MAYOR SCHIEREN ACTS.

HE SUSPENDS COMMISSIONER ENNIS AND MAKES CHARGES AGAINST HIM.

HE ACCUSES HIM OF VIOLATING THE CHARTER, WASTING PUBLIC FUNDS AND OF A LACK OF DISCIPLINE.

Mayor Schieren made the first aggressive movement yesterday against the "gang" which he found in office when he succeeded Mayor Boody. The heads of departments under any Brooklyn Mayor hold over one month under his successor. Mayor Schieren yesterday suspended John Ennis, Fire Commissioner, under the law giving him that power, and served charges upon him of violating the charter and wasting public funds in his recent appointment of eight firemen and twelve assistant foremen for the Fire Department He also charged him with a lack of proper discipline. The appointments were made last week and the Mayor summoned the Commissioner to his office and questioned him regarding them. The charges were preferred as speedily as possible and the suspension followed. The action of the Mayor will prevent Commissioner Ennis from filling the vacancy to be created by the retirement of Chief Engineer Nevins, who has announced his purpose of retiring before February 1, when Commissioner Ennis will be succeeded by Commissioner Wurster. The latter said as soon as the recent appointments by Ennis were announced that his hands were tied by this action.

The suspension by Mayor Schieren of Commissioner Ennis is the first action of the kind under the new city charter, which has been in force for twelve years, giving the Mayor the sole power of appointment of heads of departments. Mayor Boody considered the question of suspending Excise Commissioner Schliemann last month on account of the granting of a license to which he was opposed, but found that he had no substantial basis for such procedure.

The Mayor addressed this letter to Commissioner Ennis:

To John Ennis, Esq.

Sir: You are hereby suspended from the office of Fire Commissioner and head of the Department of Fire in and for the city of Brooklyn on the charges and specifications hereunto annexed and herewith served on you. Respectfully yours,

CHARLES A. SCHIEREN, Mayor.

Jan. 22, 1894.

Under the law the Commissioner has the right to have a hearing in court within five days. Ennis secured Charles J. Patterson as his counsel, and an order was served on the Mayor yesterday requiring him to show cause why the charges should not be dismissed in the Special Term of the Supreme Court, on Saturday, January 27. Ennis said in regard to the Mayor's charges that every one of the men whom he had appointed had been assigned to duty and that they would not have been appointed if vacancies had not existed. There were still two vacancies in the list of assistant foremen and two applications were made yesterday by foremen for leave to retire. In regard to appointing new district engineers, Ennis said that he had told the Mayor that in his eight years of office he had appointed eight district engineers, but that he had no intention of appointing five more. It was his intention if he appointed a successor to Chief Nevins to fill the vacancy from the eligible list. It is regarded as probable that Nevins will not retire unless Ennis can secure the dismissal of the charges against him and be reinstated before February 1, so as to fill the place.

Commissioner Ennis has been longer in office than any other head of a city department save Corporation Counsel Jenks and President Wilson, of the Board of Assessors. He was appointed in January, 1886, by Mayor Whitney, and succeeded Richard H. Pollon. He was regarded as unfit for the place, as he had been a petty ward politician in the Fifteenth Ward. His business is that of a manufacturer of shoes. He had not been long in office when there were scandals in connection with his having his shoes polished by a fireman in the engine house nearest his home, the detail of a fireman to take care of his horse and stable, and the detail of two men to do painting and other repairs about his house.

ADVERSE CRITICISM AROUSED.

When Mayor Chapin reappointed Ennis, there was much adverse criticism. It was said that Mr. Chapin was exceedingly loath to make the appointment, and only decided to do so after a stormy interview with "Jim" Shevlin—the direct representative of "Boss" McLaughlin—in which the loud tones of Shevlin in "laying down the law" to the Mayor in his private office could be heard in the corridor outside. The management of the department did not improve, but Ennis was reappointed by Mayor Chapin in 1890 and again by Mayor Boody in 1892. In this last term the serious charges were made against the management of the Fire Department by the Insurance Tariff Association. These were investigated by a committee composed of Alexander E. Orr, E. B. Bartlett and John G. Jenkins, who found that Commissioner Ennis had been lax in discipline and that the management of the department had been conducted under improper methods. But Mayor Boody took no action upon the report, and the Commissioner remained in office. He is a brother of Police Captain Ennis of the Sixth Precinct, and a close friend of "Boss" McLaughlin.

While the Commissioner is suspended, Deputy Commissioner Moore will perform the duties of the office; but he has no power of making appointments. Chief Engineer Nevins had told Commissioner Ennis of his intention to retire and expected to make formal application on the ground of disability to-day. However, in view of the situation, he said yesterday that it was decidedly improbable that he would retire before Commissioner Wurster takes office.

A FATAL CASE OF HYDROPHOBIA.

TWO PHYSICIANS DECLARE THAT MICHAEL FITZPATRICK DIED FROM THE MALADY.

An apparently well-authenticated case of hydrophobia resulted in the death on Sunday night of Michael Fitzpatrick, a teamster, at his home, at No. 600 West Forty-eighth-st. Fitzpatrick was severely bitten on the back of his left hand and had three of his fingers bitten about four months ago by a savage, mongrel dog in the yard of the Sicilian Asphalt Paving Company, at No. 652 West Fifty-first-st. He had his wounds cauterized as soon as possible at the Roosevelt Hospital, and the dog was killed. His wounds healed, but he suffered from nervous prostration.

About a week ago he began to feel severe pains in his arms and other parts of his body. On last Saturday morning Dr. Alexander Buchanan, of No. 358 West Thirtieth-st., diagnosed his malady as nervous indigestion, and prescribed a simple remedy, although Fitzpatrick's daughter says he was told about the bite and its results. Fitzpatrick grew steadily and rapidly worse, and during Saturday night was seized with hydrophobic spasms.

On Sunday morning Dr. Thomas Kelly, of No. 357 West Fifty-seventh-st., who was called in, found the patient suffering from the most terrible agonies, and giving forth the sounds which are said to resemble the barking of a dog. Dr. Kelly immediately called in consultation Dr. H. Robinson, of No. 352 West Fifty-eighth-st., who had had experience with the disease. All that could be done was to relieve the patient's agony with opiates, and he died in the evening.

Drs. Kelly and Robinson are positive that the case was unmistakably genuine hydrophobia.

SAN FRANCISCO BIDS FOR THE CHESS MATCH.

The chess match which is to be played between William Steinitz and Emanuel Lasker is now almost an assured fact, as the players have nearly agreed upon the conditions and other details of the contest. They received an offer from San Francisco yesterday. The club in that city will pay all expenses and 40 per cent of the gate receipts, provided the players will compete in five games there. There are good prospects that part of the match will be played at Montreal and at Philadelphia.

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FURNITURE MAKERS,

104 TO 108 WEST 14TH ST.

BAIL FOR E. M. FIELD.

C. F. JUDSON, J. V. COCKCROFT, DR. H. M. FIELD AND J. FLANIGAN HIS BONDSMEN.

THE PRISONER TO REMAIN IN LUDLOW STREET JAIL AND NOT TO GO TO THE TOMBS—HIS APPEARANCE IN COURT.

The Tombs is never so pleasant a prison as the Ludlow Street Jail, both as regards companionship and accommodations, and just now the Centre-st. structure is so overcrowded that one would be especially desirous to keep out of it. The threat of Sheriff Clancy last week to surrender Edward M. Field to the criminal authorities awakened the prisoner's relatives to the danger of his being transferred from the Ludlow Street Jail to the Tombs. They therefore gave bail for him yesterday on the criminal charges. He remains in Ludlow Street Jail under three orders of arrest in civil actions. Bail in these has been fixed at $65,000, but there is no intention to secure Field's freedom pending his trial.

There are three indictments for forgery against Field and two for grand larceny, in which bail had been named at $25,000. This was given yesterday by four bondsmen. Field was brought to the District-Attorney's office in the afternoon by Deputy Sheriff Burke. He wears a full beard of tawny color, and gray hairs are sprinkled among the black at his temples. His cheeks are full and his appearance, especially about the eyes, was gross.

When Assistant District-Attorney Henry W. Unger had drawn up the bond, the entire party went over to the Supreme Court, Chambers, where Judge Barrett was sitting. Besides Field and the deputy sheriff there were Mr. Unger, the four sureties—Cyrus Field Judson, John V. Cockcroft, the Rev. Dr. Henry M. Field and John Flanigan—and the prisoner's lawyer, Frederick Stone, who is also his cousin, and John L. Wilkie.

There was a delay in the courtroom. The Judge first heard several motions and then, as a judge of the Court of Oyer and Terminer, accepted Field's bail. The prisoner was then taken back to Ludlow Street Jail.

In the bond Mr. Judson, who is Field's nephew, made affidavit that he lived at Irvington. He was sole owner of 250 town lots in the village of Mamaroneck, worth at least $35,000; there was a mortgage on them for $25,000. Besides, he owned personal property which he valued at $15,000, and altogether was worth not less than $50,000.

Mr. Cockcroft, who lives at Sing Sing, owns 450 acres of land at Croton Point, Westchester County, worth $500,000, and mortgaged for $100,000.

The Rev. Dr. Field, uncle of the prisoner, gave No. 1 East Fifty-fifth-st. as his home. He owns 1,000 shares of "The New-York Evangelist" Corporation. These are of the par value of $100, and are worth that sum. He also has a personal estate of $20,000.

Mr. Flanigan, who lives at No. 133 West Eighty-sixth-st., owns an interest worth over $100,000 in the drygoods business of Adams & Co., No. 339 to 351 Sixth-ave.

JOHN JACOB ASTOR'S NEW STABLE.

HE HAS ARRANGED TO BUILD ONE AT MADISON-AVE. AND SIXTY-FIFTH-ST.—PEOPLE WHO LIVE NEARBY PROTESTING VIGOROUSLY.

The trustees of the William Astor estate, acting for John Jacob Astor, have had plans made and filed for a stable to be built on the southwest corner of Madison-ave. and Sixty-fifth-st., on a lot 25x100 feet, adjoining the Hebrew synagogue. The building will be two stories high, and will cost about $25,000.

Property owners in the neighborhood are much exercised, as the proposed stable will undoubtedly affect values in the neighborhood for residence purposes. There has been some talk of concerted action, but the Astor family hold the lot at such a high price that nothing can be done. Charles Schiessinger, the adjoining owner, said: "The members of the synagogue did try to purchase the lot from the Astors, but they would not listen to any fair offer. They wanted just double the price paid for it. If this stable is erected, it will damage all of the adjoining property in Madison-ave. and Sixty-fifth-st., but we will have to stand the loss."

All the dwellings in Sixty-fifth-st., with the exception of one or two, are handsome twenty-five-foot houses, and are owned by the persons occupying them. A. M. Palmer's house is directly opposite the proposed stable. Daniel T. Warden, T. C. Lyman, T. B. Meigs, ex-Judge Charles Donohue, Louis Wormser and J. P. Browning all have beautiful homes in the street, and they would all be more or less affected by the erection of a stable, which will be built if Mr. Astor does not reduce the price of his lot.

William Cruikshank said that the Astor estate had no desire to injure the adjoining property, but that it had bought the lot for the express purpose and a handsome stable would be built.

TIFFANY ADVERTISED FOR THE JEWELS.

THEY WERE WORTH $1,000 AND A DISHONEST STOREKEEPER PAID $1 FOR SOME OF THEM TO THE MAN WHO FOUND THEM.

Jacob Lubiner, forty years old, of No. 309 Henry-st., was charged in the Jefferson Market Court yesterday by Captain Schmittberger and Ralph M. Hyde, the superintendent of Tiffany & Co., with receiving stolen goods. Lubiner keeps a second-hand jewelry store at Seventh-ave. and Thirty-second-st., and his arrest was brought about by George A. Pughe, of No. 363 West Eighteenth-st.

On January 5 Pughe found a diamond pendant valued at $1,000, at Fifth-ave. and Sixty-ninth-st. The pendant was broken in three pieces. Pughe had no idea of the value of the article and took one of the pieces, which contained three diamonds, to Lubiner. Lubiner told Pughe it was paste and brass, and gave him $1 for it. Another piece of the pendant Pughe pawned for a small amount in Reeper Brothers' pawn office at Thirty-fifth-st. and Seventh-ave.

On January 6 Tiffany advertised $300 reward for the return of a diamond pendant lost at Fifth-ave. and Sixty-ninth-st. Pughe saw the advertisement and took the main piece of the pendant, which contained twenty diamonds, to Tiffany & Co., and received $200 reward. He told Mr. Hyde what he had done with the other pieces of the pendant. Notice was given to the police, and Reeper, the pawnbroker, gave up the piece Pughe had pledged with him. Lubiner, however, denied all knowledge of the jewelry and was placed under arrest.

Lubiner protests that he knew nothing about the jewelry and that he had never seen Pughe. Captain Schmittberger told Justice Ryan that Lubiner was a notorious "fence" and had been arrested by him for the recovery of a sealskin sack which had been stolen from a flat in West Forty-third-st. Justice Ryan held Lubiner for further examination.

Mr. Hyde, of Tiffany & Co., refused to say who owned the pendant. It had been lost, he said, by a customer of the firm, who was being driven to a reception on the night of January 4.

SELLING THE GEORGE I. SENEY LIBRARY.

A large number of book-lovers and collectors attended the first day's sale of the last library collected by the late George I. Seney, of Brooklyn, at the rooms of Bangs & Co., No. 739 Broadway, yesterday afternoon. Mr. Seney was well-known as a collector of books and paintings, and the disposition of his literary property attracted considerable attention. The bidding was sharp at times, and, although the full value of the volumes offered was not exceeded, good prices were the rule. Among the books on art, of which there were many listed, an edition de luxe of the "American Art Review" in four folio volumes sold for $24, and the folio of the Society of French Aquarellists, in eight parts, for $30; Racinet's fine volume of historic costumes, published by Firmin Didat & Co., sold in parts for $22, and a small quarto of costumes of the time of the French Revolution brought $9. One of the finest sets disposed of was Chapman & Hall's London edition de luxe of Dickens, with illustrations on India paper by "Phiz," which sold for $57. The sale continues to-day at 3 p. m.

A FINE LONDON HOTEL.

One of the finest modern hotels is the Savoy Hotel, London, England. A great discomfort to an American staying at a European hotel has always been the inferior bathing accommodations provided even in the finest hotels. At the Savoy, however, every suit of rooms, as well as bed and dressing-room, has a private bath, etc., attached. The restaurant service and cuisine have been a revelation to travellers who had become accustomed to consider the procuring of a good meal properly cooked an impossibility in London. Although close to the principal theatres, shops, and points of interest, the Savoy overlooks the embankment gardens and river Thames, giving a charming outlook. C. Ritz, the manager, is also the manager of the new Grand Hotel, Rome, Italy, as well as the Grand Hotel de Provence, Cannes.

DETAINED AS CONTRACT LABORERS.

Adam Sedliczki, his wife and two children, and fifteen Russians came to this port on Friday on the steamer Stuttgart, and the Ellis Island authorities have detained them on the suspicion that they are contract laborers. Letters found upon them indicate that they were bound for Scranton, where work had been promised them at $2 a day. The men of the party are from twenty to twenty-five years old. Sedliczki says he is the leader of the little band and that his motives are purely philanthropic. He says he found them stranded in Germany, near the Russian frontier, and that he divided $700 among them, thus paying their passage here. He says they are not contract laborers.

MOSES M. WILLIAMS DEAD.

Word was received in this city yesterday that Moses M. Williams, a well-known shipping agent, whose office was at No. 100 Broad-st., died in Guantanamo, Cuba, last Saturday. Mr. Williams sailed for Cuba on January 12. He had been suffering from the grip before he left the city.

Moses M. Williams was a member of the firm of M. M. Williams & Co. He was forty-two years old and lived at No. 135 Forty-third-st., South Brooklyn. He leaves a fifteen-year-old daughter. The flag at the Maritime Exchange, of which he was a member, was at half-mast yesterday.

Wedding Silver.

Carving Sets and Table Cutlery when purchased from the GORHAM M'F'G Co. bear a stamp of refinement which, with the practicability of the articles, affords them an advantage over many more pretentious objects frequently selected for Wedding Presents.

The GORHAM M'F'G Co.'s cutlery is of the best steel, thoroughly tempered and otherwise tested. Among the sets and separate pieces are: Meat and Game Carvers with ivory, stag and mother-of-pearl handles, with silver mountings, also handsome Solid Silver handles, cased in sets of three, five and seven pieces. Individual Game Knives and Forks, Bread Knives, Slicers, Breakfast, Dinner, Dessert and Tea Knives to match the various fork and spoon patterns.

(ART ROOMS—Third Floor.)

Gorham M'f'g Co.

Silversmiths,

BROADWAY—Carriage Entrance 19th St.

MORE OF THE ROGERS-PALMER AFFAIR.

WITNESSES EXAMINED BEFORE THE BRITISH CONSUL IN A SUIT AGAINST SIR WILLIAM ROSE.

The strange story of John Rogers and Minnie Palmer was recalled yesterday by the appearance of witnesses before the British Consul-General, at his office, No. 24 State-st., in a suit for £20,000 brought by Mr. Rogers in London against Sir William Rose for alienating his wife's affections. Miss Palmer is represented here by Howe & Hummel, who introduced evidence to show that the English court had no jurisdiction, since Mr. Rogers was not a British subject. The principal witnesses were Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Stearns, the stepfather and mother of Miss Palmer.

They testified that since 1876 Rogers had been connected with theatrical interests in this country; that he had managed Miss Minnie Palmer, Miss Fanny Davenport, Charles Wyndham, "Gus" Williams, Cromwell, the lecturer, and others; that whenever his tours as a manager ended he returned to New-York and took up his residence here at some hotel or at the Gramercy apartment-house; that he kept a bank account here; that when he returned from Europe in 1889 he brought furnishings for his apartments, servants, horses, etc.; that his relatives lived here, and that Miss Palmer was a resident of this country and intended to return to it at the end of this litigation.

Miss Palmer has brought a suit for divorce against Rogers in this city, and it is expected to come to trial before long. There is also an order for Rogers's arrest for contempt of court on account of his failure to appear in supplementary proceedings. This order was issued in 1892.

The separation between John R. Rogers and Minnie Palmer occurred in November, 1890. They had been living up to that time in apartments which they owned at the Gramercy. She then accused him of assaulting her with a carving-knife. He accused her mother of constantly making trouble between them. After a few months she went to England and he followed her. It was then reported that there had been a reconciliation. Rogers returned to this country later as manager for Wilson Barrett. Miss Palmer has also been back once since then for a short time, but has spent the most of her time in England.

BOARD OF REGENTS EXAMINATIONS.

Examinations under the auspices of the Board of Regents of the State of New-York were held yesterday at the University Medical College, Cooper Union and Carnegie Laboratory, in this city, and at the Hoagland Laboratory, in Brooklyn. These examinations are taken by candidates for admission to law and medical schools who have not been graduated from a college or recognized high school, and also by students who desire to enter college to take the classical course. Applications for admission to these examinations are made to the Board of Regents, and if the application is granted, the applicant receives a card designating the place where his examination will be held. For the series which began yesterday, and which continues daily until Friday, inclusive, about one thousand applications have been granted.

The examinations at Cooper Union are for license to practise medicine, and only physicians who have been regularly graduated here or elsewhere are candidates there. A diploma from a medical school confers the title "doctor of medicine," but no person holding such a diploma may practise, according to the laws of this State, unless he has a license, which can be granted only after the candidate has successfully passed this examination. James Russell Parsons, jr., is the director of these examinations under the Regents' standing committee, composed of William H. Watson, William C. Doane, Charles E. Fitch, Whitelaw Reid, Chauncey M. Depew, St. Clair McKelway and Pliny T. Sexton.

DR. MOOR'S IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

The daring medical experiment recently performed on himself by Dr. William Moor, of No. 355 Boulevard, in first swallowing three grains of sulphate of morphine, and then four grains of permanganate of potash as an antidote, has had no deleterious effect upon him, nor has it abated his enthusiasm over his supposed discovery of an efficient antidote for morphine poisoning. Dr. Moor said to a Tribune reporter yesterday afternoon that he performed the experiment in the presence of the Medical Board of the West Side German Clinic, because he wished to have the experiment attested by his fellow-members of the Board. He had previously experimented successfully upon rabbits and other animals, and then upon himself. He was so sure of the efficacy of the antidote that he would not fear to swallow ten grains of sulphate of morphine, to be immediately followed by eleven or twelve grains of the permanganate of potash. He admitted that when administered alone permanganate of potash was deoxidized by the gastric juices, but positively asserted that when morphine was previously given, promptly followed by a larger quantity of the potash, the latter would select the soluble salt of the morphine, oxidize it and render it harmless before it could enter the system.

The Board had deemed the experiment to be dangerous, and protested against it, but Dr. Moor persisted, and, as the apothecary was instructed not to dispense the morphine, the experimenter had weighed it out himself. Dr. Collzer, of No. 109 East Fifty-fourth-st., thought it would have been better to have made the trial on a dog, as in some conditions of the stomach the antidote might fail to neutralize the morphine. He regarded the discovery as important in cases of accidental or suicidal poisoning, permanganate of potash being a drug in common use for various medicinal purposes, and easily and quickly obtainable. Dr. Moor is preparing a report on his experiments and their result.

WORK AND PLAY FOR COMPANY F.

The members of Company F, 7th Regiment, popularly known as "Big Six," which is commanded by Captain George W. Rand, will have their hands full of both work and pleasure this evening. The rifle team will be at the armory at 6:30 o'clock to shoot for the Kemp trophy, and at 8 p. m. the whole company will assemble for drill for an hour. At 10 o'clock they will all go to the Central Opera House, in Sixty-seventh-st., where a "smoker," with all the concomitants of such an affair as it is now understood will be held. The committee in charge of the affair has searched the city over for attractive features, and it has been whispered that it has had a weather eye out for attractive figures as well. General Fitzgerald, General Clark, Colonel Appleton and his staff, and all the field officers and captains in the regiment have accepted invitations to be present.

JOHN WOLFE'S DYING GIFT TO THE MUSEUM.

A touching incident connected with the welfare of the Metropolitan Museum of Art occurred about a month ago. John Wolfe, who had always shown great interest in the success of the institution, sent for one of the officers of the Museum and expressed his desire to present to it two valuable pictures, one by Schreyer, the other by Cabanel. The subject, evidently, had been on his mind for some time. He forthwith directed the pictures to be taken down from his walls and sent to the Museum. His condition at the time was extremely feeble and he was only able to utter a word or two, but expressed a desire to complete the gift before he should die.

UNION REVIVAL SERVICES THIS WEEK.

Union revival services of the Methodist, Episcopal, Baptist, Disciples and Presbyterian churches will be held this week. The first will be to-night in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Sixty-sixth-st., west of the Boulevard; to-morrow night the service will be in the Church of Disciples, Fifty-sixth-st., between Eighth and Ninth aves.; on Thursday night in St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church, Fifty-third-st., between Seven and Eighth aves. and on Friday night in Faith Presbyterian Church, Forty-sixth-st., between Ninth and Tenth aves.

SELECTIONS FROM THE MAIL

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

IMPORTANCE OF IT TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE—THE GREATER NEW-YORK BILL.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I note with great pleasure your very strong editorial of this date "About Reformatory Experiments," and the reference made therein to the work of the approaching Constitutional Convention seems to me particularly appropriate at this time.

It is, to say the least, surprising that this convention and its probable or possible results have heretofore received so little attention, not only from the public press, but especially from reformers and agitators for improved government. It is no exaggeration to say that this convention is the most important political body which this State has seen in a long while, and there is no reason to believe that another of equal importance will be elected for twenty years to come. This is not the occasion to enlarge upon the possibilities for good which a new Constitution, drafted upon conservative lines, may have for the people of this State, nor need any Republican be reminded of the fact that the Republican party, having the majority in the convention and being responsible to the people for its work, will justly receive all credit or all blame which may attach to its finished labors.

It is, however, timely and right to call the attention of all who may be inclined to burden the present Legislature with the discussion of measures designed to palliate the evils of Tammany misrule in this city, that their proper field of labor is the convention, and that they can do no more efficient work than in carefully elaborating amendments to the Constitution which will, when adopted, lay broad and deep the foundations of good municipal government and home rule.

The present Republican Legislature should, in my opinion, limit itself to the undoing of the mischief of the stolen Legislature which preceded it, and the passage of a few measures in the interest of reform and economy which need not touch upon constitutional questions.

A most curious result of the ignoring of the Constitutional Convention is seen in the proposed "Greater New-York" bill. According to this measure, the people of the proposed Greater New-York are to vote at the next November election in favor or against consolidation. This is the same election at which the new Constitution must by law be submitted to the people. It is most certain that the Constitutional Convention will be confronted with the "Greater New-York" idea, and upon its decision on this question depend a great many other important amendments to the Constitution.

If New-York, Brooklyn, Long Island City and Staten Island are to be consolidated into one great three-million commonwealth, the judiciary must be organized accordingly; a system of local courts must be established; the Surrogate's Court will need organization, and the obliterating of county lines will require particular provisions regarding the Sheriff's office. If, on the other hand, the consolidation is not to take place, all these subsidiary questions must be decided in another way. In either event, it will be impossible for the convention to work intelligently, unless they first decide the fundamental question of consolidation. It seems folly to submit a Constitution to the people, drawn with reference to a state of facts now existing, and at the same election to ask the people to vote upon a proposition so to alter the state of facts that a great series of new constitutional amendments will be required immediately. Nor will it be possible for the convention to provide, by a general article, for consolidation if the people should thereafter vote in its favor. The principles involved cut too deeply into all the other articles to permit amendments upon a contingency.

Under these circumstances, it seems to me to be clear that the wisest course for the Legislature would be to refer the Greater New-York bill to the Constitutional Convention, and measures can no doubt be taken to ascertain the will of the people in the proposed district before the question is decided in the summer.

The Constitutional Convention is a body fresh from the people, of short duration, and yet legislating practically for twenty years to come. Such a body should not hesitate to grapple with great and difficult questions, and to settle them in a far-sighted way, while, on the other hand, the fact that the work accomplished must be submitted to the people for ratification or rejection, and the example of the rejected constitution of 1867 will work strongly for conservatism. It may safely be predicted that no radical changes whatever will be made with reference to the right of suffrage, the general organization of the State Government or any other fundamental question. The great changes will probably be with reference to local and city government and the judiciary. Upon these points the convention needs the help of every thoughtful man in this State, and more especially it needs serious advice and fair discussion in the public press.

As one of your many admirers, permit me to thank you for starting the ball rolling in The Tribune, and to hope that you will not weary of well-doing in this direction. H.

New-York, Jan. 20, 1894.

STRENGTH OF THE ANTI-MACHINE MOVEMENT.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The anti-machine movement appeals very strongly to that independent and intelligent class of Republican voters which, to a large extent, has been of late years kept outside the regular organization. Conscious of the rascality and dishonesty which prevailed within the old machine, these men lost heart and confidence in the interests of the party, and added immeasurably to the great "stay-at-home" vote from which the Republican party has been steadily suffering for many years back. A splendid opportunity is now afforded for enlisting the sympathy and services of men of that stamp in the new organization, which has completely thrown off the shackles of the old party leaders, and whose birth has already been hailed with the enthusiastic plaudits of 15,000 Republican voters. In this new party there is no boss; there is no machine. The fashion of presenting a slate as a matter of form for the heelers to shout their approving aye, ayes to, will not exist in this organization. This is not a party of cuckoos, it is a party of intelligent men, who do not hesitate to question or criticise when they believe it for the interests of the whole party. Republicanism has too long endured the despotism of a few men, dictating the policy and nominating the candidates from a back room in the Fifth Avenue Hotel. The shameless spectacle of intolerance, or perhaps pusillanimity exhibited by the 500 cuckoos, at the Grand Opera House upon a recent occasion, shows the imperative necessity of a movement of this character. And, indeed, if any doubt existed in the public mind as to the influences which controlled that assemblage and its judgment, the summary and unwarrantable ejection of one of the protesters, was not calculated to remove that impression nor inspire public confidence. A movement such as this completely disassociated from the old machine, dating its inception, not from the betrayers of the Republican standard, but from those who had been betrayed, can alone weld together the shattered forces of Republicanism in New-York. The young men should rally around the anti-machine flag. They will not be kept in the background, as in the old organization, but pushed to the front. The Anti-Machine movement is legitimate in its birth and honorable in its growth and conduct. It has made no compromise or deal with discredited and faithless leaders, but has rigidly ignored them. The reorganization movement was conceived in good intentions, but born in corruption. The baresinister of treachery crosses its escutcheon, and it cannot be eradicated. The offspring of the Committee of Thirty and the cuckoo machine was handicapped at its birth, and is stunted in its infancy, notwithstanding that Machiavelli Bliss read the prayers and blessed the bridals. Let those who desire an honest Republican party in this county repudiate the deformity and imposition sought to be thrust upon them. Let them join the movement led by the Anti-Machine Committee, the ability, zeal and enthusiasm of which will renew the vitality of the withered forces of the party and undoubtedly crown its efforts with success at the elections next November.

THOMAS ST. JOHN GAFFNEY.

No. 118 East Twenty-eighth-st., Jan. 20, 1894.

TAMMANY REAL ESTATE MEN.

A LETTER FROM A WIGWAM SYMPATHIZER.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: There has been considerable talk recently as to the opposition of the Real Estate Exchange to Tammany Hall. As a member of the Exchange, I would like to protest against the action of the Board of Directors in stating that the Real Estate Exchange, as a body, is opposed to Tammany Hall. Many members of the Real Estate Exchange are members of Tammany Hall, and they recognize in this movement of the Board of Directors simply an attempt to get back for their institution the legal sales which were removed from the Exchange by an order of the Supreme Court judges in consequence of the charge of excessive fees at the Real Estate Exchange in 1892.

The Real Estate Exchange has never been run in the interest of auctioneers, who were its main support, and, failing to get justice from the management of the Exchange, the prominent auctioneers, with one exception, were compelled to leave the Exchange, and found a room elsewhere. The Exchange, recognizing the mistake in its management in forcing the auctioneers from the institution, now seeks to involve Tammany Hall in the controversy.

There is absolutely no politics in the matter. Bad management, and not Tammany Hall, should be held responsible for the loss to the Exchange of its revenues and business.

The organization must either be of a business or political character. The two things have never been or never can be combined. Either the Exchange must be run in the interest of real estate men or go into politics altogether.

THOMAS L. REYNOLDS.

New-York City, Jan. 20, 1894.

VIGOROUS MEASURES WANTED.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Mr. Cleveland's "conviction" is most accurately defined in the editorial column of The Tribune to-day. There is one other conviction he ought to have in order that he may come to a realizing sense of his relation to human beings on this mundane sphere, viz.: A conviction by a lawfully constituted court of impeachment. B. W. W.

New-York City, Jan. 13, 1894.

GRUMBLING AT THE CUSTOM HOUSE.

SECRETARY CARLISLE'S ORDER THAT DUTIES MUST BE PAID IN CASH CAUSES MUCH CONFUSION AND HARD WORK.

The decision of Secretary Carlisle that customs duties shall no longer be paid by check went into effect yesterday morning at the Custom House. As a result of his ruling there was considerable confusion in the cashier's department, and importers and Custom House brokers unloaded all the currency at their disposal in payment of duties. The amount of money paid in was over $400,000. None of it was in gold. The employes in the cashier's department were forced to do some work in handling and counting the big bunches of legal tenders and bags of coin which were presented in payment of duties, and there was much grumbling. The brokers and importers expressed much dissatisfaction at the return to cash payments and were loud in expressing their opinions. Collector Kilbreth said yesterday that he was in favor of any good plan that the importers might suggest, but that he was not willing to make himself liable for frauds which might be practised on the Government by means of the check system.

It was said yesterday that a committee representing importers of this city had gone to Washington to present a plan to the Treasury Department by which the check system would be put into force again, under such restrictions as to take all liability for loss from the Collector. The ruling of Secretary Carlisle that customs duties must be paid in cash was due to the decision of Judge Lacombe to the effect that the Collector was responsible to the makers of the checks for their proper use.

BIG BOOKS NEEDED TO KEEP TRACK OF SCOWS.

A request by Street Cleaning Commissioner Andrews for four new blank books to cost about $400, was yesterday refused by the Board of City Record. Supervisor Kenny reported to the board that Andrews said he must have these books if he had to pay for them himself out of his own pocket. "He tells me," said Mr. Kenny, "that one of them is to be seven feet long and very thick."

"He'll next be asking for a special appropriation to pay able-bodied clerks to handle it," replied the Mayor.

"There seems to be too much changing going on in the bookkeeping of that department," put in Corporation Counsel Clark. It was decided that Mr. Andrews must make a better explanation as to what his big books were for, or he would not get them. Mr. Andrews said afterward that they were needed to record the movements of his scows.

THE CASE AGAINST POLICE CAPTAIN DEVERY.

Colonel E. C. James, before Judge Cowing in General Sessions, yesterday, reargued the demurrer to the four indictments found against Police Captain W. S. Devery. The Judge had already dismissed the demurrer, but consented to a reargument. Colonel James took the position that as the statutes gave the Police Commissioners the power to punish officials of the force who omitted to do their duty, such persons could not be tried for such offences in the ordinary court. Assistant District-Attorney John D. Lindsay argued that the indictments were legal. Decision was reserved.

THE MAYOR WILL NOT OPPOSE THE BRIDGE.

The proposed new steel drawbridge over the Harlem River, connecting Manhattan Island with the Annexed District, will, it is estimated, cost about $2,000,000. The end of the New-York approach is in First-ave. at East One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st., and cuts diagonally through two city blocks. The opposite approach will begin at East One-hundred-and-thirty-fourth-st. and Willis-ave. Mayor Gilroy has opposed the construction of this bridge on the ground that the people in the neighborhood of the Harlem were desirous of multiplying bridges over that stream too rapidly and before there was any real need of them. But under the provisions of the bill introduced in Albany authorizing the building of this bridge, the time for the construction is fixed six years hence. The Mayor said yesterday that it was probable that the structure would be needed in six years and therefore he should not interpose any objections to the passage of the bill.

A STIR AMONG THE BAPTIST PASTORS.

The Rev. Dr. A. H. W. Hodder, pastor of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, caused a little "stir" yesterday morning at the weekly meeting of the Baptist pastors, which was held in the Twenty-third Street Baptist Church, by saying that charges detrimental to the conference had been circulated, and among the charges was one accusing the conference of "crooked work." He also made the statement that several of the members were "dead beats." Mr. Hodder said these things while discussing the proposed revision of the constitution, and he said that unless radical changes were made in that instrument he would resign.

The sentiment of the meeting was in favor of revision, and on motion of the Rev. R. M. Luther the presiding officer appointed a Revision Committee as follows: J. W. Brinckerhoff, Leighton Williams, Theodore A. K. Cresey, R. M. Luther and A. H. W. Hodder.

Mr. Hodder refused to tell a reporter what he meant by his remarks, or to be specific on the "dead beat" question. He told the reporter that a revision of the constitution was necessary for the good of the denomination.

THE DOLPHIN NEEDS NEW BOILERS.

The dispatch boat Dolphin, which on Saturday returned from New-London, is at the Navy Yard, and the report yesterday was that she will not do active duty again until she has received new boilers. Her present boilers are in a bad condition, and it is believed that it would be more economical to have new ones put in than to repair those now in her. It is believed that these boilers will not be put in at this yard, but that the vessel will be sent to Norfolk to have the work done. About a year ago the Dolphin completed her repairs and alterations at the Norfolk Navy Yard, and was pronounced "a floating palace, the finest yacht in the world," but these alterations did not include new boilers.

KNOWLEDGE

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