THEIR HOSE REJECTED.

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE FASSETT COMMITTEE.

BIDS FROM SOME COMPANIES NOT EVEN CONSIDERED—THE EXAMINATION.

Another day of the Senate Committee's time has been consumed in the inquiry into the methods employed in managing the Fire Department. Yesterday's proceedings brought out some interesting incidents regarding the manner in which the Fire Commissioners advertise for bids and award contracts. Unless the Democratic Assembly and a Democratic Governor interfere, the next Legislature will attempt to pass a law changing this system completely. It will endeavor to take from the hands of the Fire Commissioners the power to advertise for patented articles of a particular make and open to all manufacturers of fire extinguishing appliances free opportunity for competition for the city's business.

The first witness to take the stand yesterday morning was George Dodge, president of the Mineralized Rubber Company, one of the dealers in hose who has made repeated but ineffectual efforts to have the hose which he handles tested by the Fire Department. He offers to sell to that department, he says, hose for 85 cents a foot which is as good as the Commissioners now pay $1 a foot for. In his testimony Mr. Dodge said that he had been trying to sell the department hose for the last five years. In every attempt he was unsuccessful because he would be met with an advertisement calling for a particular brand of hose. As his brand did not bear the same technical name his bid was thrown out. The same company from which the New-York Fire Department buys its hose at $1 a foot sells it to other cities at a smaller rate. Mr. Dodge cited Helena, Mont., which paid only 95 cents a foot; Eau Claire, Wis., 95 cents; Worcester, 90 cents, and Terre Haute, 97 cents. He denied indignantly the statement made by Commissioner Purroy on the Witness stand on Wednesday, that his company had refused to comply with the requirements of the department in the matter of tests. His company, he added, offered to the Fire Commissioners to supply lengths of hose as the department required.

William H. Wadsworth, the superintendent of the Mineralized Rubber Company, testified almost precisely as the president of the company had testified regarding the efforts made to get a fair test of the hose which his company sells. He told how he went to the Fire Department headquarters with the necessary blanks made out, and with a bond for $30,000 accompanied by a certified check to the required amount. He saw Commissioner Purroy who became greatly excited and talked of efforts to blackmail him. The Commissioner would not even take his bid. He saw Colonel Jussen, the secretary of the department, who told him his efforts to get his brand of hose used were entirely useless as the specifications called for a particular brand, the Maltese Cross brand, which he could not fill. The secretary afterward took the witness stand and admitted that this was the case.

Amadee Spadone, the president of the Gutta Percha Rubber Company, which manufactures this particular brand of hose which has found so much favor in the estimation of Commissioner Purroy, was called. His testimony was mainly directed toward proving that he manufactured the best hose, and that it had a uniform price to the Fire Department. This branch of the investigation was then dropped temporarily.

Thomas J. Grady, the superintendent of the Bureau of Inspection of Buildings of the Fire Department, was the next witness. He explained the methods employed by him in inspecting the buildings, new and old, of the city. There are thirty-eight districts, each one being in charge of an inspector who sometimes has an assistant. In answer to questions put to him by Senator Fassett, he said that at least 50 per cent of the plans presented to him in a year have to be amended before the department will approve them, and at least 25 per cent of them are on account of structural weaknesses. Most of the inspectors are masons, and they are employed to pass upon buildings of a most intricate and complicated nature. Regarding the falling of the Schaefer Brewing Company's malt-house, which was brought up by Senator Fassett, the witness said that he had no system of inspecting old buildings to learn their structural weaknesses, either as to the charge of use to which they are put, or as to the weight which each floor of these buildings ought to sustain. He said that he did not have men enough to do this. The buildings were inspected to see what fire escapes they needed. Mr. Brady also told the story of the trouble with Oscar Hammerstein, which agreed with that told on Wednesday by Chief Bonner. He, too, has a $10,000 suit for slander against Mr. Hammerstein.

The mayors of the cities of Amsterdam, Dunkirk, Oswego, Watertown and Jamestown have not as yet sent in the answers to the questions sent to them by the committee some time ago. They were therefore adjudged to be in contempt, and the committee will make an effort to get the answers in some other way. It is expected that the Street-Cleaning Commissioner will be sworn to-day.

EXPENDING THE CITY'S MONEY.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SCHOOLS—OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

The Board of Estimate spent most of yesterday on the appropriations for the Board of Education. The total sum of $4,266,367 was voted for 1891. This year it was $4,224,417. President Hunt and School Commissioners Lummis, Sanger, Hubbell, O'Brien and Holt argued that plenty of money ought to be allowed. For the new school teachers $108,000 was asked. This Mayor Grant thought was too much. The salary list was fixed at $2,981,000, which will include $60,000 for the new schools and $25,000 for teachers who have served fourteen years or over. It was agreed that a balance of $47,000 unexpended from the year 1890 might be drawn upon for salaries if needed. The appropriation for the Nautical School was reduced from $25,000 to $5,000. It seemed to be the opinion of all concerned that the management of this school devolves upon the Chamber of Commerce. The sum of $90,000 was passed for rent of temporary school buildings, $24,000 for lighting, $35,000 for new furniture, and $27,000 for technical, manual and industrial education. The other items were the same as given last year. The College of the City of New-York received $147,000 and the Normal College $125,000, which are the legislative allowances.

The Park Department estimates were the subject of a fevered discussion between the Mayor and President Gallup. The main trouble was about the Annexed District expenses. The Mayor thought that the item for $41,000 for running the department offices in the Emigrant Savings Bank building ought to be cut down, as a part of this clerical work done there would now be transferred to Street Commissioner Louis J. Heintz. Mr. Gallup argued that the change would make no perceptible difference in the management of the Park Department offices.

No progress was made on the subject, the same being the case with the item of policemen's salaries, and the Park Board estimates were finally laid over until Monday.

Commissioner Gilroy again asked for $14,500 for the timber approach to McComb's Dam Bridge, but a legal question arose as to whether such an appropriation might not invalidate the assessments for the viaduct. This was referred to Corporation Counsel Clark for an opinion.

The Police Commissioners' request for $207,000 to pay the expenses of the proposed special spring election was not granted. The Mayor said that such an expenditure would be an outrage. President Coleman proclaimed his purpose of doing all in his power to resist such an appropriation. The sum of $52,877 excise money was divided among the various institutions caring for juvenile delinquents.

PARK-AVE. FLOODED WITH MALT.

COLLAPSE OF THE F. & M. SCHAEFER BREWING COMPANY'S BUILDING.

Nurses and patients in the Woman's Hospital, at Park-ave. and Fiftieth-st., were startled at 2 a. m. yesterday by a loud crash, followed by a sound that suggested a violent hail-storm. The sound lasted only a few moments, however, and no shock was felt within the hospital. There was no cause for alarm, as the disturbance was caused by the falling of a wall in the next block and the sliding of about 30,000 bushels of malt out of a building into the avenue. A large portion of the front wall of the F. & M. Schaefer Brewing Company's malt-house had given way. Four floors of one section of the five-story building had fallen at the same time. Out upon the pavement, to the wall of the railroad cut in the avenue, had rushed the loose malt with which the floors had been weighted. A few bushels of malt had fallen over the parapet into the railroad cut, and a telegraph pole in front of the malt-house had been knocked down. Nobody was in the building at the time of the collapse, and it was not believed that anybody had been buried under the heap of malt in the avenue.

The brewery buildings extend from Fiftieth-st. to Fifty-first-st. on the east side of the avenue. They are built of red brick and are five stories high, with the exception of the one at the corner of Fifty-first-st., which is six stories in height and is surmounted by a cupola. The malt-house was in the middle of the block. It was built in 1855, but was thought to be secure. The walls were not believed to have been weakened by a fire which burned out the high corner building about two years ago, and it was said yesterday that the building had not been overweighted. About 55,000 bushels of malt were stored in the building and in an extension nearer Fiftieth-st., but only about 30,000 bushels were on the floors which fell. If the accident had occurred during the storm on Wednesday the malt would have been ruined. Its value was about $25,000.

All day yesterday men were at work removing the malt from the avenue, and before nightfall the heap of yellow grain had been reduced in size so much that Edward S. Schaefer expected to have the malt all under cover again within the next twenty-four hours. If there was no rain meanwhile, he said, the damage to the malt would not amount to much. The damage to the building was about $15,000, and the loss will fall on the brewing company. Probably the remaining portion of the malt-house will be pulled down and a larger building erected.

The cause of the collapse was believed to have been a weakness in the wall, but Mr. Schaefer denied a report that the wall had bulged noticeably and that policemen had remarked its dangerous condition on Wednesday evening.

MANHATTAN COLLEGE'S NEW GROUNDS.

A LEGAL CONTEST MAY FOLLOW AN ATTEMPT TO USE THEM.

Manhattan College, which is conducted by the Christian Brothers at One-hundred-and-thirty-first-st. and the Western Boulevard, has been in the market for sale for a long time, and the directors of the college have themselves been looking for many months for some suitable and more commodious site for a larger building up the Hudson. While the present building has not been as yet disposed of, the directors of the college have succeeded in buying a handsome new site at Irvington-on-the-Hudson, for which it is said they have paid $160,000. The site, which was formerly a part of the John Jacob Astor estate, contains sixty-five acres, and extends from Broadway, Irvington, to the Hudson River, having a frontage of more than 1,800 feet. Cyrus W. Field owns property contiguous to this, and maintains that forty-five acres of the new site which the college authorities have purchased cannot be used for any school building, owing to certain legal restrictions in the transfer from Mr. Field to Mr. Astor. This transfer occurred three years and a half ago, and Mr. Field says that if the trustees attempt to build a college on the property, or use it as a recreation ground, he will bring suit to prevent them.

The Rev. Brother James said yesterday that, as he had something to do in behalf of the college in purchasing the new site, he would say that the college would certainly be built, and even if it could not be built upon any part of the plot that they should select, which he refused to admit, it could at least be built on the twenty-acre part, the rest to be used as a recreation ground, if necessary.

Affiliated with Manhattan College are several branch institutions, also under the care of the Christian Brothers—the De La Salle Institute, in West Fifty-ninth-st.; the De La Salle Academy, in Second-st.; the Manhattan Academy, in West Thirty-second-st.; and the Academy of the Sacred Heart, at Classon-on-the-Sound. The two last-named places will be abolished, and the various branches of learning which are taught therein will be taken charge of in the larger concern at Irvington.

Martin & Brother, the real-estate dealers, of No. 10 Wall-st., said to a Tribune reporter yesterday in regard to the sale: "None of the Astors owned any of the property which about three weeks ago was sold by us to the Christian Brothers. The title has not yet passed, but it will pass in a few days. The title of the property passed to us in February last, some two or three days before John Jacob Astor died. That for nearly a year past and until within a few weeks this firm has been the sole owner of the property is proved by the deeds recorded in the County Clerk's office at White Plains. The land sold by us to the Christian Brothers consists of about sixty-five acres of upland and twenty acres of riparian rights. These last twenty acres were bought by us from William W. Astor since the death of his father. Forty-five acres of the upland lie in Irvington, and twenty acres in Dobbs Ferry. That part of the estate known as the Cattenat property was bought by the unfortunate Frenchman, M. Cattenat, from the old stymus farm, and consisted of about forty-three acres; this included the Philip Schuyler property of about eight and one-half acres. Cattenat became embarrassed, and in 1885 his splendid estate and chateau, as it has been called, were sold under a mortgage held by the Mutual Life Insurance Company and bought by Cyrus W. Field. In 1887 Mr. Field sold the property to John Jacob Astor, who subsequently bought the Alexander Hamilton place of about three acres more. Afterward Mr. Astor bought from David Dudley Field about twenty acres lying south of the Cattenat estate. In the deed of the Cattenat property from Cyrus W. Field to Mr. Astor are certain restrictions which are likely if not certain to become the subject of legal controversy. These restrictions, which do not apply to the Alexander Hamilton land or to the twenty acres bought of David Dudley Field, are declared by Cyrus W. Field to stand in the way of the building of a college on the land deeded by him, and this restriction Mr. Field is reported to have declared his intention of enforcing. The college people will maintain, it is said, that the provision in the Cyrus W. Field deed prohibiting the erection of "a schoolhouse or other public building" will not affect their plans, because a college is neither a schoolhouse nor a public building, but belongs to a private institution."

Martin & Brother further said that while they were negotiating with the Manhattan College people for the sale of the property, Mr. Field tried to sell to the Christian Brotherhood certain lands of his own for college purposes. These lands the college people declined to purchase, because of unsuitable site. Martin & Brother also say that they made Mr. Field an offer of $10,000 to waive his restriction claim and avoid a legal contest, but that Mr. Field refused the offer. Said a member of the firm: "In exchange we get the Manhattan Academy, at Nos. 211, 213 and 215 West Thirty-second-st., and a sum in cash which we do not now wish to state. We will say, however, that the $160,000 given as the purchase price is not correct."

FATHER IGNATIUS ON CEREMONIES.

WHY HE FINDS CONSOLATION IN STATUES AND CRUCIFIXES.

Father Ignatius spoke at Cooper Union yesterday afternoon on "The Gospel Meaning of Catholic Ceremonies." In his address he said in part:

"The question which occurs to all of us is whether or not ceremonies are acceptable to God's mind. We can only learn God's mind from His Word, so we must go to the Bible to see what He thinks. The tendency of Christianity has been toward ritualism from the earliest times, and the Word of God, as told in the Bible, shows us that ritualism is in harmony with His mind. At any rate, that is my opinion. You never find a ritualist forcing others to accept his beliefs, though you find many trying to make the ritualists give up that which they have grown to love, and which they consider it God's wish that they should practise. I acknowledge there has been too much association of ritualism and worldliness. The ritualist churches are thronged with unconverted people, sometimes, when preaching among them, I have felt like throwing their candles and their gilded ornaments to the devil, for I see these things used by unconverted people, who use them for what they are, instead of for what they represent. Ritualism is not a matter of taste, but a matter of obedience. Many believe the use of images wrong, because, they say, it tends to idolatry. But there is evidence in the Bible that Christ sanctioned the use of images. Images set up as symbols and signs seem to me to be not only in harmony with the ideas of God, but in accordance with His express command to Moses. I know that personally I have received much consolation from statues and crucifixes, for they have kept me reminded better than anything else could do of the sacrifice that Christ made for me. A person entering a great Episcopal or Roman church cannot help being impressed with the sacred character of the place. Leave me, my brethren, my freedom to use these forms and ceremonies, and I gladly and freely leave you to do as you choose. I can shake hands with you just as cordially as if you agreed with me, because externals can never separate those whom Christ has joined together in His holy faith."

Father Ignatius will speak to-day, during the noon hour, to men only, in the John Street Methodist Episcopal Church. He will speak to-night in the Church of the Intercession, Eleventh-ave. and One-hundred-and-fifty-eighth-st.

ROOMS FOR THE LINCOLN REPUBLICAN CLUB.

The Rev. Dr. R. Heber Newton takes a deep interest in the education and welfare of the workingmen. His latest effort in that direction is the gift of the use of cosey rooms to the Lincoln Republican Club of the XIXth Assembly District at Broadway and Fifty-eighth-st. The members of the club are mostly workingmen. Jeremiah Murphy, the well-known labor advocate, is its president. Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday evenings in each month, at which the issues of the day are debated by the members. The organization is growing in membership. It has about one hundred members on its roll, representing thirty election districts in the lower part of the XIXth Assembly District. The Executive Committee contemplates a new feature, that of making it a mutual aid association as well as a political one.

BR. FELLOWS EVEN SLOWER THAN DEATH.

The charge has been made that District-Attorney Fellows and his assistants are as slow as death in disposing of the cases of men charged with crime. This assertion is not true in every instance, for a case has come to light in which death was just three weeks ahead of the District-Attorney, and it took that official over two months to find it out. Jeroham Bott was held in a police court on August 26 to await the action of the Grand Jury on the charge of practising medicine illegally at No. 49 Orchard-st. The great industry and energy of the District-Attorney's office railroaded the case to the Grand Jury on October 27, an interval of two months having elapsed. Bott, however, grew tired of the delay in acting on his case, and on October 8, three weeks before the indictment was found against him, he died. He took this extreme measure without sending any notice whatever to the District-Attorney's office, being probably much disgusted. The indictment was apparently laid aside until a day or two ago, when it was learned that Bott had been buried in Washington Cemetery, Parkville, L. I., for more than two months. Yesterday Assistant District-Attorney Davis moved before Judge Martine that the indictment be dismissed. This was accordingly done.

THE LESSONS OF THE FARMERS' MOVEMENT

DISCUSSED BY REPRESENTATIVE MEN OF ALL PARTIES.

In a symposium of views of the Farmers' movement in politics, to appear in "The American Agriculturist" for January, the Hon. J. M. Rusk, of Wisconsin, the present Secretary of Agriculture, makes the following declaration concerning the tariff: "I believe that the general expectation and desire of the farmers of the country was for a revision and modification of the tariff, in line, however with the principles of protection. They felt that in many respects the McKinley bill while affording to agricultural productions more recognition than had ever been accorded to them before, was a revision not in the sense of modification, but of an increase of protection." Secretary Rusk proceeds to discuss reciprocity, and believes that the most profitable markets for America's agricultural products will be found for many years to come in European countries; remarking incidentally: "In some of the South American countries the probability is that the principle of reciprocity, owing to the character of their own agricultural productions, would be most likely to favor our manufacturing rather than our agricultural interests."

Representative Hatch, of Missouri, ex-chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, pitches into "the system of National legislation so inimical and detrimental to the farmers' best interests, which they have tolerated and even encouraged for twenty-five years." He regards the farmers' demands as "so patriotic in principle, so closely allied to the broad fundamental principles of the founders of our Government, that the wonder is that they are not universally accepted and complied with."

President Andrew D. White, of Cornell University, sees in the movement something far deeper than the work of demagogues. He says that "unquestionably the deepest feeling in it is that the great rural and agricultural population have been made to bear an undue share of the burdens of society. This simple statement is true. There has never been in our country any thoroughly well considered system of taxation; all has been haphazard." President White proceeds to point out how this and other abuses can be so remedied as to turn the tide again from city to country, so as to cause a steady and rapid progress of the agricultural communities.

Lecturer Whitehead, of the National Grange; the lecturer of the Northern Farmers' Alliance, Mr. Ashby, of Iowa; and Dr. Macune, who is credited with being the brains of the Southern Farmers' Alliance, together with President Powell of the Farmers' Political League, interpret the lessons of the farmers' movement in a way that gives a clear insight into the spirit that animates these great organizations. Speaking from the point of view of a financier, a Wall-street banker sees "no cause for alarm among capitalists at the present uprising among farmers, because it necessarily implies a large degree of education in financial affairs." He thinks the farmers' representatives will be slow to advocate Government ownership of railroads when they find how such a policy must bear enormously on taxpayers.

According to Edward Bellamy, "the fact which constitutes altogether the most significant aspect of the farmers' uprising is that it attacks the industrial, political, commercial and social system on lines so radical as to be revolutionary. This is the characteristic which broadly distinguishes it from any mere political movement, and compels its recognition as a part of the present world-wide movement of the masses for a radical change in the industrial system—a movement everywhere so alarming to those who do not understand it, so inspiring to those who do." He proceeds to point out that it must inevitably result in the great National party of the people, which is destined in the near future to establish a nobler and happier civilization in this land." Mr. Bellamy is alone among the contributors to this symposium in pointing out that "not since the war has there been a political campaign carried on with so much moral enthusiasm as the Alliance campaign just closed, or more properly, I may say, just begun, for it is the clearest moment, look down, as the politicians would like to do, the farmers' movement as a mere off-year demonstration."

THE ACCUSER WEAKENED.

CHARGES AGAINST CAPTAIN PEIRCE NOT PROVED FOR LACK OF EVIDENCE.

United States Civil Service Service Commissioner Roosevelt held the long-expected investigation yesterday of the charges preferred by old soldiers in the Customs Service against Captain William F. Peirce, of the Examining Board of the Customs Service. Captain Peirce carried the day. Forty men signed a petition asking Colonel Floyd Clarkson, commander of the Department of the Grand Army posts of this state, to take action on three charges against Captain Peirce. The first charge said that it was understood, on the authority of Frank Collier, formerly a fellow clerk of Captain Peirce in the Invoice Bureau of the Appraiser's Stores, that he had boasted that while guarding Union prisoners he had stripped many Union soldiers and had given their clothes to his men, and then laughed to see the "blinkers" Yankees shiver. The second charge said that the petitioners had no faith in the man who could make such a boast. The third charge declared that Captain Peirce had acted in a manner prejudicial to old soldiers since he had been a member of the Examining Board.

So far as the proceedings of the investigation were concerned, they practically exonerated Captain Peirce. The object of the prosecution was to prove that Mr. Peirce uttered the boast. But the man who first accused Captain Peirce of it, sheathed in his hole, refusing to indicate in any way whether his story was true or false. Colonel Clarkson appeared for the prosecution. He said he thought that his case was prejudiced, because Mr. Roosevelt had sent him a letter saying that the third charge against Mr. Peirce was baseless. But Mr. Roosevelt said that the United States Civil Service Commission had investigated this charge twice and dismissed it. Colonel Clarkson added that he should carry the case, if necessary, to the President. He explained that Collier had refused to testify, saying that the case was no business of his, and that the Government was big enough to remove Captain Peirce without his assistance. Colonel Clarkson paid his respects to Collier, and said that he thanked heaven that there was not such a man in the Grand Army. Mr. Roosevelt inquired why Colonel Clarkson placed reliance on such a man, and Colonel Clarkson said because Collier had repeated the story to so many men.

Colonel Clarkson said that he believed the story of the boast, and called several witnesses who swore that Collier had told them in June that Peirce had made the alleged boast. These witnesses were Isaac McGee, tea examiner; Richard T. Morgan, chief clerk; William L. Quackenbush, acting sampler, and Thomas B. Johnson, all employes in good standing in the Appraiser's Stores. Mr. McGee and Mr. Morgan said that Collier even started to make out an affidavit, but his courage deserted him after making one evasive written statement. This was produced at the hearing. James Perry, a clerk in the Custom House, testified that Collier had refused to deny or affirm the truth of the story. Captain Peirce emphatically denied the charges and said that he had even written to Collier, who had not replied to him. Mr. Roosevelt pronounced the testimony to be bearing and fitness. He paid a tribute to Captain Peirce, who, he said, had given valuable service to the United States Civil Service Commission, in preventing a certain class of employes in the Appraiser's Stores from being favored in an examination for damage examiner.

Mr. Roosevelt will make a formal report on the hearing to his colleagues at Washington.

DECORATED CHINA AND PORCELAIN.

The house of Lewis & Conger, Nos. 601 and 603 Sixth-ave. and Nos. 1,338 and 1,340 Broadway, is now offering its large assortment of fine table china at reduced prices. The variety of decorated porcelain and other wares shown by this house includes French china game sets and fish sets decorated with fowl and fish, sets of plates ranging from the tiny size sold for bread and butter to the larger sizes used for dinner or breakfast. A number of dainty individual pieces are shown on the counters. There are many tete-a-tete sets in moleek ware and in English china decorated in sprigged Dresden designs. A pretty new individual piece is a small covered barrel of fine porcelain daintily decorated just the size to slip a tumbler of condensed milk in for the breakfast table. A variety of pretty decorated china chocolate pitchers with covers is displayed in different styles and there are many quaint English jug shapes in porcelain decorated in Dresden patterns. Attractive-looking biggins for coffee are imported in blue and white German ware. There are many broth bowls and bouillon cups and saucers. Muffin plates are found in English decorated ware and are made with covers perforated so the steam will escape and yet the bread will be kept warm. The variety of fine carving sets shown by this house is exceedingly attractive to an expert carver. Full English sets contain seven pieces of game and beef carvers and forks, a steel and a wide, flat, short-tined fork and broad perforated knife for serving fish. A department of the store is devoted to 5 o'clock teakettles in different metals.

HOW SHALL KNIT GOODS BE APPRAISED?

The Board of General Appraisers is considering a question of great interest to importers and manufacturers of knit goods. The question is whether knit goods shall be assessed as knit fabrics or "articles of wearing apparel of every description." The Board is expected to make its decision in a few days.

PLAYING ON A VIOLIN IN COURT.

TRYING TO PROVE THAT IT IS WORTH THE PRICE PAID FOR IT.

The suit of Maude Powell against Victor S. Flechter to recover $500 which she paid for a violin was continued before Chief Judge Daly and a jury, in the Court of Common Pleas, yesterday. Miss Powell declared that Flechter represented to her that the violin was an old one of a particular make, so she paid $500 for it. Afterward, she declared, she learned that Flechter had bought the violin from H. B. Knopf for $40. Flechter was a witness in his own behalf yesterday. He said that Miss Powell came into his store and told him she wanted a violin on which she could play like a man. Flechter said he took considerable interest in the young woman and he picked out the violin in question. He loaned it to her and she used it for some time, then she returned to his store with her mother and spoke of buying the instrument. Mr. Flechter told her that the instrument was worth $750, but he would sell it to her for $500 because he was anxious to see her become a successful musician. Her mother said that she could not pay all the sum named at once and wanted to know if Flechter would take an old violin for which she paid $175 in exchange for part payment. She offered to value her old violin at $125 in the exchange in consequence of the reduction made by Flechter. The bargain was made on those terms and Mrs. Powell paid the sum of $375. Flechter declared that he never told Miss or Mrs. Powell that the violin was of any particular make. He had simply told her, he said, that it was an old and fine-toned instrument. Edward Mollenhauer played on the instrument before the experts while the court was taking recess. Mollenhauer was called for as a witness for Flechter after recess and he declared that the violin was worth $600. Some of the other experts who were called as witnesses for the plaintiff said that they had a better opinion of the violin after having heard it played by Mollenhauer than they had before. The case will be continued to-day.

THE CASE NOW WITH THE JUDGE.

Argument was finished yesterday before Judge Lacombe, in the United States Circuit Court, in the suit of the United States against the Union Pacific Railroad and Western Union Telegraph companies for about $12,000 paid by the plaintiff to the defendants, which, it is alleged, should have been used in paying part of the bonded indebtedness of the railroad company to the United States. Rush Taggart wound up his statement of the telegraph company's side of the case, Artemas H. Holmes spoke for the Union Pacific, and District-Attorney Edward Mitchell answered their arguments in behalf of the Government. Judge Lacombe reserved the decision which he will instruct the jury to bring in.

BITS OF LEGAL NEWS.

A whiskey bottle fell out of a dripping pan from the elevated railroad structure at One-hundred-and-twenty-eighth-st. and Third-ave., in July, 1889, and struck Mrs. Susan Treanor on the head. She brought suit against the railroad company, and yesterday a jury before Judge Ehrlich, in the City Court, brought in a verdict in her favor for $3,5[illegible]. She sued for $5,000.

A jury before Justice Patterson, in the Supreme Court, yesterday, brought in a verdict for $3,369 98 in favor of John Hardy, in his suit against the city for extra expenses in connection with his compilation of the "Manual of the Corporation of the City of New-York, by John Hardy, Clerk of the Common Council." The manual was copyrighted in 1871. Assistant Corporation Counsel Dean raised the point that the old city charter provided that no officer of the city government should receive any compensation except his salary. Justice Patterson reserved his decision upon that point.

Judge Addison Brown, in the United States District Court, yesterday handed down a decision awarding James T. Easton $500 and costs for damages done his canal boat Charles J. Rowe, on May 28, by the scooner James Ives. The judge also dismissed the libel brought by Albert W. Santern against the tug Titan and Car Float No. 6 for about $5,000. The plaintiff's vessel, the Francis, ran into the tug and the float in the East River. The judge held that the port of the Francis did not make sufficient allowance for the influence of the tide.

CASES ARGUED IN THE COURT OF APPEALS.

Albany, Dec. 18.—In the Court of Appeals to-day the following causes were argued:

The People, etc., respondents, agt. James A. Flack, et al., appellants.

The People, etc., respondent, agt. James J. Slocum, appellant; the people, etc., respondent, agt. Harris A. Snider, appellant.

The day calendar for to-morrow is: Nos. 504, 534, 557 and 547.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The proceedings in the Supreme Court of the United States were as follows:

No. 60—Henry Devers et al., appellants, agt. the steamship Haverstraw, etc. Mandate granted.

No. 1214—Pleasant Township, Van Wert County, Ohio, plaintiff in error, agt. the Aetna Life Insurance Company. Submitted pursuant to the twentieth rule.

No. 1220—Jim Lowe and Ed Lowe, plaintiffs in error, agt. the State of Texas. Argued.

No. 1207—The United States ex rel. Amana A. Redfield, plaintiff in error, agt. William Windom, Secretary of the Treasury. Argued.

No. 1284—In the matter of Eugene M. Carpenter, appellant. Argued.

Nos. 121 and 122—The Baltimore and Potomac Railroad Company, plaintiff in error, agt. the Fifth Baptist Church of Washington, D. C. Argued.

The day calendar for Friday is Nos. 121 and 122, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 133 and 134.

COURT CALENDARS FOR TO-DAY.

Supreme Court—General Term—Recess continued.

Supreme Court—Chambers—Before Beach, J.—Motion calendar Nos. 1 to 37, called at 11 o'clock.

Supreme Court—Special Term—Part I—Before Ingraham, J.—Nos. 865, 868, 867.

Supreme Court—Special Term—Part II—Before Andrews, J.—Nos. 1218, 1281, 1159, 1170, 1172, 1240, 971, 972, 973, 1001, 968, 989, 1002, 1008, 759, 1240, 138, 740, 747, 752, 763, 762, 154, 891, 1220, 388.

Supreme Court—Circuit—Part I—Before Barrett, J.—Nos. 4128, 2293, 2124, 2781, 2792, 2325, 2819, 2820, 2821, 2822, 2824, 2825, 2826, 2827, 2830, 2831, 2832, 2833, 2834, 2836, 2837, 2838, 2840, 2841.

Supreme Court—Circuit—Part II—Before Lawrence, J.—Nos. 2880, 2885, 4700, 4050, 931, 2114, 2902, 2905, 2909, 2903, 2902, 2035, 10069, 2653, 2816, 2808, 2810, 2811, 2812, 2813, 2814, 2815.

Supreme Court—Circuit—Part III—Before O'Brien, J.—Short causes.

Supreme Court—Circuit—Part IV—Before Patterson, J.—Nos. 2843 to 2868 inclusive.

Surrogate's Court—Before Ransom, S.—Wills of A. Nicolaich, R. D. Hall and Patrick Wood, 10 a. m. Nicolaich, R. D. Hall and Patrick Wood, 10 a. m. Intestate, Wills of Georgina Bailey, J. J. Dicol, V. S. Kaufman, M. A. H. Buckingham and Rachel McCallum, 10 a. m.; James Herbert, C. B. Fenhouse, George Schoonover, William Patton, J. De P. Peabody, S. L. Hyland, S. L. Cornish and Henry Nordlinger, 10 a. m.

Superior Court—Special Term—Before Truax, J.—Nos. 454, 454.

Superior Court—Trial Term—Part I—Before Dugro, J.—Case on—Clyde vs. Mc'ley. No calendar.

Superior Court—Trial Term—Part II—Adjourned for the term.

Superior Court—Trial Term—Part III—Before O'Gorman, J.—Nos. 1597, 839, 721, 832, 709, 659, 945, 949.

Common Pleas—Special Term—Adjourned for the term.

Common Pleas—Equity Term—Before Bookstaver, J.—Nos. 9, 12, 2, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 31.

Common Pleas—Special Term—Before Bischoff, J.—Motions.

Common Pleas—Trial Term—Part I—Before Allen, J.—One hour calendar—Nos. 776, 942, 803, 800. Day calendar—Nos. 754, 123, 350, 535, 566, 404, 532, 261, 578, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 594, 597.

Common Pleas—Trial Term—Part II—Before Daly, C. J.—Case on—Powell vs. Fletcher. No calendar.

Common Pleas—Trial Term—Part III—Before Pryor, J.—Case ready for trial in Part I.

City Court—Special Term—Before Fitzsimons, J.—Motions.

City Court—Trial Term—Part I—Before Van Wyck, J.—Short causes Nos. 3315, 3302, 3066, 3021, 3053, 3153, 3067, 3070, 3097, 3099, 3010, 3014, 3020, 3065, 3022, 3040, 3041, 3042, 3103, 3004, 3042, 3107, 3045.

City Court—Trial Term—Part II—Before Gildersleeve, J.—Short causes Nos. 3598, 3731, 3174, 3758, 3761, 3702, 3609, 3750, 3779, 3811, 3854, 3859, 3862, 3300, 2948, 3611, 3559, 3711, 3003, 3001, 3783, 3825, 3601, 3532.

City Court—Trial Term—Part III—Before Mathews, J.—Short causes—Nos. 3755, 3621, 3031, 3048, 3531, 3159, 3582, 3710, 3040, 3810, 3796, 3038, 3731, 3439, 3581, 3016, 3049, 3950, 3827, 2100, 3071, 3301, 3053.

City Court—Trial Term—Part IV—Before McAdam, C. J.—Special calendar.

Court of General Sessions—Part I—Before Martine, J., and Assistant District-Attorney Davis—Nos. 1 to 16, inclusive.

Court of General Sessions—Part II—Before Fitzgerald, J., and Assistant District-Attorney Bedford—Nos. 1 to 6, inclusive.

Court of General Sessions—Part III—Before Cowing, J., and Assistant District-Attorney Jerome—Nos. 1 to 6, inclusive.

A DINNER AT THE D. K. E. CLUB.

At the D. K. E. Club-house, No. 435 Fifth-ave., a complimentary dinner was given yesterday to William T. Shedd by the entertainment committee of the club, of which Mr. Shedd was chairman during the last season. R. B. Burchard, the present chairman of the committee, presided. Covers were laid for twenty. Others present were Frank S. Williams, Edward I. Millhau, Edward W. Forrest, W. B. Safford, Hanford Crawford, Frank Drisler, Henry N. Tiffis, Irving H. Tiffis, Edwin Tucker, E. M. Youmans and Nathan Clark, Jr.

THE PRISONER SWEARS TO AN ALIBI.

Charles Rohan, charged with robbing Miss Charlotte Cohen and trying to shoot her at her home in East Seventy-ninth-st., in 1885, took the stand in his own behalf in the Court of General Sessions yesterday. He said that he had never been in New-York before he was brought here under arrest a few weeks ago. In 1885, he swore, he was in the Black Hills and in Cleveland, and no nearer this city. He denied having made any statements indicating his guilt.

Some of the witnesses were recalled to strengthen their identification of Rohan, and the case was adjourned until to-day. One of the keepers at Sing Sing Prison, Jackson, will try to identify the prisoner as a convict who was in Sing Sing Prison in 1881.

HOW THE DETECTIVE BOUGHT SPURIOUS COINS.

Officers of the United States Secret Service told before Commissioner Shields yesterday how they had trapped William Mestayer, who is charged with selling counterfeit coin dollars at wholesale. G. Ray Bagg, one of the officers, told how he was introduced to Stephen Lang, who made him acquainted with Mestayer. Mestayer promised to supply the officer with spurious coin dollars, and received $10 from him in exchange for twenty-five bad dollars. Mestayer handed the package containing the stuff to Lang, who turned it over to Bagg. Another Secret Service man, McManus, testified to seeing the money handed over to Lang and then to Bagg, the transaction having taken place at Twenty-eighth-st. and Sixth-ave.

Mestayer then waived further examination. Two of his alleged confederates, Frank L. Seaver and James J. Tierney, will have an examination at 1 p. m. to-day before Commissioner Shields.

A FATHER'S DEADLY WEAPON.

YOUNG GRAY MAY DIE FROM WOUNDS RECEIVED IN A FAMILY QUARREL.

James Gray, a boiler fireman, twenty-five years old, who was removed from his home at No. 537 West Twenty-ninth-st. to Bellevue Hospital on Wednesday night, suffering from stab wounds in the breast and head, was believed to be dying at the hospital yesterday. He made an ante-mortem statement to Coroner Messemer, declaring that his father, Patrick Gray, had stabbed him. He, however, tried to free his father from blame by stating that the wounds were inflicted in self-defence.

Patrick Gray is a laborer, fifty-nine years old, and lives at No. 519 West Twenty-eighth-st. He was in his son's rooms on Wednesday night when the police were informed of the stabbing. James's wife was present also and heard her husband tell the police that his father had stabbed him. She advised her father-in-law not to make any statement concerning the stabbing, and he followed her advice, except that he denied that he had wounded his son. Patrick was arrested, and yesterday he was held at the Jefferson Market Police Court to await the result of his son's injuries.

It was said that the Gray's drank liquor too freely at times. James and his wife quarrelled frequently, and her father-in-law took her part to such an extent that the young man became jealous. The police thought that the stabbing resulted from a quarrel between the young couple and Patrick Gray's interference in his daughter-in-law's behalf. James said he was about to strike his father when he was stabbed.

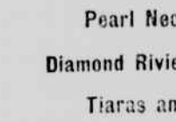
DIVVER'S LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION.

Mayor Grant made public yesterday the letters of a number of well-known citizens who recommended the notorious "Paddy" Divver for Police Justice. Among them are effusive epistles from E. R. Thurber, Recorder Frederick Smyth, David McClure, J. Edward Simmons, president of the Fourth National Bank; Joseph J. O'Donohue, Senator William L. Brown, Fisk, Clark & Flagg, and Barnum & Bethany. Some of these commendatory letters are extravagant and ridiculous, and their publication will stimulate popular inquiry as to what could have induced men of unqualified standing in the community to certify to the high character, probity, ability and moral soundness of a low grumill keeper.

Skating is here and we are ready with all kinds of skates.

from the ACME, all-clamp, at 40 cents to the RAYMOND RACERS, $5.00.

We are also ready with all kinds of



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