the other parts of the work, but nobody who has not seen it here can form a conception of its unearthly beauties, its stupendous and always increasing effects. It flows on, without pause or division into acts, for nearly two hours and a half, and during all that time we sat spell-bound, our eyes fixed upon the wonderful spectacle, our ears drinking in the strange sounds. It was a hot night, and the theater is entirely without ventilation; but we forgot the stifling air, and when the curtain fell at last upon the closing scene where the gods cross over the rainbow bridge to their gorgeous castle in the clouds, we seemed to awake from a dream of delight, and wondered at the flight of time. We had entered the theater by daylight; it was nearly 10 o'clock when, silent and thoughtful, we groped our way out, and then a fresh surprise awaited us. The whole city was illuminated. Rows of lights gleamed along the mile of road which leads from the theater down to the town. From the hill where we stood Bayreuth was visible in its full extent, bathed in light. The façades of the public buildings were all traced in lines of fire—for illuminations in this part of the world, unlike our own, are always arranged with ingenious architectural effects. A minute later and the royal coach dashed by. A servant on horseback rode ahead, with a lantern attached to a pole. A plain close carriage followed, with servants in simple livery, and we caught merely a glimpse of a dark young man inside, a few score of men and boys running in disorderly fashion alongside and cheering faintly, and two or three policemen panting in their rear.

To-day the King graciously permitted Herr Wagner to let in all the world to the dress rehearsal of the "Walküre," and so at 5 o'clock the theater was entirely filled. When everything was ready the composer appeared in the King's box and informed the audience, which was standing in expectation of, King Ludwig's entrance (for the shout of welcome had just been heard outside), that His Majesty allowed spectators to be present on the express condition that he should not be annoyed by any demonstrations; they were therefore to respect the royal wishes. So we took our seats, and after the lights were put out the King slipped into his box unseen. The "Walküre" was even more effective and surprising than "Rheingold." I wish everybody who has admired "Siegmund's Love Song," the "Walküren Ritt," and "Wotan's Abschied" in New-York could have heard Niemann, Betz, and Frau Materna in those great numbers, and witnessed the splendor of scenic decoration and dramatic action by which they were illustrated. The "Walküre," like the two subsequent parts of the work, is divided into three acts, and between the acts there are intermissions of nearly an hour, during which the people go out for beer and fresh air. There is no applause either during or after the music, no recognition of individual singers, and of course no talking or other disturbance among the audience. But when everything is over for the night then the pent-up feelings find enthusiastic expression. Before the second act tonight Herr Wagner went into the "mystic gulf," and, invisible to the audience, but distinctly heard, made a speech of compliment and thanks to his orchestra. And they richly deserved it, for their work is magnificent. They are under the direction of Hans Richter, and the first violin is played by the distinguished virtuoso Wilhelmj. The men are selected with great care from the best orchestras of Germany, and the composition of the band is as follows: 1st and 2d violins, 32; violas, 12; violoncelli, 12; basses, 8; flutes, 4; hautboys, 4; English horn, 1; clarinets, 3; bass clarinet, 1; bassoons, 4; contrafagotto, 1; horns, 7; tenor and bass tubas, 4; trumpets, 3; bass trumpet, 1; trombones, 4; contrabass trombone, 1; contra-bass tuba, 1; drums, 3; harps, 8; organ, 1; total, 116. It will be seen that there are several instruments here not usually employed in the orchestra, including the obsolete bass trumpet which Wagner put in his Philadelphia Inauguration March. The organ is a little instrument of merely seven deep bass notes, used to support the contra-bass tuba in the introduction to "Rheingold" and some other passages where there are long sustained notes for which the breath of no human being suffices. A newly invented viola, considerably larger than the common instrument, is also employed.

The singers are as follows:

"RHEINGOLD."

Wotan	Franz Betz
Donner	Eugen Gura
Froh	Georg Unger
Loge	Heinrich Vogel
Alberich	Carl Hill
Mime	Carl Schlosser
Fasolt	Albert Eilers
Fafner	Franz von Reichenberg
Fricka	Friedericke Grün
Freia	Marie Haupt
Erda	Luise Jaide
The Rhine Daughters	Lilli Lehmann, Marie Lehmann, Minna Lammert

"DIE WALKURE."

Siegmund	Albert Niemann
Hunding	Joseph Nierig
Wotan	Fr. Betz
Sieglinde	Josephine Schefzky
Brunnhilde	Amalie Materna
Fricka	Friedericke Grün
Valkyrics	Marie Haupt, Lilli Lehmann, Marie Lehmann, Luise Jaide, Antonie Amann, Minna Lammert, Hedwig Reicher-Kindermann, Johanna Jachmann-Wagner

"SIEGFRIED."

Siegfried	Georg Unger
Mime	Carl Schlosser
Der Wanderer	Fr. Betz
Alberich	Carl Hill
Fafner	Franz von Reichenberg
Erda	Luise Jaide
Brunnhilde	Amalie Materna

"GOTTERDAMMERUNG."

Siegfried	Georg Unger
Gunther	Eugen Gura
Hagen	Gustav Siehr
Alberich	Carl Hill
Brunnhilde	Amalie Materna
Gutrune	Mathilde Weckerlin
Waltraute	Luise Jaide
The Norns	Johanna Jachmann-Wagner, Josephine Schefzky, Friedericke Grün
The Rhine Daughters	As before

The only chorus is in the "Götterdämmerung." It is sung by 28 men and 10 women.

During these dress rehearsals Wagner sits with the King. Heretofore of course he has been on the stage, and he is said to have displayed astonishing ingenuity and force in directing the dramatic action and gestures. "Ah," exclaimed one of the artists the other day, "if we could only do these things like him!" The expenses have greatly exceeded the estimates of the undertaking, and amount to not less than five hundred thousand thalers, though most of the artists perform without pay. There is a deficiency of nearly two hundred thousand, a large part of which will probably be made up by receipts from the third series of performances, for which there are many places yet unsold. But whatever the pecuniary results, there is no doubt that the performance of "The King of the Niblungs" is one of the most stupendous triumphs of the age.

At a rehearsal last week the orchestra played our Centennial March before getting to work on the trilogy. I am told that it has also been played here by the military band in the Palace Park.

J. R. G. H.

THE BAXTER STEAM CANAL-BOATS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Your editorial article headed "Grain Transportation" contains the following sentence: "On the canal, the effect has been so terrible that the famous steam transportation company, which was expected to revolutionize commerce by carrying at rates lower than railways could afford, has been driven into bankruptcy, and its boats sold to pay debts." Now the cause of the company's failure was, that boats were built and debts incurred for them before the stock of the company had been sold in sufficient quantity to pay for them. The boats have not been running this year because creditors would not allow them to run. The boats were run last season, when freights were nearly as low as they have been this, and they netted a profit, while under the management of the receiver, Mr. Kelly. These boats have fulfilled every thing expected or required of them, so far as speed, economy, and capacity were concerned. The trouble, and the only trouble, has been the lack of capital to pay for the boats when built and placed in the line. This is a strange, but true, fact to print in a leading journal of this city, considering how important it is to foster any and every enterprise which is undertaken to cheapen transportation, and to retain for this city its wonted commercial supremacy. The citizens of Boston, Philadelphia, or Baltimore, would not have allowed a like enterprise to fail for the want of $100,000.

New-York, Aug. 22, 1876. T. N. R.

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

THE MURDER OF MAGGIE BAUERS.

FURTHER TESTIMONY AT THE INQUEST—DISCHARGE OF MICHAEL COLLINS.

The inquest upon the body of Maggie Bauers was continued at Valley Stream yesterday by Coroner Hicks. District-Attorney Downing conducted the examination of witnesses. Coroner Hicks submitted the hair found on Catharine Hoffman's clothing, and supposed to be from the murdered child's head, to the private examination of the parents, and they expressed the opinion that the hair was Maggie's.

William Reising, who lives near Mr. Bauer's place, testified that on Monday, Aug. 14, he was down at the blacksmith's shop near Hummel's place, and met Catharine Hoffman; he noticed that she acted in a peculiar manner, looking back frequently. This was about 2 o'clock on the day of the murder.

Richard Rhoads, an occupant of the first house east of Mr. Bauers's, testified that he was at home most of the day on Monday; he was at Mr. Hendrickson's in the forenoon, but went home about 10 o'clock; had dinner at 12, and afterward laid down and went to sleep, awaking between 3 and 4 o'clock; his brother came to the house when he was asleep; he did not know exactly at what time, but he understood it was about half an hour before he (the witness) woke up; the brother had been away picking blackberries; the witness next saw his brother in the evening assisting in the search for Maggie; the witness also assisted in the search; he found a child's footsteps at the edge of a turnip-field, and witness went there again the next day; the tracks were going west, away from the place where the body was found; afterward he found the tracks turning the other way, and he finally found the body in a place which both he and the father had passed the night before; beside the child's tracks he saw the tracks of men, as he supposed, with and without shoes.

Hendrich Stuthoff, living with the Rhoads family, testified that on the Monday in question he was picking blackberries with Alfred Rhoads; they got home to dinner at 12 o'clock, and Richard was at home; after dinner the witness went to Mr. Fowler's to pick beans, and staid there until night; Alfred Rhoads and wife and Richard's daughter were with him. Mrs. Ruth Ann Fowler corroborated the statements of Stuthoff.

Mrs. Charlotte Rhoads, wife of Richard, testified that she was at home on Monday all day; her husband was away part of the forenoon, and after dinner laid down and went to sleep; Alfred got home from picking berries about 12 o'clock; he and his wife had dinner about 1; they stayed at home until 3 or 4 o'clock; when they went to Fowler's to pick beans; Richard got up between 2 and 3, and stayed around the house.

The testimony of Albert Rhoads and his wife, Samuel D. Carter, Sarah F. Combs, and Mary Chappell, a married daughter of Richard Rhoads, was entirely as to the movements of the Rhoads family on the day of the murder, and tended to relieve them of the suspicion which has been directed toward them. That of Mrs. Chappell was somewhat contradictory of the testimony given above.

Catharina Douars, who lives some distance south of the Hummel place, testified that Catharine Hoffman called at her house on Monday about 2 o'clock and asked the way to the Valley Stream depot; Catharine said she was in a hurry to reach the train.

Mrs. Margaret Walters testified that she saw Michael Collins pass by where she was picking beans about the time the murder is supposed to have been committed; she lived near the Bauers place, and about the time the hunt for Maggie began, she heard a voice in the woods crying, "Mother!" Francis Fowler being about a mile from the Bauer's place, saw Michael Collins at the sawmill, half a mile south from his house, about 2 o'clock; he was in bathing. Mrs. Mary Ann Cameron testified that she saw Collins several times on Monday, until half past 2 o'clock. Herman Cameron corroborated his wife's testimony.

Christopher Heiss testified that he knew Catharine Hoffman; he saw her at Mr. Bauers's house, in the presence of the corpse; she was crying and making a great noise. At Anthony Wright's house, afterward, the witness saw Catharine, and she appeared as though afraid he was an officer, and was going to arrest her.

Michael Collins, who has been under arrest on suspicion since the day following the murder, was placed on the stand. He is an Irishman, and is somewhat dissipated. He was intoxicated on the Sunday before the murder, and went to sleep in Wood Chuck's house. Catharine Hoffman was locked up in the Town Hall at Jamaica, where he had been confined, and he testified that he had heard her repeatedly say that she was innocent. At the conclusion of Michael's testimony he was discharged on his own recognizance.

Sarah Hartner testified that Catharine Hoffman talked against the members of the Bauers family, alleging that they kept her husband away from her. She was of violent temper, and frequently made use of harsh language toward them.

Peter Walters testified as to the finding of Maggie's body. He examined the ground around the cedar tree, and found, as he supposed, the tracks of a woman wearing a leather shoe with a high heel. He had seen Catharine Hoffman's gaiters, and he thought they would make such a track.

Officer Abraham Hamer of Jamaica testified that he first saw Catharine Hoffman at Mr. Bauer's house on Tuesday. Catharine said that she left Maggie at Hummel's farm, gave her a ten cent piece with a hole in it, and kissed her good-bye. When Catharine left Mr. Bauer's house she followed and arrested her, and told her to get into the wagon. She asked, "What on foll want of me? Do you think I murdered that child?" The officer asked what the trouble was between herself and the Bauers family, and Catharine said it was about some furniture. She also said she had written to have witnesses on them long before. She found fault with the memories of the Bauers family, saying that they paid her husband only sixty-five wages, and that Mrs. Bauer was to blame for the separation of her husband and children. She spoke again about little Maggie, and said she would never harm her. Hamer subsequently in the cell showed her a twenty-cent piece with a hole in it, and she trembled so that she could not hold it.

George Hummel, father of Charles, previously examined, testified as to the movements of his family on Monday. They took dinner about 1 o'clock; after dinner he went to pick beans, except Charles, who staid behind to grease the wagon and feed the horses, ready to go to market; he afterward followed into the lot to pick beans at 2 o'clock or a little after; he went to market that night and did not return until the next afternoon.

This closed the testimony at present available, and the further hearing was adjourned until Monday, Sept. 4. The propriety of offering a reward for the discovery of such evidence as will lead to the conviction of the guilty person was discussed by the jury, and there was a consultation with Supervisor Kelsiom of Hempstead on the subject. The Board of Supervisors will hold a meeting on Monday next, and the matter will probably be laid before them then.

ROBBED AND THROWN OVERBOARD.

A MAN FOUND STRUGGLING IN THE WATER—HIS STORY OF OUTRAGE ON A SOUND STEAMER.

The schooner Niagara, on her way from Sands Point on Long Island sound to Poughkeepsie, was about a mile from her starting point about 1 a. m. yesterday, when the mate, Edward Hanlon, heard cries for help. A yawl was launched, and guided by the loud calls for assistance, the mate found a man struggling in the water and took him to the schooner. The rescued man was nearly exhausted. He was taken to the Morrisania police station, where he told his story to Capt. Heidkin. He gave his name as Karl Burk, and stated that he was a cabinetmaker, doing business at No. 30 Bristol-st. in New-Haven. He said he had taken passage on the steamer Continental, from Peck-slip, Monday evening at the usual hour. While sleeping in his chair upon the hurricane deck he was seized by two men, who, after taking from him his purse, threw him overboard. Being a good swimmer, he had floated about until taken up by the Niagara. Roundsman Pratt of the Thirty-third Precinct conducted Burk to the Police Central Office, where he repeated the same story to Superintendent Walling. Detectives were at once set at work to investigate the matter. Detective Hay went with Mr. Burk to Peck-slip to await the arrival of the Continental on her return from New-Haven. His theory was that the perpetrators of the act, supposing that their victim was drowned, would return to this city. Burk, however, did not recognize his assailants among the passengers. Capt. Peck of the Continental was informed of the circumstances and at once indignantly declared that the story was untrue. The watchmen, he said, were constantly passing back and forth through the vessel and would certainly have heard any outcry that might have been made. He had gone, himself, he added, to the rear part of the boat about 2 o'clock, and there were then half a dozen persons seated on the deck. Both watchmen declared that they had heard no noise, and one of them said he had gone aft twice between 11 and 12 o'clock. Mr. Burk, at the request of Detective Hay, related circumstantially the affair as it occurred. He is a Prussian and it is difficult for him to express himself clearly in English, but the story was in substance as follows:

As soon as the boat started, I came up here and remained in this seat. At first there were a number of persons about, but finally all dropped off but two men. One of them, whom I noticed very little, was seated at the stern under the light, and was tall and rather slim. The other, who was heavy and stout, and wore a short, dark jacket and high felt hat, took a seat beside me and began to talk. He explained to me the explosion that would soon take place at Hell Gate, as we passed that spot, and made inquiries in regard to my affairs. At last I fell asleep, and knew nothing further until I was suddenly awakened by a hand grasping me at the back of the head, and another at the lower part of the leg, and felt myself lifted up. I struck at one of the two men holding me, the same one who had been talking before, and caught him by the beard. I consider myself very stout, but I had been seized so unexpectedly in my sleep that before I had fully awakened I found myself in the water, and had no opportunity to offer resistance or to make an outcry. When I rose to the surface, being a good swimmer, I determined to float about until day, when I hoped, if not picked up before, to be seen from some passing boat. I was a swimming master in the Prussian army, and have many a time swam the Spree at Berlin, with knapsack upon my back, and a heavy musket thrown across my shoulder; so that I had no fears but that I could hold out a number of hours. Still I kept calling out as loud as I could, thinking I might perhaps be heard. I finally did hear a cry in reply, and then called louder, beginning to swim toward the light which I could see on a vessel. When the boat reached me I found I was more exhausted than I had supposed. I think I was in the water more than an hour. I examined my clothes and found that my purse had been taken, with some other small things in that pocket. The purse contained $8 or $9 and some papers important to me.

Mr. Burk says that he also had with him a small portmanteau, which he placed by the chair where he sat. As this was not found on the vessel afterward by any of the hands, it must, if Burk's story is true, have been carried off by his assailants. The clerk does not remember to have seen any passengers of the description given pass on or off the boat, nor do any of the deck hands. No trace of the persons implicated has yet been found, and the detectives are at work seeking new clews. Burk was taken back to the Central Police Office, and Superintendent Walling dismissed him. Many complaints have been made previously to the police authorities by persons who have been robbed on board the steamboats Continental and Elm City, plying between New-York and New-Haven. The story of Burk created little surprise, and is believed at Police Headquarters.

THE RAILWAY STRIKE.

NO TRAINS OVER THE NEW-YORK AND NEW-JERSEY RAILWAY—STATEMENT OF THE SECRETARY.

The New-York and New-Jersey Railroad Company, which is attracting considerable attention on account of the strike of its employes, uses the depot of the Erie Railway Company, and also the latter's track, as far as the junction on the salt meadow. Thence it runs in a northerly direction, about ten miles west of the Hudson River, as far as Stony Point, a short distance above Haverstraw, the whole length of the line being 42 miles, with 35 stations, of which Hillsdale, Nanuet, Spring Valley, and Stony Point are the principal ones. The road runs through a beautiful and well settled valley, and, its managers say, has been increasing its business gradually from year to year. A TRIBUNE reporter called at the office of the company yesterday and obtained the following statement from the Secretary in regard to the strike:

The first intimation we had that any thing of the kind was intended was last Saturday evening. The President was then informed by the strikers that they would not work on Monday unless paid. As it was then after business hours, and no funds could be obtained, nothing could be done that night. The President lives at Hillsdale, and the strikers have made their headquarters at Spring Valley, further up the road. On Sunday, the President telegraphed to them to know what they demanded. Their answer was a proposition for payment at certain times and in fixed installments. This was agreed to by the President, and the men signified their willingness to work as usual on Monday morning. But when Monday morning came no trains came with it. The president then telegraphed to know why the strikers did not work in accordance with the agreement, and the answer was returned, "We want our money before we begin to work; come up and pay us." It was afterward ascertained that all the engines along the road had been disabled by the removal of the valve-rods. Those living along the line who were obliged to come to New-York had to get down the best way they could, either by the Midland or Northern Railway. The officers of the road are trying to perfect arrangements by which trains will run within a day or two. Almost all the men on the road have been paid to the 1st of May, and some to date. Measures were being taken to pay them in full when they struck—a suicidal piece of business on their part, as it puts it out of the power of the company to do anything. It is not true that notes which were given to the employes have not been paid. All notes that are due have been taken up with the exception of three, the delayed payments on which has been explained to the holders and assented to by them. All the notes tended to us given to the employes were for services rendered previous to March 1 and the legal discount was paid to the men in advance that they might not lose anything. Some of these were due in May and July, and some will come due in September. Practically the company is not more than three months behind. A great deal of the present trouble is owing to the fact that in paying the men there was some discrimination shown, in order that those who most needed the money might get it.

DISPOSITION OF THE CITY'S REFUSE.

EXPERIMENTAL OPERATIONS—NEW METHOD OF RENDERING.

President Chandler of the Board of Health made another tour of inspection through the fat-rendering establishments on the east side of this city yesterday, to ascertain how the proprietors were succeeding with the improvements which are to enable them to render the refuse of this city, and turn the products into fertilizers and other marketable commodities. He found that Rafferty & Williams, at the foot of East Forty-fourth-st., had nearly completed their improvements, and expected to begin operations in two or three days. The Board of Health has given orders to the Sanitary Superintendent to grant this firm a permit to go on with its operations of fat rendering and rendering as soon as Inspector Gedney schmidt reports that its apparatus and machinery are in a condition to enable this work to be done without creating a nuisance. This permit will be a limited one at first, but if it is found that the apparatus is equal to the task assigned it, the usual general permit will be granted by the Board of Health.

The principal improvements that are making are the enlargement of the furnaces and fire surface and the connection of all tubs and tanks with the condenser in such a manner that there can be no escape of foul gases. During the hot weather the blood which is prepared for the use of the sugar refiners putrefies very rapidly, and thus a nuisance is created, when in colder weather there would be none. The whipping and stirring of the blood have heretofore been done in an ordinary building, the tubs being open, and thus permitting any effluvia arising to escape into the surrounding air. These operations in the future are to be conducted in a closed room, and pipes will be so arranged in connection with the tubs as to carry all the gases into the main flue that runs into the large condenser. Instead of an open kettle for the crying out of fat, large vats made of boiler iron, and containing coils of steam pipe to furnish the necessary heat, have been set up. The covers of these vats are now fully fitted, and the small orifices for the pipe are closed tightly by patent india rubber washers. From each of these vats an iron pipe leads to a condenser to carry off the foul gases as fast as they are generated. These pipes also connect with the main flue that leads into the lower portion of the large condenser. The steam and that portion of the vapor that is not able to make into fertilizers is placed in large revolving cylinders, from which also pipes run into the main flue leading to the condenser. The condenser has been found to be large enough to receive all the gases that can be generated in this establishment. From the condenser the gases pass through the upper flue and are carried beneath the fires of the furnaces. The draught of these furnaces is furnished by the rush of the gases from this flue. It is expected that the increased fire surface that has been provided will enable the gases to be consumed as fast as they pass through the furnaces.

BRUTAL MURDER IN NEW-ROCHELLE.

A WHITE WOMAN BEATEN AND KICKED TO DEATH BY A NEGRO—INQUEST AND VERDICT OF THE CORONER'S JURY.

Coroner Funk was called yesterday to hold an inquest at New-Rochelle upon the body of Catharine Burke, a white woman, age about 28, who had for nearly two years past been living with Frederick Everson, a negro about 60 years old, and who was found dead on Sunday under circumstances as follows:

George Martin testified that he saw the woman and the prisoner on Sunday last, between 1 and 2 o'clock, walking up the railroad track. She was carrying a basket containing meat toward home. The prisoner told her to hurry home and get his dinner ready, but she then went only as far as the next house, which she entered. The prisoner made her come out, called her abusive names, and told her that if she did not go home he would take her life. He then knocked her down, kicked her on her side, and stamped upon her neck and head, and forced her head into the ground until blood came out of her mouth and nose. He then seized her by her hair, held her head back, and told her that if she spoke another word he would knock her brains out with a large stone which he held in his hand, and then immediately began to strike her with the stone, continuing until she screamed "murder." The witness told the negro to stop, but he paid no attention. Leonard Fox came to the spot with a pistol, and told the prisoner he would shoot him if he did not stop beating the woman. She then got up and walked on toward her home.

Horace Cox testified that he lives in the house in which the dead woman and the prisoner lived; he saw Catharine Burke alive on Monday morning between 9 and 10 o'clock; she appeared to be sick; he saw Everson strike her on Sunday evening, and saw him knock her down and kick her in the garden near the house; she was coming toward the house; he told her that if she did not get the meat he would kill her; Everson went into the garden to meet her, and asked her where the basket of meat was; she did not answer; he then knocked her down, kicked her, and beat her with a stick about three feet long and an inch thick; the woman said, "Please don't kill me, please let me live long enough to say my prayers;" Everson told Catharine to get up and go into the house, when he again asked her where the basket of meat was. She replied that it would be all right in the morning. Everson said if she did not get the meat he would beat her to death. He then went out and got some sticks the thickness of a man's finger. She called to the witness for help, but he told her that he had nothing to do with their trouble. Everson went away between 7 and 8 o'clock the next morning; the witness went away between 9 and 10 o'clock, and did not return until about 5 o'clock, when he learned that the woman was dead.

Mary Jackson testified to having seen Everson treat Catharine in a brutal manner, and to having heard him threatened on many occasions to take her life. Dr. Huntington, who made a post mortem examination of the body, testified that he found contusions on various parts of the body, and gave it as his opinion that the deceased woman came to her death from peritonitis, caused by the injuries inflicted upon her.

The jury, after a brief absence, rendered a verdict that Catherine Burke came to her death by blows inflicted with stones and kicks, and by kicks given by Frederick Everson, who was then committed to the County Jail to await the action of the Grand Jury.

ACTIVITY IN THE BUILDING TRADE.

Applications were filed last week for the erection of 30 new buildings, at an estimated cost of $173,700. The following comparison between the amounts of work done in 1875 and 1876 is taken from the books of the Department of Buildings: Number of new buildings erected in January, 1875, 46; 1876, 36; February, 1875, 23; 1876, 44; March, 1875, 65; 1876, 87; April, 1875, 142; 1876, 157; May, 1875, 165; 1876, 164; June, 1875, 121; 1876, 116; July, 1875, 130; 1876, 116; total for the seven months, 1875, 692; 1876, 720—a gain of 28 for the present year. Alterations of buildings—January, 1875, 37; 1876, 50; February, 1875, 49; 1876, 69; March, 1875, 81; 1876, 120; April, 1875, 165; 1876, 145; May, 1875, 141; 1876, 175; June, 1875, 118; 1876, 84; July, 1875, 90; 1876, 84; total for seven months of 1875, 631; for 1876, 727—a gain of 46 for 1876. Business is duller at present in the building line than is usual at this season. These statistics show that, notwithstanding the general depression of business, there has been a decided increase thus far this year in the number of buildings erected. It was stated at the department that the style of buildings differed very little from that of last year, although the estimated cost would be considerably less on account of the reduction in the prices of material and cost of labor.

UPHOLSTERY GOODS STOLEN.

Officer Bow of the Fifth Precinct Police passed as usual through Reade-st., from Church-st. to West Broadway, about 6:30 o'clock yesterday morning. The doors of the store at Nos. 96 and 98 Reade-st. were found fastened. As the officer disappeared around the corner three men emerged into the street from the shadow of a neighboring store, and presently a wagon drew up at the door. The men unlocked the front door, ascended to the third floor, occupied by Fischer & Ritterhaus, dealers in upholstery goods, and seizing a quantity of merchandise, took it down stairs and deposited it in the wagon in waiting. A second visit was hurriedly paid to the store and more goods were obtained, but in their haste the burglars dropped on the first floor two bundles of lace valued at $600, and one bundle of reps valued at $160. Five minutes after the men had driven away, at 7 a. m., John Fay, the porter, arrived and found that the front door had been opened by false keys, and that the first floor door had been forced by the burglars. There were missing 10 pieces of various colored reps, valued at $1,200, and laces valued at $800. The thieves escaped with the property, which has not been yet recovered.

THE GERMAN FESTIVALS.

The German Volk Fests, which began on Monday, were continued yesterday, and will last until this evening. The Flattlebutsches Festival at Jones's Wood was opened with a large procession through the Park, representing a North-German harvest festival. The other exercises consisted of athletic sports, tight-rope walking, a tub race on the East River, and in the evening a representation from the war of 1848 of the explosion of the men-of-war Christian the Eighth. This evening there will be the usual display of fireworks and a representation of the great naval engagement between the Monitor and the Merrimac. At the Hessian festival at Hamilton Park, at Sixty-sixth-st. and Third-ave., there were athletic sports, gymnastic exercises, and dancing; in the evening there was a torchlight procession. To-day there will be a race between the Hessians and Plattdeutsch, a parody of the "Flying Dutchman," a balloon ascension, and admiralty representations of the battle and capture of Sedan and of the confinement of Napoleon in the castle on Wilhelmshöhe.

SEARCHING FOR SUNKEN TREASURE.

For some time past divers have been at work upon the wreck of the British frigate Hazar, off Port Morris, opposite Hell Gate, and have made good progress in removing the decks that is believed to cover a large amount of English coin. The diver in charge, Sidney Cook, reached the magazine on Monday, and brought to the surface large cakes of gunpowder and the iron bands that once held together the fixed ammunition, together with several wedge-shaped slugs, eight of which when joined in a circle were used for cutting the rigging of an enemy's vessel. The diver reports that little is left of the iron-work, although occasionally the copper rivets of the manacles worn by the American prisoners, chained to the gun deck when the frigate went down, are found. A few days ago Mr. Cook brought to the surface a block of oak, a part of the frigate's keel. In all former attempts to recover the treasure no diver has succeeded in reaching the keel.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY AND MURDER.

The saloon of John Belmasconti, alias Garibaldi, at No. 34 West Fourth-st. was entered yesterday morning by a young man named Philip King, who, having ordered liquor, attempted to rob the money-drawer while the barkeeper's attention was engaged. He was caught in the act, however, by Belmasconti, who, as he seized the thief, was deliberately fired upon by a man standing on the opposite side of Fourth-st. Officer Fitzpatrick of the Fifteenth Precinct, attracted to the spot by the noise of the firing, arrested the man, who gave his name as John Fayne of No. 18 Christie-st. At the Washington Place Police Court yesterday morning Justice Duffy committed both prisoners for trial.

THE FENIAN REFUGEES.

The number of callers upon the Fenian prisoners at O'Donovan Rossa's Hotel yesterday was smaller than on the previous day. The refugees spent the greater part of the day with their personal friends in the city and in visiting the Catskills. Capt. Anthony returned to the city, and soon after noon the bark was towed up the East river on her way to New-Bedford, where she will discharge her cargo of oil. The subscription is meeting with good success, and it is believed that the desired amount will be contributed.

DISTRESS AND STARVATION ON THE SEA.

The steamship Frisia, which arrived at this port from Hamburg yesterday, reports that on Aug. 17, in latitude 46° 26' and longitude 32° 06', a Spanish schooner was found in distress; officers of the steamship went on board and found that it was the Jasmina, from Santa Domingo for Havre. The captain, B. Palau, one sailor, and a passenger were taken to the Frisia. Capt. Palau stated that the rest of the crew, five in number, had died of starvation.

CONDITION OF COMMODORE VANDERBILT.

No especial change took place in the condition of Commodore Vanderbilt yesterday. It was thought that if any change had taken place it was for the better. He partook of his usual food with a fair appetite and rested easily during the day. A number of friends called, a few of whom were admitted to his room.

RAILWAY INTERESTS.

HEAVY CLAIM AGAINST MISSOURI PACIFIC.

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 22.—United States Attorney Bliss yesterday began a suit in the United States Circuit Court against the Missouri Pacific Railroad Mortgage Trustees and Receivers for taxes from 1864 to 1872, under the old income law. The tax, with interests and penalties, amounts to $200,000. The United States claims a lien upon the road for this sum prior to all mortgages upon it, and especially the mortgages under which the road is to be sold on the 4th of September next. Judge Dillon has granted an order at the instance of Attorney Bliss to retain enough of the proceeds of the sale of the road to meet the claim of the United States should it be established.

ERIE REQUIRED TO REBUILD A BRIDGE.

MILFORD, Penn., Aug. 22.—The Attorney General of Pennsylvania has just served a notice upon the Erie Railway Company that the bridge over the Delaware River, connecting Port Jervis, N. Y., with Matamoras, Penn., must be rebuilt. During a severe gale about eight years ago this bridge was blown down, and the late James Fisk, jr., obtained legislation in Pennsylvania, which, it was supposed, released the Erie Company from the obligation to build and maintain said bridge. It has lately transpired that the legislation for that purpose is void and that the Erie Company must maintain the bridge for the privilege of running through the State of Pennsylvania. The Lehigh and Eastern Railroad intends to use this bridge to enter the State of New-York and connect with the Erie Railway.

ANONYMOUS CHARGES AGAINST CHICAGO OFFICIALS.

CHICAGO, Aug. 22.—The Committee on the Judiciary of the City Council, to whom was referred a resolution of the Board of Education asking the Council to investigate the charges made against some members of the board in anonymous letters read in the Council, reported last night that the charges were so indefinite that the committee considered it unnecessary, futile, and undesirable to investigate them. The only specific charge is that a "Ring" exists in the Board. This allegation cannot be proved or disproved by any power in the hands of the Council. It is at any rate a matter for the courts to try, or for the personal resentment of the members to bear. The anonymous charges referred to are those made by Mr. Hanford and others, and which were the direct cause of the Ballman-Hanford shooting tragedy.

YELLOW FEVER AT BOSTON.

BOSTON, Aug. 22.—The schooner G. K. Hatch, from Havana, has a case of yellow fever on board, and is detained at Quarantine.

NAVAL ORDERS.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22.—Lieut.-Commander Wm. D. Hoff is ordered to duty as senior aid to the commandant at the navy-yard, League Island, Penn. Ensign Frank S. Hotchkiss has been ordered to the Vandalia. Midshipmen Francis H. Sherman, Edward M. Kalk, Wm. L. Varnum, George C. Bailey, John Dale Newton, and Jas. H. Leara have been ordered to the Asiatic Station. Chaplain D. H. Tribon has been ordered to the Hartford. Lieut. Wm. H. Reeder is detached from duty as senior aid to the commandant at League Island, Penn., but is to be continued on other duty. Acting Assistant Surgeon R. J. Ferry is detached from duty at Key West and placed on waiting orders.

ARMY ORDERS.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22.—Capt. David S. Gordon, 2d Cavalry, is ordered to temporary duty on recruiting service. Surgeons H. J. Irwin and B. E. Fryer are appointed a Board to examine into the physical qualifications of candidates for admission to the Military Academy. First Lieut. Thos. H. Barker, 1st Artillery, and Second Lieut. Frank S. Rice, 1st Artillery, and Charles A. Tingle, 2d Artillery, have been ordered to report for duty to the Chief Signal Officer of the army. Lieut.-Col. Geo. P. Ihrie is relieved from court-martial duty at San Antonio, Texas, and ordered to join his regiment.

The Philadelphia Bulletin neatly turns it thus: In his speech in defense of Tilden Mr. Hewitt said: "I defy these gentlemen to lay their hands upon a dishonest dollar in the possession of Samuel J. Tilden." Such a defiance proves nothing. We defy Mr. Hewitt to lay his hands upon a dishonest dollar in the possession of William M. Tweed.

THE COURTS.

THE BROADWAY WIDENING LITIGATION.

As reported recently, the Commissioners who made the first report on the Broadway widening were sued by the city to prevent them from enforcing more than half the costs allowed them on the confirmation of the first report. The Court of Appeals has decided that such an allowance of costs cannot be attached in any collateral manner, and under this decision the city brought a suit, claiming that the $168,000 charged by the Commissioners and allowed by Judge Cardozo, one-half was unlawful, and asked in the suit that the Commissioners be restrained from suing the city, unless they would accept the portion conceded to be proper. The Commissioners agreed that the claims were just under the law; that the question of their justice had been passed on finally by the judge who confirmed the whole first report, and that the Legislature, which authorized the setting aside of the report, by excepting the Commissioners' costs from the general condemnation, had affirmed them. The case came recently before Judge Donohue in Supreme Court, Chambers, on a motion by the city to restrain the Commissioners from prosecuting their claims until the suit could be regularly tried. Judge Donohue yesterday denied the motion, holding that no actual fraud was set forth by the city; that the question of the legality of the charges complained of had been passed on by one court, and that the exception in the act authorizing a new commission was a legislative confirmation of the act of the court in fixing the Commissioners' costs.

APPLICATIONS FOR DISCHARGE.

John Carroll is under arrest in default of $5,000 bail under a charge of robbery in the annexed district. His counsel, William F. Kintzing, applied yesterday to Judge Donohue for the reduction of his bail. The motion was denied.

Anna Wilson, a child, was committed as a vagrant, she having been in company with a younger child who was begging. Judge Donohue held that, in the absence of proof that she was the instigator, she could not be held, and discharged her.

James W. McKean, by and with several aliases, charged with stealing a watch, is held by the District-Attorney, who objects to the small sum at which his bail was fixed. He was brought before Judge Donohue on habeas corpus, to compel the District-Attorney to take $1,000 bail. Judge Donohue reserved his decision.

CIVIL NOTES.

In the divorce suit of Nathan P. Rice against Anna B. Rice, Judge Donohue, in Supreme Court, Chambers, has confirmed the report of a referee awarding the defendant $8 per week alimony, and her counsel a fee of $175. The referee places his decision on the ground that the evidence against the wife not being conclusive, she is entitled to such support as will enable her to fairly present her side of the case to the court.

Cross suits have been brought between Harriet E. Terry and her husband, Arthur Terry, she charging him with cruelty, and he charging her with adultery. In his suit she sets up in answer various charges of cruelty, among the rest that he drove her from him in Mexico, and afterward conspired to obtain evidence against her in this State. The case came up before Judge Donohue, in Supreme Court, Chambers, to strike out parts of the answer. Judge Donohue denies the motion, thinking it best that both suits be settled in one trial.

The troubles of the Bleecker Street Railroad Company, now in the hands of a receiver, were before Judge Donohue in Supreme Court, Chambers, yesterday, in two shapes. An application was made by the United States District-Attorney to sue the receiver of the company in the United States courts for arrears of taxes on its net income. This was put over to allow the company to show that there was no net income. A motion was made, also, for leave to execute a lease of the road to the Twenty-third Street Railroad Company. Mr. Ransom asking time, on behalf of some stockholders who have brought a suit to prepare papers in opposition, the motion was laid over until Saturday.

Catherine F. Lebenivean has begun a suit for limited divorce against her husband, Webster Lebenivean, on the ground of cruel treatment, and her counsel, Mr. Laird, applied to Judge Van Brunt yesterday for alimony pending the suit. In her affidavit the plaintiff states she was married in 1864, and has three children; on April 24 last, without any just cause, her husband whipped her; on subs