WM. CONROY FOUND GUILTY.

A VERDICT OF MURDER RENDERED.

THE JURY DELIBERATE FOR SEVENTEEN HOURS—CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CRIME.

The jury in the case of William Conroy, who was on trial for murder in the Court of General Sessions, came into the court room at ten o'clock yesterday morning showing no signs of having suffered by their night's confinement. The court room was well filled with lawyers, policemen and the usual members of curious spectators to whom every scene connected with the trial of a noted criminal is attractive. The foreman of the jury handed to Judge Cowing a request for further instruction on the subject of deliberation and premeditation and the length of time necessary for such deliberation as would bring the killing within the definition of murder in the first degree. Judge Cowing read the sections of the Code defining murder in the first and second degrees. On the question of premeditation and deliberation the Judge read the opinions of Judges Danforth and Earl of the Court of Appeals. The time necessary for deliberation according to the opinion of Judge Earl would vary with the circumstances. The human mind acts quickly and a very short period might suffice.

The jury retired and in a few minutes returned with a verdict. The prisoner, who is of a slight frame and has grown haggard since the trial began, was called on to face the jury. With a listless expression he gazed at the foreman, Mr. Whitehead, while in answer to Clerk Sparks's question the foreman said, "Guilty of murder in the first degree." The prisoner gave a start, but made no demonstration. The jury was not polled. Conroy was remanded for sentence. An application for a new trial will be made.

The crime of which Conroy was convicted was the killing of Peter Keenan in Patrick Cody's liquor-store, in East Thirty-ninth-st. Conroy had been a member of the police force since last April, and was in full uniform and on duty on the night of November 3, when the shooting took place. Conroy took two drinks of sherry early in the evening and soon after eleven o'clock was in front of Cody's store. A young man, standing in the doorway, said: "Come in, Tom Murphy has left a drink for you." Murphy was then a candidate for a local office. The policeman entered the store and took a drink of sherry. He then called for drinks for all the men who were in the place. Eight or ten persons were served, and Conroy quarrelled with the liquor dealer as to the amount due. One of the men said he would not be afraid of the policeman, if he did not have his club, and Conroy gave his club to Keenan and professed willingness to fight anybody. Afterward Conroy had a dispute with another man, and later he drew his pistol, and while Keenan, another man and Cody's wife were standing near the door of a rear room, Conroy fired his pistol, shooting Keenan in the abdomen. No provocation had been given. Conroy went out and afterward, while talking with another policeman, was called in to assist in taking away Kennedy, who was lying unconscious on the floor of the liquor store. It was suggested that an ambulance be called, but Conroy said there was no need of that. He took Keenan roughly by the shoulder and dragged him to the station house. He was seen to use his club on the wounded man, and Keenan's nose was broken and his forehead bruised. An ambulance was called when Keenan reached the police station, but the wounded man died as soon as he reached Bellevue Hospital. Captain Ryan, in whose precinct Conroy served, arrested him and took his uniform off. Conroy was dismissed from the police force.

Conroy's counsel in the trial tried to prove that he was insane. They showed that he had suffered from a fever in his childhood, and had been once prostrated by the heat of the weather. Two of his relatives had been insane and some of the prisoner's acts were strange. Three physicians, called as experts, said that Conroy was suffering from alcoholic mania when the shot was fired. Dr. A. E. Macdonald testified that the prisoner was sane. The jury spent seventeen hours before returning the verdict. The first ballots showed ten jurors in favor of conviction of murder in the first degree, while two others thought the crime was murder in the second degree. Assistant District-Attorney Fellows conducted the prosecution.

The information that Conroy had been convicted of murder in the first degree was received with satisfaction by members of the Police Department. It was said that the hanging of Conroy would be an act of justice, both to the public and to the department. The Police Commissioners, who held a meeting for the transaction of routine business, talked about the conviction informally and agreed that the verdict was a just one. Acting Superintendent Thorne said that it was the first time that a New-York policeman or ex-policeman had been convicted of murder in the first degree. The man next to Conroy, he said, who had brought disgrace on the police uniform was John Nugent, the bank burglar, now in Prison in New-Jersey. An old officer of the department said that when the Metropolitan Police Department was in existence, a policeman on duty in Brooklin shot an escaping prisoner by accident and a jury brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree. The verdict afterward was shown to be so unjust that the policeman was pardoned and he enlisted in the Union Army.

Conroy will be sentenced on Thursday. Assistant District-Attorney Fellows said that what he had most desired was to break up the use of the "insanity dodge" in murder cases. He thought that the indictment would be of importance in leading criminals to understand that it was not enough to get witnesses who would swear that they were suffering from some form of mania, while they were sane enough for the ordinary occupations of life.

PLANS FOR AMENDING THE EXCISE LAW.

It is the prevailing sentiment among the men who are actively engaged in the effort for reform in the Excise law under the auspices of the Church Temperance Society, that it is not wise at this time to draft an entirely new act in regard to the granting of licenses. Judges Arnoux and Peabody, who were requested by this organization to consider the subject, and who will report at the next meeting of the Executive Committee, are of the opinion that for the present the friends of the movement should be content with amending the old law. If a new law were proposed at this time, they believe it would meet with so strong an opposition from the combined interests opposed to it that the success of the effort to pass it would be doubtful. A bill amending the law as it now stands in important particulars is to be drawn up. It will limit the number of liquor stores to one for every 500 people. The present proportion in this city is one to every 126 people, which is only exceeded by that of Norwich, England, in which it is one to every 119.

It is proposed that the clause in the Massachusetts law which prohibits the placing of bottles, screens, signs, etc., in the windows of a liquor store thereby obstructing the view from the street shall be adopted. The affects of this provision are to a large extent evaded in Boston by placing the liquor stores in the first story, instead of the ground floor. It is proposed to make the reduction in the number of liquor stores gradual, to forbid the licensing of liquor stores in cellars hereafter; to forbid selling liquor to minors; to revise the rules of evidence in cases of violation of the excise laws, so that convictions may be more surely obtained in cases of obvious guilt; and to declare a license revoked by the conviction of a liquor seller for a violation of the law. Many of the proposed amendments are favored by leading liquor dealers.

PRINTERS ON TRIAL FOR DISORDER.

John R. O'Donnell, president of Typographical Union No. 6, Benjamin F. Adams, and Harry Cole, all of whom were arrested Friday night in Printing House Square, for disorderly conduct, were arraigned before Justice Andrew J. White in the Tombs Police Court yesterday morning. The affidavits in all the cases charged the defendants with loitering, obstructing the sidewalks, and refusing to move on when ordered to do so by the police. Assemblyman-elect James Oliver appeared for the defendants. All were discharged. A large number of Union men were present in court when the cases were called, but their conduct was so objectionable that Justice White ordered the court cleared, and they were all turned out.

Sergeant Warts, of the Fourth Precinct, said that O'Donnell acted in a very defiant manner before he was arrested—strutting around among the Union men with his hat on the back of his head and picking his teeth—and dared the police to arrest him, and evidently desired them to do so, that he might pose as a martyr before his followers.

O'Donell said he should get out warrants against Captain Tynan, Sergeant Warts, and Officers Maher and Ogden of the Fourth Precinct, charging illegal arrest and false imprisonment.

Justice White said to a TRIBUNE reporter: "I have not been asked to issue any warrants in this matter, and should not do so if I were asked. No warrant can be issued against an officer for making an arrest. The only way to get redress in such a case would be by a civil action for false imprisonment."

WINDING-UP AN INSURANCE COMPANY.

Sales of fire insurance stocks last week were as follows: Phœnix (Brooklyn) 150, Home 145, American 148, Firemen's 85, Lorillard 60, Firemen's Trust 79, Brooklyn 162½. This sale of Lorillard stock was on Wednesday just before the directors of that company concluded to wind up the company's business, which was formally done on Thursday. It is estimated that the stockholders will receive a little less than par for their stock. The Lorillard's assets have been slowly dwindling for several years, as follows: 1879, $412,835; 1880, $402,940; 1881, $406,123; 1882, $397,094. This retrogression illustrates the drift of things among the smaller fire offices. The present reinsured company is the second of that name, and has been doing business since 1871. New-York city companies having surpluses as small as or smaller than the Lorillard on July 1, were as follows: Firemen's Trust $11,304, Guardian $4,465, Mercantile $13,722, Star $18,122. None of these companies has, as yet, reported the wiping out of these frail balances, or announced its purpose of withdrawing from active underwriting, although it is considered probable that some of them will soon do so.

THE THIEVING GROCERS' CLERKS.

The doings of the A. B. C. Union of Grocery-Clerks was again a subject of inquiry in the Yorkville Police Court yesterday. David Meyer stated that he had robbed his uncle 116 times, getting $475 75 in all, and that he had given the money to Daniel Boehan. Daniel Boehan denied the truth of Meyer's statement. Henry Precht stated that he had worked for the grocery-man Anderson for two years, but he knew nothing about the A. B. C. Union. John Rushmeyer swore that he knew nothing about the alleged thefts until arrested, and that he had never given Krooss any money. Krooss then testified that he knew nothing of the union, and that he had received no money from the clerks.

The hearing was adjourned until Tuesday.

THE COURTS.

FORGERY BY A CONVICT.

A forged order for "one piece of garnet cloth at 90 cents," written on letter paper which bore the printed name of Bloomingdale Brothers at Third-ave., and Fifty-sixth-st., was presented on Friday at the store of Dunham, Buckley & Co., in Broadway by a well dressed man of middle age. At the bottom f the order were the initials "B. B. per W. E." The cloth was not delivered to the man. Detective-Sergeant Heidelberg learned at the store of Bloomingdale Brothers that the forger was Charles A. Hahn, an ex-convict who had spent thirteen years of his life in prison, having been convicted of forgery no less than three times. After being released from prison for the third time he managed to get employment at the store of Bloomingdale Brothers. The firm discharged him on Tuesday. Heidelberg sought for Hahn in the Bowery and found him within an hour. At Police Headquarters Hahn gave the name of Henry Meyer. He said that he had a wife, but refused to tell where he lived.

SECURITY FOR COSTS DEMANDED.

Judge Van Hoesen, in the Court of Common Pleas, yesterday, ordered the mother of Ernest Grant, age three, to file security for costs in a suit for $5,000 damages against Ferdinand Knolhoff, a child of about the same age. The two children were together in front of the house of Mrs. Grant, No. 144 West Twenty-fourth-st., on August three, when young Knolhoff pulled the feet of the other child from under him, causing his fall and death. Judge Van Hoesen said that the damages could hardly be more than nominal, and no good would probably come from the litigation.

A SUIT FOR DAMAGES COMPROMISED.

The suit of Agnes O'Donnell, an infant, against the Long Island Railroad Company for $15,000 d amages for injures received in the railroad accident at Hunter's Point on September 11, was compromised by the company yesterday for $2,000, in the Supreme Court.

VIEWING THE RUINS OF THE STANDARD.

THE LOSSES AND INSURANCE—TALKS WITH MR. DICKSON AND OTHERS.

A large policeman yesterday guarded the main entrance to what remained of the Standard Theatre. Crowds moved to and fro, dominated apparently by an uncontrollable desire to look upon the ruins. Inside the walls the wintry sunshine lighted up the place where the stage had been and emphasized the color of the red brick wall that rose at the rear. In the auditorium everything was black and dismal. The galleries were turned black and icicles had added fantastic variations to their outlines. Mr. Dickson said:

"We shall have another theatre in New-York at the end of this season or the beginning of next. It will not be built on the site of the Standard. Our engagement with 'Estrella' is necessarily 'off,' as is also the one with Grau, which was to have followed for three weeks. After that we were to have produced Pinero's play, 'Lords and Commons,' a comedy with no emotional elements. Then we had an arrangement with Carte to produce Gilbert and Sullivan's new opera. We have been looking around this morning and shall fill these and other important engagements in different New-York theatres. We estimate our loss at $20,000 on scenery, furniture, decorations, stage properties, costumes, music and musical instruments. We are insured for $15,000. I do not expect that Mr. Henderson will have any interest in the theatre we contemplate building."

The burned theatre cost, it is said, $88,000 to build, of which $25,000 was in mirrors. It was built on ground owned by the Shepherd estate, and, in pursuance of contract, was insured by the lessees for the benefit of the estate to the extent of half the projected cost of the building, that is, $25,000. The estate had it insured for $25,000 more, or $50,000 in all. Two mortgages of $35,000 and $7,000 on the lease of the ground and theatre had been nearly paid up out of the rent. Next in order for payment came a judgment of Culver & Wright, lawyers. They were made an offer for the judgment, recently, but refused it. It is now worthless. Mr. Shepherd said yesterday that the insurance companies might elect to build rather than to pay.

Brooks & Dickson's insurance is as follows:

German-American	$2,500	Standard	$ 500
City of Pittsburg	1,000	New-York Fire	1,000
United Firemen	500	Commercial of Hartford	2,500
Home, New-Orleans	1,500	Allegheny City	2,500
Oakland Home, Cal	1,000	Exchange of New-York	1,500
Franklin and Emporium	500		
		Total	$10,000

It is not certain that the Oakland Home is good, as the policy expired on Friday.

The insurance on the Standard Theatre building and on adjoining property, damaged by smoke and water, is as follows:

ON STANDARD THEATRE, NO. 1,285 BROADWAY:

N. Brit'n & Mercantile	$1,000	Providence-Washington	$1,500
Standard	1,000	La Fayette	1,000
Hoffman's	1,375	Fire Association	1,000
Firemen's	1,375	Spring Garden	1,000
Fire Insurance Asso'n	2,500	Manufacturers' F. & M.	1,000
Merchants'	1,500	Northern	2,500
London & Provincial	1,250	Hamilton	1,000
Washington F. & M.	1,500	Britain	1,000
Firemen's Fund	2,000	Buffalo German	1,000
Transatlantic	1,250	Rutgers	1,000
British America	1,000	Atlantic	1,000
New Hampshire	1,000	Security	1,000
St. Paul F. & M.	1,000	German-American	1,000
London & Lancashire	2,500	Commerce	1,000
Royal	1,250	Broadway	1,500
Williamsburg City	500		
Boston Underwriters'	1,000	Total	$40,000
New Orleans	2,500		

ON NO. 1,287 BROADWAY:

North British and Mercantile, London	$3,000
Commercial Union, England	3,000
Total	$6,000

ON NO. 106 WEST THIRTY-THIRD-ST.

New-York Bowery	$1,000
Citizens'	2,000
Pennsylvania	1,000
Providence-Washington	2,000
Manufacturers'	2,000
Total	$8,000

At a meeting of the insurance men yesterday it was estimated that the loss to fire insurance companies on the theatre building would be about fifty per cent of the face of the policies. The damage to the other property will be trivial—about five per cent of the full insurance.

THE NEW-ENGLAND SOCIETY ELECTIONS.

General Clinton B. Fisk served as moderator at the annual meeting of the New-England Society held at Delmonico's on Friday evening. The following officers were elected: Stewart L. Woodford, president; Horace Russell, first vice-president; Cornelius N. Bliss, second vice-president; Miles Standish, William A. Wheelock, Granville P. Hawes and Charles C. Beaman, directors for four years; J. Pierpont Morgan, treasurer, and S. P. Hubbard, secretary. The regular ticket received 115 of the 140 votes cast. An opposition ticket was headed by Ethan Allen, and contained among others the names of Mayor Edson and Surrogate Rollins.

Previous to the election of officers twenty-two members were elected, including Isaac H. Bromley, of *The Commercial Advertiser*, Corporation Counsel Andrews, and President Baldwin, of the Fourth National Bank. Secretary Hubbard reported that there were twenty-five deaths last year; the membership being 1,356 on December 1. Treasurer Morgan, in his report, stated that the receipts last year, including the balance of $149 64, on December 13, 1882, were $6,330 68. There was a balance yesterday of $206 26. A portrait of Samuel Miles Hopkins, the first secretary of the society, was presented by a daughter of Mr. Hopkins. A small portrait of James Wilson, the first president, was also given to the society.

NOVELTIES IN BRONZE AND ENAMEL.

Fine French bronzes and clocks and handsome goods in brass and gilt, which were recently purchased in Europe, are now shown by Mitchell, Vance & Co., Nos. 836 and 838 Broadway. Mirror frames with bevelled mirrors in ornamental brass, inlaid with cloisonné enamels are, among Vienna goods, and candelabra and ink-stands in cloisonné enamels and gilts. Fine writing-sets are displayed in polished brass and in gilt and silver. In the handsome parlors on the second floor a collection of fine bronzes are shown from Henri Pie, Bouret, Hebert, Picault and others. An exquisitely graceful figure with wings is called the "Spirit of the Dragon-fly." "The Return of the Swallows," is another bronze by Auguste Moran. Beaten plaques of brass and brazen sconces with many other fancy pieces in metal are displayed. Westminster China clocks, which strike the quarter hours, are imported from England, and wall clocks with ornamental frames of brass are from Germany. Mantel sets are shown in Indienne style in gilt and colored enamels and tiny tables of fine brass with tops of handsome onyx. German fire-dogs in brass and ornamental iron andirons are imported from Berlin. Lamps for oil are exhibited in great variety in hammered metals and porcelain. The Pompeiian lamp is a make of the well known student burner, but is wrought in ornamental brass in a graceful antique shape.

PRIMA DONNAS WITHOUT PATTI PRICES.

Some of the prima donna dolls, as they are called, are marvels of construction and mechanical skill. They have American made bodies so constructed that they sit easily and gracefully in any position. The arm is covered with the finest kid. The waxen heads with long hair are of the best French and German make. The musical apparatus is concealed within the body. A slight pressure causes the doll to sing one of the following airs: "Home, Sweet Home," "I Want to be an Angel," "There is a Happy Land," "Sweet Bye and Bye," "Bonnie Doon," "America," "All Aunt Rhoda," "Buy a Broom," "Yankee Doodle," "Coming through the Rye," "Grandfather's Clock," "Last Rose of Summer," "Old Folk's at Home," "Pop goes the Weasel," "God Save the Queen," etc. Children who have rich fathers can organize complete opera companies.

NO HARBOR MASTER TO BE APPOINTED.

A well-known Democratic politician called on Governor Cleveland a short time after the death of Colonel Michael W. Burns and asked him if he proposed to fill the vacancy of Harbor Master, caused by the death of Colonel Burns. Governor Cleveland replied that the last Legislature having abolished the office of Harbor Master he did not consider that there was any vacancy to fill, and therefore he should take no action in the matter.

COLFAX ON LINCOLN AND GARFIELD.

Schuyler Colfax lectured at the Pilgrim Congregational Church, at Madison-ave., and One-hundred-and-twenty-first-st., on Friday night, taking as his subject "Our Martyr Presidents—Lincoln and Garfield." Mr. Colfax traced the parallel between the careers of the two Presidents in their humble parentage, self-education, elevation to the Presidency and tragic death. He told how, when a delegation of ministers from Chicago visited Mr. Lincoln to urge him to issue the Emancipation Proclamation before he was ready, he replied: "If I can't enforce the National Constitution down South, how can I enforce a Presidential proclamation at the North?" He was told by one of the ministers that he had received a divine message from on high to free the slaves. "If that is a divine message," replied Mr. Lincoln, "don't you think it took a round-about way to come to me through such a wicked city as Chicago?"

RAILWAY INTERESTS.

OPEN CUTTING OF RATES BEGUN.

FIRST GUNS OF THE CAMPAIGN BETWEEN THE POOL AND TICKET BROKERS.

The trunk line railroads yesterday made the reduction in schedule passenger rates from the East to points beyond Chicago and St. Louis as decided upon on Friday. From New-York fares were reduced $2.50 to Kansas City, St. Paul and Minneapolis, and $3. to Omaha and Council Bluffs. The only routes over which the trunk lines are pledged to issue tickets at these rates are the Chicago and Northwestern, the Wabash, St. Louis and Pacific and the Missouri Pacific roads, which have agreed to pay no commissions to brokers. The action of the pool lines was discussed with great interest among railroad men. The outside brokers more than met the reduced rates and tickets were sold by them to Northwestern points at prices from $3 to $5 below the reduced tariff rates. Appearances indicate a warm contest all along the line. Business was brisk at the offices of the brokers. The trunk lines and their western allies have agreed to hold up the rate to Chicago and St. Louis, irrespective of the cuts that may be ordered on travel beyond those places. The low rates to the Northwest, however, supply the brokers with a margin which enables them to cut the rates between intermediate points and this advantage was made use of. Mr. Frank, the well-known ticket-broker, standing in his office in the Astor House, said, emphatically: "We will sell tickets to the Northwest $2 below any rate that the pool lines make. Our rates to-day are as follows: New York to Kansas City, $24 90; to Omaha, $27 80; to Chicago, $17 50; to St. Louis, $20 75 and $18 75, according to route." The reduced pool rates are: New York to Kansas City, $29 90; to Omaha, $31 80; to Chicago, $18 50; to St. Louis, $24 25 and $20 75. It will be seen that the greatest cut made by the brokers is $5 on the Kansas City rate, and the lowest $1 on the Chicago rate. The margin left to the "scalpers," even without commissions paid by the Eastern lines can be shown by the following instance: The highest rate from New-York to Chicago is $20; the local rate from Chicago to Kansas City is $14 80; total, $34 80. The rate from New-York to Kansas City being $27 90, a margin of $6 90 is left for the brokers to use in cutting through rates to Kansas City. There exists also a general disbelief that the brokers do not secure commissions from the Eastern roads, in spite of the warm denial of the latter to the Commissioner. The declaration of the pool roads that they will upsetl the rates to Chicago and St. Louis irrespective of the reductions required to Northwestern points is laughed at by the brokers. The pool roads, however, assert that this will be the case and as with "Estrella" the cuts to the Northwest with the Chicago and Northwestern, the Wabash and the Missouri Pacific, the latter roads will not bear the full burden of the cut that the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, the Rock Island, the St. Paul and the Chicago and Alton will have to carry if they reduce rates beyond Chicago and St. Louis. There will probably be a further reduction made by the trunk lines to-morrow to meet the rates made by the "scalpers" yesterday.

WORK OF THE POOL COMMITTEE.

Much of the work done yesterday by the Joint Executive Committee (passenger department) of the trunk lines and their Western connections was supplementary to the action taken by the trunk lines to fight the Northwestern railroads. That action was formally confirmed, and it was agreed that all the roads should share in the reductions made in through rates by the trunk lines pro-rata. The Grand Trunk of Canada has announced its concurrence in the position taken by the pool roads, and a similar notice has been given voluntarily by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western. Assistant Commissioner Pierson was in high glee over this support, and expressed confidence that the pool would be victorious in its contest. He has restored the sale of tickets and establishment of through passenger facilities with the Louisville, Evansville and St. Louis railroad and put back on sale the tickets ordered off by some route over the Chicago and Northwestern and the Wabash roads. Negotiations are now pending between the Commissioner's office and the Chesapeake and Ohio, and the Louisville, Evansville and St. Louis roads pointing toward an agreement with the pool lines for the maintenance of rates and the division of competitive Southern traffic at certain points. The committee finished its labors yesterday after agreeing upon the basis on which the business of the proposed interior pools will be divided, and also upon a sub-division of traffic within the extreme limits of the pool territory. The lowest differential rate from New-York to St. Louis was advanced 25 cents to $21. The committee will hold another meeting on January 24, 1884.

STATISTICS OF TRAVEL IN NEW YORK.

At the meeting of the Rapid Transit Commissioners yesterday a communication was read from William P. Shinn, president of the National Cable Railway Company, setting forth that in 1880 the number of passengers carried by the elevated railways and horse cars was 209,740,126, while the number carried in 1882 was 252,871,646—an increase in two years of 43,131,520 passengers. It was estimated that the increase in 1885 would be 45,000,000 and in 1890 125,000,000, from which it was argued that the necessity for a speedy increase of rapid transit facilities was apparent. The commissioners will meet again Monday at No. 61 Cedar-st., and early in the week they will be ready to give a public hearing to those interested in the subject.

THE REPORTS OF THE STATE LINES.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 15.—The Board of Railroad Commissioners are preparing their annual report, and will present it to the Legislature on January 15. The railroad companies of the State are required by law to file their annual reports with the Board not later than the 20th of the present month. In the past there has been no attempt to enforce this law, and many companies have filed their reports at their leisure. The Commissioners, however, will report all companies failing to file reports by December 20th to the Attorney-General as delinquent, that he may proceed to collect the penalties incurred by such failure, $250, and in addition $25 for every day's delinquency.

CONCEALED HIS TREASURE TOO WELL.

NEWBURG, N. Y., Dec. 14.—There is hidden in some bank or banker's vault a little fortune belonging to a machinist who was found dead in the Mercanants' Hotel here a few days ago and which cannot be found. The intimate friends of the man, whose name was William J. Keller, estimate the sum to be about $8,000 or $10,000. Keller was an excellent mechanic, and earned large wages. He died from suffocation by gas, and the coroner's jury found it was an accident. He never mentioned where his possessions are. He is known to have saved from $5,000 to $6,000 while employed as an engineer in an extensive manufacturing establishment in Macon, Ga., during the last five or six years of his life. The administrator of his personal estate, who is looking after the hidden treasure, searched the dead man's trunk to-day, but no bank book, certificate of deposit nor anything else was found tending to show where his money is deposited. Further efforts will be made where he lived before coming to Newburg. Keller was an Englishman and the night before he died said that he had a brother and sister living in England.

THE WATER WOQKS IN KINGSTON.

KINGSTON, N. Y., Dec. 14.—A partial test of the new city water works was had before a committee of city officials yesterday. The pressure in the uptown streets is about 74 pounds to the inch, and upon attaching hose to the hydrants water was thrown through an inch-and-a-quarter nozzle about 150 feet horizontally and about 100 feet in the air vertically. Water was thrown over several of the highest stores. Down town in the Rondout end of the city the pressure is about double, or even more, and water can be thrown to the top of the highest church spires. General satisfaction is expressed over the fact that after years of waiting Kingston has an unfailing supply of pure water. The final public test of the works is, however, yet to be made.

AFFECTED BY THEIR SENTENCES.

WILMINGTON, Del., Dec. 14.—Lewis F. List, convicted of murder in the first degree, and his father, Lewis List, in the second degree, were sentenced this afternoon. Young List is to be hanged on Friday, March 14 next. The elder List was sentenced to pay a fine of $1,000 and be imprisoned for life. Both prisoners strove to bear up firmly under the ordeal, but their faces were pale, and they trembled nervously. When asked by the court whether he had anything to say, the younger prisoner simply answered that he had not made a practice of carrying a revolver. This was in reply to the Chief Justice's suggestion that he might not have committed the crime had not the weapon been so handy. After the sentence, young List buried his face in his hands and wept quietly.

THE MURDER OF INDIAN JOE.

RICHMOND, Me., Dec. 14.—Lorenzo Turner, one of the men concerded in the murder of "Indian Joe," confesses to having assaulted "Joe's" wife, but asserts that he knew nothing of the murder until arrested. The party, he says, hearing sounds of music, went into "Joe's" house merely to have a good time. The warmth of the interior made the liquor they had drunk take effect and murder and assault were the result. Liquor dealers who sold rum to the men were this morning fined $80 and costs. The prisoners to-day pleaded not guilty to the charge of murder. They waived an examination and were held for trial.

PARK DEPARTMENT ESTIMATES.

A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT WALES.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: I am sure that THE TRIBUNE does not intend to do me an injustice, but it has done so in the following statement, which appears this morning:

"He" (meaning myself) "certainly did not appear to advantage yesterday at the meeting of the Board of Estimates and Apportionment. The estimates of the Park Department for 1884 were under consideration, and Mr. Wales said if he could not be allowed $75,000 for the work on Riverside Park, the whole item might just as well be stricken out."

Allow me to say that I made no such statement. The original estimate for improving the park, as recommended by the board, was $75,000, and the property-owners present seconded the recommendation, and urged its adoption. The Board of Estimate and Apportionment, however, struck it down to $25,000. I stated distinctly that the item should be increased to $50,000, believing that that amount could be judiciously and properly expended upon that work.

Again, you say that "if he" (meaning myself) "could not have $50,000 for paving the transverse roads, he wanted but $5,000."

I made no such statement. I stated that the department asked for $50,000, for *paving one* of the transverse roads, which sum includes the *maintenance* of four transverse roads; that this estimate for paving was made by a strict calculation of the cost of such work; *that $30,000 would not do it;* and that if the Board of Estimate and Apportionment decided not to give the sum asked for paving, then all that was wanted would be $5,000 for maintenance.

It seems to me that this explanation ought to make the matter perfectly clear to all. If I had made such statements as you attribute to me, I would certainly be amenable to a severer criticism than you have seen fit to apply.

In my description of the departmental estimates for 1884, I was very careful to draw the line between what was necessary and what was useful to be done; for it must be borne in mind that in dealing with the pleasure-grounds of the people, and a vast amount of construction-work unhappily put upon the Department by the act of annexation, embracing in the aggregate twenty-seven distinct objects for which money is applied for, there are some items which are not absolutely necessary, such as music, skate house, etc., but at the same time are recognized to be useful by those who frequent these public places. On the other hand, there are many items which are absolutely necessary, and in presenting the budget all these matters are fully explained, so that the Board of Apportionment may form a judgment as to whether certain items should be allowed to be included in the estimate. I am respectfully yours,

S. H. WALES,
President Department Public Works.

New-York, Dec. 14, 1883.

[We have the assurance of several officials who were present that they understood Mr. Wales to say that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment might as well strike from the budget the whole item for Riverside Park as to allow so small an amount as $25,000. We certainly do not intend to do Mr. Wales any injustice. We will do him the credit to say that he always means well, and if he does not succeed in making his language clear to his hearers at the first attempt, he is one of the most accomplished of men in explaining afterward that he had no intention of saying what his audience thought he said.—*Ed.*]

THE XVIIITH DISTRICT ONCE MORE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: In your issue of November 28, the enrolled Republicans of the XVIIIth District was published as 789. We have to-day procured the official copy, on which there are but 678, leaving 111 to be accounted for. One of our committee was present when the original roll was completed, and saw it closed at 739, which would still leave a deficiency of 61. Evidently there is some mistake, if not fraud, connected with the whole matter. Certainly no confidence can be had in a roll so carelessly made and so grossly incorrect. The only thing which will give confidence is a new enrolment supervised by a more impartial committee. We trouble you so much in this matter because we believe you are interested in seeing fair play and justice.

GEORGE W. SIMPSON,
Chairman of Committee.

229 East Thirty-fourth-st., Dec. 7, 1883.

[There will be a new enrolment next year, under the rules governing Republican organizations in this city. A new enrolment this year is obviously impossible; but there is the fullest opportunity for correcting and purging the existing roll, and no public-spirited citizen can devote himself to a better work.—ED.]

MR. BLUNT REPLIES TO MR. TAGG.

THE LIST OF REPUBLICANS IN THE XVIIITH DISTRICT.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Mr. William H. Tagg has charged that there are on the rolls of the XVIIIth Assembly District the names of two hundred men "who are not Republicans and do not mean to be, but are placed there simply to overswamp Republicans and carry the primary for the old gang;" . . . and that the officers evaded "all attempts to see the roll." If the names are placed there, it must have been done by the Enrolling Board; no one but the board could do it.

There may be some who will calmly submit to be charged with deceit, manipulation and fraud, and console themselves that it is a duty to suffer in silence for the party's good; but Mr. Tagg's mistakes his man (as well as the four other enrolling officers) if he thinks I will silently submit to his charges and imputations. I addressed him a letter demanding the names of the men he knew "were not Republicans and did not mean to be." I have waited for the names from December 5 to this time, but they have not come. I also had printed 200 postal cards for the purpose of challenging the names I expected to receive from Mr. Tagg.

What inference must be drawn from this refusal? Simply that Mr. Tagg did not know anything about the names and made the charge upon the assumption that it being a political matter there must be some fraud. Indeed, his communication of the 6th inst. fully bears out this theory. He didn't know; but men who were there said so; they (he says) knew men who had enrolled who had no right to do so; but neither he nor they came once to and challenged them. He was unable to tell the names because he could not see the list; but he could charge me with receiving 200 names for the "purpose of carrying the primary for the old gang" without seeing it, and send it forth broadcast without a thought that it was an assumption without foundation, and a charge of unfairness that I have never yet been guilty of.

Mr. Tagg further charges that the enrolling officers "failed to comply with the rule in placing a copy of the complaint where it could be inspected, and hence evaded all attempts to see it." Three copies are required, which, when complete, were to be accessible to all wishing to see them. To make the copies it was necessary to have the roll, and unless we had the roll it could not be done. The copies were ready on Monday evening. I remained up until 2 a. m. Sunday to complete mine. They were not certified until Monday, and on Tuesday at 10 a. m. the list was on exhibition. Mr. Tagg, or his friends, were informed that the list would be ready on Tuesday morning, and that it could be found in Cowen's printing office until the room above could be procured. I delivered the list to Mr. Logue, one of the enrolling officers, on Tuesday, before 10 a. m., at the printing office, and remained until 11 a. m. for the purpose of giving such advice as I might be called upon to give. No one came or inspected the book during the time I remained. Mr. Logue remained in the room until 1 p. m., and then took it to the room above the headquarters, where it remained until 10 p. m. of that day. It is not true that the book was not exhibited until 2 p. m. of Tuesday. It is not true "that the officers evaded all attempts to see it." The copies were made as rapidly as the business of the enrolling officers would permit.

Would it not have been better for Mr. Tagg to wait until he had examined the list before charging five reputable men with fraud, evasion, deceit and dishonest practices?

GEO. W. BLUNT.

No. 254 Broadway, Dec. 10, 1883.

DEATH CAUSED BY CANNED PEAS.

SOUTH NORWALK, Dec. 14.—George W. Day, a prominent merchant here, died almost without warning yesterday afternoon. He ate his dinner with relish and closed the meal with a dish of peas, taken from a tin can. He had scarcely risen from the table when he complained of queer feelings in the stomach. To drive these away he swallowed peppermint and water, and almost instantly thereafter expired. Fifty minutes before he died he had arranged for the payment of life insurance premiums. In less than fifty minutes thereafter Mr. Day was dead.

DEATH UNDER CHOCTAW LAW.

FORT SMITH, Ark., Dec. 14.—Levi James, the Choctaw Indian who was convicted last November of the murder of James Fulsom, was shot yesterday at Scullyville Court-house, Indian Territory, in accordance with the Choctaw law. The prisoner sat upon a blanket, and the Sheriff held one hand and a deputy the other. Another deputy took a position five paces distant, and with a Colt's revolver deliberately took aim and shot James through the heart. James died in two minutes. He was educated and of a good family. He leaves a white wife and five small children.

HE GOT FOOLED

From The Philadelphia Call.

Jack—"What Sunday-schools are yer goin' to now?"

Jim—"Well, I'm stickin' pretty close to the Methodists and Piscopals and Luthers and Baptists, and I got a good chance to work in on the unitarians this week."

Jack—"So I heard, and that is why I axed ye. I got fooled on them myself last year."

Jim—"Got fooled on the Unitarians! Why they got lots of cash."

Jack—"Yes, but they throw it all away on ministers and choirs and churches, and Bibles and such things. They don't have no tree at all."

It is said Sullivan, the pugilist, spends his money as fast as he makes it. This makes no difference, however, for he can always strike a friend for more.—[New-Orleans Picayune.

HOME INTERESTS.

PRICES IN THE MARKETS.

DIFFERING PRICES—LOW FIGURES FOR POULTRY—IMPORTED VEGETABLES.

A consignment of Columbia River salmon, which came through in a refrigerator car in seven days over the Northern Pacific Railroad, is selling in Fulton Market at 50 cents a pound. This, the dealers say, is the beginning of cheap and popular prices for this much prized fish. Some fresh caught salmon, taken in the mackerel nets near Cape Cod, are worth $1 50 a pound. Any variety of fish is obtainable at present in the market. Cod are plentiful but haddock are scarce. They each cost 8 cents a pound. White halibut brings 25 cents, fresh mackerel, smelts, sheepshead, Northern black bass and and fresh caught whitefish can be had for 20 cents, and dressed eels, white perch, red snapper and green pickerel for 18 cents a pound. For pompano 75 cents is asked, for Spanish mackerel 35 cents, striped bass 18 to 30 cents, blackfish 15 cents, bluefish 12½ cents, and red herring and ray-fish 6 cents a pound. Scollops sell for $1 50 and $2 a gallon, while oysters are worth 75 cents and $3 a hundred, and crayfish $3 50 a hundred. Frogs' legs have become costly luxuries and sold yesterday for 75 cents a dozen. Whitebait is worth 50 cents, cod checks 10 cents, smoked haddock 12 cents, and smoked salmon 25 cents a pound. Hard crabs bring $3 a hundred and soft crabs bring $1 50 a dozen.

There is a great difference between the prices asked for fish in Fulton and Washington Markets. For instance, pompano is sold in the latter place for 35 cents, dressed eels 15 cents, cod 6 cents, boiled lobsters 12 cents, and whitebait 30 cents a pound. The difference is startling in many cases. As to the quality of the fish sold, it would be as well perhaps for purchasers to walk through both markets before supplying themselves.

Cries of "chickens, ducks and geese—a shillin' a pound," still salute the ears from every side in Washington Market. The reason of this extraordinary cheapness in poultry is the desire of dealers to get rid of the old stock which the warm weather had tainted and make room for fresh supplies for the holidays. Even at the reduced figures, this kind of food is a drug in the market. The city having requested bids to furnish 15,000 pounds of poultry to feed the poor during Christmas, much cheap stuff will undoubtedly be worked off on the city's pensioners. Yesterday the best turkeys brought only 18 and 20 cents a pound