LOCAL CRIME.

THE SIXTH-AVE. TRAGEDY.

MR. PHELPS SOMEWHAT BETTER—SEARCHING THE HAUNTS OF THIEVES—SEVERAL ARRESTS—THE POLICE FORCE IN THE UPPER PRECINCTS — PROMINENT GANGS OF SNEAK THIEVES.

Mr. Phelps, the jeweler, who was shot in his residence at Sixth-ave. and Thirty-ninth-st. on Friday evening, is somewhat better, and the attendant surgeons think that there is a possibility of his recovery. It is believed that the ball struck a rib, glanced off, and may have missed a vital part. The ball has, thus far, not been found, and the surgeons are averse to probing, believing that it would do more harm than good in the critical condition of the patient. Mrs. Phelps reached home at 4 p. m. on Saturday from Syracuse, where she was visiting friends. She had been telegraphed for soon after her husband was shot. The meeting was very affecting, and the excitement it caused had a bad effect on the patient for a time. Mr. Phelps was resting comfortably last evening, and was in every way much improved. If no more unfavorable symptoms be apparent within 24 hours, the attendant surgeons will have strong hopes of his ultimate recovery.

Strong efforts are making by the police to discover and arrest the thieves. A consultation was held on Saturday morning between the Superintendent, Capt. Burden of the Twenty-ninth Precinct, and Capt. Irving of the detective force, and a plan of operations arranged. Several of the best detectives of the Central Office squad were intrusted with the case, and detectives from other precincts were also called into requisition. The low haunts of thieves were searched; every saloon or thieves' resort in the upper part of the city was visited, and especial inquiry made relative to the thief who shot Mr. Phelps, and who lost his hat in the subsequent struggle with Mr. Palmer. The finding of a bunch of skeleton keys in the gutter in front of the house in Thirty-ninth-st., and another at Fortieth-st. and Fifth-ave., both having been thrown away by the assassin in his flight, proves conclusively that the murderers were sneak-thieves and not burglars. Accordingly it is among this class that search has been and will be made.

During Saturday, several arrests were made, but they proved fruitless aside from information of more or less value obtained from the prisoners, and nearly all were discharged by Superintendent Kelso after a hearing. Among others were Thomas Ryan, a bar-tender, and E. J. Lynch, a bill-poster, arrested by the Tenth Precinct Police, and James Bishop, a copyist, of the Nineteenth Ward. Wm. J. Barclay, an expert sneak-thief, released from Blackwell's Island a few days ago, was captured on Saturday morning in the room of John H. Morrell, a guest at the Grand Hotel. Later in the day he was closely questioned by Detective Ehler relative to certain gangs of sneak-thieves with whom he was known to operate, and it is understood that he gave valuable information. It has been ascertained that the thieves had been in the house of Mr. Phelps some time before they were discovered by him. They had broken open two trunks and a bureau in rooms on the third floor, and had descended to the second floor and were endeavoring to force open the door leading to the sitting-room when they were discovered. The following is the ante-mortem statement of Mr. Phelps, taken by Coroner Young on Saturday morning:

"Last evening, about 8¼ o'clock, John E. Palmer informed me that there were two suspicious men lounging near the store, and I told him that I had better go through the house. I immediately came up stairs, tried the middle door and found it locked. I then went to the room door and on opening the door I saw two men near the stairway. I grappled with the smaller, when the second man came to the assistance of the man I was struggling with, and the man escaped. I then seized hold of the second man, and as I did he shot me and ran down the stairs. I immediately followed him down the stairs and found that I was shot in the left breast, and said to Mr. Palmer, 'Oh, I am shot.' Mr. Palmer then took me by the arm and led me into the store. I did not know either of the men. The men had been robbing the house."

The jury rendered a verdict "That the said Charles H. Phelps came to his injuries by a pistol shot at the hands of a person to him unknown while endeavoring to protect his house from being robbed."

Much surprise is manifested by the public that such a crime could have been perpetrated on a business thoroughfare crowded with people, at that early hour in the evening, and that the assassin, although followed for five blocks by a policeman, should have been able to escape. The very boldness of the crime, went far toward insuring its success. Of the robberies by sneak thieves that are perpetrated in this city every day and evening, not one in twenty is supplemented by the capture of the thieves. It was a bold crime, and well calculated to startle the community, but not more so than the Rogers or Nathan murders. Mr. Rogers was mortally stabbed in broad daylight within a short distance of Broadway, and in plain sight of that thoroughfare, along which hundreds of persons were passing at the time; and although there is every reason to believe that the assassin was detected, and detained in custody for several months, the evidence was not sufficient to convict him, and the authorities were compelled to release him. Retribution, in the hope of a bullet from the pistol of another equally as desperate as himself, overtook him one year almost to a day from the date of Mr. Rogers's death. Benjamin Nathan, one of the wealthiest and most respected citizens in this community, was murdered in his residence directly opposite a hotel in which were over 1,000 persons. The police claim to know who is the perpetrator of the murder, but, considering that rewards aggregating $47,000 were offered for his apprehension, and that not even an arrest has been made, notwithstanding two years have passed since the commission of the crime, the public may be pardoned for treating this assertion with incredulity. It is true that in the case of the thief who shot Mr. Phelps he was so lowed by Officer Morgan for several blocks, and the officer says that he could have easily shot the fugitive, if he had known of the crime, but he did not feel justified in resorting to so extreme a measure.

INSUFFICIENCY OF THE POLICE FORCE.

The small force of police in the upper part of the city also increased the chances of the fugitive's escape. Less than 40 policemen are on duty at one time in the space bounded by Fourth and Seventh-aves., Fourteenth and Forty-second-sts. It might very readily happen that no policeman would be on hand to intercept the flying thief when compelled to cover a section of 20 blocks or more. Further up town the disproportion of policemen to the section to be guarded is even greater. The Thirty-first Precinct extends from Sixty-second to One-hundred-and-tenth-st., and from Central Park to the North River. To cover this large extent of territory there are less than 40 policemen, and of these of course not more than one-half are on duty at one time. There are posts in this precinct more than two miles in length. When a murder is committed at one end of one of these long posts it is simply impossible for a patrolman at the other end to hear cries for help; and if he does, the assassins can escape long before he reaches the scene. The Board of Commissioners acknowledge that the force is inadequate to guard the upper part of the city, but say that they are not responsible for it. They make the best disposition they can of the force at their command, and claim that if the up-town precincts were given a larger force the extra men would have to be withdrawn from precincts down town, and that extensive burglaries would be of much more frequent occurrence. They are not empowered to increase the number of the force. The Commissioners think that the police of this city should be increased by an addition of 500 men, but this would involve an additional outlay of $600,000, and this the authorities are unwilling to incur.

THE ASSASSINS PROBABLY LOAFER THIEVES.

The detectives most conversant with the case, and whom long observation and shrewdness have given a warrant for speaking by authority, are unanimous in the opinion that the thieves who entered Mr. Phelps's house and nearly compassed his death, belong to the class known as "loafer thieves." They depend mainly on stealing for an existence, scarcely ever making even a pretense of working at a trade or performing menial labor for a living. They are not classed among the professional sneak-thieves or burglars, and yet may engage in the work of either, although their jobs are done in so bungling a manner as to render it evident to the eye of a detective that the work was that of a novice. The majority of this class are young men, whose ages range from 18 to 25 years. They are to be met with on street corners and in front of low liquor saloons night and day. Nearly all of the street robberies are perpetrated by this class, and a majority of the smaller burglaries. They invariably go armed, and use their weapons on the smallest provocation. The professional sneak thief or burglar will use every endeavor to escape, if discovered in the commission of a theft or robbery, and only in an extreme emergency will he use a weapon, knowing that in nineteen cases out of twenty it lessens his chances of escape, and that by wounding or killing those who attempt to capture him he may escape for a time, but that efforts for his subsequent capture will be increased five-fold, while his punishment will be very much greater. There is always a chance that he who kills another in a bar-room brawl or a street fight may succeed in eluding punishment, but no such loop-hole is open to the thief who is convicted of assassinating him whose property he has attempted to steal.

There are many well-known gangs of ruffians and thieves in this city, composed of this very class, and whom the police are constantly compelled to keep as far as possible under supervision. The Nineteenth-st. gang still exists, although its ranks have been thinned of late years. The Tenth and Eleventh-ave. gangs, or "Forty Thieves," are to be met with on those avenues from Thirtieth to Forty-second-sts. The depredations on the freight cars of the Hudson River Railroad all along the line from the depot to Spuyten Duyvil Creek are the work of these gangs. Several have been captured from time to time, and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment, but the depredations continue. Not long ago, two of a gang who were at work on some freight cars on a side track near the river, on the upper part of the island, were shot and seriously wounded by a party of private detectives in the employ of the railroad company. The remainder of the gang escaped in a boat, leaving behind wounded confederates to fall into the hands of their assailants, they utterly refused to turn informers, and when subsequently sentenced to a long term of imprisonment received their sentences in the most stolid and imperturbable manner. Both were young men, neither being much over 20 years of age. Such men are constantly prowling along the river front, seeking opportunities for plunder. The band of ruffians recently marshaled in the offices of the Erie Railway Co. in the Grand Opera House, was composed of members of the Nineteenth-st. and Tenth-ave. gangs, under 20 years of age. On the east side of the city are half a dozen gangs, composed of just such materials as those on the west side. How rapidly the membership of these gangs is increasing, the murderous affrays with which the columns of the press almost daily teem fully attest, and bear out the remark made a few days ago by an old and experienced officer of police, that the dangerous classes are increasing each year in far greater proportion than the growing population warrants.

A BROOKLYN MURDER.

FATAL AFFRAY BETWEEN BROTHERS-IN-LAW.

Patrick Hays, a shoemaker, doing business in Warren-st., New-York, was killed yesterday by his brother-in-law, Bernard Marrin, in a tenement in North Fifth-st., Brooklyn, E. D. They had spent Saturday night with friends, in a Grand-st. saloon, and were drunk when they arrived at Hays's abode, in North Fifth-st., early on Sunday. Here they quarreled and eventually came to blows. Hays was lifting his arm to strike Marrin when the latter dealt him a terrible blow with his fist in the back of the neck. Hays attempted to sit after receiving the blow, but before he could reach a chair, he fell heavily to the floor, and died instantly. Patrick Hall, who had witnessed the fight, ran for a physician, and brought Dr. Sweeney, who, after an examination of the body, pronounced the neck broken. Marrin was arrested by officers of the Fifth Precinct, and placed in a cell to await the action of a Coroner's jury. He has only one arm, and was formerly employed in the New-York Custom-House. He is a single man, age 35, and resided with his mother in Fifth-st., near North Seventh-st. The deceased was aged about 32, and had a wife and one child.

Marrin refuses to make any statement, but simply declares that Hays and he had been "skylarking," and that he had no intention of killing his brother-in-law when he struck the blow. Patrick Hall was also arrested, and is detained as a witness. Hays is reported to have said repeatedly that he was afraid of his brother-in-law, with whom he had frequently quarreled. An inquest will be held by Coroner Whitehill to-day.

SALOON AFFRAYS.

Patrick Kiernan, age 19, of No. 613 Greenwich-st., while partially intoxicated early yesterday, went into Christian Cordes's grocery, No. 611 Greenwich-st., and after abusing the proprietor, assaulted him. Cordes drew a pistol and shot Kiernan in the neck, causing a dangerous wound. He claims to have acted entirely in self-defense. He was arrested and subsequently committed by Justice Cox. Kiernan was removed to Bellevue Hospital.

Philip Gutfleisch, age 16, of Sixty-ninth-st. and First-ave., quarreled early yesterday at a raffle in a saloon in First-ave., near his residence, with Simon Lanigan and John O'Hara. They assaulted him, and he stabbed Lanigan on the right cheek and hand, and O'Hara in the back, inflicting severe wounds. The assailant was committed.

During a row early yesterday, in Michael Dowdell's liquor store, No. 456 West Thirty-second-st., bottles and glasses were used, and the combatants were severely wounded. Patrick Reagan of No. 246 West Thirty-first-st. was taken to Bellevue Hospital. Dowdell, Peter Flanagan, and Thomas Connor were locked up on counter charges.

At an early hour yesterday, a serious fight took place between a party of intoxicated men in the lager beer saloon of Henry Beigens, at Graham-ave. and Stagg-st., Brooklyn, E. D., and Officer Whaley of the Sixth Precinct was beaten while attempting to arrest them. Benjamin Thompson was locked up for interfering with the officer.

STREET ASSAULTS.

Patrick O'Neil and Patrick Fitzgerald assaulted Michael T. Griffin of No. 34 New-st., in Greenwich-st., early yesterday, and O'Neil cut him on the head and neck, inflicting severe wounds. They were committed by Justice Hogan.

John O'Neil, age 19, of No. 545 East Twelfth-st., while standing with a friend in Avenue A, near Thirteenth-st., early yesterday, was struck on the head with an iron bar, and severely wounded, by an unknown man, who escaped. O'Neil was sent to Bellevue Hospital.

Martin Loere, residing at First-ave. and Forty-second-st., was brutally beaten and kicked by three unknown men at Fifty-third-st. and First-ave.

Charles Kane of No. 546 East Fifteenth-st., was knocked down and brutally beaten and kicked, early yesterday near his residence, by Thomas Smith and a lad known as "Mouse." The assailants escaped.

Joseph Marcell, colored, age 17, of No. 247 Elizabeth-st., was assaulted with a club and received a fracture of the skull at the hands of a colored man named Blood, who escaped. The injured lad was removed to the Colored Home.

A CASE OF INFANTICIDE.

Mrs. Eliza Harris, age 29, while suffering from an attack of puerperal mania, on Saturday morning, drowned her illegitimate infant, in a pail of water, at her residence, No. 343 South Third-st., Brooklyn, E. D. The officers of the Fifth Precinct found the mother sitting by a window, and at her feet was the pail, with the dead child lying in it, face downward. She was conveyed to the Station-house, and is now under the care of a physician, a Coroner's jury having declared that she was insane.

ASSAULTS WITH HATCHETS.

Ann McCormack, age 40, quarreled with Cecelia Skinner, age 32, at their abode in Bond-st., Brooklyn, yesterday, and struck her on the head with a hatchet, seriously injuring her. The wounded woman was conveyed to the Long Island College Hospital and her assailant was held to answer.

Two drunken men, William Clinton and James Moran, fought yesterday morning in Warren-st., Brooklyn, and the latter had his skull fractured with a hatchet. Clinton was locked up.

A BOLD ROBBERY.

Addison Alger of No. 24 Cheever-place, Brooklyn, was followed on Saturday from the National Park Bank by three men, who jostled against him and robbed him of $260, with which they escaped.

THE SUICIDE MANIA.

John Partington, age 45, of No. 147 Tillary-st., Brooklyn, committed suicide at his dwelling on Saturday evening, by swallowing laudanum. A bottle containing the poison was found by his side.

Isaac Speyer, age 20, a German, committed suicide on Saturday at his boarding-house, No. 274 Third-st., by taking Paris green.

John D. Blake of No. 72 Broome-st., while intoxicated, attempted to end his life by taking laudanum. He was removed to Bellevue Hospital.

Bartholomew Gerrigan of No. 340 East Twenty-third-st., cut his throat with a razor, causing a dangerous wound. Removed to Bellevue Hospital.

THE SUNDAY OPENING OF THE MERCANTILE LIBRARY READING-ROOM.

The Mercantile Library Association threw open the doors of its reading-room, yesterday, for the first time on Sunday in its history. For several years past the principal plank of those members known as the "opposition" at the annual election of directors, has been a demand that the reading-room should be open on every day of the week. The "administration" have replied that the idea was opposed to the religious sentiment of the community, and that, moreover, even if the directors were willing to comply with the demand, the Clinton Hall Association, which owned the building, would refuse consent. At every election the Directors have been able to rally enough sympathizers to defeat the opposition ticket, but the scenes of election day were so disgraceful to the Association last year that it was determined to adopt another course this year, and to test the opinion of the members in advance. Lists were accordingly placed in the Library for the signatures of those who favored or opposed the opening of the reading room, and after two weeks the yeas were found to number 1,400 and the nays only 300. The Board of Directors immediately applied to the Clinton Hall Association for its consent, which was at once granted, although with the provision, that the building should only be open from 1 to 9 p. m., the evident intention being to encourage attendance at church Sunday morning. The directors hope soon to obtain leave to open the room for the entire day. At the approaching election, three of the leadres of the opposition will probably be elected directors out of the four to be chosen. The reading-room was visited, yesterday by about 300 members, chiefly young men. Perfect quiet prevailed, and there was not the slightest disorder among the crowd of interested readers.

LOCAL FIRES.

The following is a complete list of the insurances on the Cuba Sugar Refinery, at the foot of Geld-st., Brooklyn, which was burned on Friday night, the loss being estimated at $300,000:

On stock: Guardian, $2,500; Resolute, $2,500; Merchants, $5,000; Germania, $5,000; Standard, $5,500; North British Mercantile, $12,000; International, $5,000; Relief, $5,000; Merchant (Boston), $5,000; Clinton, $5,000; Manufacturers and Builders, $5,000; Boston, $5,000; Lawrence, $5,000; Shoe and Leather (Boston), $2,500; Prescott, $2,500; Howard, $2,500; New-Amsterdam, $5,000; Sun (Cleveland), $2,000; Royal, $5,000; American, $2,500; Mechanics', $2,000. New-York, $5,000; Metropolitan, $5,000; Corn Exchange, $5,000; Hoffman, $5,000; Importers' and Traders', $5,000; Continental, $5,000; Hartford, $10,000; Washington (Boston), $5,000; Elliot, $5,000; Manufacturers', $5,000; National (Bangor), $5,000; Commercial Union Association (London), $10,000; Stuyvesant, $5,000; Westchester, $2,500; St. Nicholas, $2,500; Phenix, $5,000; Commercial, $5,000; Pacific, $2,500. On machinery and fixtures: Phenix, $5,000; North British and Mercantile, $10,000; Tradesmen's, $2,500; American (Boston), $3,000; Eagle, $5,000; Adriatic, $5,000; Star, $5,000; Union (Bangor), $5,000; Eastern, $4,000; Howard, $5,000; Humboldt, $3,000; Empire City, $5,000; Commercial (Cleveland), $5,000; American (Philadelphia), 5,000; Pennsylvania, $5,000. On horses and harness: Humboldt, $1,500. On buildings: Fireman's, $5,000; Star, $2,500; Globe, $2,500; Williamsburgh City, $5,000; Greenwich, $5,000; Sterling, $2,500; Fireman's Fund, $2,500; Bowery, $5,000; Nassau, $2,500; Jefferson, $2,500.

During the fire, Edward Weathers, age 13, was struck on the head by a falling brick, and his skull was fractured. He died, on Saturday at the hospital.

Jefferson Edwards's bakery and store on the first floor and basement of No. 301 Spring-st. were damaged $3,500 by fire early yesterday; insured for $1,000 by the Park Company. The effects of A. H. Smith on the upper floors were damaged $300. Mrs. Smith and her child were taken from a second story window by the firemen. The building, owned by Samuel Birdsall, was damaged $1,000; insured for $8,000 by the Broadway and other companies.

A fire on the first floor of No. 45 Ann-st. damaged Philip Metz's stock of rags $200, insured. The building, owned by John F. D. Dohrenwend, was damaged $100; insured for $5,500.

James Coleman's frame stable in Withers-st., Brooklyn, E. D., was burned on Saturday evening, with two horses valued at $750; total loss, $2,000; no insurance.

CHESS IN BROOKLYN.

The Brooklyn Chess Club was organized last Saturday night at a meeting held at the Directors room of the Mercantile Library Association, the following officers being elected for the ensuing year:

President, J. Spencer Turner; Vice-President, Paul Werth; Secretary, Manuel Muzzy; Treasurer, S. B. Noyes; Executive Committee, Henry Chadwick, Charles H. Gilberg, and S. B. Chittenden, jr.

The club has been organized under the auspices of the Mercantile Library Association, and will occupy one of the large class rooms in the building, which is now furnished for the purpose.

HOME NEWS.

THERMOMETER YESTERDAY AT HUDNUT'S, 218 BROADWAY.

9 a. m.—69° Noon.—77° 5 p. m.—73° Midnight.—65°

CENTRAL PARK METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING AT 2 P. M., MAY 11.

BAROMETER.	Inches.	THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Mean	30.069	Mean	65.5
Maximum at 9 a. m., May 5	30.146	Maximum at 3 p. m., May 10	89.0
Minimum at 8 a. m., May 9	29.404	Minimum at 5 a. m., May 5	41.0
Range	.242	Range	48.0

REMARKS.

May 10—Rain from 5:10 p. m. to 5:30 p. m. Amount of water .11 inch. Distance traveled by the wind during the week.....1,218 miles.

PROMINENT ARRIVALS.

Gilsey House—Inspector-General McQuade of Gov. Hoffman's staff....*Astor House*—The Hon. Robert H. Strahan, Albany....*St. Nicholas Hotel*—Ex-Gov. Bowen of Arkansas, the Hon. James M. Scovel of New Jersey, John W. Sloss of Alabama, and Charles H. Sherrill of Washington....*Everett House*—Signor Ferranti....*Metropolitan Hotel*—John H. Reynolds of Albany....*St. James Hotel*—The Rev. J. F. Aguirre and Dr. Salazar of Guatemala....*Fifth Avenue Hotel*—Ex-Mayor Norcross of Boston, George O. Jones of Albany, and Bradley Barlow of Vermont....*Grand Central Hotel*—Sheriff Leeds and a delegation of the Philadelphia City Council.

DEPARTURES.

Gen. Butler, who arrived in the city on Saturday, returned to Washington last evening. Joseph Jefferson, the comedian, arrived at the Hoffman House yesterday, and started last evening for Boston, where he is to fulfill an engagement.

NEW-YORK CITY.

A sign on Bleecker-st. reads as follows "Tammany Cocktails, 10 cents. Reform Cocktails, 15 cents."

The Hildise Bund has expended $14,000 in aid of sick and disabled members since Jan. 1, and in 32 cases of death $33,000 has been paid to families, or heirs.

Arrests last week, 1,995; lodgers accommodated by the police, 2,766; marriages, 193; births, 373; deaths, 764, including 48 from small-pox; loss from 47 fires, $155,020; insurance, $1,138,900.

J. Pateman, for 10 years a clerk in the New-York Post-Office, was committed last Saturday, by Commissioner Shields, in default of $5,000 bail, on a charge of embezzling letters containing articles of value.

The University-place cars have an improvement on the old hand-strap in the shape of a handsome, polished brass ring with a handle of black walnut, which is much easier to hold and does not pain the hand.

The School-ship Mercury arrived at this port yesterday from St. Thomas, W. I., with 245 boys on board. The Mercury has just completed a cruise to Los Palmas, the Canary Islands, and Rio Janeiro, and thence home via the West Indies.

James Smith, who shot his wife, Eliza Brownell, in Greene-st., on Wednesday, being insane, was taken from the Fifteenth Precinct Station-house to Jefferson Market, yesterday, and sent to the Tombs to be examined by a commission.

About 60 bakers, mainly Germans, met at the Harmonie Rooms, in Essex-st., yesterday morning, Mr. Holloch presiding. Action was taken to raise the price of bread from eight to ten cents a loaf. A general meeting will be held on Thursday.

Charles S. H. Small, for the past two years Night Chief Operator on the Western wires in the General Office of the Western Union Telegraph Company in this city, has resigned and accepted the Assistant Superintendency with the Gold and Stock Telegraph Company.

About 1,800 members of the United Order of American Carpenters and Joiners, who demanded the enforcement of the eight-hour law, will "strike" this morning, and will be joined by a large number of workmen who are in sympathy with them. Fifteen, at least, of the prominent "bosses" in the trade will make the concession.

Another Japanese Commission arrived in the city on Saturday from San Francisco. The party consists of Gen. George B. Williams, formerly of the U. S. Treasury Department, and now in the Japanese service; Kujonore Yoshida, Special Treasury Commissioner; four secretaries, and eight subordinate Japanese officials. They are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

The Polish Fair was opened yesterday afternoon at the Harmonie Rooms, in Essex-st. The President of the Executive Committee, Antoni Kopankiewicz, made an introductory address and speeches were made in English, German, and French by Dr. Meikiewicz, F. E. d'Alfonce, and P. Wodzicki. The fair is in aid of a fund for establishing an institute, which is to include a reading-room, a printing office, and an asylum for poor and disabled exiles from Poland. The goods on exhibition have been contributed by resident Poles.

BROOKLYN.

Arrests last week, 390; taxes collected, $68,546 61.

The Cleftridge Bridge in Prospect Park has been completed, and the roadway was opened to the public yesterday.

The Reformed Presbyterian Church Synod will hold its General Session in this city this week. The opening services will be held on Wednesday evening, in the Duffield-st. church, when the retiring moderator, the Rev. Dr. Archibald Thompson will preach.

During the past week Surrogate Veeder of Kings County admitted to Probate the wills of Ellen Hughes, Lethrop L. Smith, George Vinchan, Nicholas Hahn, Kate Rush, Owen Ryan, Joseph Grossweiler and John Egan, all of Brooklyn. Letters of Administration were granted in the estates of the following: Ellen A. Irwin, Gamble Lyle, Joseph Massy, Thomas Maguire, Henry E. Arthur, James W. Hunter, Christian Schelhas, Susan L. Brown, Edward McGrory, Elizabeth T. Boyd, Henry S. Briggs, Eliza Calder, William Carney, Owen Humphries, Edward Brown and Martin Nelson, all of Brooklyn. Letters of Guardianship of the persons and estates of Clara E., Mary Ann, William C., and Maria L. were granted to Henry Irwin; of Wm. L. to John Whitbeck; of Martin and Dorcas Arnard to Agnes Bogarst; of Annie and Ernest J. Lupman to Otto W. Van Campen; of Augusta, Ida, Matilda, and Louisa Vimond to Charles Wuest, all of Brooklyn.

HUDSON RIVER COUNTIES.

YONKERS.—A railroad company has been organized for the purpose of building and operating a railroad from the vicinity of Getty-square to a point on the Van Cortlandt Manor property, to connect with the New-York and Boston Railroad now in the course of construction along the Tibbet's Brook Valley....By a unanimous vote of the First Methodist Episcopal Church it has been decided to make the seats free.

MORRISANIA.—Washington-ave. will be immediately extended from its old southern terminus to Third-ave., passing on the north side of the Town Hall....Bishop Potter administered the rite of confirmation to candidates at Trinity Church, yesterday afternoon.

NEW-JERSEY.

JERSEY CITY.—Samuel P. Richardson, who has been connected with the Erie Railway Freight Department nearly 20 years, died of small-pox at the City Hospital on Saturday. The disease is spreading, and several new cases are reported daily....The Westside-ave. M. E. Church was dedicated yesterday. The Rev. Jesse T. Peck and the Rev. R. L. Dashiel, D. D., preached, and addresses were made by several other delegates to the General Conference.... It is thought that E. H. German of Kansas City committed suicide by drowning on Saturday.... The anniversary meeting of the First Presbyterian Sabbath School took place last night. A. A. Smith, of Brooklyn, addressed the children....F. Clark's drug store, at White-st. and Communipaw-ave., was damaged $2,500 by fire, caused by the explosion of a can of alcohol; insured.

NEWARK—Three boatmen named William Newcomb, Andrew W. Taylor, and Mahlon Bailey, were arrested for beating a companion in Market-st., yesterday, and for assaulting Chief Glasby.... Mrs. Emma Shepherdson has been arrested for threatening the life of Mrs. Marsh of Ogden-st.....A. J. Drake has been elected President of the Board of New-Jersey Pilot Commissioners.

HOBOKEN—Herman Kampes, age 18, an employé of the Hoboken Coal Company, was instantly killed in attempting to cross the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad at the foot of Washington-st., by passing under a car, on Saturday....The body of David Ring, a canal-boat captain, was found in the river, yesterday.

PATERSON.—Several cases of cerebro-spinal-meningitis have occurred recently, and a new one was reported yesterday in Mill-st.

HACKENSACK.—Two regular Sunday trains were placed on the Midland Railroad yesterday.

LECTURES, MEETINGS, ETC.

A sacred concert was given by the Catholic Choral Society in St. Stephen's Church, last evening, for the benefit of the New-York Foundling Asylum. The solo singers included Miss Emma Howson and Señor Sarasate. An orchestra of 40 performers and a chorus of 100 voices also contributed.

The Right Rev. Horatio Potter, Bishop of the Diocese of New-York, preached the annual Baccalaureate Sermon before the graduating class of Columbia College, last evening, at the Church of the Holy Savior, in East Twenty-fifth-st. He dwelt on the dignity, gravity, and responsibility of the legal profession, and its influence upon the public mind, and urged upon his hearers the importance not only of performing their professional work faithfully and energetically, but of employing their leisure time in the improvement of their intellectual and moral powers.

POLICE NOTES.

David Burnett, age 11, of Hamilton-ave. and Van Brunt-st., Brooklyn, was fatally injured on Saturday by a piece of machinery falling upon him while he was at play.

Martha Murtha, age 2, while playing yesterday afternoon in Bergen-st., Brooklyn, was knocked down and instantly killed by car No. 15, driven by Patrick Denver, who was arrested.

The residence of District-Attorney Britton, at No. 210 Carroll-st., Brooklyn, was entered on Saturday night by burglars, and robbed of several hundred dollars' worth of silver-ware.

Floyd Franklin of No. 7 Mott-st., on Saturday night broke into the store of Wm. Rogers of No. 504 Broome-st., and stole a clock and other goods. He was committed at Jefferson Market yesterday.

James Killorene, of No. 362 Kent-ave., Brooklyn, and Joseph Friebolere, of No. 230 First-ave., quarreled last evening in the saloon of Henry Zipp, at No. 226 First-ave., and the latter struck Killorene on the head with an iron bar, causing a severe wound.

BASE BALL.

The struggle for the championship streamers among the professional clubs was marked, on Saturday, by two noteworthy contests. In Baltimore the Troy nine were defeated by the Baltimore Club by a score of 8 to 1, and in Boston the Red Stockings were victorious in a match with the Mutuals of this city, by a score of 4 to 2.

THE COURTS.

DECISIONS—MAY 11.

Supreme Court—Chambers—By Judge Ingraham.—Strasburger agt. Fisk, jr.—Motion granted. Thomas agt. Thomas.—Motion granted. Strauss agt. Mason—Motion denied; defendant's costs, $10, to abide event. Hallenback agt. Van Dessen.—Motion granted. Morton et al. agt. Morton, et al.—Motion granted. Same agt. Same.—Same. Schaible agt. Mitchell.—Decree granted. In the matter of the application of Mary L. Godiard, &c.—Reference ordered to inquire, &c. William Hildebrand and Wife agt. William B. Ogden.—The motion to set aside the proceedings must be granted, but, as the plaintiffs acted under an order of the Court, the costs must abide the event.

Superior Court—Special Term—By Judge Curtis.—Bartelle agt. Lawson.—Order granted. Rabinowitz agt. Kaufman.—Order granted. Bosse agt. World Mutual Life Ins. Co.—Motion granted. Kemp agt. Kemp.—Motion for attachment denied, &c. (See mem. with Clerk at Special Term.) The Lipplatt Silver Plate and Engraving Co. agt. Lipplatt.—(See mem. with Clerk at Special Term.) Dodd agt. Stettauer.—Order granted. Robinson agt. O'Brien.—Order granted. Riley agt. Brown.—Motion granted.

Common Pleas—Special Term—By Judge J. F. Daly.—Guttentog agt. Blot.—The direct conflict between the witnesses makes it proper that cross-examination should be read. A reference will be ordered to take proof of the facts. King agt. Beaumont.—Judgment vacated on payment of costs. (Opinion). Rauch agt. Rand.—Injunction dissolved; motion denied. (Opinion.) Day agt. Leger.—Injunction dissolved. (Opinion.)

COURT CALENDARS—THIS DAY.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT—PART I.—VAN BRUNT, J.—Opens at 10½ a. m.

241..Paine agt. Jarret.
1362¾..Horton agt. Robinson, jr.
175..Gots agt. Franck.
2067..McVeany agt. Mayer.
3083..Hammesley agt. Same.
3034..Schuchardt agt. Same.
3035..Douglass agt. Same.
37..Goodnow agt. Same et al.
53..Saloman agt. Hall.
261..Fossenden et al., &c., agt. Voss.
203..McCormack agt. Central Park and North and East River R. R. Co.

PART II.—BARRETT, J.—Opens at 10½ a. m.

2604..Focke agt. Ranke.
548..National Citizens' Bank of N. Y. agt. Griswold.
176..Atlantic Mutual Ins. Co. agt. Frank.
318..Platt, receiver, &c., agt. Borland et al.
536..Eagleson et al. agt. Waehr et al.
700..Osgood et al. agt. Lipp man.
708..Osgood et al., receiver, &c., agt. Strauss.
610..Conover agt. Coleman et al.
662..Archer agt. O'Brien, Sh'f, &c.

SPECIAL TERM—BRADY, J.—Opens at 11 a. m.

Demurrers.

16..Metropolitan Nat. Bank of N. Y. agt. Lake Superior Ship Canal R. R. & Iron Co.
17..First Nat. Bank of N. Y. agt. Same.
18..—— agt. ——.

Issues of Law and Fact.

21..Sixth-ave. R. R. Co. agt. Mesinire.
30..Phelps agt. Platt.
42..Platt agt. Platt.
47..Robinson agt. Robinson.
49..Bloch agt. Keller.
50..Davidson agt. Morrissey.
51..Cutter agt. Myers.
52..Bartlett agt. Shirley.
53..Jones agt. Crennan.
54..Marshal agt. McGregor.
55..Gardner agt. Cummings.
56..Bush agt. Treadwell.
57..Williams agt. Antoine.
58..Poole agt. Loehlin.
59..Kuhn agt. Bonn.
60..Spring agt. Hubbard.
61..Litchfield agt. Merriam.
62..The Rector, &c., of the Church of the Redemption agt. The Rector, &c., of Grace Church.
63..Hoge agt. Phillips.
64..Spring agt. Paxton.

CHAMBERS—INGRAHAM, J.—Opens at 10 a. m.—Calendar called at 12 m.

1..Rayner agt. Seaman.
28..Wilson agt. N. Y. and Troy Steamboat Co.
36..Block House Mining Co. agt. Cassoch.
69..Demarest agt. Sproul.
71..Hagans agt. Imlay.
82..Meyer agt. Schneider.
87..Cooper agt. Ambler.
89..Bryce agt. Ketchum.
92..Nichols agt. Seigel.
97..Callahan agt. O'Rourke.
101..Parks agt. Parks.
113..Kellogg agt. Hayes.
128..Sage agt. Lorwin.
129..Greene agt. American Metalline Co.
131..Haring agt. Rush.
134..Harrison agt. Cleveland.
140..Herbert agt. Smith.
141..Same agt. Same.
142..Bruce agt. Fuller.

Call begins at 175.

SUPERIOR COURT—TRIAL TERM—PART I.—SEDGWICK J.—Opens at 11 a. m.—Case on.

PART II.—FREEDMAN J.—Opens at 11 a. m.

762..Lang agt. O'Brien, Sheriff, &c.
1326..Ayer et al. agt. Fenner, impleaded, &c.
4761..Young agt. Kent et al.
1199..Hodane agt. Hines et al.
726..Beach agt. O'Brien, Sheriff, &c.
1202..Lord et al. agt. Linsen.
1036..Hoey agt. Perry.
66..Oberman agt. Waterman.
1234..Simon, jr. agt. Kahnweiler et al.
1327..Nen agt. Duncan.
1606..Moss agt. Cohn.
1154..Kelley agt. Williams.
816..Lemon et al. agt. Pierce.
1546..Knowlton et al. agt. N. Y. and Providence S. S. Co.
195..Morris agt. White et al.
1072..Rockwell agt. Cuba et al.
1079..No. 2, Rockwell agt. same.
1036..Jones agt. O'Brien, Sheriff, &c.
362..Greenhill agt. Totans.
708..Cole agt. Barnup.
954..Hagins, by guardian, agt. N. Y. and New-Haven R. R. Co.

COMMON PLEAS—TRIAL TERM—PART I.—LONG, J.—Opens at 11 a. m.

1015..Woods agt. The Disciples of Christ in N. Y.
546..Bullock agt. O'Brien, Sheriff.
1057..Devlin agt. Castello.
1114..Stamford agt. Atwood.
1316..Baxter agt. White.
1733..Higginson agt. Kock.
1147..Record agt. Wellington.
1469..Redman agt. O'Brien, Sheriff, &c.
1051..Bernhard agt. Kapp.
1364..Orrell agt. Palmer.

GENERAL TERM—ROBINSON, P. J., LARRENDORE, and J. F. DALY, J. J.

2..Graff agt. Hoehhalter.
272..Bird agt. Stone.
325..Fearing agt. Irwin.
756..Loeschigh agt. Hatfield.
84..Gaudin agt. Lachaume.
89..Felt agt. Schoenberg.
40..Gordon agt. Rapp.
49..Brown agt. Elliott.
80..O'Donnell agt. Sternberg.
90..Verheem agt. Lauer.
91..Moody agt. Leavitch.
97..Coughtry agt. Levine.
99..Baldwin agt. Horicon and N. Y. Navigation Co.
94..Cropsey agt. Saloman.
95..Kerstine agt. Kaufman.

MARINE COURT—TRIAL TERM—PART I.—SHEA, J.—Opens and Calendar called at 10 a. m.

2932..Bindskoff agt. Clarke.
3743..McNulty agt. Aarons.
3841..Rollins agt. Monyagh.
3693..Wilson agt. Parmelee.
3815..Fox agt. Hartman.
3757..Watts agt. Hilton.
3857..Packer agt. Levy.
3753..Devlin agt. Green.
3746..Walter agt. Reville.
3346..Connell agt. Levy.
3259..Bell agt. Lynch.
3756..Swannell agt. Hoke.
3684..Lyon agt. Barrin.
——..Withers agt. O'Con.
3111..Newman agt. Spitzer.
3114..Hinrichsen agt. Kolb.
3115..Gray agt. Sinclair.
3117..Alston agt. Sherlock.
3119..Hotchkiss agt. Boyd.

PART II.—JOURNEAY,