BONDSMEN KEPT SECRET.

TRANSIT BOARD APPROVES THEM, BUT IS SILENT.

COMMITTEE NAMED TO ORGANIZE A WORKING CORPS OF ASSISTANTS TO THE ENGINEER.

The Rapid Transit Commissioners disappointed yesterday a large part of the public who have been anxious to learn the names of the men upon whose financial ability they will have to rely to a large extent for the construction of the underground railway in accordance with the terms of the contract. The Board passed upon the names of these men and upon the allotment of stock which each man will have in the construction company formed by John B. McDonald to carry out the contract and give his bonds and found them satisfactory, but refused to let the public know who these men are and what share of the bonds they will underwrite. When Commissioner Rives was asked if he did not think the public which would be called upon to expend $35,000,000 on this work was justly and fairly entitled to know with whom it was dealing, he replied that in his opinion the public learned too much through the newspapers anyway.

President Orr said that August Belmont had pledged him and all the other Commissioners to keep the names secret. Albert B. Boardman, counsel to the Board, left the room where the Commission was sitting in order that he might not hear the names read out and discussed. He would not deny that the public was entitled to them, neither would he oppose the policy of the Board in keeping them secret. He preferred the middle course—that is, to remain ignorant of their identity himself. The Board unanimously passed the following resolution:

Whereas: August Belmont & Co., having submitted to this Board the names of the subscribers to the $6,000,000 capital stock of the corporation to be organized by them for the purposes stated in previous communications from them, and also the amounts of the respective irrevocable subscriptions to such capital stock, and such subscribers and the amount of their respective subscriptions having been considered and approved in executive session, all of the Commissioners being present, it is now, on motion of Commissioner Rives, and duly seconded,

Resolved, That the subscribers to the capital stock of such proposed corporation whose names have been submitted to the Board by August Belmont & Co., and the amounts of their respective subscriptions be and the same hereby are approved, and that the President be and he hereby is authorized and directed to so notify Messrs. August Belmont & Co.

There will be another meeting of the Board on Friday. In order to get ready for the large number of assistants which Chief Engineer Parsons will need as soon as work begins, the Board passed the following:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the President, of which Mr. Orr shall be chairman, whose duty it shall be to report to this Board a plan of organization for the working corps of assistant engineers, inspectors, bookkeepers, etc., necessary to the speedy commencement of operations on the tunnel.

The committee will consist of President Orr, Controller Coler and Commissioner Smith.

Messrs. Shepard and Boardmen, counsel for the Commission, appeared before the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday and asked permission to change the form of security to be given by Mr. McDonald. Mr. Shepard said it had been found impossible to give the security in the form required by the previous order of the Court; that the number of persons or corporations who can give a bond for $500,000 is very small; that enough companies could be induced to go into the affair to make up a total of $5,000,000, but under the present conditions it had been found that the companies' requirements would be such that Mr. McDonald would not be the contractor, with independent control of the work, at all. In fact, the conditions made by the security companies had been such that they would practically assume the contract themselves. Under such conditions the project of securing rapid transit would be at a standstill.

The securities which he and Mr. Boardman wanted substituted have been published, and are those proposed by August Belmont & Co. and approved by the Board.

There was no opposition of any kind, but as there was nobody present from the Corporation Counsel's office decision was reserved. A favorable decision is expected on Friday.

NEW BONE OF CONTENTION IN THE IXTH.

BRYAN'S REPORTED PROMISES TO SHEEHAN DISTURB GOODWINITES.

They have a new bugaboo over in the turbulent IXth District, where John C. Sheehan and Councilman Frank J. Goodwin are carrying on a continual warfare for Tammany dominance in the district. Goodwin's friends are now circulating the story that John C. Sheehan has the pledge from Bryan that if Bryan is elected Sheehan will be Collector of the Port of New-York. The story is told that Mr. Sheehan has tried to lure supporters of Goodwin over to his side by holding out the inducement to them that when he is Collector he will have good offices to give out. Politicians generally considered this as a joke yesterday and Mr. Sheehan laughed at the idea that Mr. Bryan had promised any offices in New-York yet. Even Tammany men didn't regard it seriously, and some of them admitted that even if Mr. Bryan did promise Mr. Sheehan the Collectorship of the Port in the event of election this shouldn't make Mr. Sheehan happy, as Colonel Bryan had about as much chance of being elected President as a snowball particularly sensitive to heat has to roll leisurely from one end to the other of a place which is generally supposed to have no confines, but is luridly hot.

COLONEL RICKEY'S SON FOUND.

Colonel Joseph Rickey, of Missouri, who is now in this city, has received word that his son Joseph, aged seventeen years, who disappeared some time ago, has been found hard at work in a mining camp in Southern Oregon.

CANADA'S TARIFF RETALIATION.

The Grand Trunk Railway officials have confirmed the announcement from Montreal of the abolition of pulpwood shipments to the United States. This move, it is said, contemplates the shutting off of American pulp mills from the Canadian raw material supply. The result, it is said, will be a rise in the price of paper. It is said the Canadians want to force American manufacturers to draw upon their own supplies, so that Canada would be in a position to charge an export duty upon paper in retaliation for the import duties now charged by the United States for the entry of lumber and other articles.

SUIT AGAINST CHAIRMAN GRUBER.

In the Ninth Municipal District Court yesterday, before Justice Fallon, the case of George A. Shotwell against Abraham Gruber, as chairman of the Dewey Testimonial Fund, was on trial. Shotwell is stenographer of the State Senate and secretary of the testimonial fund, and he asked judgment for $100 for his services as secretary. He said that he received $50 and that $100 was still due him.

NOT VERY ELEGANT.

Worked Like a Cow's Cud.

A gentleman in Northampton, Mass., who requests that his name be kept from print, had a curious experience with coffee drinking. He states that when he was accustomed to the use of coffee he would, after every meal, belch up gas and more or less coffee would come with it. A part of it would run back down his throat, and, as he says, imitating in a way the manner of a cow chewing a cud. He deprecates the inelegant illustration, but knows of no other way to explain the condition.

He says further than he was puzzled for a very long time, to account for a sallow complexion and bilious condition, with a heavy, dull, miserable feeling after the meals, and no medicines or treatment would remove the difficulty. "A friend warned me that coffee was the cause of my trouble, but I could not bring myself to believe this, until after a time I made the experiment of leaving off coffee altogether and took up Postum Food Coffee.

"To my surprise, the ills all quickly stole away and I am now healthy and in prime condition. I know what I am talking about when I say that with some people, coffee causes belching of gas and some most disgusting and disagreeable features. It also causes headaches, constipation, blotches and jaundice, with a general upsetting and breaking down of the nervous system, if persisted in. I know, also, that these troubles will disappear when coffee is given up and Postum Cereal Food Coffee used in its place."

The name of this gentleman will be furnished by the Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., Battle Creek, Mich., upon application.

ALDERMEN AND TICKET SPECULATORS.

JOINT HEARING ON AN EAST RIVER TUNNEL PETITION FIXED FOR MARCH 9.

At the meeting of the Board of Aldermen yesterday afternoon the following resolution offered by James J. Smith was adopted:

Resolved, That the Corporation Counsel be and he is hereby respectfully requested to render to the Board of Aldermen, at as early a date as practicable, an opinion as to whether it is within the province of the Municipal Assembly to adopt an ordinance which shall have for its object the licensing of all persons who deal in tickets or certificates of admission to theatres and other places of entertainment.

A proposed ordinance to regulate the sale of theatre tickets is now pending before the Committee on Streets and Highways of the Board. The question comes up every year, but beyond hearing a number of speeches at public hearings nothing is ever done with it.

Resolutions were introduced approving the bill before the Legislature permitting the Fire Department to promote members for heroic services at fires, and referred to the Committee on Fire Department.

A resolution was also passed appointing a special committee of seven to give public hearings and obtain the views of citizens on the practicability of voting machines for counting the votes cast at elections. Messrs. Wafer, Byrne, Cronin, Gaffney, Cardani, Bridges and Thomas F. McCaul were appointed on the committee.

Alderman Byrne offered a resolution, which was passed, requesting the United States Government to build all war vessels directly hereafter and not let their building out to contractors.

A resolution was introduced by Alderman McKeever, of Brooklyn, requesting the Board of Estimate to appropriate $300,000 for a museum building in the Eastern Parkway now occupied by the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences. The resolution was referred to the Finance Committee.

A petition for a tunnel under the East River at Grand-st., Manhattan, to Broadway, Brooklyn, introduced in the Council last week, was sent to the Aldermen yesterday and a hearing was fixed by the Railroad Committee on March 9 next, when a joint hearing will be given. The application comes from the New-York and Brooklyn Union Transportation Company.

NATURALIZATION FRAUDS INVESTIGATED.

UNITED STATES GRAND JURY TAKES UP SUPERINTENDENT M'CULLAGH'S CHARGES.

The United States Grand Jury of this district yesterday took up the alleged naturalization frauds in the Federal courts of this city. John McCullagh, State Superintendent of Elections, who was challenged by Judge Thomas some time ago to produce his proofs of the frauds which just before last election he said he had unearthed, yesterday consulted with Assistant United States Attorneys Ball and Houghton, who have charge of the Grand Jury. Superintendent McCullagh said that although the frauds did not rightly come within his jurisdiction, he being a State official, still he intended to prove that the professional bondsmen indicted in Brooklyn also worked in the Federal naturalization courts in Manhattan. He said that their names were signed to the papers of more than one man, although Commissioners Lyman and Alexander have stated that they made it a rule not to accept the same witness twice. He said that the professional witnesses, who made from $8 to $10 by putting a man through, had outwitted the Commissioners.

Superintendent McCullagh said that in the last year final papers were granted to six thousand persons, of which many were minors' papers. The applications for first papers during the year 1899 did not exceed thirty-six hundred. Pedlers seeking licenses and Italians only a short time in the country seeking employment on city work are the ones, said Mr. McCullagh, who pay the highest prices for the fraudulent papers.

SUIT AGAINST BANKERS' LIFE ON TRIAL.

GENERAL MANAGER TOWNSLEY WANTS $200,000 FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT.

The trial of an action brought by Henry P. Townsley against the Bankers' Life Insurance Company was begun before Justice Scott and a jury in the Supreme Court yesterday. The plaintiff seeks to recover $200,000 for breach of contract.

Townsley was formerly connected with the Bankers' Clerks' Mutual Reserve Association, which afterward became merged in the Bankers' Life Insurance Company. He asserted that he entered into a contract with the new organization by which he agreed to do a certain amount of business for a prescribed period of years, for a specified remuneration. He went to Europe in connection with the business, but a resolution was subsequently passed by the directors by which his contract was broken. Another contract was then made by which he was to be made general manager of agencies at a salary for ten years, instead of general manager, as he had been before. In March, 1897, this contract was also abrogated on the ground that he had sent out circulars to the stockholders in the company to be present at a certain meeting to be held. This was held by the company to be unjustifiable on his part. The defence is a general denial.

LANTRY SIDES AGAINST KELLER.

COMMISSIONERS OF CHARITIES NOT IN ACCORD AS TO ASSEMBLYMAN MINTON'S BILL.

Commissioner John W. Keller of the Charities Department last Friday received a letter from Assemblyman Maurice Minton to the effect that a bill had been introduced by him in the Legislature empowering the Commissioner of Correction to remove aged, feeble and decrepit persons from the Workhouse and Almshouse to the institutions of the Charities Department. The Commissioner answered the letter protesting against the bill. He said he did not care to be a deputy of the Commissioner of Corrections.

Commissioner Lantry said yesterday that he favored the bill, if it were amended so as to allow the Board of Medical Inspectors of the Workhouse and Almshouse, appointed by both Commissioner Keller and himself, to investigate the cases and pass on those who should be removed. Commissioner Lantry said he hoped that Commissioner Keller would finally consent to the passage of the bill, as it was a necessity. He said that there were many old and decrepit persons in the Workhouse and Almshouse who should be sent to the charity institutions. There were thirty-five of them in the Workhouse. One old woman who was committed will never be able to walk again.

POLICE AND CIVIL SERVICE AT ODDS.

Patrolman William H. Tiernan will be dropped from the force by the Police Board. The Police Board and the Civil Service Commission have been at odds for several weeks over some probationary appointments of patrolmen, among them that of Tiernan, whose name was in an eligible list issued on January 10. The police surgeons reported that Tiernan had organic heart disease, and he was examined again by the Civil Service Commission medical examiners, who decided that the man was physically sound. A further examination by the police surgeons resulted in a decision similar to the first, and a final examination was ordered by President York. All of the physicians united in a report that Tiernan had heart disease.

The Police Board asked for a new eligible list ten days ago, but it was refused by the Civil Service Commission until the men on the list of January 10 had been disposed of.

At a meeting of the Police Board on Friday the men on the old list, including Tiernan, were appointed, but the Commissioners will order another examination of Tiernan, and will dismiss him when the surgeons again report him unsound, as they have the right to do with probationary patrolmen.

DR. POLK NEVER HEARD OF HIM.

Dr. William M. Polk, of No. 7 East Thirty-sixth-st., was seen yesterday afternoon and asked about the case of the young man arrested in Buffalo, who gave the name of William Polk, jr., of New-York, and who said he was looking for a missing brother. The facts in the case were printed in The Tribune yesterday, and the fact that the young man was arrested for having worthless checks was cited. When arrested the young man said Dr. Polk was his father. Dr. Polk said: "I never heard of this young man. I haven't the slightest idea who he is. He may be demented—probably is, poor fellow, according to the accounts in the newspaper—but I know nothing of the case."

DEATH ENDS HER SUFFERINGS.

Mrs. Mary Shields died at the Harlem Hospital yesterday from shock following the amputation of her feet, in which gangrene had developed. She was found on Thursday on the floor of her home with her feet frozen. Her husband had deserted her, and she had tramped the streets in broken shoes, searching for him.

The husband was arrested Thursday, charged with failing to provide for his wife, and was held in Harlem Court.

O'NEILL'S BODY RESTORED TO MORGUE.

The body of Michael J. O'Neill was restored to the Morgue yesterday by the College of Physicians and Surgeons. It had not been dissected, although taken away for that purpose. Mrs. O'Neill sent J. J. Hynes, an undertaker, of No. 323 Willis-ave., to take the body to his shop. Hynes was a juror in the Molineux case.

O'Neill died on January 29 at the City Hospital, but Mrs. O'Neill did not hear of his death until his body was sent to the college.

PROPOSED GAS UNION.

AN EXTENSION LIKELY TO BE GIVEN FOR DEPOSITING STANDARD GAS STOCK.

It is understood that the time within which stock of the Standard Gas Light Company was to be deposited with the Mercantile Trust Company under the Protective Committee's plan is to be extended, the assigned reason being that many stockholders have signified their intention to support the committee, but are now absent from the city. There was a report that a block of 5,000 shares would be deposited yesterday, making the deposits nearly 40,000 shares, or only about 8,000 shares short of a majority, but a member of the Protective Committee said that he knew nothing about it. Russell Sage is again reported to have purchased some Standard Gas stock in the open market, but he refuses to confirm or deny the report. George A. Lamb, counsel for certain minority stockholders of the Consolidated Gas Company, said yesterday that he would take an adjournment of the action brought by him against the trustees, which is on the calendar of the Supreme Court for to-day, and that he might take no further steps in the matter until the stockholders' meeting on March 9; and if the result of that meeting should be satisfactory to his clients he might then discontinue the action altogether. Mr. Lamb said two or three days ago, it will be remembered, that the circular issued last week by the Consolidated Gas Company, in which the terms on which the New-York Gas and Electric Light, Heat and Power Company had been taken over were set forth, gave most of the information which his clients sought at the annual meeting; and that in view of that fact he thought it improbable that his clients would wish to take any further proceedings toward having the recent election of trustees of the Consolidated set aside.

The strength of Consolidated Gas shares yesterday lent color to the report that an important announcement concerning that company's relations with the Standard company may soon be looked for. With every passing day opinion grows stronger that the Consolidated company will absorb the Standard company. Consolidated stock made a jump of more than two points on moderate transactions yesterday, but closed without material advance from Saturday's closing quotation.

WOULD CHEAPEN COAL, THEY SAY.

ARGUMENTS IN BEHALF OF PROPOSED NEW DELAWARE AND KINGSTON RAILWAY.

The hearing on the application of the Delaware Valley and Kingston Railway Company for permission to construct a railroad from Lackawaxen to tidewater at Kingston along the line of the old Delaware and Hudson Canal, was continued yesterday before the State Railroad Commissioners in the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Edward Coykendall, general superintendent of the Ulster and Delaware Railroad, was the first witness. He held that the construction of the new road would reduce the price of coal at least 60 per cent a ton in Kingston and nearly as much in all sections of Ulster and Sullivan counties. J. Graham Rose, superintendent of the Delaware and Hudson Canal, testified that for the last year the only remunerative traffic on the canal has been for the twenty-eight miles between Kingston and Ellenville. That section includes the cement making district. At Rondout, Eddyville and Ellenville, important canal stations, Mr. Rose said, dozens of stores that formerly depended on the canalers for business are now closed. The construction and operation of the proposed railroad from Lackawaxen would resurrect those villages and give employment to every laborer in the section.

George Christians, a sawmill and bluestone quarry owner, of Barryville, was the next witness. He testified that lack of transport facilities made it impossible to carry on business at a profit. The construction of a railroad along the line of the canal, the witness said, would put into the market the product of twelve square miles of lumber country and of a large section of bluestone quarries. Without railroads and with the canals closed Mr. Christians said all the nearby towns and villages in Sullivan County must be abandoned. David W. Bogart, of Huguenot, Sullivan County, testified that the best bluestone belt in the State of New-York lies in the Barryville section, and that it could be developed if a railroad tapped the district. The big flagstone that lies in front of the Vanderbilt house, in Fifth-ave., was quarried at Barryville. Mr. Bogart presented to the Commission a petition, signed by every resident of his section, asking that a permit to build be granted to the Delaware Valley and Kingston Railway Company. Andrew Paye, a lumber, brick and cement dealer, of Pond Eady, Sullivan County, testified along the same lines, and the hearing was then adjourned until this morning.

The February letter of the Anthracite Coal Operators' Association says in part:

In the hearing for a charter for the Delaware Valley and Kingston Railroad the main question before the Railroad Commission of New-York is whether the proposed railroad is really necessary for the accommodation and convenience of the people of the State of New-York, and whether its construction would be a public benefit in assisting in the development of that portion of the State through which it would pass.

The intention to convert this canal into a railroad is clearly and beyond question simply following the march of modern improvements. For seventy-two years the canal has been an important means of transportation from which freight traffic has been gradually withdrawn by railroad competition. Consequently the construction of a railroad over this route is but a change in motive power to meet this competition.

A direct and inestimable benefit, the result of which will be far reaching, will be that of reducing the selling price of the most essential of all products—coal. This will equally affect both the supply for domestic purposes and for manufacturing. To accomplish this result the proposed railroad has already entered into contracts for the shipment of anthracite, mined by individual operators, estimated at 2,500,000 tons, at freight rates which, assuming a tide price of $4 per ton, as has been, would be 12½ per cent under the rates hitherto charged. Further, these contracts provide for an even greater reduction in the freight charge on the smaller sizes of anthracite used for steam making purposes. The total difference is estimated at as much as 30 cents per ton on the average product, and besides there will be the reduction in the final selling price, which, according to the well known laws of commerce, must always result from open competition.

This proposed road can afford to grant this material reduction in freight charges, not only because the rates charged by existing railroads are exorbitantly high, but, owing to the relatively low cost of its construction and the comparatively small price already paid for the right of way on a line which is practically graded and ready for the rails, and with the further advantage that, because over almost the entire route the grades are level or in favor of the load, it will be able to transport freight at a low operating cost.

DOGS FROM ENGLAND FOR THE SHOW.

Among the passengers who arrived here last night on the White Star Line steamer Bovic from Liverpool was L. P. C. Achley, of Liverpool, who will act as judge for the Westminster Kennel Club, at the dog show, to be held at the Madison Square Garden. The Bovic brought twenty-seven choice dogs of various breeds, which will be exhibited at the show. She brought 757 sacks of mail.

GUSTAV OTTO MAKES AN ASSIGNMENT.

Gustav Otto, doing business as M. J. Paillard & Co., dealers in music boxes at No. 680 Broadway, made an assignment yesterday without preference to John E. Brodsky, lawyer, of No. 49 Chambers-st. John E. Brodsky, the assignee, said yesterday that the liabilities were from $80,000 to $90,000 and the assets from $50,000 to $60,000, and added that if certain matters turned out all right he expected the creditors would be paid in full.

Mr. Otto has carried on the business since April last. It was established in 1850 by M. J. Paillard; in 1879 Alfred E. Paillard became sole owner, and continued alone until 1884, when he admitted his brother, George A., as a partner. The latter died in 1890, and Alfred E. again became sole owner. He sold out to Mr. Otto in April, 1899. The concern had had no capital rating at "Bradstreet's" for five years previously. When Mr. Otto became proprietor of the business it was understood in the trade that he assumed all the liabilities of the old concern, and it was currently reported that Mr. Paillard was indebted to Mr. Otto or his company to a large amount, and that Mr. Otto took the business for the debt. Mr. Otto has been for a number of years president of F. G. Otto & Sons' Corporation, manufacturers of music boxes and surgical instruments in Jersey City, where Mr. Otto lives. This business is also an old one, having been established in 1852. The principal cause of Mr. Otto's assignment is said to be the assuming of the indebtedness of M. J. Paillard & Co. Another cause is said to be that foreign music boxes had been crowded out by those of American make. M. J. Paillard & Co. had made a specialty of the foreign music boxes, most of them coming from Switzerland. These had gone out of style.

Mr. Brodsky said that the cause of the assignment was lack of funds. He also confirmed the trade reports that Mr. Otto took the Paillard business for debt, and that he assumed the liabilities. "Assuming those debts is what hurt him," said Mr. Brodsky. When asked how much those debts were Mr. Brodsky said that they were as much as the present liabilities, $80,000 to $90,000. When asked what effect Mr. Otto's assignment would have on F. G. Otto & Sons, of Jersey City, Mr. Brodsky said he could not say at present, but he did not think the corporation would make an assignment. He expected they would come out all right.

NO PROOF AS TO HER FATE.

MISS ANNIE TAYLOR MORGAN'S WILL CONTEST BEGUN IN COURT.

A will contest which recalls all the horrors of the Windsor Hotel fire was begun before Surrogate Thomas yesterday. The document under contest is that of Annie Taylor Morgan, a daughter of the late Homer Morgan, who many years ago was one of the best known real estate men in the city. Upon his death he left a big fortune to be divided between his two daughters, Annie Taylor Morgan and the present Mrs. Alma Louise Fellows.

Miss Morgan lived at the Windsor Hotel. A few moments before the fire it is asserted that she told several friends that she was going out to see some friends, and would return to the hotel in a short time. That is the last seen of her. It is generally supposed that she returned to the hotel and perished in the fire.

About a month after the disaster, on April 13, a will of Miss Morgan's was filed for probate in the Surrogate's office, and Hattie Leland, the daughter of the late Warren Leland, the proprietor of the Windsor, asked for the appointment of a special guardian for Ina Leland Smith. Under the terms of the will filed Miss Smith, who is twelve years old, inherits almost the entire estate left by Miss Morgan, valued at $250,000. The will directs that Hattie Leland hold the estate in trust for Ina Leland Smith until she shall arrive at her majority, when she is to receive the principal.

The contest to the probate of the will is brought by Mrs. Fellows, the sister of the testatrix. She asserts that no proof has ever been adduced of the death of Miss Morgan, and that she does not believe that her sister perished in the fire. Mrs. Fellows also asks to have the will set aside on the other grounds. Mrs. Fellows says that her sister frequently went away without telling her relatives, and took prolonged trips abroad. Miss Morgan was a fine musician, and frequently visited the musical centres of Europe.

James S. Greaves, Miss Morgan's attorney, identified the will.

"Where did Miss Morgan live?" was asked.

"At the Windsor Hotel."

"Have you seen or heard from her since the fire?"

"No; I have not."

Mr. Greaves said that about the time of the fire he had important business on hand in the interest of Miss Morgan, but she had never called to see about it. Asked what the business was, Mr. Greaves replied that Miss Morgan owned a piece of property in Nineteenth-st., which was mortgaged for $50,000. Miss Morgan, he said, wanted the rate of interest reduced from 5 per cent per annum to 4½ per cent.

Mr. Greaves said that Miss Morgan knew that the matter was to be settled about April 1, and that she had never come to his office in reference to it.

Mr. Greaves also admitted that he had not advertised for the missing woman, nor had he visited or inquired at any of the institutions or asylums for her; that he did not inquire at any of the other hotels or at the steamship offices; that he had seen Mr. Leland at the Hotel Grenoble after the fire and asked him if he had seen Miss Morgan.

"I am afraid she was lost," was Mr. Leland's reply.

Simeon Leland testified that he was on duty at the desk of the Windsor on the day of the fire. He said that between 2:15 and 2:30 o'clock Miss Morgan came to him and got a check for $10 cashed. That was the last he saw of her. He said that it was 3:08 o'clock when a man rushed into the office and said the hotel was on fire.

The witness said that Miss Morgan lived on the sixth floor. "I looked at some of the bodies after the fire," said Mr. Leland, "but it was impossible to identify them. They make seventeen graves in Mount Kensico Cemetery."

"There are seventeen people buried there who perished in the fire?" asked Surrogate Thomas in surprise.

"Oh, that I can't say," replied Mr. Leland sadly. "It was impossible to tell just how many people there were. There are seventeen graves, though."

Clara McKenna, a hairdresser, testified that on the day of the fire she dressed Miss Morgan's hair and finished about 1:20 o'clock. She said Miss Morgan told her she intended to leave the hotel and take apartments at Fourth-ave. and Eighteenth-st. Miss McKenna said that previous to the fire she used to attend Miss Morgan almost daily, but since the fire she had not seen her.

A number of witnesses corroborated the testimony as to Miss Morgan's presence in the hotel a short time previous to the fire. None of them have seen Miss Morgan since.

Miss Morgan's real estate agent testified that she had never been to get the rents of her property since March 17, the day of the fire. A clerk of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company testified that the last money Miss Morgan drew was the $10 check cashed by the hotel clerk just before the fire.

Dr. Walter Carr told of having searched in the various hospitals and the Morgue unsuccessfully for Miss Morgan. Irving Bell, a cousin of the testatrix, also told of having searched for Miss Morgan after the fire, but he could find no trace of her. Mr. Bell said Miss Morgan and her sister had not been friendly for several years.

The trial will be continued to-day.

DRS. M'GIFFERT AND BROWN PLEASED.

THE REFUSAL OF THE PRESBYTERY TO TRY THE FORMER FOR HERESY, THEY HOPE, WILL END THE MATTER.

The Rev. Dr. William Adams Brown, professor of Systematic Theology in Union Theological Seminary, who on Monday announced to the New-York Presbytery that he was the counsel for Dr. Arthur C. McGiffert, was seen last evening, at his home, No. 44 East Seventieth-st., by a Tribune reporter. He said that he and Dr. McGiffert naturally were pleased with the action of the Presbytery in deciding not to try Dr. McGiffert on the charges of heresy brought by the Rev. G. W. F. Birch, the stated clerk of the Presbytery. "The vote was so nearly unanimous," Dr. Brown continued, "that we have reason for our feelings. Yes, that would lead one to think that it will end here, and not be appealed to the General Assembly, and I hope it will rest at this.

"I am quite positive that the report which states that Dr. Birch may be punished for his acts cannot be based in the slightest on the purposes of the Presbytery. I think it is felt that, however mistaken Dr. Birch may have been in his course, he will not be disciplined."

There seems to be a heavy preponderance of opinion among the Presbyterian clergymen that the vote taken on Monday showed a purpose to refuse to try Dr. McGiffert, much nearer unanimity than the figures, 77 to 39, without analysis would indicate.

It is stated that the out of town members of the Presbytery and those not the most influential in that body voted in the minority, while most of the New-York ministers and those most active in church and denominational work were the personnel of the majority.

HEADQUARTERS SQUAD ORGANIZED.

Under a resolution adopted by the Police Board the squads of detectives recently transferred from the Detective Bureau will hereafter be known as the Headquarters Squad. The squad will be attached to Chief Devery's office. The Board authorized the Chief to assign as many officers as are necessary to the squad. The men are still doing detective duty.

REAL ESTATE MEN'S ANNUAL DINNER.

The fourth annual dinner of the Real Estate Board of Brokers promises to be an exceedingly interesting affair. It will take place at the Hotel Manhattan next Saturday night. There will be a number of speeches, and a discussion of subjects of current interest to the real estate fraternity. The bill of the Joint Committee on Taxation, and particularly the proposed tax on mortgages, will be subjects of general discussion. It is hoped that Senator Stranahan will be among the speakers. He introduced the measure which has been so generally discussed by real estate men, and it is thought that his presentation of the subject will be highly interesting to those who are likely to attend. Among the others who have been asked to speak at the dinner are J. Harsen Rhoades, Charles E. Sprague, Professor Edwin R. A. Seligman, Thomas J. Creamer, Thomas L. Feitner, Frederic R. Coudert, ex-Surrogate J. M. Varnum, Charles A. Peabody, Senator John Ford, Mayor Van Wyck and Governor Roosevelt. A large attendance at the dinner is already assured. Tickets for the dinner are $3, and may be had from the secretary, Frederick Kelly, No. 111 Broadway, or from any of the following members of the committee: Francis E. Ward, No. 4 Warren-st.; Walter Stabler, No. 31 Nassau-st.; George W. Short, No. 159 West One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st.; J. C. Eckerson, No. 35 West Thirtieth-st., or A. W. McLaughlin, No. 146 Broadway.

Health at Home!

Saratoga

Arondack Water

now comes to you right from Saratoga. Bottled with its own carbonic acid gas, just as it flows from the famous spring. Try it for dyspepsia. Order from grocers or druggists, or—

The Arondack Spring, 1362 Broadway.

The Wanamaker Store

Spring Show of Shirt Waists

READY today. The first bursting open of the doors of spring, to a view of delightsome shirt waists for women. Did the rain of yesterday quicken the buds?

The Broadway front, on the second floor, is abloom with the first flowers of fashion; and the gentle morning-glories and marigolds of a year ago are displaced by the more pretentious carnations and orchids from Fashion's green-house. Crisp, fresh and elaborate; for Fashion, having established the permanency of the Shirt Waist, has changed the garment of utility to the habiliments of her favored children. What Fashion adopts, that she also adapts, and the touch of transition brings forth the exquisite array on our second floor this morning.

We are very proud of their prettiness, and the prettiest are all our own—designed and made for us, and to be made for no other store. Many of them will not even be made again for us—we are careful that the fine things you buy shall be only yours. You enjoy them more that way, and we create anew rather than copy what is yours.

Of course the more popular sorts are sold to any other store that buys—for these, we are proud of first show, and you will enjoy first ownership.

The first spring costume on the street will have a dainty shirt waist under the jacket; for very aristocratic—for all occasions correct, are many of these new styles. But we shall not turn the edge of appetite by awkward telling—your eyes shall be the arbiters of beauty.

Ours to announce and invite; yours—well, it's all for you; to see, to study, to admire—to buy and wear, if the prettiness tempts.

We shall have no later, better show. Early days for variety—for soon makers will be rushed with regular work in a mere mechanical way.

Prices? We shall not give a tedious list just now.

Prettiness precedes prices in such a display; the scope reaches from 50c to $16.

But the Shirt Waists are not all the show—the accessories are with them.

New artfulness in Neckwear from abroad, new belts and butions, stays, pins and other needfuls of newest sorts.

Women's Desks and Toilet Tables

Today's chapter in the serial, "Fine February Furniture," now running in these columns, relates particularly of desks and tables for women's use. This sale of furniture, you must understand, does not contemplate a general reduction of prices throughout this splendid stock. Many reductions have been made—an illustration in the list appended. But an important fact is this: That, notwithstanding the startling advances in the market, prices here remain unchanged—except only when they're reduced. This condition cannot last. Prices must advance here, too, eventually. Perhaps soon. Thoughtful people will give heed to this warning.

And the real bargains—the quarter-off and half-off prices continue on certain small lots:

Women's Desks—Small quantities of each kind—of some of the styles only a single desk.

$6, instead of $8—Of oak, golden finish; highly polished; one drawer; shaped legs.

$7, instead of $10—Of oak, golden finish; one drawer; drop lid; wood rail on top.

$8.50, instead of $12—Of oak, golden finish; carved top; shaped legs; one drawer.

$15, instead of $30—Mahogany; inlaid lines; 3 drawers in base; drop lid.

$24.50, instead of $49—Mahogany; inlaid with brass; drawer in base; 4 drawers in top.

$34.50, instead of $69—Mahogany; empire trimming; drop lid; 4 drawers in base.

Women's Toilet Tables—Only 15 in all, and nearly that many styles.

$20, instead of $29—Curly birch.
$22, instead of $27—Mahogany, inlaid.
$22, instead of $30—Mahogany, inlaid.
$25, instead of $39—Mahogany, inlaid.
$30, instead of $37.50—Mahogany.
$30, instead of $40—Mahogany.
$30, instead of $38—Quartered oak, inlaid.
$32, instead of $40—Mahogany.
$38, instead of $42—Mahogany, inlaid.
$50, instead of $63—Maple, inlaid.
$55, instead of $67.50—Maple, inlaid.
$65, instead of $75—Mahogany, inlaid.

Fourth floor.

JOHN WANAMAKER

Formerly A. T. Stewart & Co., Broadway, Fourth Ave., Ninth and Tenth Streets.

REAL ESTATE.

SALE OF WEST SIDE LOTS—LIVELY AUCTION BIDDING.

A large sale of vacant lots on the upper West Side was the redeeming feature of yesterday's real estate business, which exhibited the usual sluggish conditions that follow a holiday. With the exception of a vacant corner on the East Side and a small purchase in upper Broadway, the items reported by brokers were concerned with dwelling and flathouse transactions of the conventional sort.

In the auction room the parcel No. — West Fifty-third-st., a four story and basement brownstone house, occasioned some lively bidding. The house occupies a lot 25x100.4, situated 300 feet west of Fifth-ave. The parcel was started at $75,000, and, after a number of bids, was knocked down to S. Osgood Pell & Co. for $87,000. It was afterward learned that the brokers represented W. W. & T. M. Hall.

The following were the other results at auction yesterday:

By Peter F. Meyer & Co.: No. 1,469 Third-ave., southeast corner Eighty-third-st., 22.2x80; leasehold; four story brick stores and tenement house; two story brick tenement house on rear; foreclosure; to the plaintiff for $3,636. Prescott-ave., north side, 325.10 feet northeast of Bolton Road, running through to St. Nicholas Place, 200x267.4x201.4x297.10; vacant; partition; to the plaintiff for $3,675. Great Jones-st., south side, 278.8 feet east of Broadway, running easterly along the southerly line of Great Jones-st. one-half inch to the west line of Elm-st., as opened; thence south along the west line of Elm-st. 100 feet 6 inches; thence west parallel with Great Jones-st. 8 feet 4¼ inches; thence northerly nearly at right angles with Great Jones-st. 100 feet 2 inches to the point or place of beginning; sold by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund of the City of New-York to Leo Schlessinger for $8,300.

By Solomon De Walltearss: Nos. 297 and 299 Bleecker-st., northeast corner Barrow-st., runs east 75 feet by north 65 feet by west 50 feet by south — by 25 feet on Bleecker-st. by south 39 feet to beginning, three five story brick store and tenement house buildings; partition, to Miller, Decker & Miller, attorneys for defendants, for $43,880; also, Third-ave., northwest corner of One-hundred-and-sixty-sixth-st., vacant plot, 48x25x84.2x47.3x80; partition; sold to Miller, Decker & Miller, attorneys for defendants, for $20,000; also, One-hundred-and-sixty-sixth-st., north side, 84.2 feet west of Third-ave., vacant plot, 27.10x121.1x22x121.11; partition; sold to Miller, Decker & Miller, defendants' attorneys, for $3,400; and, One-hundred-and-sixty-sixth-st., adjoining, vacant plot, 27.0x121.9x25x121.2; partition; sold to Henry Mahnkan for $3,300.

By D. Phœnix Ingraham & Co.: No. 424 to 430 West One-hundred-and-sixty-third-st., south side, 350 feet east of Amsterdam-ave., 108x112.6, four five story brick flathouses; foreclosure; to Henry Keale for $23,486.

THE RECORD OF SALES.

Slawson & Hobbs have sold for Dr. Alfred Haines, of Paris, France, thirteen lots on the north side of One-hundred-and-first-st., running from Broadway to West End-ave., 100 feet in Broadway by 100.11 feet in West End-ave., by 325 feet in One-hundred-and-first-st. Flake & Dowling are the buyers.

Charles Griffith Moses & Bro., have sold for A. M. Bendheim to M. L. & C. Ernst the northeast corner of First-ave. and Sixty-third-st.

Mandelbaum & Lewine have sold to an investor the four story and basement brownstone dwelling house, 22x109, No. 140 West Fourth-st.

The four story brownstone front dwelling house No. 699 Madison-ave., 19.4x45x50, between Sixty-second and Sixty-third sts., has been purchased by a Dr. Bell from Mrs. Wilkin, of Rochester, for about $32,000. The adjoining house, No. 697, was sold recently through B. C. & F. T. Barry.

Steindler & Gussaroff have purchased from Mrs. Lozier, the two five story flathouses Nos. 1,149 and 1,151 Park-ave., near Ninety-sixth-st., at a stated price of $49,000.

P. Axelrod has purchased from the Metropolitan Improvement Company eight feet on Broadway, east side, south of Ninety-second-st., adjoining the corner plot bought last week. This makes his plot front 108 feet in Broadway and 117 in Ninety-second-st. On this plot he will build at once a seven story modern apartment house, plans for which are in preparation by George F. Pelham.

A Mr. Beebe is reported to have bought the four story brownstone dwelling house, on lot 20x100.10, in the