NEW PUBLICATIONS.

EMINENT ENGLISH LIBERALS.

EMINENT ENGLISH LIBERALS IN AND OUT OF PARLIAMENT. By J. MORRISON DAVIDSON, Barrister at Law. 8vo. Boston: James R. Osgood & Co.

This is a collection of sketches originally contributed to *The London Weekly Dispatch*. The author claims for them as their chief merit, if they have any, that they have not been "written to order," but express as nearly as possible the sentiments of the writer regarding twenty-four representative Radicals, with most of whom he has the advantage, as he tells us, of being personally acquainted. Mr. Davidson brings enthusiasm to the work. These "Men of the Left," as he calls them, he regards as "the salt of our political world." He begins the sketch of Mr. Gladstone by quoting that gentleman's definition of a Radical—"a Liberal who is, and has ever been, preeminently in earnest—in earnest, not for himself, but for the common weal." Even when a Tory, Mr. Gladstone was not of that party, but "only in general, honest thought, and common good to all, made one of them." His career is thus summarily given:

The circumstances of his birth and education almost necessarily determined that he should enter public life as "the rising hope" of Toryism. The strength, candor, generosity, and innate nobility of his nature have with equally irresistible force made his whole subsequent career a slow but sure process of repudiation of every thing that Tories hold dear. Forty-six years ago, when he entered Parliament for Newark as the nominee of the Duke of Newcastle, he was the hope of the High Tory party; to-day he is the hope of the unadulterated Radicalism of England, which, despite Conservative reactions and Whig imbecilities, knows nothing of defeat; which in adversity, like Milton,—blind and fallen on evil times,—"hates not a jot of heart or hope, but stears right onward." Old as he is, his true place is where he is,—at the helm of the Radical bark. Who can foresee himself?

Of Mr. Gladstone's errors it is said that two great questions of his time he has completely misjudged,—the Crimean war and the American war:

Of the first he was, to some extent, *particeps criminis*; and, with regard to the latter, a singularly rash and hostile utterance by implication numbered him with the friends of secession. For the former he has atoned by his late almost superhuman efforts to prevent its recurrence; and for the latter there is ample compensation in our wisest international act, the Alabama arbitration. It is no small misfortune that, in the course of his busy life, Mr. Gladstone has never found time to visit the generous land of "our kin beyond the sea." Such an experience would have taught him that it is better to be cushioned in the heart of a great people than to obtain the favor of all the courts and courtiers in Christendom.

The sketch of John Bright opens in a pleasant way, and is worth quoting:

There is a quaint passage in "Ecclesiasticus" which expresses better than anything I can think of my conception of the way in which Mr. Bright will be regarded by a not distant posterity. "Let us praise famous men," it runs, "and our fathers that begat us. God hath wrought great glory by them through His great power from the beginning; men renowned for their power giving counsel by their understanding, and declaring prophecies; leaders of the people by their counsels and by their knowledge meet for the people, wise and eloquent in their instructions; rich men furnished with ability, living peacably in their habitations." "All these," it is added, "were honored in their generations, and were the glory of their times." And assuredly, if characteristics such as these appertain to any man of our day and generation, it is to John Bright. What leader of the people has given wiser counsel, more eloquent instruction,—nay, declared more prophecies? As applied to him, the title of Right Honorable is, for a wonder, fully deserved. It fits like a glove. From the beginning of his career until now "great glory has been wrought by him," and that too, "through His great power," Mr. Bright would be the last to postulate.

To this it is added that Mr. Bright is "the great Puritan statesman of England, ever consciously living, as did his favorite poet Milton, 'in his great taskmaster's eye.'" And yet he is not Puritanical in his habits and amusements, of which we have this pleasant picture:

Like most generous and humane natures, he is fond of the lower animals more especially of dogs. In his youth he was a good football-player, a smart cricketer, an expert swimmer, and during a period of convalescence, more than twenty years ago, he acquired the art of salmon-fishing, which he has since, for recreative reasons chiefly, brought to considerable perfection. He is a total abstainer; and what with a steady hand, a quick eye, and indomitable patience, few better amateur anglers appear on the Spey.

He is a charming companion, with a weakness for strolling into billiard-rooms. Once at Llandudno, the story goes, he played in a public billiard-room with a stranger, who turned out to be a truculent Tory manufacturer from Yorkshire. While the game was proceeding, the Yorkshireman's wife chanced to ask some of the hotel attendants how her husband was engaged, and was beside herself with alarm on learning that he was in the company of one against whom she had so often heard him express the most bloodthirsty sentiments. "Are they fighting?" she asked and could with difficulty be persuaded that no altercation was going on. About a couple of hours afterward the husband, turned up, rubbing his hands, and told his wife with much satisfaction that he had just been having a game at billiards with a most pleasant casual acquaintance, and that they had arranged for another trial of skill next day. "Why," exclaimed the lady, "it is John Bright you have been playing with!" The manufacturer's countenance fell; but, speedily recovering himself, he observed, in extenuation of his conduct, that the newspapers always told lies about people, and so thoroughly was he now satisfied of Mr. Bright's entire harmlessness, that, in given circumstances, he should vote for him himself.

Mr. Bright's oratory is spoken of "as nearly as possible perfect. He is the prince of English public speakers." "I have been told," says Mr. Davidson, "by some authorities who have heard Wendell Phillips speak, that he is the equal of Mr. Bright; but from speeches by the celebrated American which I have read, I should very much doubt it. The heart, the conscience, the intellect, Mr. Bright can touch with equal ease. His speech is the natural expression of a mind at once beautiful and strong." Of his course at a crisis to ourselves of the utmost importance, it is said:

In the terrible struggle which threatened to rend the great American Republic to pieces, the innermost soul of the tribune of the people was stirred within him, and he touched the limits of actual prophecy. In the darkest hour of the fortunes of the North he declared, "The Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Gladstone) as a speaker is not surpassed by any man in England, and he is a great statesman. He believes the cause of the North to be hopeless, and that then enterprise cannot succeed. . . . I have another and a far brighter vision before my gaze. It may be a vision; but I will cherish it. I see one vast confederation stretching from the frozen North in unbroken line to the glowing South, and from the wild billows of the Atlantic westward to the calmer waters of the Pacific main; and I see one people and one language, and one law and one faith, and over all that wide continent the home of freedom and a refuge for the oppressed of every race and of every clime."

The account of Sir Wilfrid Lawson, the great temperance advocate, characterizes him, in spite of cold water proclivities, as "a jolly good fellow." Of his jokes everybody has heard, and the reader will be glad to have this description of his humorous characteristics:

It is a total mistake to suppose that Sir Wilfrid's jokes are mere closet reproductions. He is even more witty in private than in public; and you never meet him that he has not the air of a man who has just experienced some extraordinary piece of good luck, in which you are called upon, if you are not an absolute churl, to participate. He is brimful and running over with sprightly sallies and clever epigrams. Indeed they seem to come as naturally to him as dulness to most of us. And his wit is of the best kind. It is never used to wound the feelings of any, but to laugh men out of their follies, pretences, and insincerities. His keenest shafts are never envenomed, and are never sped except with a moral purpose. Were it otherwise he might be classed with the humorous light horsemen of debate,—of whom Mr. Bernal Osborne was a favorite specimen,—in which case he would, of course, be entitled to no place in this series.

We have an amusing account of Mr. Fawcett, the blind member of Parliament:

He is never so happy as in the open air, and in his native Wiltshire his pedestrian feats have become almost proverbial. His topographical knowledge is so minute, that when his guides are at fault he not unfrequently directs them,—from early recollections of natural objects of course. He religiously frequents the university boat-race on the Thames, and is as heartily interested in the proceedings of the day as the keenest-eyed observer. At Cambridge he is stroke-oar of the "Ancient Mariners" boat; and a better stroke no crew of "mariners," ancient or modern, need desire. He is a good swimmer. When the fens are frozen, he takes to his skates as naturally as a duck in the water takes to her webs. On such occasions his daughter, a graceful maiden of eleven winters, precedes her father, whistling playfully. He is likewise an ardent equestrian; and, when in residence at the university, seldom a day elapses that the professor of political economy may not be seen, accompanied by some one of his numerous friends, cantering fearlessly on Newmarket Heath or Across Flat. He occasionally even follows the hounds on a well-trained steed; and so hard a rider is he said to be, that the livery-stable keepers have two tariffs—one ordinary for those who have not been seen in the society of Professor Fawcett, and one extraordinary for those who have. Add to this that Mr. Fawcett is one of the best and most indefatigable amateur salmon and trout fishers that can well be imagined, and it will readily be admitted that no great "difference" has overtaken him with regard to outdoor recreations.

Mr. Davidson says that he has been warned by kind friends that whatever he did, he must on no account allow Charles Bradlaugh to appear in this series; to which his reply invariably was, How am I to keep him out? Mr. Bradlaugh was altogether too big to be passed over. "It is not," says our author, "that his opinions differ so much from those entertained by many most respectable and intelligent members of 'society'; his offence consists in having conveyed the news to 'the man in the street.'" Mr. Bradlaugh's religious errors are aptly set forth, and are worthy of particular regard as coming from an admirer:

On the other hand, like nearly all atheists whom I have known, he is a consummate egotist. He who recognizes in nature no power greater than himself almost necessarily rises rapidly in self-esteem. There is very little room left for the Christian virtues of patience, humility, charity. Indeed, these are pretty much what Mr. Bradlaugh attributes to Christ as faults of character. There is no God, and Charles Bradlaugh is his prophet. This is the secret of his power. Not that I mean to affirm in the least that Bradlaugh's egotism is incompatible with the common weal. In a different way from Beesly or Spurgeon, he has arrived at certainty. That is all. He might say, like Faust:

> No scruples or doubts in my bosom dwell,
> Nor idle fears of devils in hell.

Hurrah for the "Everlasting No!" On this sure foundation let the edifice of human happiness be erected. Absolute selfishness more or less enlightened—call it individualism, or by whatever name you will—is the way, the truth, and the life! Whenever any great world-synthesis of religious or moral ideas has broken down, this has been the inevitable result of analyses. But the human race can never permanently live on negations. In the heat of conflict, while the old system is dying and the new is unborn, they may appear almost like gospel truths; but, when the ground has once been fairly cleared, their significance is at an end. Men once more begin to recognize in nature a more profound purpose, a more all-pervading intelligence, a more sacred continuity, than before. Comte attempted to piece together the broken links of our faith, but failed. Mr. Bradlaugh merely dances an Indian war-dance in paint and feathers among the *débris*. It is, in my opinion, a poor and questionable occupation for so able a man. The Deliverer is yet to come, and there are many signs that he cannot now be far off. Meantime wise men will possess their souls in patience, awaiting with confidence the dawn of the better day. "Almighty God! then wilt cause the day to dawn; but as yet struggles the twelfth hour of the night. Nocturnal birds of prey are on the wing; the dead walk; the living dream."

The concluding pages of this volume are devoted to "Eminent Liberals out of Parliament." The chapter devoted to the Rev. Charles H. Spurgeon asserts that this eminent preacher "with hardly an attempt at direct political propagandism, contrives to be the greatest single influence in South London in favor of Liberalism. At elections, school-board and Parliamentary, his followers display an energy and discipline which leave nothing to be desired." The chapter devoted to him is not altogether laudatory, as the following extracts will show:

It is not because Mr. Spurgeon preaches soothing doctrines to his flock that they are attracted by him. He is the mainstay of Calvinism in England. Five elect few alone are to be saved; the rest go to eternal perdition. He will not hear of the smallest mitigation to their torments. This diabolic dogma, worthy of the man who betrayed the noble Servetus to the stake—a man head and shoulders above Calvin, both as a theologian and as a man of science,—is not worthy either of the head or heart of the pastor of the Metropolitan Tabernacle. Were it true, the creature would then indeed be more just than the Creator, and all but the vilest reprobates would refuse to become "heirs of salvation." Virtuous men would everywhere conspire to bring the race to speedy extinction, so as to balk the malevolent Demiurgus of his prey. The doctrine is rendered forever incredible by its very enormity.

We quote this as showing somewhat the religious turn of Mr. Davidson's book, and not because we think that it does Mr. Spurgeon exact justice. Of course he would not admit the "diabolism" of his dogmas, nor can it be denied that Mr. Davidson discusses them in rather a superficial and unsatisfactory way. The estimate of Moncure D. Conway is, of course, more liberal, and it somewhat modifies out author's view of Mr. Spurgeon. Of Mr. Conway, it is said:

He is an original and fearless thinker,—a born instructor of other men in whatever is true, beautiful and good, with an ear delicately attuned to catch the faintest accents of the "still small voice" of conscience. What he hears in the closet he has the courage to proclaim from the housetop. His discourses consequently bear an oracular impress. They have, moreover, an atoma of mysticism, faint but sweet,—a breath of New-England transcendentalism peculiarly grateful to unaccustomed Cockney nostrils. It were curious to speculate what would happen if say Spurgeon and Conway were to exchange pulpits for a month or so. Both churches, I imagine, would be completely emptied. To the eclectics of South Place Mr. Spurgeon's doctrines would be mere foolishness, while to the Calvinists of the Tabernacle Mr. Conway would be worse than a stumbling-block; he would be Antichrist. Yet there is a golden bridge over this terrible chasm of conflicting beliefs. Mr. Conway and Mr. Spurgeon have a common object for which they toil, viz., the moral elevation of mankind. Where this essence of all true religions is present, the form is of secondary consequence. Creed or no creed, for the good the path of duty is the same.

We can commend Mr. Davidson's book as exceedingly entertaining, and the information which it conveys is of a fresh and valuable kind. It is written in a catholic and amiable way, and those who do not always agree with the writer can hardly be angry with him.

LITTLE BRITAIN, TOGETHER WITH THE SPECTRE BRIDEGROOM AND A LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW. By WASHINGTON IRVING. Illustrated by Charles O. Murray. 8vo. New-York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

It is unnecessary to speak of these fine specimens of Mr. Irving's genius. They have already passed into the stage of classics, and having been read by more than one past generation, they are sure to be read by more than one to come. The wood-cut illustrations of Mr. Murray, engraved by Mr. Cooper, are agreeable, germane to the text, and very well printed. There is something of the inevitable mannerism which follows when an artist undertakes to illustrate an entire book, but even this is well escaped in many of the illustrations of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," which strike us as fresh and congenial. Those who like dainty books will like this; for the paper is thick, the press work is good, and the edges are gilded.

HOLLAND AND ITS PEOPLE. By EDMONDO DE AMICIS. Translated by CAROLINE TILTON. 8vo. New-York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

We can confidently recommend this as a charming book—this story of a land, rich, fertile and prosperous, which has been reclaimed from the barren sea. All the miracle of the canals, all the bluebeard romance, all the history of inundations, all the rise of great and opulent cities, with the growth of wealthy commercial colonies in far-distant regions, is here pleasantly narrated. One will find in this volume most which he may care to know of a renowned state of marine enterprise, of marvellous cleanliness, of painters celebrated forever,—an astonishing and fascinating detail. Those who have come from the perusal of Mr. Motley's great works, will accept the sketches of Signor De Amicis as a most agreeable supplement; and we ought to add that the translation seems to be exceedingly well done.

SHAKESPEARE'S STORIES SIMPLY TOLD. By MARY SEARLE. With 120 Illustrations. 8vo. New-York: Thomas Nelson & son.

If no more, this is at least a book of pretty pictures. The narrative of the great plays, however, is well carried on, and we have another illustration of the beautiful dramatic construction of which Shakespeare was such a master. Children for whom this book is designed are great critics of stories; but we do not see why these should not suit them admirably, though the older student of Shakespeare might not have such a relish for them. Bits of the text of the plays are here and there interwoven. The idea of such a book as this is not entirely original; for the "Tales from Shakespeare," by Charles and Mary Lamb, were published more than seventy years ago; but the present compilation may better suit modern readers, though it may lack the antique charm of the Lambs' beautiful book.

A MANUAL OF CLASSICAL LITERATURE. Comprising Biographical and Critical Notices of the Principal Greek and Roman Authors. By CHARLES MORRIS. 8vo. Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co.

The study of the Greek and Latin languages has not yet been definitely abandoned in our colleges, and still some acquaintance with ancient classical literature is deemed desirable. Mr. Morris's book, while it would be of no particular value to one bent upon thorough and original research, contains a great deal of which no one pretending to cultivation should be ignorant. Greek literature is discussed critically from Homer to Longinus, and Roman literature down to the Antonines. Mr. Morris's plan is to give a critical and biographical sketch of each author, followed by choice extracts from his works in some carefully selected translation. The task seems to be cleverly and carefully accomplished, many of the versions being admirable, while the notices of the great ancient authors, poets, dramatists, philosophers and historians are comprehensive and intelligent. For merely English readers the book is a desirable one, no knowledge of either language being necessary in its perusal. As specimens of critical analysis we may refer to the articles upon Homer, Plato and Virgil.

HISTORY OF WINDHAM COUNTY, CONNECTICUT. By ELLEN D. LARNED. Vol. I, 1760-1880. 8vo, pp. xii., 600. Published by the Author.

Books like this deserve a cordial welcome. They deal with a subject which attracts only a small circle of readers, and no adequate return in money can be expected for the great outlay of time and trouble expended in their preparation. But they do invaluable pioneer service for the writers of general histories; and they collect, direct and arrange in accessible form the perishing records which will one day be needed to complete our pictures of manners and society in the past, our surveys of National progress and of the development of National character, and our biographies of distinguished personages. The county history, now brought to a close, has been prepared with unusual zeal and care, and the author deserves unstinted praise for the manliness and perseverance of her researches. Nor is the book merely a rude monument of industry, as so many works of the same class unfortunately are. It shows no mean degree of literary skill, and abounds with passages in which the general reader will be sure to find entertainment. Some of the descriptions of village life in the Colonial and Revolutionary periods, the accounts of the patriotic uprising at the beginning of the struggle for independence, and the narratives of events in the war are regarkably graphic; many of the extracts from ancient town records are highly amusing; there are anecdotes in plenty; and the stories of ecclesiastical disputes are unexpectedly interesting. Windham County has been fortunate in finding so good a historian.

A DICTIONARY OF MUSIC AND MUSICIANS. Edited by GEORGE GROVE, D. C. L. Part xi. 8vo. Macmillan & Co.

The eleventh number of Mr. Grove's admirable Dictionary of Music opens with the eighteen concluding pages of Mr. W. S. Rockstro's article on "Opera," begun in the preceding part, and extends to the title "Palestrina." "Opera" is a difficult and unwieldy subject to handle, and although a rather ample space has been allowed for it, the information, particularly in relation to the contemporary period, is not so minute as might be desired in a book of reference. Mr. Rockstro has been an industrious contributor to this part of the Dictionary, for we are indebted to him for an elaborate illustrated article on "Oratorio," as well as the articles "Orchestra" and "Orchestration." A table is inserted showing the strength and composition of the most famous orchestras of our time. From this it appears that the largest orchestra in the world and the most majestic in the force of its strong band is that of the New-York Philharmonic Society as reorganized under Theodore Thomas, the Philharmonic Society of Vienna coming next. A full and thorough paper on the "Organ" is furnished by E. J. Hopkins, organist of the Temple, in London. Mr. Grove is now approaching the end of his arduous undertaking, and the more we see of the work the higher becomes our appreciation of its value, and the warmer our admiration for the accomplished and sympathetic editor.

PROF. ROKITANSKY'S METHOD WITH PHTHISIS.—The mode of treating consumptive patients, practised for some time past by Professor Rokitansky, of Innsbruck, has, it seems, continued to yield results of the most satisfactory nature. Natrium benzoicum—diluted to a solution of five per cent—is inhaled twice a day, in the morning and evening, by means of a suitable atomizing pulverizator in the proportion of one part of the salt to a one-thousandth of the body weight. The quantity necessary for a patient of 140 pounds weight would, therefore, be about two and one-half ounces at each inhalation, the inhaler being carefully approved, of course, for such a large amount to be taken into the air passages. As a certain proportion will always escape into and permeate the air of the room, the patient is to remain there for an hour after each inhalation.

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CHATTEL MORTGAGE SALE.—Thomas F. SULLIVAN, Auctioneer, will sell on FRIDAY, October 29, 1880, at Nos. 102 and 104 West 47th-st., New-York City, at 1 o'clock p. m., the furniture and fixtures of a lager beer saloon. By order of the mortgagee.
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IF PERSONS in search of winter board will send their address to "Boarding," Box 237, Asheville, N.C., they will receive a circular describing the place, the beauty of the scenery and healthfulness of the climate. Both are described by Christian Reid in her recent work, "Land of the Skies."

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Proposals.

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UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE,
ARMY BUILDING, NEW-YORK CITY, Oct. 26, 1880.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this office, addressed to the undersigned, will be received at his office until 12 o'clock, noon, on the 15th day of November, 1880, at which time and place they will be opened in the presence of bidders, for removing rock and other obstructions and building wing dams in the Savannah River, above Augusta, Ga.

Specifications, bid forms and blank proposal and bond for proposals may be purchased at the office of Captain J. C. Post, Corps of Engineers, Charleston, S. C., on application by inclosing bidders.

G. A. GILLMORE,
Lt. Col. of Engineers, U. S. A.

TO ELECTRICIANS.—New Capitol, Office of the superintendent, Albany, N. Y., October 21, 1880.—Sealed proposals will be received at this office, where proposal blanks can be procured, until noon, Tuesday, November 9, 1880, for furnishing electric lighting apparatus for the Senate Chamber in this building.

The apparatus is to be put in by December 15, next, in accordance with specifications to be seen at this office.

Each bidder must be accompanied, in an envelope, addressed to the undersigned, Subject: "Proposal for Electric Lighting," and must be accompanied by bonds of two responsible sureties for the benefit of the State of New-York, each in the penal sum of $1,000, conditioned that if the contract be awarded to the bidder he will execute a contract with good and sufficient sureties, to be approved by the undersigned, within five days after the same shall be presented for his signature, and will perform the same faithfully in accordance with the plans and specifications. The right is reserved for the superintendent, with the concurrence of the New-Capitol Commission, to reject any or all bids, and, where a contract is awarded, to give to the bidder whose bid shall be found, whenever, in their judgment, it is best to do so, the preference for the interest of the state.

JAMES W. EATON,
Superintendent New-Capitol.

Election Notices.

STATE OF NEW-YORK,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
ALBANY, July 30, 1880.

TO THE SHERIFF OF THE COUNTY OF NEW-YORK:

SIR—Notice is hereby given that, at the General Election to be held on the Tuesday next succeeding the first Monday of November next (November 2d), the following officers are to be chosen, to wit:

Thirty-two Electors of President and Vice-President of the United States.

A Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals (for a full term in the place of Charles Andrews, judge appointed by the Governor in the place of Charles F. Church, deceased, whose term of office will expire on the last day of December next).

Seven representatives in the Forty-seventh Congress of the United States, for the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Congressional Districts, composing the County of New-York.

County officers also to be elected for said county:

Twenty-four Members of Assembly.

A Coroner in place of FREDERIC C. LEW.

A Recorder in the place of Recorder Smith.

A District Attorney in place of Horace Russell, appointed by the Governor, vice William M. Tweed, deceased.

All whose terms of office will expire on the last day of December next.

A Justice of the Marine Court for remainder of unexpired term, vice Michael Reilly, deceased, appointed by the Governor in place of James P. Sinnott, deceased.

And notice is hereby further given that the following concurrent resolution, proposing an amendment to the Constitution, will also be submitted to the people at said election, and took effect as a part of the Constitution if ratified by the people of the State of New-York, each to the number of votes cast for Secretary of State at the general election to be held in this State on the second day of November, one thousand eight hundred and eighty, and proposed next to precede the articles of the Constitution as the same stand at the time of the proposed Legislature, passed in eighteen hundred and seventy-nine and entitled "Concurrent resolution, proposing an amendment to the Constitution, relative to the number of the Supreme Court, and to the number of judges of the Court of Appeals, and to the number of judges of the Court of Common Pleas in the City of New-York, and to the number of judges of the Superior Court of Buffalo, and to the number of judges of the City Court of Brooklyn, and to the number of judges of the Superior Court of the City of New-York, and to the number of judges of the City Court of Brooklyn