mansard to the pagoda form. The main building will be in form an irregular octagon, it will have two galleries, with a choir behind the pulpit capable of seating 150 singers. On the floor are seats for 2,500 persons; the first gallery will contain 1,600, and the second 1,400, making accommodation for a congregation of 5,500, exclusive of the choir. The floor is not so wide as the upper part of the church, as a passage-way of six feet on each side extends on arches from Montague place to Remsen street. The lecture-room, offices, parlors and Sunday-school rooms are in the rear, with the entrance from Remsen, and are constructed without any attempt at architectural display on the exterior.

The estimated cost of this vast structure is $125,000, and it is to be finished in about 18 months. Mr. Hunt's plan, which was on a more economical scale than Mr. Mold's, was estimated to cost $217,000. But, after all, this great Church may not be built, for, though the lots have been purchased, the plans drawn, and the estimates made, the money has not been subscribed, and the Plymouth Church people are not the kind of men to commence a work of this kind until they see their way perfectly clear to its conclusion.

If the new Plymouth Church should prove a failure, the Brooklyn Academy of Music will not. There will be an Opera House, whether there be a Brooklyn opera or not. The money for that great undertaking has been all secured, the lots purchased, the plans made, and the foundations for the building already laid. A short distance above the site of the great church, on the same side of the street in Montague place, near Court street, the Academy of Music is now in process of construction on a scale of startling grandeur. It has a frontage on Montague place of 250 feet, exceeding the Academy in Fourteenth street by 35 feet; but as part of this will be appropriated to a small concert room, the auditorium of the Opera House will be something less than that of the New-York Academy.

The Committee having the affair in charge, instead of advertising for plans, very sensibly employed an architect, in whom they had confidence, and empowered him to furnish the plans according to their requirements. The individual chosen was Mr. Theodore Eidlitz, who made the designs for those remarkable buildings, the banking-houses of the American Exchange Bank on Broadway and the Continental Bank on Nassau street. Mr. Eidlitz has a fondness for the ponderous and romantic style of architecture, and, instead of making the Brooklyn Opera House of that light and riant style which should be, in some measure, indicative of the purposes to which the building is to be put, he has chosen an ecclesiastical style, better adapted for a theological seminary or a nunnery than a place of amusement. There is nothing about it in harmony with the lyrical nature of the entertainments which are to be given within its walls. The materials of which the building is to be constructed—dark red brick, with dressings of olive-colored stone—will tend to its gloomy and ponderous appearance. The Academy will present the appearance of a congeries of buildings, rather than one entire structure, as it is broken up into four compartments, with an extension of 25 feet to be appropriated for a green-room and dressing-rooms. The entire structure willl be 250 feet by 92 feet. The small music hall, or concert room, will take 40 feet, leaving 210 feet for the auditorium, stage, and lobbies; but the plan is so arranged that the entire extent of the building can be thrown into one grand hall when there is occasion for it. The stage will be 76 feet deep and 88 feet in width; the proscenium is 42 feet in width, and the same hight; there will be two galleries and a parquet, with seats for 2,000 persons. The form of the auditorium is not of the conventional horse-shoe pattern, but of a balloon shape. The interior decorations are in keeping with the heavy ecclesiastical character of the exterior, of a decidedly gothic tendency, the most unsuitable that could be designed for such a purpose. The architect probably has kept in view the fact that, as Brooklyn is a city of churches, even its places of amusement ought to be expressive of solemn and serious ideas. But the design may be easily altered in this respect.

The estimated cost of the Brooklyn Opera House is $180,000, and it is to be completed by September next.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Prenticeana; Or, Wit and Humor in Paragraphs. By the Editor of The Louisville Journal. 12mo. pp. 366. Derby & Jackson.
Prince Charlie, the Young Chevalier. By Meredith Jones. 12mo. pp. 331. D. Appleton & Co.
An exposition of the Constitution of the United States. By Henry Flanders. 12mo. pp. 411. E. H. Butler & Co.
Archaia: Or, Studies of the Cosmogony and Natural History of the Hebrew Scriptures. By J. W. Dawson, LL.D. 12mo. pp. 490. B. Davison & Son.
An Overland Journey from New-York to San Francisco. By Horace Greeley. 12mo. pp. 386. C. M. Saxton, Barker, & Co.
Shakespeare's Works. Edited by Mary Cowden Clarke. (Serial). Part I. D. Appleton & Co.
Here and There; Or, Earth and Heaven Contrasted. 18mo. pp. 41. The Same.
Evenings at the Microscope. By Phillip Henry Gosse. 12mo. pp. 459. The Same.
Great Facts: A Popular History and Description of the most remarkable Inventions during the Present Century. By Frederick C. Bakewell. 12mo. pp. 307. The Same.
History of the Republic of the United States of America. By John C. Hamilton. Vol. V. 8vo pp. 603. The Same.
Uncle Tom's Cabin. By Harriet Beecher Stowe. 310th Thousand. J. P. Jewett & Co.
Dunallan. By Grace Kennedy. 12mo. pp. 447. The Same.
Father Clement. By Grace Kennedy. 12mo. pp. 464. The Same.
The New Temperance Melodist. By Stephen Hubbard. 12mo. pp. 151. The Same.
Mother Goose for Grown Folks. A Christmas Reading. 12mo. pp. 111. Rudd & Carleton.
Reminiscences of Rufus Choate. By E. G. Parker. 12mo. pp. 522. Mason Brothers.
The King of the Golden River. A Legend of Stiria. By John Ruskin, M. D. 12mo. pp. 62. Mayhew & Baker.
The Story of the Gray African Parrot. By Harry Gringo. 12mo. pp. 53. Charles Scribner.
Friends in Council. A New Series. 2 vols. 12mo. James Munroe & Co.
Stories of Henry and Henrietta. Translated from the French of Abel Dufresne. By H. B. A. 12mo. pp. 194. T. O. H. P. Burnham.
Selections from the Writings of Fenelon. By Mrs. Follen. 12mo. pp. 374. James Munroe & Co.
The Law of the Territories. 12mo. pp. 127. C. Sherman & Son.
The Ladies' Reader. By John W. S. Howe. 12mo. pp. 425. E. H. Butler & Co.
The Wife's Trials and Triumphs. By the Author of "Grace Hamilton's School Days." 12mo. pp. 347. Sheldon & Co.
The Old Battle Ground. By J. J. Trowbridge. 18mo. pp. 278. The Same.
Poems. By Henry Timrod. 12mo. pp. 139. Ticknor & Fields.
Tom Brown's School Days at Rugby. Illustrated Ed. 12mo. pp. 465. The Same.
Biographical Studies. By George Washington Greene. 12mo. pp. 223. G. P. Putnam.
Kingston's Annual for Boys. 12mo. pp. 472. Ticknor & Fields.
The Boy Tar; Or, a Voyage in the Dark. By Capt. Mayne Reid. 12mo. pp. 356. The Same.
New Miscellanies. By Charles Kingsley. 12mo. pp. 375. The Same.
Memoir of Nicholas Hill. 8vo. pp. 60. Prepared and Published by a Committee of the New-York Bar.
Round the World. A Tale for Boys. 12mo. pp. 511. T. Nelson & Sons.
The Art of Elocution. By Henry N. Day. 12mo. pp. 384. Moore, Wilstach, Keys, & Co.
The Great Harmonia. By Andrew Jackson Davis. 12mo. pp. 453. A. J. Davis & Co.
The Female Skeptic; Or, Faith Triumphant. 12mo. pp. 450. Robert M. De Witt.
Essays of Elia. By Charles Lamb. A New Edition. 12mo. pp. 466. William Veazie.
The Life of John Collins Warren, M. D. By Edward Warren, M. D. 2 vols. 8vo. Ticknor & Fields.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

IMPORTANT ACTION OF THE AMERICAN DRAMATIC FUND ASSOCIATION.

Pursuant to a call from the Directors there was a meeting of the General Associates, at the office of the Institution, Broadway, yesterday, for the purpose of making such alterations in the rules as the present emergency and future prosperity of the Association required.

JOHN BROUGHAM, Trustee, was called to the Chair. The Secretary having read the call, as advertised,

The CHAIRMAN adverted plainly and understandingly to the necessity which had demanded the present course of action. He deplored the circumstance most sincerely, but admitted that there was no other resource left to carry out the original intentions of the founders and early workers of the Fund. Conceived in the broadest spirit of liberality as it was, contingencies had occurred which never were anticipated, and claims had accumulated, entirely beyond their calculation. In their anxiety, a most commendable one, to commence their work of usefulness, they had begun too early, and although up to the present every demand upon the Association had been scrupulously met, yet the requisite exertion which had to be periodically made, demonstrated the fact that without the most stringent and continuous endeavor, fatal to the popularity of the Association, from the frequency of appeal, it was impossible to meet even the present limited schedule. But now that the Secretary's report foreshadows a vast increase upon the list of applicants, the Directors have reluctantly come to the determination of calling upon the associates to so change the rules as to establish a permanent fund, which, from gradual accumulation, would be enabled, while distributing some relief now, to provide, in time, for all who may require its aid.

The SECRETARY then read the rules, one by one, when some modifications were discussed and adopted.

The CHAIRMAN wished to know if the meeting would accept the responsibility of making such serious alterations as were contemplated, with so few of the associates present.

Mr. LINGARD observed that they had proceeded in the legal way; the usual notice had been given, and if the absentees were dissatisfied they would only have themselves to blame.

Mr. LEVICK wished to know if the Secretary had received a communication from any of the members?

The SECRETARY replied in the negative.

Mr. LINGARD was favorable to the proposition of establishing sub-directories in the large cities for the purpose of stimulating benefits and assisting the general working of the fund, the majority of the labor having hitherto been borne by New-York.

Mr. MOORE asked if there was a positive necessity for altering the rules, as he was averse to this continual patching.

The SECRETARY read an estimate for the next five years, clearly showing that a tithe-part of the claims could not be met by the present organization.

Mr. LINGARD hoped that in any case the younger members who were the stay and support of the fund should not suffer. They entered on the faith of the promised sick allowance; were the fund for annuitants only, the Association would not number one hundred members.

The CHAIRMAN declared that he could not bring himself to think so meanly of his brethren in the profession.

Mr. C. K. MASON wanted to know where a man could get a better investment for two shillings a week as an annuity of $500, when he became 60 years of age, even if the sick allowance were not included.

Mr. LINGARD thought but few of the young members ever dreamed of arriving at such an age at all.

The CHAIRMAN begged the gentlemen to remember that this was not a regular health or annuity insurance office, but a purely benevolent association for the relief of the sick and superannuated; the subscription bore a very ridiculous proportion to the benefits derivable.

After some lively discussion it was moved by Mr. LINGARD and seconded by Mr. MOORE, that the reserved capital of $30,000 be changed to an accumulating invested capital, to be added to by the profits accruing from all benefits, donations, and whatsoever extraneous aid the Fund may receive; the annuitants to be paid out of the interest thereof, *pro rata*, until the Fund shall be large enough to discharge them in full. The claimants from sickness, to be paid *pro rata*, from the subscriptions of members; it having been found upon calculation that the sources are nearly equal.

The motion was put by the CHAIRMAN, and carried unanimously.

Mr. BLAKE called the attention of the meeting to the necessity, under existing circumstances, of amending the rule which prevented annuitants from being enabled to give up their claims temporarily, should opportunities present themselves of resuming their professions, such privilege having been found to work advantageously in the English Associations of a similar nature; when upon motion it was

Resolved, That any annuitant may resume his or her professional avocation for a period of not less than twelve months, by giving due notice to that effect to the Secretary, but being exempt from dues, subscriptions, and fines, they can have no claim upon the sick allowance.

Mr. BLAKE trusted the Associates would not print the rules, as amended, without submitting them to the supervision of the President, James T. Brady, esq.

The CHAIRMAN observed that of course such should be the course, and the meeting was adjourned for that purpose.

COMMISSIONERS OF POLICE.

This Board met as usual yesterday afternoon, at Police Headquarters, with closed doors, and at the termination of the session the Clerk reported the following as the result of the deliberations of the Commissioners: The resignation of John G. Finch of the Twenty-first Precinct was received and accepted. A resolution was adopted, requesting the District-Attorney to prosecute without delay the Poll-Clerks of the IVth District, Twenty-second Ward, for alleged misconduct in canvassing the votes at the late election, and to solicit the aid of the criminal magistrates and Grand Jury to punish the offenders.

A petition was presented, signed by the agents of the Savannah Steamship Company, Atlantic and Pacific Steamship Company, New-York and New-Orleans Steamship Company, Hamburg Steamship Company, Tileston & Co., Dr. Gunn, Health Officer, Mr. Carrigan and Capt. Crabtree of the Commissioners of Emigration, and several prominent shipping merchants, requesting that the police force, consisting of a boat's crew (10 men) be retained at Quarantine. The petitioners set forth that in addition to the essential aid which they afford in enforcing the sanitary regulations of the port, it is of the utmost importance to the welfare of the emigrants, who are constantly arriving here, that they should be protected against the cruel deceptions, misrepresentations, and impositions of runners and others, who are constantly disposed to take every advantage of their ignorance and inexperience. The petitioners have further reason to believe that the abatement to some extent of these evils is to be attributed to the presence and judicious employment of the small force which has of late been stationed at the Quarantine landing, and they earnestly request that the men be continued at the station, if not incompatible with the public interest elsewhere. The subject was referred to the General Superintendent, with power.

Since the trouble at Quarantine, a boat and crew of ten men have been kept on duty at that station, and they have accomplished much good in driving away the runners and emigrant swindlers who heretofore were in the habit of making Quarantine a sort of headquarters.

The report industriously circulated by interested parties that, at a late meeting, the Board had by resolution determined upon holding open sessions after the 1st of January next, is untrue, as no such question has been before the Commissioners for consideration. Among the new rules is a clause setting forth that the meeting of the Board shall be held with closed doors.

BOARD OF CITY CANVASSERS.

The Board of Canvassers reassembled yesterday morning at 9 o'clock. Mr. BOOLE in the chair.

The returns from the XIIth Aldermanic District were canvassed by Mr. Boole, and corrections were received of those in the Ist, IIId, and XIth Districts.

Mr. BOOLE offered a resolution to the effect that the official canvass should be published, when complete, in THE TRIBUNE and other journals. Laid over.

The special order of the day was then taken up. This was in relation to what action should be taken in the matter of the blank returns from the IVth District of the Twenty-second Ward. The canvassers in this District had charged their clerks with drunkenness on the day of election; they also alleged that they themselves had been threatened by rowdies, and compelled to close their boxes, and place them in the Station-House without canvassing them.

On motion of Mr. SEAGRIST, the matter was postponed until the returns could be received from the other districts of the Twenty-second Ward, and made the special order for 3 p. m. After canvassing the remaining districts from the same Ward, the Board took a recess till that time.

After the recess, Mr. SMITH corrected some returns from the First Ward. Mr. LYNES also corrected some errors in the Seventeenth Ward returns.

Mr. DARRAGH stated that the Canvassers from the Vth District of the Fourth Ward refused to appear in answer to the summons of the Board, whereupon the Sergeant-at-Arms was directed to use legal measures to insure their obedience.

The special order was then called up, namely, the blank returns from the IVth District of the Twenty-second Ward.

Mr. GENET thought it a very knotty subject, and requested a clear explanation from the gentleman in charge of that District.

Mr. SEAGRIST moved that the parties be heard by counsel. The Poll Clerks had failed to comply with the law, for the reasons stated above. He also thought the Board should receive the returns in question.

Mr. BRADY thought the gentleman from the Thirteenth had made no proper explanation. The Board had nothing to canvass. The boxes had been left at the Station-House more than a week by the Clerks. Was this a recess or not? He would ask if the returns were ever left in Judge Connolly's hands. Some of the Canvassers never attended the polls. The ballots exceeded by 35 the number of the poll-list. He hoped the wisdom of the Board would not allow the ballot-box to figure in a farce. The Board ought not to receive these returns.

Mr. TUOMEY did not think the election in the disputed district should be vitiated. It would be a dangerous precedent.

Mr. STARR moved that another committee be appointed to investigate the matter, but finally withdrew the motion.

A spirited debate ensued on the question of receiving these returns—Messrs. Stephens, Bradley, Owens, and Adams opposing, and Messrs. Peck, Genet, Seagrist, Tuomey, NcSpedon, and others favoring such a course.

Mr. TUOMEY asked the gentleman from the Thirteenth from whom he received the blank returns.

Mr. SEAGRIST replied that he received them from Mr. Murray, one of the canvassers, with a request to keep them safely till the Board could canvass them. [Laughter.]

Mr. HENREY moved an adjournment till 10 o'clock, Saturday a. m. Lost.

The vote was then taken on the previous question. Should the blank returns be received or not? Divided in the negative by a vote of 1 to 4.

Mr. STARR renewed his motion that a Committee of three be appointed to investigate the matter and report to-day at 3 p. m. Carried, and Messrs. Starr, Tuomey and Genet were appointed that Committee.

The correction of sundry returns was then proceeded with. We append the completed canvass of the Xth and XIVth Wards.

TENTH WARD.

Mayor.		*Corporat'n Counsel.*		*Alms-House Gov'r.*	
Wood, M.	287	Bronson, M.	1,056	Lynch, N.	868
Havemeyer, T.	1,089	Tilden, T.	1,016	McElroy, T.	920
Opdyke, R.	778	Hull, R.	791	Pinkney, R.	1,061
Councilmen—Fifth Senatorial District.					
Hongkirk, Tam.	963	Reynolds, Rep.	928		
Rollwagen, Tam.	959	Gifford, Rep.	788		
Costello, Tam. and Mozz.	963	Perley, Rep.	1,109		
McConnell, Tam.	969	Schwartz, Rep.	996		
Van Tine, Tam.	1,238	Ashman, Rep.	1,066		
Murphy, Mozz.	730	Ryan, Tam.	921		
Udell, Mozz.	653	Carleton, Ind. Dem.	606		
Dalton, Mozz.	810	Repper, Ind.	630		
Flanigan, Ind.	300	Jarboe	156		
Hall, Rep.	1,122				
Aldermen—VIth District.				*Aldermen—IVth District.*	
Tuomey, T. and M.	658			Bagley, Mozz.	374
Bennett, Rep.	602			McBrien, Tam.	497
Cully, Ind.	49			Watkins, Rep.	516
School Commissioners.				*School Trustees.*	
Slote, T. and M.	1,806			Nolan, T. and M.	1,556
Shaffer, Rep.	858			Neipath, T. and M.	1,061
School Inspectors.				Jones, Rep.	740
Holsworth, T. and M.	1,643			Scheibell, Rep.	819
Phillips, Rep.	1,119			Raynor, Ind.	278
				Stratton, Ind.	227
Constables.					
Riley, T. & M.	1,433	Mills, Rep.	399	Scott, Ind. Dem.	179
Lyons, T. & M.	1,311	Merson, Rep.	336	Horton, I. D.	338

FOURTEENTH WARD.

Mayor.		*Corporation Counsel.*		*Gov. Alms House.*	
Wood, M.	1,638	Bronson, M.	1,660	Lynch, M.	1,786
Havemeyer, T.	1,613	Tilden, T.	979	McElroy, T.	773
Opdyke, R.	360	Hull, R.	374	Pinckney, R.	336
IVth Dist.		*Aldermen.*		VIth Dist.	
Bagley, Mozart		441	Tuomey, Tam. & Mozz.		1,249
McBrien, Tammany		327	Bennett, Rep. & Amer.		406
Watkins, Republican		117	Cully, Ind. Dem.		311
Councilmen—Fourth Senatorial District.					
Jones, Tam.	1,155	Hall, Rep.	120		
McCarthy, Tam.	1,652	Roosevelt, Rep.	265		
Lux, Ind. Dem.	1,044	Fordham, Rep.	425		
Shannon, Tam.	1,363	Burns, Mozz.	1,791		
Bulteel, Tam.	1,130	Haley, Tam.	1,079		
Bogart, Mozz.	1,684	Smith, Mozz. and Tam.	1,049		
Caulfield, Rep.	430	Hogan, Mozz.	1,268		
Parker, Rep.	402	McManus, Mozz.	1,306		
Baulch, Mozz.	1,156				
Constables.					
McGuire, Tam. & Mozz.	2,266	Molloy, Mozz.	1,350		
Jones, Tam.	1,315	Cooke, Ind. Dem.	484		
School Commissioners.					
Byrne, Mozz.	1,430	Wilhelm, Rep.	642		
West, Tam.	830				
School Inspectors.					
Begg, Mozz.	1,467	Shannon, Rep.	428		
Slevin, Tam.	967				
School Trustees.					
Freel, Mozz.	1,479	De Benham, Tam.	1,296		
Munson, Mozz.	1,858	Nugent, Tam.	861		

A FEMALE FAGIN.—James McMullen, John Smith, and Nicholas O'Hara, three lads from 12 to 14 years of age, were arrested yesterday by Officer Ormsby of the Sixteenth Precinct, charged with stealing a variety of little articles from various stores where they were displayed for sale. They acknowledge the thefts, and said that they had no parents or friends, but were employed by Bridget Cunningham of No. 112 West Nineteenth street, who gave them their clothes, food and lodging for what they could steal. Bridget was arrested for receiving stolen property, and in her possession was found a large quantity of toys, poultry, etc., which had been stolen by the boys. Justice Quackenbush committed them all to answer.

A MALE VAGRANT IN PETTICOATS.—Patrick Kennedy, a young, villainous looking Irishman, was arrested on Thursday night in Hamilton street, dressed in female attire, with hooped skirts and padded calves all complete. He had been promenading the street all the evening, and had contrived to steal $1 50 from one man and a coat from another. The victims refusing to prosecute, Justice Brennan sent Patrick to Blackwell's Island for six months as a vagrant.

CITY ITEMS.

Miss Hattie Audem, a favorite soprano, will give a grand Concert at the Cooper Institute, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 20, assisted by Mr. S. B. Mills, Mr. Ernest Perring, Mr. Ed. Mollenhauer, and Dr. Charles A. Guilmette. Conductor, Mr. W. H. Currie.

The ladies of the Third Unitarian Church (the Rev. Mr. Frothingham's) will hold a fair on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings next, on the corner of Eighth avenue and Twenty-third street, under the Fifth-avenue Hotel. The proceeds of the fair are to be devoted to the purposes of the Church.

The Draytons give their last Matinée to-day at 2 o'clock, at Hope Chapel.

THE COURT OF DEATH.—The chromo-lithographs of this fine picture, by Peale, are attracting great attention. A large number are being sold for Christmas presents.

We refer our readers to the advertised attractions of the Charity Fair at the Academy of Music. To-night the festival winds up.

A NEW YEAR'S PRESENT.—The Knickerbocker monthly for January is accompanied by a New Year's present to its subscribers of a large engraving. It is a print of the well-known picture by Frith, "Merry Making in the Olden Time," representing a rustic English festival beneath the spreading branches of an English oak. Some of the lads and lasses are dancing merrily, some soberly making love, and others, pulling at an aged grandsire, are bent on compelling him to forget his fourscore years and ten, and be young again. Those who are neither young nor old are engaged in athletic sports, or recounting their exploits over the nut-brown ale. The picture is well engraved by W. Hall, and is creditable to the enterprise and liberality of the publishers of the Knickerbocker. The gift is intended for the new subscribers, as well as the old, of that popular monthly.

"SWAPPING JACKETS."—From any window in Beaver street, between Broad and William, one can see, at almost every hour of the day, trucks laden with bales of cotton,

"Ever moving, with slow unrest,
From west to east, and from east to west."

To the uninitiated observer, the scene presents a curious aspect. As each truck carries just four bales, and as for every truck coming east there is one going west; as one truck so laden appears the counterpart of every other; as between any two given truckmen there is no discernible distinction, the tyro's first impression is that these truckmen are a set of merry gentlemen of independent means, who, in order to kill time, thus disguise themselves and cart the same bales of cotton continually, back and forth, along the narrow thoroughfare. The second impression is that the dealers in cotton are forced, in penance for some fearful crime, to remove all of the staple which is stored on the Hudson River side to the East River side, and vice versa, every day of their lives; that this must be what is denominated "the movement in cotton. Last of all, one arrives at the right conclusion, viz: that this movement is owing to a lot of fellows known as "speculators," whose entire lives are spent in an employment very like the one last mentioned, but who, unfortunately for the world at large, are allowed to receive pay for their useless exchanges, taking a heavy toll out of the pockets of that unfortunate class—the consumers. Luckily, however, the latter won't always submit to it. At such times the middle-men amuse themselves by swapping jackets, one half paying to-day the expenses of the sport, and the other half, in turn, standing the loss to-morrow.

CITY INSPECTOR'S RECORD OF JOHN BROWN.—Under the head of "Bodies in transit," a full account of which is required to be kept by the City Inspector's Department, the following record of John Brown appears upon the books of the granter of burial permits:

"Date of passage, Dec. 4; name, John Brown; age, 58; place of death, Charlestown, Va.; disease, hanging; date of death, Dec. 2; place of interment, Essex Co., N. Y.; name of person having body in charge, Jacob M. Hopper; remarks: hung for murder, treason, and inciting slaves to escape from Virginia and Maryland."

RESIGNATION OF THE ASSISTANT UNITED STATES DISTRICT-ATTORNEY.—It is understood that Charles H. Hunt, esq., Assistant United States District-Attorney, will resign his office in a few days. Mr. Hunt was appointed by the late Hon. Theodore Sedgwick, and during the time of his service, owing to the illness of Mr. Sedgwick, the principal business of the office devolved upon him. His official career has been marked with ability and success, and he has always been ready and willing to afford the fullest facilities to the representatives of the press in matters pertaining to his office.

THE TAMMANY SOCIETY.—According to announcement, the regular meeting of the Sachems was held in the Wigwam at Tammany Hall, last evening. Isaac V. Fowler, Grand Sachem, presided. Two gentlemen were initiated, one of them being Arthur Leary, esq. The only other business of importance transacted was the resolution to hold the Annual Ball on the 9th of January, 1860.

SUPPOSED MURDER.—On Thursday morning Officer Studley of the Fourth Precinct found the dead body of a man, known about the docks as "Old Bob," lying in the alleyway of house No. 287 Front street. Upon being examined, the deceased was found to have received severe bruises about the head and face, and the right ankle was badly cut, as if with a knife. Drops of blood were traced up the alley to an old shed, where the homeless dock wanderers were in the habit of sleeping. By the body of deceased lay his shoes, and small pools of blood were found near by. About two weeks ago, "Old Bob" shipped on board the ship Victoria, bound for Liverpool; but when near Sandy Hook, on the outward passage, a disturbance occurred on board between some of the officers and the sailors, in consequence of which "Old Bob" and another sailor were brought back to this city by the Harbor Police. The deceased was locked up in the House of Detention for some time, but was discharged from there a few days ago, since which he had been living at the house of Mr. Fairgraves, No. 125 Roosevelt street, but had not been home for three or four days.

Coroner Schirmer held an inquest on the body, when it was ascertained that the name of deceased was William Logan, an Irishman by birth. No evidence of foul play was elicited, and it is impossible to conjecture whether he came to his death by accident or by violence. Dr. Geo. B. Bouton made a post-mortem examination of the body, when it was ascertained that the deceased had sustained severe injuries in the temple, nose and head, causing compression of the brain, and also that his left leg had been broken, the shattered bones of which protruded through the flesh. The jury returned a verdict of "death by compression of the brain, the result of injuries to the head; but how and in what manner said injuries were received the jury are unable to determine."

SKATING IN THE CENTRAL PARK.—It is not very clear to the thousands of skaters in the city that it is good economy, or good fun, to have a *place* for a skating pond without having the pond. The Commissioners of the Park have, so far as lies in their power, made the necessary preparations, and the natural supply of water is slowly accumulating; so slowly, in fact, that it will require a month or more to fill the pond—and this month includes the holidays, and what is usually our best skating weather. Application has been made to the Croton Aqueduct Department for the privilege of drawing off two feet of the twenty feet of water now in the Reservoir, and this permission has been refused, because the present surface of water is eight inches below the high-water mark. When it is necessary to inspect the works, as was the case a short time since, the Reservoir is nearly emptied, and the city does not suffer in consequence, nor could it suffer now, from the small reduction required for filling the pond. It seems to us that the Croton Aqueduct Department would do much to sustain its present popularity, if it would either grant the water or satisfy the public that it withholds it for a good and sufficient reason.

During the skating season arrangements will be made to give in the morning papers a bulletin of the condition of the ice up to 11 o'clock the preceding night. This will be a great accommodation to skaters.

THE STATE AND THE BROOKLYN FERRY LEASES—THE CHEAP FERRIAGE COMMITTEE.—Alderman Dayton of Brooklyn, yesterday afternoon served a notice on the Controller to the effect that Attorney-General Tremaine had procured an injunction from the Supreme Court of Columbia County, Judge Hogeboom, restraining the city of New-York from selling the leases of the ferries between New-York and Brooklyn at public auction, on the ground that the city has no right to the ferry franchises, which are claimed to belong to the people of the State. The long-mooted question of the validity of the claims of New-York, under the Dongan and Montgomery charters, to the ferriage of the East River, will now be authoritatively settled. The great sale which has for some time been advertised to take place to-day, at the City Hall, for a term of ten years, will be deferred until the title of the city franchises has been adjudicated upon.

ANOTHER PRIZE-FIGHT ARREST.—Thomas O'Donnell, the referee in the late prize fight which took place in Canada between Price and Kelly, was arrested yesterday by Detective Roach, on a bench-warrant issued by Judge Humphrey of Buffalo. The prisoner was taken before Justice Osborn at the Tombs, and required to find bail in the sum of $500 for his appearance for trial at Buffalo on the first Monday in January. This makes at least five of the participants in that fight who have been arrested in this city and held to bail for their appearance before the Court of Oyer and Terminer at Buffalo.

ROBBING HIS EMPLOYERS.—Messrs. Roberts & Cathell, dealers in hat trimmings, doing business at No. 113 Broadway, had cause to suspect a few months since that one of their clerks, named Vernon Jarboe, was stealing goods from them. They accused him of the theft, but he so excused himself that they made no charge against him, although the thefts still continued. Subsequently, Jarboe left their employ, and set up in business for himself, at No. 66 Broadway. Messrs. Roberts & Cathell still being suspicious of him, procured the services of Officers Hilliard and Flavin of the First Precinct, who watched Mr. Jarboe for sometime, and finally found that he was selling large quantities of goods to a man named Tobin, of No. 116 Division streets. Upon searching the place of the latter, they found a large quantity of goods which were recognized as having been stolen from Messrs. Roberts & Cathell. Tobin was arrested for receiving stolen goods, and subsequently Jarboe was taken into custody for grand larceny. Justice Osborn committed both of them to answer. The loss of Messrs. Roberts & Cathell cannot be correctly estimated, but they think it is over $3,000.

ATTEMPTED POISINING.—Peter Jameson, a young married man, residing at No. 126 Eighth street, left his home on Thursday morning and proceeded to the machine shop of Murphy & Co., in Cherry street, taking his dinner with him. At noon he ate his dinner, a part of which consisted of coffee, and shortly after was taken suddenly sick and was conveyed home. Dr. Mott was sent for, and on arriving ascertained that his patient had been poisoned. The proper remedies were applied, and the stomach relieved of the drug. It was then found that the can of coffee contained a quantity of arsenic, but who could thus have attempted to take the life of Mr. Jameson, he is at a loss to imagine. He says he noticed a peculiar and burning taste to his coffee, which was so disagreeable that he was unable to finish it. The prompt application of the necessary remedies alone saved Mr. Jameson's life, and although still suffering from the effects of the poison, he is in a fair way of recovery.

THE YORKVILLE ARSON CASE.—Mr. and Mrs. Petrarchi, charged with arson, were on Thursday honorably discharged, Mrs. Petrarchi without any examination, and Mr. Petrarchi after an examination of about six and a half hours, before Justice Brownell, which was conducted by Fire Marshal Baker on behalf the Insurance Companies.

"HOW THE POOR LIVE."

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: I have noticed "How the Poor Live," as stated in your Monday's issue. That instance of suffering was, upon your notice, promptly relieved. There are many similar cases in this city, known to those who have hearts to relieve, but not the means, and there are doubtless many citizens as well as visitors from the country who have both hearts and means to relieve similar distress, but do not know where to find it. I take the liberty, therefore, of suggesting the Missionary of Fulton street as a proper channel for their gifts, as it is well known that he has often to witness such scenes in the constant performance of his labor of love, far beyond his ability to supply. S.

THE CHEMICAL EVIDENCE IN THE STEPHENS CASE.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: I am induced to depart from my rule, not to reply to articles in the newspapers relative to criminal proceedings, and to notice one published to-day upon the case of Stephens, by reason of the importance of that case, and the interest felt by the public therein; and, also, in justice to the distinguished chemist by whom the chemical analyses of the body of the deceased were made, and his associates, who, in my judgment, and as I have advised them, ought not to reply to the call therein made upon them. The motion by Mr. Ashmead, in the General Term of the Supreme Court, on Tuesday last, that the case be sent to the Oyer and Terminer, in order to permit a motion therein for a new trial, could not have been made with any hope of success, but only, as was stated by me in Court, for the purpose of commencing an agitation designed to reach the Executive. In relation to the affidavit of Thomas V. Patterson of whose character I had previously had occasion to have some knowledge, it is sufficient to say that its allegations were fully negatived in advance, by the testimony given on the trial of the cause; that such affidavits are made with entire impunity, because, unfortunately, the statute against perjury does not reach them, and that if any such affidavit is presented to the Executive its allegations will be clearly refuted, and, as I believe, to