DEPEW AT MONTAUK CLUB.

DINNER IN HONOR OF HIS BIRTHDAY—A SURPRISING CAKE.

For the tenth time Senator Chauncey M. Depew was the guest of honor at the Montauk Club, in Brooklyn, last night. It was his sixty-seventh birthday, and Mr. Depew was in his happiest humor. The usual good natured badinage, singing and merrymaking were the features of the evening. The annual Depew dinner is one of the principal fixtures on the club's calendar. On the menus was this verse:

Chauncey was a naughty boy,
Yet Montauk loved the sinner.
He said his say and skipped away,
But never skipped his dinner.

At the end of the dinner came the presentation of the birthday cake. A large silver colored platter was borne in by two cooks. It bore a large cover and seemed to indicate the presence of nothing more than a large birthday cake. When the cover was lifted in front of Senator Depew a young girl stood up, with a small plush and lace covered cake in her hands. She said:

"Good-evening, Senator! How are you? Shake! As usual, you take the cake (extending the cake). And as official duties claim you still, please pay attention to our Montauk Bill."

The little girl was Miss May Eggleston, seven years old, known as the "Little Mascot." She referred in the closing words to William A. Avis, who extended a welcome to the Senator. Charles A. Moore, president of the club and toastmaster, then introduced, or rather presented, Mr. Depew to the club. The Senator, following the precedent of previous Depew dinners, delivered the only speech of the evening. He was heard amid great applause, and said in part:

Twenty-five years ago there were few railway companies whose capitalization reached $50,000,000, and I think no industrial corporation existed with a capitalization of $1,000,000. Marvellous as has been the development of corporate combinations and capitalizations, it is not nearly so wonderful as the advance in public opinion in the twelve months. The possibility of the formation in any State or under any conditions of a company dealing with one of the great necessaries of a commercial and industrial people, with $500,000,000 of capital, would have placed a Populist in the Presidential chair and a Populist majority in both houses of Congress in 1896. The animal most frequently seen upon the pages of a large portion of the press of the United States during the canvass of 1900 and brought out upon the platform at every meeting of one party was the octopus. It frightened millions of voters as to the dangers to themselves, with its tentacles spreading over and enveloping the country, but the octopus of the imagination of the Populist writer and speaker of October, 1900, was a lamb compared with a lion beside the real octopus of March, 1901. A billion dollar corporation formed in October might have reversed the November verdicts. And yet such has been the march of public opinion, owing to the marvellous conditions which have come up within a few months, that the formation of a $1,100,000,000 company frightens nobody, and is not even the subject of extended editorial comment in the pages of "The Commoner." The processes and the procession up to the present have so happily included, for their own benefit, every profession, trade and occupation, that people are looking for results instead of criticising methods or listening to predictions of disaster.

We witness in this rapid evolution a universal effort to nullify the maxim which has existed since barter was known that "competition is the life of trade." In the highly organized conditions of modern society competition has grown to be the destruction of all but one of the contestants. The pioneer in this movement of the ruin of rivals was the late A. T. Stewart, whose pathway was strewn with the wrecks of business houses demolished—first singly and then in blocks, as he became stronger in capital and power. The business and industrial world began recently to recognize, as the railway world had discovered years ago, that there is a point in competition which is destructive of society. It works by closing the factories and stores, the transfer and concentration of labor, the ruin of towns and individuals, and causing widespread distress among the worthy people whose means of living have been suddenly taken away.

COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS.

The new method, or rather the new experiment, is community of interests. So far it has received the approval of labor because of better wages and more regular employment. So far it has not raised prices to consumer or proved destructive to producer. Its danger is the misuse of power. The same danger existed when merciless competition left only the survivor in the field; and it had the added terror of destruction as great as would follow an invading army and a battle. Community of interest seeks to conserve the interests of the investor and of the worker, and at the same time, by concentration of management and the endless economies possible in the working together under the one competent head of the various elements which make up the final product that goes upon the market, to give the consumer a better article at a lower price.

But these evolutions and revolutions have suddenly brought us to a situation where we are facing another problem—that is, gigantic fortunes. The archæologists, digging among the libraries of Asia, came across the inventory of Crœsus and found that that miserable fraud of a millionaire, who has been arousing the envy of generation after generation for thousands of years, was worth only $9,000,000. Cæsar, with the loot of all the world, managed to get together enough at one time to pay an indebtedness to people who did not dare deny his demands of $21,000,000. Fifty years ago there was no man in the world worth $50,000,000; there was only one man in the United States worth $5,000,000; there were not five worth $1,000,000. A hundred thousand dollars was counted a fortune on which to retire, and $500,000 was thought to be the mark of a supremely rich man. To-day, in Pittsburg, which is one of our minor cities, are seventy men worth over $1,000,000 apiece. When Commodore Vanderbilt died, in 1876, his fortune of $100,000,000 had passed the mark ever before reached, while now there are in our country several who are worth between $200,000,000 and $400,000,000, and a large number who have reached the $100,000,000 limit.

Every day there come to me for employment the sons and grandsons of millionaire fathers and grandfathers, whose fortunes have been lost in speculation or squandered in riotous living. A large number of these fortunate citizens of wealth are throwing protection around the accumulation of themselves and their class by liberality of gifts and contributions for education and benevolence unknown in any other age or country.

TO PROMOTE SOCIALISM.

But there is a section of the very rich who are doing more to promote socialism and anarchy by their actions than all other agencies combined. They aim to hedge themselves about with a social exclusiveness unknown in Europe. London has been long the social centre of the world. Genius, which has won distinction in art, in arms, in literature, in public life, in education, in invention, upon the lyric or dramatic stage or in journalism, finds a cordial welcome and appreciative recognition in the homes, both city and country, of the proudest of the aristocracy and the descendants of the oldest and most distinguished titles among the nobility. Their parks and picture galleries are free and open to the people, and it is this acknowledgement and welcome of the leadership of those who have won success in every department of human interest and the brotherhood of man which have kept the nineteenth century car of progress from running over and levelling the ancestral orders of Europe. But our millionaire exclusives bar the doors and refuse to let in upon a social equality these representatives of intelligent achievement. They seek to make all except the possessors of exaggerated incomes socially second class. The result is seen in the resentment which well informed people are discovering to exist and to be growing among those who educate, who form and who guide public opinion, and whose teachings ultimately crystallize into laws against the holding or devising of great wealth. We can never have a social life as full and rich, as valued and valuable, as our prodigality of genius and culture could make distinguished, or raise it above gossip, frivolity, shop and local affairs, as that of the great capitals of the Old World, until those who have been blessed with the abundance which enables them to entertain shall recognize the power and pleasure of the salon, with its infinite variety of talent and acquirement, regardless of money.

Among the guests of the club were Theodore W. Cridler, Third Assistant Secretary of State; W. H. Truesdale, president of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, and George H. Daniels, general passenger agent of the New-York Central.

RETIRES FROM EDITORIAL MANAGEMENT.

Morris Phillips announces that after nearly fifty years of service he has retired from the editorship and management of "The Home Journal," now called "Town and Country." He still retains, however, proprietary interest in the concern in the form of shares of the publishing company. He will continue to contribute to its columns. "Town and Country" is now published by the corporation that owns "Brooklyn Life," but the two publications will not be merged.

COMPANIONS IN LIFE AND DEATH.

ALIKE IN NAME, COUSINS AND SCHOOLMATES, TWO AGED WOMEN DIE ON THE SAME DAY.

Cousins, schoolmates and friends for more than three-quarters of a century, Mrs. Mary Shaw Merritt, of Stamford, Conn., and Mrs. Julia J. Merritt, of Tuckahoe, N. Y., died on the same day. Mrs. Merritt, of Stamford, was the widow of Matthew F. Merritt, and was eighty-three years old. Her cousin in Tuckahoe was eighty-two years old. She was the widow of Jacob Merritt. The two women died at nearly the same hour on last Wednesday, neither having known of the other's illness. The lives of the women were closely intertwined. They were born within a year of each other in the same State, attended the same schools and colleges together, and were present at each other's wedding. Their parents were Quakers of Revolutionary stock.

Mrs. Julia Merritt, when she was a child, with her parents visited the island of St. Helena, and from a willow bush growing on the grave of Napoleon Bonaparte secured a willow shoot. She brought the twig to this country in a potato, and planted it near her home in Tuckahoe. The willow shoot has grown to be a massive tree, and is now a well known landmark. On the trunk of the tree a bronze tablet bearing its history is soon to be placed.

THE LAST CURTAIN DOWN.

WALLACK'S THEATRE THE SECOND, THE STAR OF LATER YEARS, ENDS ITS CAREER.

With the performance of last night at the Star Theatre the long career of that playhouse came to an end. The closing of Niblo's Garden a few seasons ago and the conversion of its site to business purposes left the Star the second oldest theatre in the city. Now the turn of the Star has come, while the oldest theatre, the Thalia, formerly the Old Bowery, still remains and prospers. The Star has prospered, too, of late, but it has had its changes of fortune; the best part of the theatre-going public deserted it some time ago, and the owners of the property decided that they preferred to turn it to other uses. So the curtain fell last night for good and all.

The Star Theatre was Wallack's Theatre when it was built, being the second of that name in New-York. It was opened in 1861 by James William Wallack, with Tom Taylor's play, "The New President." It was Wallack's Theatre for twenty years, and then, in 1881, Lester Wallack opened the theatre at Broadway and Thirtieth-st., which now again, after twenty more years, bears his name, although it has not borne it continuously through all that time. In the period when the house at Broadway and Thirteenth-st. had the title some famous plays were produced there, and it was for a long time acknowledged as the leading theatre of the city.

It had a short career as the Germania Theatre, and then another period of general prosperity, not wholly unmingled with misfortune, however, as the Star. It was long a favorite house for foreign stars and for the best of American stars. Among those who played in it were Henry Irving, Miss Ellen Terry, Edwin Booth, Wilson Barrett, Mme. Modjeska, Sarah Bernhardt, the Kendals, M. Coquelin, Joseph Jefferson, William H. Crane, Lotta and Charles and Rose Coghlan.

The movement of all first class theatrical attractions and audiences uptown finally made the theatre unprofitable for artists of this class, and for a time it languished. Then it was turned to the uses of melodrama at low prices, and with this policy it has prospered again for the last few seasons.

TWO BIG COMBINATIONS.

ALLIANCES PLANNED OF BUILDERS OF STEAM ENGINES AND MINING MACHINERY.

Announcement from Milwaukee of the prospective alliance of the Pennsylvania Iron Works Company with a group of kindred corporations is regarded here as indicative of the formation of two large combinations, one of the builders of steam engines, the other of makers of mining machinery. It is said on excellent authority that negotiations for both combinations are now in progress, but that both are still incomplete. The steam engine combination is the larger of the two, and if it is formed it will be known as the American Steam Engine Company and will be capitalized for $30,000,000, it is reported. Among the firms mentioned in connection with the federation are the following: Corliss Steam Engine Works, of Providence, R. I.; the American Wheelock Engine Company, of Worcester, Mass.; the Hamilton Corliss Steam Engine Company, of Hamilton, Ohio; the Southwark Foundry and Machine Company, of Philadelphia; the Lane & Bodley Company, of Cincinnati; Rice & Sargent, of Providence, R. I.; Robert Wetherill, of Chester, Penn.; the Cooper Corliss Company, of Mount Vernon, Ohio, and the Vieter Manufacturing Company, of Milwaukee.

The mining machinery combination will, it is said, include the Pennsylvania Iron Works, which is controlled by Elkins, Widener and Dolan and is largely engaged in the manufacture of gashouse supplies, although it makes some engines; the E. P. Allis Company, of Milwaukee, which, although it has an engine department, devotes most of its efforts to mining and flour mill machinery; Fraser & Chalmers, of Chicago, which is almost exclusively a mining machinery house; the Gates Iron Works, of Chicago, which builds mining machinery, and the Dixon Manufacturing Company, of Scranton, Penn., which makes mining machinery and locomotives. It is said that the object of this combination is to meet prospective competition in the manufacture of mining machinery when the Westinghouse Company completes its big plant at Pittsburg.

FIREMEN INJURED BY BURNING LIME.

THEY WERE THROWING BARRELS OF IT FROM A LIGHTER.

Five members of Hook and Ladder Company No. 4 were burned about the hands last night while throwing barrels of burning lime into the North River from the lighter Cubas at Forty-eighth-st. The injured firemen are William Boyd, Alfred Smith, James Weiner, Patrick Sullivan and John Schneider.

The lighter was loaded with five hundred barrels of lime consigned to the Rufus Darrell Company, Forty-eighth-st. and the North River, and was in charge of Captain Peter Larsen. Larsen last evening noticed that some of the lime was burning. A fire boat and several fire engines were soon on the scene.

The members of the hook and ladder company were then instructed to throw the burning barrels overboard. When the barrels struck the water many of them burst, and in this way the firemen were burned. They suffered much from the fumes of the lime. Out of five hundred barrels it is believed that three hundred were destroyed. The loss is estimated at $1,000. The boat, which is owned by the Commercial Lighterage Company, of No. 27 William-st., was undamaged.

GAYNOR ON POLICE POWER.

THE JUSTICE SAYS THERE IS DANGER IN LETTING OFFICERS BREAK IN DOORS WITHOUT WARRANTS.

The Society of Medical Jurisprudence held its eighteenth annual dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria last night. At the guests' table were Father Thomas J. Ducey, Dr. William M. Polk, Charles W. Dayton, E. B. Hinsdale, Theodore Sutro, Frank Ferguson, the president, and Justice William J. Gaynor.

Mr. Sutro was toastmaster. The first speaker was Justice Gaynor, who responded to "The Future of Municipal Government and the Doctor and the Lawyer in It."

"It seems to me," said Justice Gaynor, "that you ought to have called upon our Mayor to respond to that topic or to talk on the subject, 'What I Know About Government.' I want to say that in his recent veto of the new charter the Mayor has given us one of the most valuable lessons in municipal government. The tendency of municipal government in this country of late years has been toward centralized responsibility. In Europe it has been just the reverse. There, as in Glasgow, affairs are managed by large councils and with the best results.

"You can never effect a great reform in this city simply by trying to drive all the loose women off Houston-st.," continued the speaker. "The arbitrary use of the police power is an evil greater than these conditions. When the police break in doors without warrants we are encouraging an arbitrary power from which we have more to fear than all the other vices combined.

"It is a very serious thing to help the police to make themselves our masters. It has happened lately in this city, and it happened before when the Police Department was under one who has now risen to a high place in national politics, that an open hall was raided, all the persons within it locked up without warrants over night, and in the morning told that there was no charge against them and that they might go. To arrest people under such circumstances is as great an outrage as to come in and arrest us here as we sit at dinner. If such a thing were to occur in England it would awake a protest that would bring the government to its knees."

Father Ducey responded to "The Mission of Justice and Mercy." He said he had attended the meetings at Carnegie Hall and at Cooper Union, and that before he could give his support to any reform movement he must see something more sincere in it than a wish of the outs to get in. "The spirit of commercialism has so obscured idealism that you find few men even in the learned professions who try to realize the ideal in the real," he added.

Edward Lauterbach was called upon to speak informally. He thought that to withdraw the party sway from city politics was to withdraw all responsibility. "Remain true to your party," he said. "If it is wrong, reform it; if it is irrevocably so, join the other."

ROBS A WOMAN IN THE STREET.

PURSE AND UMBRELLA OF THE VICTIM, A MINE OWNER'S WIFE, SNATCHED IN THE RAIN.

A rainy day robber made a daring and successful attempt at highway robbery yesterday afternoon in Thirty-first-st., between Sixth and Seventh aves. His victim was Mrs. T. S. Barker, wife of a veteran mine owner, who was walking with Mrs. August Balfour. Both women live at No. 245 West Thirty-eighth-st.

The women went shopping yesterday afternoon. On their way home through Thirty-first-st. the wind was in their faces, and they held their umbrellas down to shield themselves from the cold rain and chilly wind. Suddenly they were stopped. A smooth faced man, about twenty-five years old, with light complexion and about five feet eight inches tall, said to Mrs. Barker:

"May I carry your umbrella for you, madam?"

"Go away," replied Mrs. Barker, drawing back.

A man came around the corner suddenly. This evidently broke up the young man's original plan, and he snatched the purse hanging by a strap to Mrs. Barker's belt, seized her gold handled umbrella and ran. The strap broke as he seized the purse, and Mrs. Barker was almost jerked off her feet by the violence of the young man's action.

Mrs. Balfour was quick to act. She pursued the man. She screamed for help, and people ran out from stores and houses by dozens. But the man escaped with money and umbrella.

Mrs. Balfour returned to Mrs. Barker, who was hysterical. She was standing in the rain, crying and then laughing, and Mrs. Balfour broke down when she saw her. Policeman Reed escorted them to the West Thirtieth-st. station, where they told their story. Detectives Martineau and Bezant were detailed to find the thief.

Mrs. Barker's husband left here for the West several weeks ago to close a transaction in a turquoise mine he owns, for which he has been offered $75,000.

ON PROBATION AS TO DOCTRINE.

FOUR UNION SEMINARY GRADUATES FAIL TO SATISFY EXAMINERS OF THEIR ORTHODOXY.

Licenses to preach have been refused to four members of the graduating class of Union Theological Seminary by the examining boards of their respective denominations because of failure to subscribe to certain doctrinal principles. Two of the young men were examined by the Westchester Presbytery, one by the Worcester Central Association of Congregational Ministers and one by the Elizabeth Association of Congregational Ministers. The men were put on six months' probation and then will have another opportunity to try to prove their orthodoxy.

The Rev. Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall, president of Union Theological Seminary, said yesterday that the refusal of licenses did not necessarily mean exclusion from the ministry, and even if they should fail on the second examination they still might become ministers. If they should not be able to satisfy the examiners of their own denominations the other denominations were still open to them.

"It is not unusual," said Dr. Hall, "for a man to be put on probation. The examining boards usually consist of fifty or sixty men, several of whom may be putting questions to a candidate at the same time. Naturally confusion often results. When you consider that in addition to this there is no set form of examination—no questions which a candidate may consider beforehand and prepare to answer—but that on the contrary the examiners ask such questions as occur to them on the spur of the moment, it is not to be wondered at that a candidate should often give answers that do not express his real thought or belief. It is a very trying ordeal for a young and inexperienced man.

"Union Theological Seminary is not be blamed for one of its students being put on probation. Our charter provides that we teach without partiality for any creed or denomination, and we teach only the broad principles of Christian faith. Each student settles his points of doctrine for himself."

In the case of the candidates examined by the Westchester presbytery is seemed to be in regard to the doctrine of the atonement that there was disagreement between the board and the candidates. The candidates held that the saving element in the atonement lies in its revelation of the love of God, while the examining board thought that the atonement meant the saving of lost souls from an angry God through the blood of Christ.

In the Elizabeth case the doctrine of evolution was the stumbling block. The candidate declared that the ultimate appeal should be made to rational conviction, and not to the Scriptures. The Worcester candidate was unable to find ground for a positive belief in immortality, although he did not deny the possibility of immortality. He also thought it unnecessary to agree with the teachings of the Bible at any point where his convictions led in the opposite direction.

ROBBED BY THREE MEN IN THE STREET.

A MAN IDENTIFIES A PRISONER AS ONE OF THE THIEVES.

With his clothing wet through, Benjamin Fleck, of No. 170 Delancey-st., walked to the Eldridge-st. station last night and reported that he had been robbed of his gold watch and chain, valued at $38, at Delancey and Essex sts. Fleck said he was passing a corner, carrying his umbrella, when three men stepped in front of him. While one held him another took his watch.

Fleck gave an accurate description of the men and detectives were sent out. They returned soon afterward with a man who described himself as Charles Morgenstein, twenty-two years old, of No. 281 Monroe-st. Fleck picked Morgenstein from a row of twenty-nine men as the man who had taken his watch. The prisoner denied the charge.

WESTERVELT AND HERLIHY.

WHAT THE TWO CAPTAINS ARE ACCUSED OF—THE HEARING ADJOURNED.

The examination of Police Captains Josiah A. Westervelt and John D. Herlihy, which had been set down for yesterday morning at the Centre-st. court, was adjourned by consent of the counsel for the captains and the District Attorney. It will proceed next Friday morning, when Magistrate Cornell will come to the city from his country place to hear the testimony.

The charges against the captains were presented in the court yesterday previous to the adjournment. Those against Westervelt are sworn to by John D. Woods, the detective who was in the employ of the Tammany Committee on Vice. The charges mention several poolrooms in the Second Precinct, including the one at No. 20 Dey-st. which was raided by the District Attorney, and Woods declares that he visited the poolrooms frequently in 1899, 1900 and at the beginning of this year. Westervelt is charged with neglect of duty in failing to close the poolrooms.

The charges against Herlihy are for neglect of duty in failing to close many dens of vice in the district east of the Bowery, known as the "red light" district, while he was in command of the police there. The places mentioned in the charges are those that were testified about on Herlihy's trial before the Police Commissioners. The charges are sworn to by James B. Reynolds, head worker of the University Settlement.

Dr. Edward T. Higgins, of No. 818 East One-hundred-and-forty-seventh-st., has been appointed a coroner's physician, at a salary of $3,000 a year.

Police Commissioner Murphy demonstrates that he still knows how to distribute places by appointing J. I. Bacon an auditor, with a salary of $2,000 a year, and Catharine A. Hickey confidential stenographer, at $1,000 a year.

TITUS SAYS HE DIDN'T SEE FLYNT.

MOREOVER HE DECLARES THE POLICE ARE NOT LOOKING FOR HIM.

The comforting assurance that the Committee of Fifteen intended not to make any raids last evening was received by officials at Police Headquarters yesterday, and Commissioner Murphy violated his rule of remaining late in his office on Saturdays. He left Police Headquarters about noon, and did not return. The Commissioner said he was tired of talking to newspaper men. The only man at Police Headquarters who would talk yesterday was Captain Titus of the Detective Bureau. He declared that the report that Josiah Flynt had gone to Police Headquarters and had had an interview with him incognito was "gauzy." Then he said

"I do not know this man Flynt. The only picture we had of him was a small vignette, published in the magazine, and this was so small that it would be impossible to recognize any one by it. We do not know how this man looks. We have no photograph of him. We are not looking for him. We have made no effort to find him, after we tried to subpœna him the first time.

"It would not be a difficult matter for Flynt himself to call on me and ask for an interview, and not be recognized. As we do not know Flynt this would be very easy. But no one called on me yesterday to ask for information who was not known to me, so the whole yarn is false. We are making no efforts to find Flynt. We do not care to have hoboes and tramps roaming about in this building. We do not care to associate with that kind of people."

A NEW DRIVEWAY PLANNED.

LINK BETWEEN CLAREMONT AND AUDUBON PARKS WILL COMPLETE TWENTY MILES OF MACADAM ROADWAY.

Plans have been drawn in the engineers' offices of the Department of Highways for a connecting link between Claremont and Audubon parks, on the North River front, which, when completed, will afford drivers and riders a new drive over macadam streets for a distance of twenty miles. Andrew E. Foye, chief engineer of the Department of Highways, in referring to the projected work yesterday, said:

When our plans have been carried out there will be another extremely attractive drive added to the number already owned by the city. The extension contemplated by the engineers will connect Claremont with Audubon Park at about Two-hundredth-st. When completed one can drive from Fifth-ave. at Fifty-ninth-st. through the park to Seventy-second-st., thence up Riverside Drive to Claremont. There is where the new work will begin. The extension will run along Riverside Drive to One-hundred-and-fifty-seventh-st., to the Boulevard Lafayette, and thence to Dyckman-st. at Two-hundredth-st. The driver can then go through Dyckman-st. to the Speedway, down the Speedway to One-hundred-and-fifty-fifth-st., to the viaduct, over the viaduct to Seventh-ave., down Seventh-ave. to the park, to where he started from. Altogether, this will make a distance of about twenty miles, all on macadam with the exception of the roads over the viaduct.

The connecting link between Claremont and Audubon Park will be about one and one-half miles long, with a roadway 100 feet in width, a bridle-path, and two walks for pedestrians. The sides of the roadway will be arranged by landscape gardeners, and the space between the roadway and the Hudson River will be laid out with park effects. Just north of the viaduct at One-hundred-and-thirty-sixth-st. there will be a lower walk, close to the river, bordered by grass plots and shrubbery. The driveway will be carried over One-hundred-and-thirty-eighth-st. in order to give traffic access to the prospective dock at the waterfront there.

With reference to the work on the viaduct Mr. Foye said:

The viaduct proper is completed, but there is a lot of filling to be done behind the abutment on the north side. It will require about forty thousand cubic yards of dirt, I should say, and, as the space for handling teams there is somewhat limited, it will take several months to fill the hole. The electrical work on the viaduct is not in shape yet, but aside from the two features mentioned the viaduct is done.

HOLAHAN SCATTERS FAVORS.

THE COMMISSIONER IMPROVING THE TIME BEFORE HIS OFFICE IS ABOLISHED.

Maurice F. Holahan, who was captured in the Dey-st. poolroom entered by the District Attorney, yesterday in "The City Record" announced the appointment of twenty-eight topographical draughtsmen at $1,200 a year each. Mr. Holahan's department is abolished by the revised charter, and the commissioner apparently is determined to "make hay while the sun shines." The work of his department is transferred to other departments, where it will be taken care of, no doubt, without any trouble. The twenty-eight new draughtsmen come principally from Manhattan, and seem to be well distributed among the various Assembly districts. Their salaries, computed to the end of the present year, will amount to about $20,000.

DINNER OF WESTCHESTER BAR.

SPEECHES MADE BY JUSTICE HAIGHT, ABRAHAM GRUBER AND OTHERS.

Two hundred members of the Westchester Bar dined at the Murray Hill Hotel last night. Joseph F. Daly presided. The guests of honor were Justice E. W. Hatch, of the Appellate Division; Eugene B. Travis, John Byrne, of the Appellate Division; Justice Haight, of Buffalo; Abraham Gruber, Justice Edgar M. Cullen, of the Court of Appeals, and Surrogate Theodore H. Silkman, of Westchester.

A number of amusing letters of regret were read, purporting to be from President McKinley, Senator Platt, Governor Odell, Grover Cleveland and Simeon Ford. Senator Platt could not come because one of his war horses (Odell) had kicked over the traces.

Justice Haight spoke in place of Justice Alton B. Parker, who was not able to be present. His remarks dealt with reform in the administration of the Supreme Court. Abraham Gruber made one of his characteristic speeches, and closed by reading the following:

God bless Westchester County bar,
And bless its clients, too;
Likewise the long enduring case
And tendency to sue.
So let us, while we dine and drink,
And feel our spirits soar,
Have grateful thoughts for those d—— fools
Who paid for it in law.

Other speakers were Judge Woods, of Putnam County, Charles Haines and John F. Brennan, of Yonkers.

OLD SCHOOLBOYS DINE.

Under the title of the George White Alumni Association a number of the former pupils of George White, principal of Public School No. 70, gave a dinner at the Hotel Savoy last night in honor of their old schoolmaster, who is one of the oldest principals in the city's public schools. Many men now prominent in business and the professions were pupils under Mr. White. Many were among the guests last night, who included Justice Francis M. Scott, Ralph Trelr, Maurice J. Power, Dr. Thomas Hunter, of the Normal College; Joseph I. Green, ex-Assemblyman Harry Russel, David M. Newberger, ex-Assistant District Attorney David Welch, Charles A. Hess, Terence Farley, ex-Assemblyman Charles S. Sinsheimer, Judson G. Wells and ex-Judge Adam Schatz.

Judge Schatz, in the absence of Thomas E. Crimmins, the president of the association, presided. There were only three toasts on the list—"Our Guests," responded to by Justice Scott; "Our Schools," by Dr. Hunter, and "The City of New-York," by Joseph I. Green, who spoke for Nathaniel A. Elsberg. Over one hundred persons were present.

COLORED BANKRUPT IN JAIL.

SMALLEST PETITION EVER FILED HERE—LIABILITIES ONLY $139.

Richard Claiborne, a colored man, of Mount Vernon, was committed to prison there yesterday for debt by Magistrate Bennett on the complaint of Adam E. Schatz. Claiborne's attorney at once obtained a writ of habeas corpus from Judge Brown, of the United States District Court, requiring the prisoner to be produced in court in this city to-morrow.

Claiborne has filed a petition in bankruptcy as a poor person. His liabilities are given as $139, and no assets. He has only two creditors—Adam E. Schatz, who obtained judgments against him for $124 and costs, and Ellen Cranshaw, $5 borrowed money. This is the smallest amount involved in any bankruptcy petition ever filed here.

NICARAGUA BUYS RAILS HERE.

Washington, April 20.—Consul Donaldson, at Managua, Nicaragua, in a report to the State Department, says that the Nicaraguan Government has placed an order with its agent in New-York for 2,900 tons of steel rails for the new central branch of the National Railroad, which is being constructed by a German engineer. Considering the facts that Nicaragua always has purchased rails in Germany and England, says the consul, and that the contractor for the road is a German, the placing of this order with a United States manufacturer is an item of considerable importance in the growth of this country's trade with Central America.

FIRE INSURANCE MERGER UNDER WAY.

A merger of several small fire insurance companies is said to be well under way, although the men who are perfecting the plans refuse to discuss the details of the combination. It is said that the syndicate is amply supplied with capital. It will continue each company as an independent concern on the community of interest plan.

It is believed that the movement has the sanction of the Royal Insurance Company, which three weeks ago took over the business of the Lancashire Insurance Company, of Manchester, England. An officer of the latter company said yesterday:

"There is a movement on foot to consolidate a number of fire insurance companies, but I am unable to say what concerns will be absorbed. I have no idea whether or not the Royal is interested in the plan. That company's acquisition of the Lancashire was ratified by the stockholders two days ago. On April 19 the United States risks of the Lancashire company were reinsured in the Hartford Fire Insurance Company. We shall withdraw from this country. It will take probably six months to liquidate all outstanding matters."

The Lancashire Insurance Company established a United States branch in 1872. Its premiums in force on January 1, 1901, were $2,730,708.

MME. BERNHARDT.

Sarah Bernhardt

The great French Actress and woman, is so pleased with the delicate bouquet and flavor of

"GOLD SEAL" America's Best CHAMPAGNE

that she wrote to a friend:

"I find the Urbana Wine Co.'s Gold Seal Champagne excellent, in fact equal to many French Champagnes. It surprises me that such a fine wine can be produced in America."

New York, April 7, 1901.

GOLD SEAL is served in every first-class cafe and club and sold everywhere at half the price of French wine.

URBANA WINE CO., Urbana, N. Y., Sole Makers

THE BIG STORE — A CITY IN ITSELF

SIEGEL COOPER Co.

SIXTH AVE. — MEET ME AT THE FOUNTAIN — 18TH & 19TH STS.

In the Suit Section.

We announce for Monday, April 22, a special offering of 300 Women's Choicest Spring Suits that heretofore were priced at from $25.00 to $35.00, at the uniform price of **19.75**

The assortment includes

Broadcloth Suits, with folds of millinery satin; value $27.50,
Cheviot Serge Suits, lined throughout with best taffeta; value $25.00,
Broadcloth, with imported Persian band trimming; value $29.75,
Homespun Suits over the very best quality taffeta; value $26.50,
Cheviot Suits, with elaborately stitched satin straps; value $27.50,
Broadcloth Suits, in various extremely stylish designs; value $35.00,
Silk Foulard Dresses, entirely new styles; value $25.00,
Princess Suits of Homespuns and Cheviots, value $27.50,

The choice of all Monday at **19.75**

Ladies' Dress Skirts.

We contracted for 1,000 Silk Dress Skirts of one number and begin the sale of same to-morrow at **11.75**

The skirt is of very good quality taffeta; top of skirt solidly tucked with ½-inch tucks; flaring flounce, with 3 clusters of rose ruchings; fully equal in appearance to any $25.00 skirt now in the market.

An Important Offer of 150 Silk Dress Waists

for Monday, April 22d.

This sale embraces a manufacturer's entire sample line—the most exquisite things he made this spring—and in all this assortment there are hardly two alike, most of them being copies of imported models. Sizes 34 and 36 only.

For a quick sale we have arranged them in 2 lots.

All the $15, $18 and $20 Waists — We will offer Monday at **8.75**

All the $25, $30 and $35 Waists — We will offer Monday at **11.50**

Need we tell you that the sooner you come the better the selection you will find?

Lace and Chiffon Robes.

An importer offered us a limited lot of these fine, stylish robes the other day at a price we couldn't resist. You won't be able to refrain from buying either when you see them, for nothing like them was ever offered in New York at the prices we will resell for to you.

Lace and Chiffon Robes, with waist complete, of cut-out taffeta appliqued on silk Brussels net, with two rows of crepe lisse, wide ruffles edged with juby ruche; worth fully $30.00; for this sale, **19.75**

Chiffon Robes, handsomely embroidered with silk Battenberg braid, two rows of crepe lisse ruffling, edged with juby ruche; regularly worth $25.00; for this sale, **14.75**

Napkins

for summer hotels, restaurants and country houses at very low prices. If you are interested in napkins at present you will be interested in these offerings for Monday:

Full Bleached Napkins, 20x21 inches, worth $1.00 a dozen, at	85	All Linen Dinner Napkins, 24x24 inches, of a heavy quality, at, per dozen,	1.95
Half Bleached Napkins, 20x20 inches, of a heavy quality, at, per dozen,	1.00	Hemstitched Bar or Finger Bowl Doylies, 6x6 inches, at, per dozen,	24
All Linen Dinner Napkins, 21x21 inches, at, per dozen,	1.39	Fringed Doylies, with white or colored borders, at, each,	2½

No charge for hemming the above goods.

"Our Great Pure Food Mart"

Is better, bigger, broader, more advanced than anything of its kind in the land or in any other land, so far as we know. Every thought and plan that could help the sale of good, pure foods at moderate prices is studied and developed here. Get out your passbooks or grocery bills and see if the prices quoted here do not show a material saving over what you have been paying. Then the kind of goods we sell and the manner in which we handle and care for them is so infinitely superior to ordinary stores as to make comparison needless—in some cases even ridiculous. Here are some specials for to-morrow:

N. Y. State Cream Sugar Corn, can	6	Maple Syrup: H. O. Co.'s specially prepared Vermont Sap Maple, full qt. cans, reg. price 50c.; our price,	30
Solid red ripe Jersey Tomatoes, can	7	Salmon: "Merrimac" Columbia River Salmon, flat cans,	9
Macaroni: "Hazel Brand" Macaroni, Spaghetti and Vermicelli, made from finest imported wheat, 1 lb. pkg	10	Jams: "Milford" pure fruit Jams, assorted fruits, can	9
Armour's Mild Sugar Cured Hams, lb.,	12	Peaches: "Centennial" preserved Yellow Peaches, can,	10
Tongues: Choice Selected Fresh Smoked Beef Tongues, mild and properly cured, lb.,	13	Southern Bartlett Pears, large can,	9
Flour: Siegel-Cooper Co.'s best XXXX Minnesota Flour, bbl.,	4.65	Raspberries: N. Y. State Red and Black preserved Raspberries, can,	10
Mackerel: Choice fat family Mackerel, "no heads, no tails," 10-lb. pails,	95	Starch: 5 lbs. best Family Gloss Starch,	19
Roast Beef; Choice cut Porter House Roasts, cut from native cattle, lb.,	16	Washing Powder: "Hazel," smooth, soft and pure, 4-lb. pkge.,	15
Hindquarter choice Canada Spring Lamb, lb.,	11	Soap: "Itsagood" Soap, box of 100 cakes, $2.50; 10 cakes,	29
Butter: Choice Elgin Creamery Butter, 5-lb. pails, lb	21	"Hazel" Family Laundry Soap, box of 60 1-lb. bars, $2.65; bar,	4½
Jelly: Bar-le-duc, genuine Imported Jelly. reg. price, 25c.; our price,	15		
Milk: "Fern" Condensed Milk, or Superb Cream, can	7		
Boston Baked Beans, Tomato Sauce, can,	6		
Peas: Choice Early June Peas, can,	10		
Large Sweet California Navel Oranges, doz.,	30		
Sausage: Selected Cervelat Sausage, thoroughly seasoned, regular price lb., 18c; special this sale, lb.,	10		
Tapioca; Fancy Pearl Tapioca, 5 lbs.,	23		
Oats: Victor Oats, 2-lb. pkg.,	6		
Corn Meal: Yellow or White, 10 lbs.,	19		
Prunes: Santa Clara, thin skin and meaty, 10 lbs.,	49		
Baking Powder: "Hazel" Cream Tartar Powder, 1-2-lb. can,	15		
Coffee: Mocha and Java, well known "Popular Blend," 4 lbs., $1.00; 1 lb.,	28		
Golden Santos, fresh roasted, 5 lbs., 70c.; 1 lb.,	15		
Rice: Fancy Flint Head Rice, 4 lbs.,	25		
Soup: "Royal" Concentrated Soup, best by test, 3 cans,	22		
Cranberry Sauce: "Anderson's," 2-lb. can, reg. price, 20c.; special, can,	10		
Sardines: "Guy" Imported French Sardines, pure Olive Oil, 1-4's, can,	12		
Tea: New lot fancy Formosa Oolong, Gunpowder, Young Hyson, India Ceylon, English Breakfast Teas, private pickings (1900 crop), 5-lb. caddy, $2.00; 1 lb.	43		
Crackers: Nic Nacs, Ginger Snaps and Sugar Cakes, per lb.,	5		

Wines and Liquors.

Guinness's Stout, the genuine imported, doz.,	1.53
St. Julien Claret, a fine California wine, case of 12