NEW-JERSEY NEWS

Some Jersey City real estate dealers are said to be seriously considering a proposition to circulate pamphlets all over the country setting forth the advantages of their town as a health resort. This idea had its origin in a dispatch from Boston saying that poor health had prompted the Rev. Walter J. Swaffield to move from the Hub to Jersey City.

Congressman Thomas McEwan uses the following language in discussing the rumor that he has his eye on Mayor Wanser's chair:

I have seen it charged that I have been laying plans to capture the Republican nomination for Mayor. I can truthfully say that I have never been and am not now a candidate for Mayor of Jersey City. It does not seem to me that there will be any likelihood of a scramble for the Mayoralty nomination on the Republican side next spring. On the other hand, it seems rather likely that the Republican party in Jersey City will have to chase after somebody to accept the nomination.

Nevertheless, it would be well to keep an eye on Thomas. He is a twentieth-century politician who has achieved extraordinary success by disdaining the methods of the old-time politicians. Personal comfort or party considerations don't go far with him if he gets it into his head that the people want certain things done. Perhaps he may be wrong about the outlook for next spring. If the conditions should turn out to be as he expects, it would make his nomination more likely than if a fight had to be made at the primaries to elect friendly delegates. But it is among the possibilities that contingencies may arise to render desirable the renomination of Mayor Wanser, although it is believed that Mr. Wanser is unwilling to continue in office beyond the limit of his present term.

Hackensack has long been noted for its big potatoes, able politicians and the "elixir of life" atmosphere which enables its inhabitants to live for a hundred years or more if they feel like it. Now it comes to the front with a claimant for new distinction. Lieutenant George E. Wells, of the National Guard, is the hero's name. Lieutenant Wells was arrested last Saturday night for riding a bicycle without a light. The local ordinance fixes sunset as the time for carrying lights. Lieutenant Wells brought out the fact that the arrest occurred at 6:46, whereas the sun did not set until 6:50. He won his case, and thus contributed another exception to that adage which says that "the man who acts as his own counsel hath a fool for a client."

Millville and Bridgeton are temperance towns, but "beer farms" on the outskirts have been supplying liquor to the thirsty minority. The "farms" operated under the guise of bottling establishments. They are being broken up now and their proprietors arrested at the instance of the Law and Order Society.

In a damage suit tried before Supreme Court Justice Lippincott the other day it came out that one of the jurors had visited the scene of the accident and taken measurements. On the motion of the defendant's counsel the Judge discharged the jury and ordered a mistrial entered on the minutes. This brings up for consideration an exceedingly nice point. It is certainly desirable that juries should not be influenced by anything but the evidence actually presented, but it is wellnigh impossible to exclude the influence arising from a juror's personal knowledge of the parties or the locality concerned. It is conceivable, however, that a juror might wish to visit the scene of this or any other accident, not to get evidence of his own, but for the purpose of acquiring topographical knowledge that would enable him to understand clearly the testimony of witnesses. Would that be an excuse for a mistrial? Or would the fact of a juror unintentionally passing such a place be good grounds for stopping a trial?

Hardware dealers in Paterson have been selling hundreds of pistols lately. Immediately after the Mamie Sullivan murder there was a rush to arms, and everything in the shape of a gun was eagerly bought up. The dealers replenished their stocks just in time to meet the demand from Ridgewood folks who have been scared by that exploit of amateur bandits at the railroad station last Saturday night. It is reported that nearly every man in Ridgewood goes armed now after dark.

A FREEHOLDER INDICTED?

IT IS ALLEGED THAT BINDERNAGLE OWNS THE "LITTLE MONTE CARLO" BUILDINGS AT WEEHAWKEN.

A urom is current about the Hudson County Court House that an indictment has been found against Freeholder Bindernagle, who, it is alleged, is the owner of the buildings near the upper Weehawken ferry that have been used as a gambling den known as "Little Monte Carlo." This place has been mentioned repeatedly by Justice Lippincott in his charges to the Grand Jury for several terms, and he often directed attention to the fact that the place was so amply "protected" by officials that every effort made to close it had been fruitless, as the gamblers were informed and the den was closed when the constables or sheriff's officers arrived. The Judge instructed the Grand Jury to indict the owner of the property, and in that way the place could be closed.

The indictment, it is said, has not been handed into the court, and powerful influence is being employed to induce the Grand Jurors to reconsider their action.

COMMISSION DAY IN TRENTON.

THE GOVERNOR SIGNS 1,400 DOCUMENTS—A STATE HOUSE OFFICIAL RESIGNS.

Trenton, April 28 (Special).—There was a little surprise at the State House to-day, when, after the adjournment of the State House Commission, Captain John T. Burton, assistant custodian of the Capitol building, walked up to Custodian John H. Bonnell and tendered his resignation, to take effect May 1.

Captain Burton was appointed as assistant to Custodian Bonnell two years ago. There has always been more or less opposition to him. He was forced to tender his resignation, it is said, by Governor Griggs, who disapproved of the captain's recklessness in presenting obnoxious persons to the State officials. The captain denies the stories afloat, and says that he resigned in order to give more time to his oyster business.

Governor Griggs spent the entire day signing the 890 commissions of the Justices of the Police elected at the recent charter elections throughout the State. He also signed about five hundred of the commissions of those appointed as Commissioners of Deeds by the one-hundred-and-twentieth Legislature.

Some of the commissions sent out to-day have been repeated for years, particularly those of the Justices of the peace. The oldest justice in the State, perhaps, is James M. Cassady, of Camden. He has been a justice for about thirty-five years. Several others have been regularly commissioned for the last twenty years, and fully one hundred have held office for a dozen years.

A GIRL SHOT IN SCHOOL.

Burlington, April 28.—The public school at Beverly was thrown into a state of intense excitement yesterday when Archie Irwin, one of the smallest boys in the school, pulled a revolver from his pocket and began to handle it in a careless manner. Before the teacher could secure the weapon it went off, and a little girl, named Wright, sitting opposite Irwin, screamed and fell to the floor with a bullet in her head.

The teacher quickly placed the injured one up and a physician was summoned. The bullet made a scalp wound, and the girl is not in a serious condition. The shooting was entirely accidental, and the boy will not be punished.

A BOY KILLED BY TOBACCO.

Lambertville, April 28 (Special).—It has just been learned that ten-year-old George Burroughs, who died here a few days ago, was a victim of nicotine poison. The boy had been an incessant user of the weed in all forms almost from his babyhood.

George begged for tobacco on his deathbed, and his entreaties for the weed were gratified. When the undertaker called after death, he found the body badly swollen, and decomposition had set in to such an extent that immediate burial was imperative.

TRAMPS TERRIFY A TOWN.

BUTLER IS ORGANIZING A VIGILANCE COMMITTEE FOR PROTECTION.

PAYDAY ON THE WATER-PIPE LINE IS THE MONTHLY SIGNAL FOR A REIGN OF ANARCHY—FUTILE EFFORTS OF THE SO-CALLED POLICE.

Butler, N. J., March 28 (Special).—The approach of the monthly payday of the pipeline employes engaged in building the auxiliary line of the East Jersey Water Company is regarded with apprehension by the people of Butler and Bloomingdale. The authorities, besides increasing the emergency police force to fifty men, have warned away disreputable characters, but in spite of the stringent measures adopted outrages continue to be reported, and the township committeemen openly confess that they fear another carnival of lawlessness when the pipeline men and the tramps attracted by their arrival swarm to the village for the monthly round up. To put an end to this periodical anarchy, the leading citizens, headed by Mr. Kiel, superintendent of the Butler Rubber Works, are preparing to organize a vigilance committee.

At the last payday, three weeks ago, a rum-crazed mob thronged the village streets, and a reign of terror prevailed until the money was spent. Citizens were "held up" by a horde of unkempt "hoboes," tramps haunted back doorsteps, demanding eatables; watch dogs were poisoned, poultry yards robbed and depredations were committed which have caused the people of the twin villages of Bloomingdale and Butler to wish the pipeline and the elements which it has introduced in the communities were at the furthest ends of the earth.

"HOBOES" IN CONTROL.

The Pequannock Township authorities in Morris County and the Pompton Committee in Passaic County have been requested to act, but they are apparently powerless to afford adequate protection for life and property. In Butler one constable, Louis De Lemos, a man weighing about 130 pounds, was expected to preserve order. The "hoboes" roamed about at their own will, monarchs of all they surveyed. De Lemos on one occasion endeavored to interfere, but he was stood upon his head, several burly tramps manipulating his legs and converting him into a human pinwheel. Then came the serious riot in which Risden's Hotel at Pompton was nearly gutted, and the terrific battle at Bloomingdale, in which the foreman, Daniel Callahan, was nearly beaten to death with pick handles.

Next day De Lemos found that his business interests were involved, and he could not afford to continue on duty; the police force promptly sent in its resignation. The township committee was forced by his action to solve a double problem, for De Lemos was sole owner of police headquarters. Besides preserving the peace he had found time to act as poormaster and village photographer. His photographic gallery served as the police station and court. The building has five rooms, partly resting on spiles in a sand bank overlooking Main-ave., and the other part, comprising the courtroom and photo outfit, mounted on wheels so that it can be detached from the spiles and trundled to county fairs in the vicinity. De Lemos proudly asserts that an expenditure of $4,000 and fifteen years' labor is represented in the semi-caravan.

Pietro Diadoni was the first Italian to be locked up in the picture gallery. He was placed in the tobacco room and later discharged. De Lemos returned afterward to find that several boxes of cigars were missing. He sallied forth to recover his property and found Diadoni enjoying a fragrant weed in the woods. He placed him under arrest, whereupon Diadoni's companions drew knives and made for the constable. He was unarmed save for his club, and leaving his prisoner he fled for his life. He says he was followed for over a mile.

AN INDIGNATION MEETING.

The "hoboes" grew so aggressive that Mr. Kiel, with leading citizens, called upon the township authorities to take immediate action. Recognizing the futility of reporting robberies or other outrages to De Lemos citizens had suffered in silence. Mr. Kiel presided over an indignation meeting, when the real extent of the outrages was made public. Prompt action was taken. Thirty deputies were sworn in to serve between the hours of 7 o'clock and midnight. The township committees issued a proclamation warning away all suspicious characters and enacted a curfew ordinance requiring all persons found prowling about after nightfall to give a satisfactory account of themselves or serve a term in jail. De Lemos was prevailed upon to withdraw his resignation, and a police board, comprising Michael Day, Irving Kayhart and Peter Cook, was organized. De Lemos was made chief of police. The thirty men serve in squads of ten twice a week. Notices were posted signed by Samuel De Mott and John F. Sisco, chairmen of the township committees of Pequannock and Pompton, as follows:

"To all whom it may concern: Notice is hereby given that all persons who shall go about from door to door, or place themselves in the streets, highways or passages to beg, crave charity or collect alms, or who wander abroad, lodge in taverns, inns, beer-houses, and cannot give a good and full account of themselves, shall be proceeded against as disorderly persons, as provided by the laws of the State; and formal complaint shall be made against each and every one of them in this vicinity within forty-eight hours after the issuing of this notice, which should be a fair warning to all such characters; and the Sheriffs of the respective counties will be called upon to enforce the law if necessary."

THE POLICE FORCE AT WORK.

The special officers appeared resplendent in tin badges and carrying clubs to be "guyed" by the saloon element, and also by sentimental old people, who indignantly declared that it was a burning shame to arrest American citizens searching for employment. Besides the taxes were already too high, and the "darned cusses had got onto the 'Squire and wouldn't pony up a fine." "Who's goin' to pay those here living bills to the Morristown Jail?" was their constant wail.

In an emergency the reserve could be called out by ringing the school bell. Police headquarters was removed to an empty store in the opera house building and a stock of manacles provided for refractory customers. The hoboes saw that the authorities meant business, and quiet reigned for a few days.

During the last week the influx of outcasts has increased, and as a result several robberies have occurred. Several tramps at noon yesterday called at the McMackin homestead and requested something to eat. They forced their way in, but were kicked out, and the spokesman was afterward caught. Town Committeeman Vanderhoff conducted an examination.

"Where do you work?"

"I don't work. It ain't healthy," was the reply.

"Where do you live?"

"Any old place; here, fer instance."

"Do you board in the village?"

"No; but me partner, Berry Wall, him as got away, he's stoppin' with Madame Greenfield, and if Yer Worship pleases, I'm his guest."

This is a sample of daily occurrences. The "hold ups" and assaults upon women also continue. The pipe line contractors give orders for clothing to their men, who convert the order into money, allowing the storekeepers a liberal discount. They then proceed to slake their thirst at the nearest bar. These individuals are termed "pipe angels" by the "hoboes." The drunker the "angel" gets, the wider grows his circle of acquaintances. He looks for trouble, and his whilom friends see that he is accommodated. In many instances he is soundly beaten and afterward robbed of his remaining money. The Butler officials do not pretend to interfere on such occasions, allowing the participants to fight to a finish.

These occurrences, coupled with the assaults and petty "hold ups" which occur nightly, have caused the movement for the formation of a vigilance committee. The law-abiding citizens await the monthly pay day prepared for the worst. It is evident that if the thugs who make a practice of insulting women are caught they will receive rough treatment at the hands of this committee, who are not making any boasts about what they intend to do.

THIS WOMAN ROBS CHILDREN.

SHE STOPS THEM IN THE STREET AND OBTAINS THEIR MONEY BY AN OLD TRICK.

Elizabeth, April 28 (Special).—Yesterday afternoon Josephine Smith, a little girl, was on her way to the store for her mother, when she was stopped by a strange woman who asked her where she was going and how much money she had. The child opened her hand and showed a five-dollar bill, and the woman took it and said she would hold the money and mind the child's basket if the latter would run to the nearest store and get two bundles of wood for her. The child did as she was requested, and when she came back the woman had vanished. The little one was too frightened to go home lest she should be punished for losing the money, so she went to Father Smith's house and told him the story. The priest accompanied the child to her home, and to-day warned all the school children to beware of the thief.

It has been learned that the woman stopped another girl going to school a few days ago, and asked her to open her hands. The child did not have any money, and the woman remarked: "Oh! I just wanted to see if your finger nails were clean."

The same woman called at a house in Elizabeth-ave. on Monday, and said she was collecting funds for Father Smith's church. She obtained fifty cents. The police have been requested to look out for the impostor.

THE "GREENGOODS" CASE.

ANTHONY COMSTOCK TESTIFIES AGAINST RYAN.

METHODS OF THE GANG EXPOSED AND THE PRISONER CONNECTED WITH OTHER SWINDLES—REFRACTORY WITNESSES FORCED TO GIVE THEIR EVIDENCE—A BAD DAY FOR THE "KING."

Hackensack, April 28 (Special).—The second day of the trial of "Mike" Ryan, the "greengoods" monarch, brought out considerable testimony which may help to place that individual where "come-ons" come not and "jays" are as hard to find as needles in haystacks. Anthony Comstock, the moral guardian of New-York, was among the witnesses against Ryan, and his evidence conclusively established the connection between Ryan and the men who dealt in "greengoods" at Ranges's Hotel, as well as at other points. Altogether, it was a bad day for the "king," and he plainly showed that he was worried, especially when Mr. Comstock was on the stand. The confident expression on his face disappeared early in the day, and the only pleasant moments he enjoyed were when Michael Ritchie and Fred Walters, both of whom were apparently endeavoring to shield him, were on the stand.

The case will, in all likelihood, end to-morrow, as Prosecutor Stagg has only a few unimportant witnesses to examine. The defence will not attempt to deny the imputation that Ryan is a "greengoods" man, but it will endeavor to prove an alibi for him in the Lyndhurst assault matter. This, however, is of little consequence, as only one of the State's witnesses has testified to Ryan's presence on that occasion. Prosecutor Stagg has conducted the case with much energy, and he believes that a conviction is almost a foregone conclusion.

HIS MEMORY WAS POOR.

The first witness called was Fred Walters, the hackman, who formerly derived a living from carrying "come-ons" to Ranges's Hotel with money and then taking them away when they were laden down with "greengoods." Walters steadfastly declared that his memory of the occurrences at the hotel was so poor that it was only with an effort that he could remember that there was such a place. After Prosecutor Stagg coaxed him for a few minutes, he finally admitted that he had seen the men in the hotel, and had taken strangers there. He denied, however, ever having seen Ryan there. The wife and daughter of Fred Ranges testified to having seen the "greengoods" men around the hotel, but as the men kept quiet and appeared to be secretive they knew nothing of them. Neither of them remembered having seen the defendant there.

Michael N. Ritchie, the former counsel for Ranges, and who has persistently attempted to dodge the process of the Court in all the cases growing out of the Lyndhurst affair, appeared in court in response to a peremptory summons. In the trial of Ranges a letter was introduced, which Ritchie had written to a member of the "greengoods" gang, and in which he imparted the information that he "knew enough to send certain parties to State Prison." This was followed by a demand for $50. On the stand to-day he admitted that this letter was a bluff, to aid him in collecting a bill from certain men who had employed him to negotiate a lease for Trautwein's Hotel.

He proved to be an extremely unwilling witness, especially when asked about the members of the gang who held forth in Ranges's place. His memory as to conversations with the men was especially defective, and he used every possible means to combat the prosecutor, even going to the extent of arguing over the admissibility of his testimony. He finally declared that he had never seen "Ned" Lyons about Ranges's Hotel, nor had he ever seen Ryan until he met him in the courtroom.

AN EXPERT'S TESTIMONY.

Anthony Comstock, the secretary of the New-York Society for the Suppression of Vice, who is also an inspector in the Postoffice, was called to throw the light of his experience on the operations of the "greengoods" men. In his dual capacity, he said, he had handled over one hundred thousand of the circulars which are sent to "jays" throughout the country, and he readily identified the defendant as the leader of the "Ryan Gang," as it is known. He produced some of the circulars in court. One of them addressed to "J. M. Floyd, Snell, Tenn.," bore the signature of "J. Lockwood, South Bethlehem, Penn." Mr. Comstock said that he personally investigated the operations of the "Ryan Gang," and had seen Ryan in South Bethlehem. He also saw other members of the gang in the same locality. Ryan noticed him in the Pacific Hotel, in South Bethlehem, and positively that Ryan was an expert "greengoods" king disappeared in a hurry. Other men who were connected with the gang were present, including one known as "Ryan's Shadow."

He found that the Pacific Hotel was a place where "come ons" were instructed what to do and where to go. He was with a "come on" at the time. This man was directed to go to Manion's Hotel, near Bound Brook. Subsequently he elicited from the members of the "gang," by correspondence, other circulars which were intended to still further excite the cupidity of the ignorant persons to whom they were sent.

These circulars were introduced in evidence, and immediately the defendant's attorneys raised a storm of objections to their admission on the ground of incompetency. They attempted to have the circulars thrown out because they had not been used to induce men to go to Lyndhurst. In order to circumvent these objections, Prosecutor Stagg put James Graham, one of the "come ons" who was assaulted in Lyndhurst, on the stand. Graham was swindled in Bound Brook previous to the assault, and he declared that in both cases the circulars were the same and that he had dealt with the same man both in Bound Brook and in Lyndhurst. He also declared that the circulars produced by Mr. Comstock were counterparts of those he had received, except that the names were changed.

After further identification of the circulars by Mr. Comstock, they were admitted in evidence and Mr. Stagg read them to the jury.

In the course of Mr. Comstock's direct examination, Mr. Stagg raised a general laugh by addressing the former as "Mr. Come-on." Mr. Comstock laughingly denied the soft impeachment, and Mr. Stagg explained his mistake by saying that he was thinking of somebody else.

Much of the time of the court was wasted over the objections of the counsel for the defence, who took advantage of the few small loopholes left by Mr. Stagg to worry the witnesses. Mr. Comstock, in particular, was a mark for the shafts of Mr. Koester, but he came through his cross-examination with flying colors. In fact, it was in response to one of Mr. Koester's questions that he declared most positively that Ryan was an expert greengoods man, and that to his own knowledge he had worked the game in Bound Brook.

There was a rumor current to-day to the effect that Ryan is contemplating flight. Whether or not there was any ground for the suspicion, Prosecutor Stagg detailed an officer to keep close watch over the defendant, and he will not be allowed to go far from the city unless he is under surveillance.

SERGEANT REDUCED TO THE RANKS.

Police-Sergeant Thomas Kelly, of Jersey City, was reduced to the ranks yesterday by the Police Commissioners. About two months ago Kelly, while on duty, entered a restaurant, provoked a quarrel with two motormen, and assaulted and arrested them. Charges for the assaults and for leaving his post were entered against him. The Police Commissioners have failed to secure the attendance of the victims and witnesses of the assault, and yesterday they disposed of the case by putting Kelly on trial for entering the restaurant, and convicted him.

It was this case that impressed the Police Commissioners with their utter helplessness to convict officers of serious breaches of discipline, as the offender could by bribery or other means prevent the attendance of the witnesses. The Commissioners had a bill passed by the last Legislature compelling witnesses, under the penalty of a heavy fine, to respect the subpoenas of the Police Board. Governor Griggs vetoed the act because it was unconstitutional.

GUARDIAN'S CLAIMS SET ASIDE.

In the Orphans' Court in Newark yesterday the exceptions taken to the accounting of Thomas B. Crossley, as guardian for Miss C. Victoria Peddie, were considered. A number of the exceptions taken by counsel for Miss Peddie were set aside for the reason that Mr. Crossley submitted vouchers showing the claims to be correct. The vouchers for a number of other claims were not produced, and the Court decided to set them aside.

A number of other exceptions were not considered, as it was arranged that counsel for Crossley will confer on them out of court and endeavor to agree upon an amicable settlement.

MILITIAMEN ON A TRAMP.

Elizabeth, April 28 (Special).—Company K, 4th Regiment, of Newark, will make an eight-mile tramp from their armory to this city on Thursday night. They will be the guests of the Torbert Guard, of the 3d Regiment. The Newark militiamen will be met at the city line and escorted to the Torberts' Armory.

A WOMAN ATTEMPTS SUICIDE.

Paterson, April 28 (Special).—Mary McIntosh, of No. 230 Jackson-st., attempted suicide this afternoon by jumping into the Morris Canal, opposite Clay-st. John Ritchie, a canal boatman, saw the act and plunged to the rescue. Though the woman fought fiercely Ritchie brought her safely to shore. Mrs. McIntosh was bitten by a mad dog some time ago and has been since subject to occasional periods of mental aberration. She has fully recovered from the effects of her bath.

AGAINST A GRADE CROSSING.

A SPIRITED HEARING BEFORE THE JERSEY CITY BOARD OF WORKS.

PROPERTY-OWNERS INSIST THAT THE TRACKS OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD BE ELEVATED—A MENACE TO LIFE AND A HARDSHIP ON THE POOR, THEY SAY.

The Street and Water Commissioners of Jersey City, had a public hearing yesterday on the application of the Greenville and Hudson Railroad Company, a branch of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, for permission to cross Communipaw-ave. at grade. The Lehigh Valley Company has acquired title to property along the shore of Communipaw Bay with the expectation of establishing its own terminal. Its passenger trains are now run into the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's station, and its freight trains run along a comparatively narrow strip to wharves at Communipaw, adjoining the Central Railroad ferries and yard. The company has purchased property and constructed the connecting line across the lowlands in that section of Jersey City formerly known as the village of Lafayette, but it is debarred from crossing Communipaw-ave., a wide and important thoroughfare.

John W. Heck presented the case for the Lafayette Citizens' Association, an organization composed of the leading property-owners of that section. He directed the attention of the Street and Water Board to the danger of grade crossings, and mention the action of the Legislature in enacting the law to compel the Erie Railroad Company to elevate its tracks. Communipaw-ave., he said, was a busy channel for pedestrians and vehicles, and the only thoroughfare to the shore from the Lafayette and Claremont districts, and if the railroad tracks were laid the street would be practically closed and the thousands of poor persons who seek the shore on summer nights would be debarred from the enjoyment of the privilege to which they are entitled—the right to the use of the streets. He presented a petition signed by forty property-owners.

Dr. Mortimer Lampson opposed it because it would not only render the crossing dangerous, but it would take a big block of assessable property out of the ratables. The amount of property held by railroad corporations and exempt from local taxation, he said, now aggregates many millions of dollars, and it was inimical to the best interests of property-owners to reduce the ratables, as the burdens of the taxpayers are now too heavy. Colonel Mason, John A. McKinnon and Howard Slater also argued against grade crossings.

William H. Corbin, who represented the railway company, said that this company was organized to build the last two miles of the Lehigh Valley Company and complete a trunk line to the Great Lakes. The company, he said, had built its line with the idea of avoiding grade crossings when possible, and had voluntarily constructed an elevated road from its bridge across the Newark Bay at a heavy outlay, and it was the first time it had asked to cross a street at grade. If any one could offer a feasible plan to avoid crossing Cummunipaw-ave. at grade the company would cheerfully adopt it. The Central Railroad, he said, owns all the land along the shore now used as a breathing spot by the people, and ultimately it would be used for railway purposes and the people would be excluded. It was preposterous, he declared, to compare Communipaw-ave. with the Henderson and Grove sts. crossing of the Erie Railway. It would be a crossing managed like that of the West Side-ave. crossing of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and he could not recall any accident that had ever occurred there. The company, he said, had been liberal, and had paid taxes to the city on meadow land bought for $400 or $500 an acre, the value of which had been screwed up to $5,000 an acre.

Counsellor Recordi also advocated the grant. He said that the city was bound to be a railroad city.

Commissioner Hooker asked if the company would build a bridge over the crossing for pedestrians if permitted to cross at grade. Mr. Corbin replied that the company would consider such a proposition if the citizens want one.

Reon Barnes, for the Lehigh Valley Company, presented a petition, signed by about 100 firms and individual property-owners, in favor of allowing the railroad to cross at grade.

Chairman Kaiser, at the close of the hearing, said that the matter would be carefully considered, and the Board would endeavor to do what is right.

DEATH OF HENRY HOLMES PALMER.

ONCE WEALTHY MAN DIES IN THE STATE INSANE ASYLUM—HIS SENSATIONAL TRIAL RECALLED.

New-Brunswick, April 28 (Special).—Joseph R. Palmer, of New-Brunswick, this morning received a telegram from the authorities of the State Hospital for the Insane, at Trenton, announcing that his brother, Henry Holmes Palmer, died at that institution at 3 o'clock his morning. Death was sudden and the cause unknown. Mr. Palmer was in his eighty-first year. He came to New-Brunswick in 1836 and established a shoe store. He continued in that business until 1865, when he retired and devoted his time to insurance and banking institutions with which he was connected. He became wealthy. In 1883 it was feared that his mind was unbalanced, and a commission was appointed at the instance of his brother to examine into his sanity. Ex-Governor George C. Ludlow, Congressman Benjamin F. Howell and Dr. Henry R. Baldwin constituted the commission, which met first on May 9, 1883.

The revelations of the trial made it one of the most sensational trials of the kind that has ever taken place in New-Jersey. It was learned that Palmer had wasted in reckless enterprises as much as $170,000. Several people for many years had been systematically blackmailing Palmer, and he had squandered nearly $100,000 on a young man in Chicago named Fred Barlow. Expert testimony before the commission was given by noted physicians, including Dr. Allen McLane Hamilton, of New-York; Dr. Ward, of the Trenton Asylum, and Drs. Nicholas Williamson, A. Van Nest Baldwin, Frank M. Donahoe, S. V. D. Clark, of this city, Gilbert Collins, of Jersey City, defended Palmer, while ex-Judge Hoffman and Senator Charles B. Herbert appeared for his brother. Palmer was adjudged a lunatic, and J. Bayard Kirkpatrick was appointed his guardian. He remained in this city for awhile, but it was soon found necessary to take him to the asylum. His funeral will take place on Thursday at his brother's house in this city and will be private.

THEY WERE MARRIED LAST AUGUST.

THE SECRET COMES OUT WHEN HE SENDS FOR HER, BUT EVERYBODY IS HAPPY.

New-Brunswick, April 28 (Special).—The good people of Stelton, a staid old Baptist village in Middlesex County, three miles east of New-Brunswick, are enjoying a real sensation, which is not without interest in this city and other places, where the parties concerned are well known and deservedly popular. Near Stelton Benjamin Letson, a wealthy farmer, and his family live in a hospitable homestead. Mr. Letson's wife is dead. His interesting family consists of Miss Ruth, a vivacious young woman of twenty-three; Miss Gussie, a school teacher near Plainfield; Miss Lillie, a schoolgirl; Peter Letson, a young New-York business man, and Fred Letson, who until recently attended Rutgers Preparatory School. It is Miss Ruth Letson who has aroused the inhabitants and with whom this story deals.

Ruth was sent to an academy at Hightstown and finished her education last summer. There she met William Eldridge, a student at Peddie Institute. Eldridge was from Camden. His father is in business in Philadelphia, and is wealthy. Eldridge was good-looking, well supplied with money, and, as a natural sequence, extremely popular with the girls at Hightstown. Miss Letson's personal charms are also in her favor, and the two became attracted toward each other. They were the cynosure of all eyes as they drove around Hightstown in a stylish trap. When Miss Letson left school, she returned to her pleasant home at Stelton, and Eldridge became a frequent visitor at the house. He was well liked by the other members of the young woman's family. He was last at the house about a month ago, but his letters arrived regularly. Neither Mr. Letson nor any of the brothers and sisters thought that the attachment between the two young people was anything more than friendship. Friday night the secret came out. The family were eating supper, and Miss Letson, with characteristic vivacity, and apparently as if the thought had just entered her head, said:

"Oh, I'm going to leave you all to-morrow. I'm going to Camden to live with Will, for he is my husband, you know."

As a matter of fact, none of the family did know that Will was her husband, and the astounding information so unnerved her father for a moment that he let a cup of tea which he was drinking drop to the floor. He asked his daughter what she meant by it.

"Why, papa," she said, "we were married last August, the night we drove over to Plainfield, and I've only been waiting for him to get fairly started in business before going to him. He sent for me, and to-morrow I'll go."

Then she buried her face in her hands and had a good cry. All the family congratulated her, and wished her and Will happy married lives.

DEATH OF REYNIER VAN GIESON.

Montclair, April 28 (Special).—Reynier Van Gieson, seventy-nine years old, one of the best known citizens of Montclair, died at his home, No. 94 Park-st., last night, after a long illness. Mr. Van Gieson was born in Upper Montclair, and always lived in the town. He was a member of the First Congregational Church. A widow and two sons, J. Wesley Van Gieson and George Van Gieson, survive him.

A SENSATIONAL CHARGE.

LONG LIST OF CRIMES FOR INVESTIGATION BY THE PASSAIC GRAND JURY.

ATTEMPTS TO CONCEAL WITNESSES—SUNDAY BALL PLAYING AS A POSSIBLE NUISANCE—NEED OF RESTRAINING THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC—JURYMEN'S HOURS OF WORK LENGTHENED.

Paterson, April 28 (Special).—The opening of the April term of the Passaic county courts to-day awakened unusual interest, owing to the fact that Judge Dixon was expected to charge the Grand Jury upon the numerous outrages in this city, beginning with the brutal murder of Mary E. Sullivan. Those who attended were treated to a decided sensation, Judge Dixon calling attention to an effort to tamper with the State's witnesses in the case of Nicholas Cole, the silk manufacturer, who assaulted Miss Lucy Van Riper, and ordering the Grand Jury to inquire into an effort in behalf of Cole to conceal the complaining witness and prevent her from appearing before the Grand Jury.

"At no time in the history of the county has there been greater need for skill and diligence on the part of the Grand Jury," said Judge Dixon. "Crimes have become startlingly numerous, especially in the highways of the larger towns in the county, and there should be no laxity in bringing the offenders to justice. There is no need of a special description of these crimes. The criminals are of that class for whom there should not be a spark of sympathy. They are outrageous violators of the law, whom every citizen with any sense of justice desires to see punished. These efforts to conceal a complaining witness constitute a case of very dangerous criminality, and such conduct should receive your careful consideration, as it constitutes criminal conspiracy. Ascertain whether Cole or his friends have conspired to defeat the ends of justice in this case. It makes no difference who they are, it is your plain duty to indict any one you believe guilty of such an offence."

The Sunday games of the Atlantic League at Olympic Park also received attention. "It appears that Sunday ball games are exhibited," said the Judge. "That is illegal. Ball playing is not subject to indictment, but the place where the game is played may become, owing to the crowds that congregate and the disturbance made, of such a character as to bring it within the province of the Grand Jury. The managers may be indicted for maintaining a common nuisance. A hotel is attached to the grounds and it is needless to tell you why such places are opened on Sundays. The proprietor may be indicted for maintaining a nuisance or selling intoxicants on Sunday. Such practices are the source of more serious crimes. A man may drink, and that of itself may not be looked upon as grievous, but out of this come vicious habits, impoverishment, vice, violence, and it would not be surprising if many of the outrages on our streets were the result of drinking.

"Every good citizen should try to keep the liquor traffic within the bounds of the law. Saloonkeepers have their rights, but they have no more right than any other class of storekeepers. It is our duty to see that they obey the laws. Only in the maintenance of law is our Republic safe. We live under law, and patriotism and loyalty should be our guides."

Judge Dixon next paid his respects to the past Grand Juries for taking so much time in transacting their business. Heretofore the Grand Juries had been liberal with themselves in the matter of time. "Gentlemen," said the Judge, "you are subject to the rules of the court, and it is a question if you cannot be compelled to hold your sessions at the same hour the court meets, but the Court recognizes the fact that many of you are serving the county at a great personal loss to yourselves and, therefore, does not wish to interfere with your private affairs by being too exacting. It is the order of the Court, however, that hereafter you shall meet at 1 o'clock in the afternoon and sit until not earlier than 5:30 o'clock, so that you can render a service to the county of four and a half hours. Anything less than this will not be regarded by the Court as doing your duty to the law. You will please obey this order as a rule of the court."

NEARLY A RIOT AT SOUTH RIVER.

STREET LABORERS TRY TO CUT THROUGH PRIVATE PROPERTY, BUT ARE DRIVEN AWAY.

New-Brunswick, April 8 (Special).—Because of an effort to run a street through the land of Theodore Willett in Jackson-st., South River, a riot nearly occurred in that place at 7:30 o'clock this morning. For years the Borough Commissioners have tried in vain to get the street cut through. This morning, with half a dozen men, James Churchill, the Street Superintendent, went to Mr. Willett's place and started to cut the street through. The owner became angry, and, with employes from his brick yards, he walked out and ordered the street men to desist. Willett's men look determined, and threatened the workmen with violence unless they ceased work at once. The Street Superintendent's force deemed discretion the better part of valor, and desisted.

ROUTE OF THE BICYCLE PATH.

THE MATTER DISPOSED OF AT A MEETING IN FREEHOLD.

Freehold, April 28 (Special).—The wheelmen of Monmouth, Ocean and Mercer counties met here to-day and decided on the route of the proposed bicycle path from Asbury Park to Trenton. Freeholder A. D. McCabe, of Ocean Grove, was made chairman of the meeting, and E. H. Savage, of Hightstown, and Chief Consul Robert Gentle, of Elizabeth, acted as secretaries. A large number of farmers attended the conference and promised to assist the wheelmen in building the path.

After a lively discussion, the following route was decided upon: Asbury Park to West Asbury Park, to Hamilton, to Farmingdale, to Turkey, to Freehold, to Smithsburg, to Ely, to Clarksburg, to Allentown, to Yardville, to Trenton. The distance from the shore to the capital by this route is forty-five miles, a saving of five miles over the present route.

The voters of Neptune and Howell townships have already instructed their committees to make appropriations for constructing the path through those townships, and the remaining townships will order elections to be held at once in order that work may be begun on the path next month. The wheelmen of Ocean County announced that a movement is on foot to build a cycle path from Lakewood to Farmingdale, to connect with the Asbury Park-Trenton path, and that the Lakewood path would, in time, be continued through to Atlantic City. The Mercer County wheelmen are also agitating the feasibility of building a path along the Delaware River from Trenton to Camden.

HER INJURIES ASSESSED AT $8,000.

A NEWARK WOMAN RECOVERS A BIG VERDICT FOR FALLING THROUGH A PIAZZA—OTHER DAMAGE SUITS.

In the courts in Newark yesterday Mrs. Amanda Breese, a widow, brought suit for $10,000 damages against William Mersfelder. Mrs. Breese claimed damages for injuries sustained on August 26, 1893, by a fall through the front stoop of the apartment-house at No. 20 Morton-st., Newark, when she received a fracture of the right thighbone, a dislocation of the hip and a concussion of the spine. She has since been compelled to go about on crutches. This is the second trial of the suit.

The jury rendered a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for $8,000.

The second trial of John Gardner's suit to recover $15,000 from the New-Jersey Traction Company was continued in the Circuit Court in Newark yesterday. Mr. Gardner wants damages for injuries sustained on July 1, 1893, when, he asserts, he was run over by a Bank-st. horsecar and permanently injured. On the first trial he got a verdict for $7,500, but this was set aside by the Court of Errors. Many witnesses were called yesterday by the defence with the idea of showing that Gardner was hurt through his own carelessness.

Suit for $20,000 damages was brought in Newark yesterday by Alfred F. Skinner, on behalf of Mary E. Hill, administratix, against John J. McCullough, receiver of the Erie Railroad. The suit is the outcome of a fatal accident on September 14, 1894, at the Washington-ave. crossing of the Newark and Paterson branch at Avondale. William E. Hill, husband of the plaintiff, accompanied by a friend, was out driving, and they were struck by a west-bound train and sustained injuries that caused the death of both men.

"JOHN THE PENMAN" INDICTED.

HE IS ACCUSED OF FORGING GOVERNMENT NOTES WITH A PEN.

Trenton, April 28 (Special).—The United States Grand Jury adjourned to-day, but could not present the indictments found owing to the absence of Judge Green, who was too ill to attend court.

The most important case coming before the Grand Jury this term was that of John Ninger, or "John the Penman," as the Government detectives call him. Ninger is now in the Tombs, New-York, for passing counterfeit banknotes, which he is alleged to have made with an ordinary pen. The Federal authorities say he has been making banknotes in his little country house in Somerset County for the last seventeen years.

The Government charged Ninger with forgery, instead of counterfeiting. He has been indicted, and the indictment will be handed to the Court next Thursday, it is said. He will then be brought here for trial.

THE "WILD MAN" REAPPEARS.

SEARCHING PARTIES FOLLOW HIM INTO THE GREAT SW