INCIDENTS IN HARLEM.

MANY SOCIAL FESTIVITIES AND OTHER ENTERTAINMENTS.

The efforts of the people living in Harlem to introduce a high grade of music among them, and the success of their efforts are evidences of the cultured taste of society which have been attracted to this beautiful section of the city. The efforts of the Harlem Philharmonic Society to give the people in that part of the city music of a higher grade are worthy of support. The first public rehearsal of this society will take place Tuesday afternoon, at Madison Hall, Madison-ave. and One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st., at 4 o'clock. The concert itself will take place on Thursday evening, at the same place. The Harlem Orchestra, which numbers over fifty pieces, has been selected by Mr. Fleck, the conductor, with great care. The feature of the programme is the concerto in C minor composed by Xaver Scharwenka. Mrs. Julia Rivman, a vocalist of wide celebrity, will sing for the first time in Harlem. The programme will be opened with Liszt's Polonaise in E, which will be followed by Beethoven's Symphony in D, and then by an aria from Gounod's "Queen of Sheba." Then will come Scharwenka's concerto in C minor. There will be songs such as "Jocelyn," by Godard; "Regrets," by Dillon, and "Bonne Nuit," by Massenet. The programme will be closed with Wagner's overture to "Tannhaeuser."

Besides this most important social feature of the week, Harlem will have a number of literary and dramatic entertainments. Marshall P. Wilder will appear on Tuesday night, at the Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church, Seventh-ave. and One-hundred-and-twenty-ninth-st. This is the first time Mr. Wilder has appeared in Harlem since his return from abroad, where he was indorsed by many crowned heads of Europe, but unlike some of his compatriots, he has maintained his sturdy Americanism even to the extent of letting the Prince of Wales know that he was not going to be kept standing in a cold ante-room hour after hour merely for the distinction of shaking his chubby hand. The entertainment is given by the women of the Baptist Church of the Redeemer. Besides Mr. Wilder there will appear Miss Maud Sherman, soprano; Charles W. Demarest, tenor, and the Parke Sisters, a Quartet from Boston.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Heuel gave the first of a series of musical entertainments Wednesday evening at their home, No. 352 Willis-ave. It was a success in every respect. Mrs. Emil Heuel, accompanied by Mrs. Edmund Bell, sang McCabe's "O Salutaris," the opening number; Professor John J. Cooney, the organist of All Saints' Church, rendered several selections on the piano; Mrs. Fernando Miranda sang a cavatina from "Semiramide," and the Bent brothers played cornet solos. Later in the evening a quartet, composed of first tenor, Mr. Bobbelar; second tenor, Mr. Collel; first bass, Mr. Norris; second bass, Dr. Quigley; sang "Sweetheart, Say It Is Not So." Among others who helped to entertain were Mrs. Johanna Kruse, Dr. John J. Quigley, David Welch, who recited; Mrs. MacKlaw, Frederick Lohr and Professor William F. Z. De Sant, whose phonographic selections greatly amused the company. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. E. Blum, Mr. and Mrs. MacKlaw, Mr. Daniels, Mr. Winckeback, Mr. and Mrs. Hochstetter, Mr. Blum, B. Ellis, C. Ellis, Miss L. Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. F. Miranda, Mr. Desant, Mr. and Mrs. F. Lohr, Thomas C. Bent, B. C. Bent, Miss N. O'Brien, Dr. J. M. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. E. Bell, Miss Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Meyer, Miss A. Schmidt, Colonel E. Blum, Dr. and Mrs. H. Conrad, Miss Quigley, Dr. J. J. Quigley, Mr. Dobbelar, Mr. Collell, Miss A. Heuel, Mr. Norris, Mr. Diehrens, Mr. and Mrs. W. Gravel, Mr. and Mrs. Oppe and Mrs. M. Kreuse.

A dramatic entertainment and reception for the benefit of the poor fund of the Mount Carmel Aid Society, was given by the Willow Dramatic Association, on Thanksgiving night, in their hall, before a large audience. The programme was preceded by a speech by George W. Pohl, who in a few words set forth the objects and work of the society. The dramatic part of the entertainment was under the management of Morris May, stage manager, and A. Vogel, stage director. The programme began with a minstrel show under the direction of Mr. Vogel. Those taking part were Messrs. Cooper and Farrell, black faces; Miss Ravinhill, balladist; John Hall, Irish comedian; William Schell, black-face song and dance; William Howard, serio-comic; Messrs. Raymond and Crawford, Bretzel and Shamrock; Fredericks and Curtis, black face; Ellis and Watson; Morris May, piano solo; Mr. Sanderman, Irish comedian; Norman Mott, songs. An afterpiece entitled "The Same as Last Season" was given, and in it appeared Miss Fitzsimmons, G. H. Pohl and Mr. Bird.

A successful dramatic entertainment was given in the basement of the Lenox Avenue Unitarian Church, One-hundred-and-twenty-first-st. and Lenox-ave., on Wednesday evening, under the management of Miss Helen E. Stone, of Washington Heights. The "curtain-raiser" was a farce entitled "Young Mr. Pritchard," which was acted by the Misses Stone and Paul Kennyon. This was followed by a comedy in two acts, entitled "A Box of Monkeys."

A concert was given in the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association in One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st. Wednesday evening by Professor Van Ness L. Ossman and several other well-known local musicians. The programme, which comprised twelve numbers, was made twice that length, as each performer received a hearty encore from the audience which filled the hall. The first number, a piano solo, was given by Mr. Hochman, "The Militarie Sliace." A mandolin solo by Signor L. Rice brought forth much applause, as did W. A. Halliday's dialectic humor. Frank Isenbarth played selections on the zither, and Master Hugo Ricca closed the programme with "The Darkies' Patrol," a mandolin solo.

The "Ladies' Society" of Pilgrim Church, One-hundred-and-twenty-first-st. and Madison-ave., has engaged Minor C. Baldwin, the concert organist and composer, to give a series of recitals, the first of which will be given to-morrow at 4:30 p. m. A musical entertainment was given Tuesday night at Temple Israel, One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st. and Fifth-ave., under the auspices of the Young Men's Hebrew Association. Among the singers were Carl Feininger, Adolph Mandegen and Frederick Brandeis. Simon Wolf, of Washington, delivered a lecture entitled "The Old and the New World."

The members of the James G. Blaine Club of Harlem, organized in the recent campaign, have determined to furnish and maintain a permanent and attractive headquarters, and they have called upon the young Republicans living in lower Harlem to unite with them. Besides promoting political intercourse among their members, unity in political action and assisting the regular Republican organization of the district during the progress of political campaigns and on election days, the social attractions of the club will be such as to repay many times over for the small amount of interest necessary to insure its success. The club now has a membership of over fifty, and about fifty more are necessary to enable it to succeed. The initiation fee is $1. A prospective member's best recommendation is his sterling Republicanism. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday at 8 p. m. at Mount Morris Academy, Third-ave., between One-hundred-and-tenth and One-hundred-and-eleventh sts., where all Republicans will be heartily welcome.

The House Committee of the Harlem Republican Club have begun a series of informal "Saturday nights" for the purpose of bringing the members together for their better acquaintance and entertainment, and establishing immediate good-fellowship. All members are urged to be present, and are assured that the committee will do all in its power to entertain them. This committee is composed of S. C. Croft, John E. Van de Carr and M. W. Emmons.

The Irish-American Republican Club of Harlem was organized Monday evening, at No. 2,163 Second-ave., with thirty-two members. The following officers were elected: President, Peter H. McDonald; vice-president, P. I. McElroy; second vice-president, Philip S. Kelly; recording secretary, P. M. Cassidy; financial secretary, William Lawlor; treasurer, John Reilly; sergeant-at-arms, Thomas Miley; marshal, Thomas McGraw. The next meeting of the club will take place Friday evening, December 4, when a committee will be appointed to secure permanent quarters.

At a meeting of the Harlem Yacht Club, held last week in their clubhouse, One-hundred-and-twenty-first-st. and Harlem River, the following nominations were made for the annual election of officers: Commodore, T. H. McDonald; vice commodore, O. P. Lee; rear commodore, E. M. Griffiths, A. Pettie and W. Cooper; fleet captain, J. Greenbaum, F. Naetterer and J. Conklin; fleet surgeon, H. M. Cox; measurer, W. D. S. Hyer; treasurer, S. J. McAuley; recording secretary, E. L. Fellman; corresponding secretary, T. B. Bates; financial secretary, H. B. McAllister; stewards, E. Borst and C. Allen; board of directors, G. W. Fuller, J. F. Lalor, J. Jackson, R. H. Wylie, S. Macy, J. Traugatt, W. Towner, E. M. Griffiths and T. F. Hendrix; house committee, T. Allen, F. Creegan, R. Wylie, P. G. Ottendorfer, W. Garfield, P. Dunn, F. Fellman, B. Byrnes and J. Kennedy; membership committee, C. Hudson, H. L. Buller, A. Pettie and W. Borst.

The reception for women given by the racing men of the Riverside Wheelmen, on Thanksgiving evening, was one of the most successful affairs ever given by this club. All the prizes won by the club, between sixty and seventy in all, were on exhibition, and added greatly to the decorations of the clubhouse. Among those present were Robert F. McCoy, Miss D. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. J. Fitch, E. A. Powers, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. C. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. King, Mr. and Mrs. T. Ward, L. Miller, Miss M. Field, J. Taubeck, Miss F. Warner, R. Harrington, Miss Lowe, Mr. and Miss Walton, W. S. Cole, Miss E. Lewis, W. C. Busker, Miss G. Smith, J. W. Judge, Miss A. Frank, J. Becker, Miss Lillie Frank, Miss B. Fox, Miss G. S. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Lord, M. H. Macfarlane, Miss A. Townsend, H. E. McLewre, Miss E. Garvey, W. F. Smith, jr., Miss M. Garvey, H. W. Heringshen, Miss Cummings, Miss L. Frase and Miss L. Clifton.

The Lenox gave the first of its series of monthly dances at the Harlem Opera House Hall on Wednesday evening. This popular organization is now in its seventh season, and never was more prosperous. The dance on Wednesday night was a great success. The committees in charge were: Executive committee—T. Irving Wood, John Fallon, W. A. Putney, C. E. Saulpaugh and John Ryan. Floor Committee—Harry Austin, W. E. Torrens, Ray Solch and W. C. Yorke, jr. Reception Committee—A. B. Sturges, G. W. Mitchell and S. L. Currey. Among those present were Sidney Hamilton, Miss S. E. Kelly, J. N. Ryan, Miss Mitchell, H. Kleinschmidt, Miss Riley, J. M. Fallon, Miss V. Dumphy, Mr. and Mrs. Pendergrast, P. J. Cannon, Miss Dunphy, C. M. Buck, Miss O'Rourke, Andrew Kaiser, Miss M. Hoag, W. Bunce, Miss M. Risby, Mr. and Mrs. G. Grote, Miss Minnie Koster, F. Broadhead, Miss Broadhead, John Pye and Miss Day.

The women of St. James's Methodist Episcopal Church are busily engaged in preparation for the great fair which they are to hold in the lecture-room of the church, Madison-ave. and One-hundred-and-twenty-third-st., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week. The women who are engaged in this work are Mrs. J. M. De Veau, Mrs. David J. Dean, Mrs. J. E. Price, Mrs. W. See, Mrs. A. E. Ball, Mrs. R. C. Green, Mrs. N. E. Montrose, Mrs. Dr. Schoonmaker, Mrs. M. C. Hewlett, Mrs. W. M. Dean, Mrs. J. F. Buck, Mrs. P. A. Melch, Mrs. H. J. Brainard, Mrs. J. H. Hollingsworth, Mrs. I. Nicholson, Mrs. G. W. Gaylor, Mrs. I. M. Dean, Mrs. Lizzie Briggs, the Misses F. A. Compton, Lucy Hollingsworth, Minnie Taylor, Maude Stephens, Lizzie Hollingsworth, Susie Hollingsworth, and Thompson, and Mrs. J. W. Lyon. The entertainment committee consists of Mrs. A. H. Leary, Mr. and Mrs. Fred. W. Livermore, Mr. and Mrs. John Ball, Walter Stuart Adams and Walter H. Warren.

The Chautauqua Union of Harlem has engaged the Rev. Thomas Dixon, jr., to deliver a lecture entitled "The Almighty Dollar" at Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church, One-hundred-and-twenty-ninth-st. and Seventh-ave., on Thursday night.

The Young Ladies' Society of Pilgrim Church has engaged the Young Men's Christian Association hall for December 15, for a Delsarte entertainment in aid of the Young Women's Christian Association recently organized in Harlem. A number of the young women of the society will take part in the programme, which will be arranged by Miss Jessie H. Bancroft.

A birthday party was given in honor of Mrs. J. M. Hyde Wednesday evening by her children at her home, No. 152 East One-hundred-and-twenty-fourth-st., at which four generations of the family were represented. A programme of music, recitations and tableaux was given by Miss Jennie E. Hyde, Miss Carrie Thompson, Miss Carrie Sparks, Miss Lulu Schofield, Miss Alice Schofield, Miss Carrie E. Schofield and Miss Irene Martain. The most interesting feature of the evening was the presentation of a life-size portrait to Mrs. J. M. Hyde, a gift from children. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. John A. Hyde, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. McGirr, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Schofield, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Schofield, Mrs. K. Barton, Mrs. R. P. Schofield, Mrs. J. McGirr, Mrs. C. Butler, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Bogart, Miss M. Cromwell, Miss May McGirr, Miss Ada Barton, Miss B. F. Brown, O. L. Wood, A. W. Newey, W. R. Barton.

A strong effort is being made to establish the Young Men's Christian Association of Washington Heights on a firm basis. The house at One-hundred-and-fifty-fifth-st. and Amsterdam-ave., has been rented for a year and two floors have been temporarily furnished. The house is open every night, and on Sunday afternoons public meetings which have been largely attended are held. To meet the necessary expenses of the year $2,100 are needed and a great effort is being made to raise it and all who are interested in the work are requested to contribute. This is the board of managers: George B. Curtis, Richard S. Dey, Henry C. Duncan, Macomb G. Foster, John Ganly, Robert W. Huston, Albert H. Krum, S. Howard Law, William F. Layton, John F. Lockwood, George Monroe, William H. Oscanyon, George B. Plaisted, William E. Partridge, Frank W. Seagrist, jr., Charles Sooysmith, Erastus B. Treat, Albert Thompson.

IN THE ANNEXED DISTRICT.

FESTIVITIES OF THANKSGIVING WEEK IN ABUNDANCE.

Thanksgiving Day was a quiet day beyond the Harlem River, except as far as the bands of small boys succeeded in their efforts at making the streets noisy with the sound of the tin trumpet, and loud petitions for funds to pay the "fantastics." Union church services were held at the West Morrisania Baptist Church and the North New-York Congregational Church. At the North New-York Church the Rev. W. T. McElwee preached the sermon, and the Rev. Dr. Birch and the Rev. Messrs. Talmage, Baird and Wilson took part in the service. Other services were held in St. Ann's Church, Trinity Church, the Church of the Holy Faith, St. Paul's Church, Christ Church, Grace Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church of West Farms. Many residents of the Annexed District were attracted by the accessibility of the Manhattan Field and attended the Yale-Princeton football game.

Thanksgiving Eve and the evening of Thanksgiving day were popular occasions for pleasure parties. Several bright children furnished the entertainment for the members of the Eureka Council, American Legion of Honor, on Wednesday evening. The little girls and boys sang, recited and played the piano in a manner which delighted their elders. One boy swung the Indian clubs with considerable skill. The baby chorus from "Wang" was given by Tommy Small and a chorus of children. If any mistakes were made they were easily overlooked and the entertainers received liberal applause.

Dr. and Mrs. Heuel, of No. 352 Willis-ave., invited many friends to a musical entertainment at their home on Thanksgiving Eve. Mrs. Heuel, Mrs. Edward Bell, Mrs. Fernando Miranda, Mrs. Klaw and Messrs. Dobbelear, Collell, Norris and Quigley gave vocal selections. John J. Cooney, the organist of All Saints' Church, was the piano soloist, the Bent Brothers played on the cornet, and David Welch recited.

Colonel James J. Mooney and W. R. Staples gave a dinner to a few friends at the Schnorer Clubhouse on Wednesday evening. Commissioner Heintz, Deputy Commissioner Bonner, Civil-Justice-elect W. G. McCrea, John Decker, John Osborn, A. F. Schwaneke, Arthur C. Butts, John McMahon, Scott B. Sheppard and John Mulholland were among the guests.

"Our Pinocle Club" is a social organization of Melrose which includes several well-known citizens among its members. The annual reception of the club on Thanksgiving eve was well attended. Alderman-elect Henry L. School and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Renner, Mr. and Mrs. John Humphries, jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reinholdt being among the guests. Robert Schwend is president of the club; George Schell, vice-president; William Koenig, secretary; Ernst Gimbel, treasurer, and Frederick Koenig, sergeant-at-arms.

The Union Maennerchor, of Melrose, gave a concert on Wednesday evening at Loeffler's Hall, followed by dancing until a late hour. The Sylvan Association and the Morris and Unity lodges of the Knights of Pythias also gave receptions on Wednesday evening.

Several organizations took part in Thanksgiving Day games. The Harriers of the Young Men's Christian Union had as their guests fifteen young men from the Eighty-sixth-st. branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, and all joined in a cross-country run through the fields and roads about Fleetwood Park. George F. Cook led the party. W. Pfetz and Frank Robinson were front whips, and J. Newsome and Frank Clark were last whips. The Lafayette Athletic Club eleven won a football game on Thanksgiving morning from the Sedgwick Park team. The Woodstock Guards had their annual shooting match on the afternoon of Thanksgiving Day. Sixty-eight prizes were awarded, the marksman having the highest score taking the first choice and others following in turn. The Guards gave a drill and reception in the evening, at the Grove Hill Assembly Rooms.

The Dramatic Society of St. John's College, Fordham, gave a Thanksgiving entertainment at which members of the society took part in a three-act-play "Barnaby Rudge" and a farce entitled "Master Jones's Birthday." Among those who had important parts in the acting were Michael Corbell, Arthur Callahan, Daniel Shay, Francis McSorley, Michael Doran, Eugene Reilly, William Donovan, John Hardiman, John Fitzgerald and James McNally.

"The Pines," the home of Mrs. Decker, at Fordham, was filled with guests on Friday evening when the Fordham Musical and Dramatic Club gave an entertainment. A stage was constructed in the hall of the house, and the scenery was prepared by members of the club. G. Arthur Pratt, D. Knox, W. Neale, R. Craig, L. Oberwath, and Misses Fraser and Stonebridge took part in the performance of a one-act farce entitled "A Rough Diamond." An orchestra of members of the club furnished music, and dancing closed the evening's pleasure.

The Fordham Club began last evening its series of Saturday night receptions. William B. Ellison, the president of the club, delivered an address last evening on the tariff. Professor A. H. Dundon, John J. Brady, Colonel J. A. Goulden, Dr. T. J. Dunn, Samuel E. Duffy, H. S. Fuller and other members of the club will speak on other evenings. A new stage is in course of construction at the Schnorer clubhouse. The Tuesday Literary of Tremont gave a sociable on Friday evening.

General Franz Sigel received recently, on the sixty-seventh anniversary of his birth, several gifts from some elderly gentlemen whom he occasionally meets socially in the evening. Speeches were made by General Sigel and one or two of his friends.

Surprise parties were given last week by the friends of Mr. and Mrs. William G. Davis, of No. 668 East One-hundred-and-thirty-ninth-st., and of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Kent, of Fordham.

A large flag was presented on Evacuation Day to Public School No. 66, at Kingsbridge. The pupils sang and recited, and F. D. Wilsey made the presentation speech. The Kingsbridge schoolhouse is in poor condition, and the teachers complain that there are not more than twenty consecutive minutes of the day when the exercises are not disturbed by the passing of trains on the New-York Central and New-York and Northern railroads. The demand for a new school is urgent.

James Dickson, a well-known resident of Morrisania for many years, was buried on Sunday. The funeral services, at the Presbyterian Church, were attended by a large number of the friends of the dead man.

Five great limited trains every day, via New-York Central—the most magnificent service in the world. See time table in this paper.

OUR BIG SISTER CITY.

AFFAIRS IN BROOKLYN.

What Clubmen are Doing—National Guard Affairs—Repairing the Water Conduit—Work on the New Cruisers—Various Items of General Interest.

WORK AT THE NAVY YARD

A CHANCE TO COMPLETE NEW SHIPS.

DISAPPOINTMENT OVER THE SCALING DOWN OF ESTIMATES—GIFTS FOR THE NEW-YORK.

The only commissioned war vessels which have been in the Navy Yard during the last week are the Chicago, flagship of the Squadron of Evolution, and the coast defence vessel, the monitor Miantonomoh. The cruiser Newark, which is under orders to go to the South Atlantic as the flagship of the Squadron there, has been in the port, but not in the Navy Yard. She has been anchored in the North River, and the stores of which she was in need have been taken to her at that place. On Friday a small draft of men from the receiving-ship Vermont was taken to her. She is to sail to-morrow and go to Hampton Roads.

Some extra-hours work is being done on the big cruiser Chicago to get her ready for sea. The vessel has been put in the drydock, and had her bottom cleaned and painted; she has received new evaporators, and her decks have been repaired. Now better ventilation is being given to her engine room, but it is promised that this work will be finished by midnight on Monday. The ship's bunkers are being filled with coal, and this job and all others will, if the weather is favorable, probably be finished by Tuesday night. The vessel is to sail on Wednesday morning for Fortress Monroe, but her further destination is not known.

The departure of the Chicago will leave in the Navy Yard only one commissioned naval war-vessel—the Miantonomoh. Much progress in fitting this vessel for sea has been made since she was put into commission. The work of riveting the roof on the forward turret is almost completed. The hurry in this work was made in order that the Ordnance Department might begin its work on adjusting the hydraulic machinery in the turret, and this work has now been begun. The sighting apparatus for the guns, the hydraulic apparatus for moving them, and several other things, are to be finished. On the rest of the vessel the work advances steadily; that on the steering apparatus has just been begun. It is an interesting and a pleasant thing to see the decks of the big monitor, which has lain for so long a time in the yard undergoing reconstruction, alive with blue-jacketed sailors and uniformed officers, and to see the decks washed down and the other routine work of a war-ship carried on.

Two other monitors, the Puritan and the Terror, are rapidly being made ready for duty as powerful ships of war, following the Miantonomoh. Workmen are engaged on these vessels in putting the armor-backing in place, changing the bulkheads (caused by alterations in the plans of the turrets), laying the deck-plating and constructing the frames for the turrets. The turrets themselves are being constructed in the shiphouse from which the Maine was launched. The construction work on the Maine and the Cincinnati advances steadily. As men are relieved from special duty occasioned by the hurry which was made in the Navy Yard two or three weeks ago, they can be put on these vessels. It is thought that when the engines which are now being built in the Navy Yard for the Cincinnati and Raleigh are finished a public exhibition of them, working under steam, will be given. They will probably be finished in April or May. They are now being erected in the erection-shop addition to one of the machine shops in the yard, the heaviest parts of three of the sets being up, and the fourth set well under way.

A board of officers was engaged yesterday morning in making a test of the relative merits of an ordinary cutter and one fitted with the Norton water tanks. The two cutters were of the same size, style and weight, except that one of them had the Norton invention in the bottom.

The Board on Navy Yard Reorganization is again in session at the Navy Yard. It met on Friday and went to work preparing for the examination of candidates to fill the several places of master workmen and quartermen which became vacant a week ago yesterday. The Board was busy yesterday considering and preparing the questions which will be asked. About fifty applications have been received, and the candidates will begin reporting for examination to-morrow.

A flagpole to be erected at the emigrant bureau on Ellis Island is being made at the Navy Yard. The weather vane to be put on top of it was in the yard yesterday; the vane is the American eagle, over which are the arms of the vane and a gilded ball. The pole will be about 140 feet from the top of the vane to the ground.

For the last thirty years visitors to the Navy Yard have, when passing the Lyceum building, in Main-st., where are the officers of the commandant and his staff, had their eyes naturally turned toward a small, octagon-shaped brick building about 100 feet beyond the Lyceum. Perhaps many people would think nothing about the building, but it is a relic of the old method of building warships of wood. It was erected, in the Civil War, and fitted with steam jets and tanks for the bending of parts of frames of the ships which were built at the Yard. For many years after the war, work having been discontinued on the wooden frigates Java and New-York, and the monitor Colossus, this building was idle; in fact it was a useless structure. Still it was kept intact, and all its machinery kept in good condition in anticipation that wooden shipbuilding might be revived. Then came the abandonment of wood for the construction of warships, its place being taken by iron and steel. As the quarters of the medical department of the Yard have long been inadequate and inconvenient, it was decidedly recently to make such alterations in the interior of the octagon building as would be necessary for the use of that department. It is nearly ready to be occupied, and in a few days Medical Inspector Edward Kershner and his assistants will have a department where they can do their work better, and at greater economy to the Government. On the upper, or second, floor, will be the offices of the surgical and medical staff, and the laboratory in which many of the articles—especially medical stores, chemicals, paints and many of the provisions—are tested before they are purchased. On the first floor will be the dispensary and operating room.

The report upon the investigation of the explosion on the Atlanta which was sent to Washington was most thorough, Professor Charles E. Munroe being engaged with the Naval Board in the testing of the volatile qualities of the paints. That the explosion was not more disastrous was due to the fact that the hatch had been removed from over the paint locker, which gave the exploding gases a chance to escape. Had not the hatch been out the explosion might have done much damage to the ship. It is the conclusion that many of the oils used are so volatile in their character that they are dangerous even at a temperature of 20 degrees centigrade, and especially so when the gases are liberated by the heavy rolling or pitching motion of the ship. It is also included in the report that no less than thirty-two such accidents have occurred in warships, most of them in vessels of the English Navy, one of which caused the loss of one of the English ships. It is shown that the fire in the Philadelphia at the Navy Yard a few months ago and three or four upon other vessels of the Navy were due to the volatile qualities of the oils and paints. The report of the board probably will be followed by some changes in the method of carrying paints and oils in ships to insure greater safety.

The scaling down of the estimates sent to the Bureau of Yards and Docks for the improvement at the Navy Yard to about one-seventh of the amount asked is a great disappointment to the officers of the various departments who have long realized the necessity for the changes and additions recommended. The total amount asked for was $2,015,118 94, most of which was for new shops or extensions to old shops, quay walls and dredging. There was also $616,700 asked for a new timber and concrete dock, of sufficient size for the accommodation of the battleships now being built. This was considered to be needed more than any of the other proposed improvements, and it is believed that it will yet be found necessary to ask a special appropriation from Congress. The estimates were cut down to $127,150 75, which includes $60,000 for the quay-wall extension on Cob Dock from the entrance to Whitney Basin to the bridge near the boundary of the yard, and $67,150 for the quay wall on the northwest, or East River, side of the Whitney Basin. The curtailment of the original estimates will in no way affect the work at the yard, which is carried on under a "maintenance fund" for the different departments, for which an estimate of $540,000 has been asked. The idea of scaling down the original estimates is said to be due to the desire of the Navy Department to spend all available cash in building up the new Navy.

The improvements referred to were included in a report made by the Board of Permanent Improvement on November 9, 1888, which board was composed of Rear Admiral D. L. Braine, Civil Engineer P. C. Asserson and the late Civil Engineer Henry S. Craven. The report recommended that improvements be made, to cost $8,043,711, the work to be distributed over a period of ten years. The Board found that the yard was not in so complete or satisfactory a condition as it should be to construct, repair and equip ships of war or to accomplish the work which might in the near future be required of it. The serious want of more docks is felt, even with the present demands upon the yard, and as the demand increases, as it will with the increase in the number of steel ships, the dock facilities will be inadequate. The Board also reported an insufficiency of water-front on the west side of the Wallabout Channel, contiguous to the workshops. Many of the buildings were found to be badly designed for the purposes, being low and poorly lighted, and many had fallen into decay, a few showing signs of collapse. Many of the streets were unpaved and without sidewalks, and the warves on the water-front around Wallabout Channel and Cob Dock were largely built of wood, and were in a condition of decay.

It has repeatedly been shown that in the case of a sudden demand for the prompt service of the war vessels to meet an aggressive and powerful navy it would be found that of all the Navy Yards the most would be expected from the New-York Station. Therefore the New-York Navy Yard should possess the amplest appliances and facilities for carrying on the work of a great naval station. The general plan of development submitted, briefly outlined, contemplated the construction of two launching-ways, two wet basins, the completion of Whiting Basin, the extending of quay walls along the entire water-front of the Yard and Cob Dock, the construction of additional workshops, storehouses, etc., for all bureaus, looking to the working of the Yard to the full capacity allowed by the number of buildings, ships, dry-docks and wharfage, an extension of the railway system, sewerage, paving, boundary wall, etc.

"What's in a name?" is an old saw, but the answer has been given by nearly every new ship in the Navy, and if individuals fared so well as Uncle Sam's ships have, every child born would have a substantial start in life. Following the costly testimonials given to the vessels of the new Navy for their names, one of the richest of which was the thirty-two pieces of silver, costing $7,500, given by the people of San Francisco to the vessel bearing that name, is begun a movement in New-York to give the big armored cruiser New-York, which is to be launched at Philadelphia on Wednesday afternoon, and of which a description is published on another page of The Tribune to-day, a service of plate which will probably exceed in value that given by the people of the Golden State to its namesake. J. Seaver Page, father of the young miss who is to christen the big cruiser, was the first to subscribe for the New-York's testimonial, with a check for $100, and in twenty-four hours the subscriptions had amounted to $837. These subscriptions were from New-York City alone, but the people of the entire State are privileged to subscribe, no matter how large or small the subscription may be.

This will not be the only gift to the vessel because of her name. Edward C. Spofford, of Tarrytown, recently proposed to Secretary Tracy to give a fine library to the vessel, and the offer was accepted. Mr. Spofford recently gave a valuable library to the mess at West Point.

Chief Naval Constructor T. D. Wilson, upon whom an internal operation was performed, last winter, is still ill at the Chelsea Hospital, Massachusetts. Chief Constructor Wilson may be obliged to retire from active duty on account of his continued illness. He is now serving his third term as chief naval constructor. He was first appointed to that place in 1882 by Secretary Hunt; was reappointed in 1886 by Secretary Whitney, and has been again reappointed by Secretary Tracy.

AMONG THE CLUBHOUSES.

THE STATUE PROJECTS—ENTERTAINMENT OF THE MIDWOOD.

The projects of some of the clubs in Brooklyn to erect statues are not advancing with unwonted rapidity. The model of William Ordman Partridge's statue of Alexander Hamilton still stands in the library of the Hamilton Club, and the subscription list is still being passed around. Some weeks ago the amount subscribed was over $5,000. It is now over $6,000, but progress is not so rapid as at first. Only $10,000 is needed to close the bargain. E. A. Seccomb, the chairman of the art committee, is confident that the scheme will be successful. There have been several plans talked about for placing the statue. It was once suggested that it be placed within the fence at the corner of the street. Another plan, of which a sketch has been made, is to have the statue at the edge of the curb, without the fence, and to turn the face to the diagonally opposite corner of the street.

The army and navy men of the Union League Club, who propose to place an equestrian statue of General Grant in front of the clubhouse, have a much more conventional site, though perhaps not one better fitted for the display of the decorative side of sculpture. In front of the Union League Club Bedford-ave. broadens into a plaza to meet the Rogers-ave. fork, and a statue at that point is in full sight from five streets. The project is gradually taking shape, but no definite action toward a design will be taken until permission is obtained from the city authorities to erect the statue there. Some persons have expressed fear that it would be refused because the statue might tend to give additional prestige to a Republican club, but it is hardly probable that such a thing could be dreamed of, even in the City Hall.

The Midwood Club of Flatbush gave a most enjoyable dramatic entertainment at the handsome old mansion where its home is on Tuesday night. It was the first dramatic entertainment held in the house. "My Uncle's Will" and "A Study in Brass" were given by members of the club and women belonging to their families. The actors were all members of either the Gilbert, Melpomene or Florence Dramatic Associations of Brooklyn. They were under the direction of Charles T. Catlin. The entertainment committee consisted of Dr. Homer L. Bartlett, William L. Keese and Gustave A. Jahn.

Among the prominent people present were Dr. and Mrs. Homer L. Bartlett, Mr. and Mrs. John Lefferts, Mr. and Mrs. Beadsley, Mr. and Mrs. H. Wood Sullivan, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Longmeyer, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Garrison, Mr. and Mrs. Case, Miss Bartlett, Mrs. Langford, Mr. and Mrs. German, Mr. and Mrs. Joe S. De Selding, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jennings, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walker, the Rev. Dr. T. Stafford Drowne, the Misses Marshall, the Misses Mathews, Mr. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Haviland, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Jeramiah Scott.

Mayor-elect David A. Boody is not the only person who is to have a dinner as a result of the recent election. His defeated rival, Henry A. Meyer, will probably dine as the guest of some of the members of the Montauk Club in a few days. The arrangements have not yet been completed.

The Brooklyn Bicycle Club had its annual dinner at Wilson's on Wednesday evening.

The Manhasset Club on the same night gave a reception to women at its clubhouse in Clinton-st. near Union.

The Algonquin Club pool tournament is nearly finished, and the first and special classes will play off during the early part of this week. Charles H. Hunt, jr., won the first prize in the third class, consisting of a cue, and in the second class the prize was won by John R. Greason, jr., who defeated Mr. Willard by a narrow margin.

A number of the members of the Waverley Young Men's Club celebrated Thanksgiving Day with a hare and hounds chase from the clubhouse to Woodhaven Junction, L. I.

The football team of the Crescent Athletic Club will be the guests of their fellow members at a dinner in the assembly rooms of the Academy of Music on December 9. It is expected that over 250 members will be present. Subscriptions must be in by December 5.

Nearly 500 members and friends of the Hanover Club turned out on Friday night to hear the comedian, Roland Reed, in "The Club Friend." Mr. Reed is a member of the Hanover.

Over 150 names are now on the list of the promoters of the new Fidelis Club, to be made up of members of the 23d Regiment of the National Guard.

The Union League Club gave an entertainment at the clubhouse last evening. Each member was privileged to bring one friend. Marshall P. Wilder, the Schumann Male Quartet and the Spanish Students' Mandolin Trio entertained the company.

Erastus Wiman will address the Union League Club on Wednesday night on the Canadian question, and is expected to answer some of the arguments advanced on the subject by Francis W. Glenn, who recently addressed the Union League members.

OUT AGAINST THE CHINESE.

The Markers, Sorters and Laundry Workers' Association, which is an organization of the Knights of Labor, objects to Chinese laundries, and yesterday issued a poster asking people not to patronize them. It said that the competition of the Chinese forced them to work at starvation wages, or even to go without work at all, and that they were unable to support their families. Besides it is said that the Chinese workers spread disease through the city. All persons are called to put down the Chinese laundries.

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POLITICAL AND PERSONAL

PUBLIC MEN AND AFFAIRS.

MAYOR-CONGRESSMAN CHAPIN—THE NEW REPUBLICAN GENERAL COMMITTEE—ANNEXATION OF THE TOWNS.

The actions of Mayor Chapin are enigmatical to those who are familiar with the part he has taken in public affairs for the last few years. His latest announcement that he proposes to continue to act as Mayor after taking his seat in Congress is a direct reversal of his previously declared decision to resign the Mayoralty as soon as the official announcement of his election to Congress had been made. The official canvass of the vote was completed on Wednesday, showing that Mr. Chapin had a plurality of about 2,500 votes. Instead of forwarding his resignation to the City Clerk and permitting President Pickering, of the Board of Aldermen, to act as Mayor for a month, Mr. Chapin says he will go to Washington the latter part of this week, participate in the Democratic caucus for Speaker, remain for the opening of Congress and then return to his duties as Mayor, vibrating between Brooklyn and Washington for the rest of the year, and drawing two salaries. As the Mayor's salary is $10,000 a year, Mr. Chapin will draw $833 from the city in addition to half this sum from the Federal Government for his services in Congress in December. As Mr. Boody's resignation was offered in October, probably the Mayor will draw the November pay of a Conressman also. Just why the Mayor should suddenly change his announced purpose of giving up one office before taking another is uncertain, but probably some political complication is feared if he is not at hand to carry out the purposes of the "Boss" and "gang." Mr. Chapin has proved himself so subservient, especially in the Barthman matter, that his services are invaluable. It was only because of the fear that he would be defeated that "Boss" McLaughlin did not renominate Mr. Chapin for Mayor. The most evident example followed by the Mayor in doubling his official duties is that of Governor-