CLOSED UP BY STRIKES.

SOME OF PARKS'S WORK.

Fuller Company Reducing Its Force, and May Quit Business.

The George A. Fuller Company, it was learned yesterday, on account of the present conditions in the building trades, is reducing its working force to a minimum, and there were reports that it was going out of business. The Fuller Company is the construction department of the United States Realty Company, and the reports stated that the realty company had decided to do away with the construction department on account of the discouraging conditions in the building trade brought about by the strikes and lockouts, which have spoiled an entire building season. One of the reports was to the effect that, as a preliminary to shutting down on construction, the Fuller Company had given up a big contract in Boston, which was taken up by the Thompson-Starrett Company. It was said that the plant and good-will of the Fuller Company would be disposed of when its present contracts were fulfilled.

There are only about five large firms of general contractors in the country, of which the Fuller and Thompson-Starrett companies are examples, which are equipped to do all the work on any building. The Mason Builders are also called general contractors, but they sublet all the work except the bricklaying, making yearly agreements with the bricklayers and bricklayers' laborers.

A representative of the George A. Fuller company, who was seen at the offices of the company, in the Fatiron Building, yesterday afternoon, admitted that the working force had been reduced to a minimum, but denied that the entire construction department would be done away with. Then he made the following general statement on behalf of the company:

On account of the labor troubles and the consequent depression in the building industry, we have reduced our working force very considerably. We have discharged all our estimaters but the chief estimater, and have reduced the force greatly in all other departments, but we are not going out of business. Other contracting firms are also reducing their forces on account of the discouraging conditions. We will finish the contracts on hand, but will undertake very little new work until the building conditions are more stable. In fact, there is little new work in sight, as investors, owing to the unsettled state of the building trade, will not invest. The constant strikes and lockouts of this season have brought about a stagnation in the trade from which every one is suffering.

He added that as to the Boston contract, the firm did not try to get it, and the Thompson-Starrett company took it up. The Fuller company would, when trade was settled again, he said, do its accustomed share of business. At present the amount of new work was far below the normal.

The Fuller company is still supposed to be under the two year agreement with Parks's Union, Local No. 2, which was signed last April, by which the housesmiths were to receive $4.50 a day. The other signers were Joshua A. Hatfield, president of the American Bridge Company, and J. M. Cornell, president of the Iron League, the three signing as a local committee of the National Association of Structural Iron Manufacturers and Erectors. The Iron League left the National Association about the time the Building Trades Employers' Association, which the Iron League joined, declared the general shutdown of buildings and made a return to work conditional on the signing of the arbitration agreement by the unions.

The Fuller company, not being in the Employers' Association, continued on good terms with Local No. 2, which the Iron League refused to do business with, because it refused to sign the arbitration agreement. Members of Local No. 2 are on strike against the Fuller company at the Rogers Building, but it is in sympathy with the stonecutters. The members of Local No. 2 are working on all the other Fuller contracts.

Another conference took place yesterday between members of the executive committee of the bricklayers' unions and President S. P. McConnell in reference to the strikes of bricklayers on the Fuller contracts. The demand for waiting time, the money for which is accumulating at the rate of $1,500 a day, proved a block to any settlement. Everything else was conceded.

CHINAMAN JUMPS FROM FERRYBOAT.

Tries to Commit Suicide—Says "Highbinders" Threatened to Kill Him.

Charles W. Eg, a Chinaman, attempted to commit suicide by jumping from the ferryboat Cincinnati, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, while the boat was in midstream, yesterday. He was rescued by the tug Lacoma. Eg was on his way to Jersey City. He was taken to the Jersey City Hospital. Later Eg said he was thirty-seven years old and lived at No. 98 Magazine-st., Newark. The "Highbinders," he declared had threatened to torture and kill him for an offence committed in China. A corporation he said which imported Chinamen brought him to this city and leased him to laundries. An officer of the corporation, he said, had ordered him to go to Washington, D. C. Hong Ho and Wong Sing, his rivals for the esteem of Miss To King, of Chinatown, he declared, had been influencing the corporation against him. He refused to go to Washington and had been warned that he would have to take consequences. Then he determined to commit suicide. The hospital physicians think Eg's mind may be disordered.

COLD WAVE IS ON ITS WAY HERE.

Thermometer Goes from 66 to 45 in Less Than Six Hours.

A cold wave is on its way here, according to the Weather Bureau. It will bring snow and be followed to-day by fair and still colder weather. There is a cold wave from Montana to Central Texas. It is following closely a heavy storm, that started recently out of the West. Yesterday the Western storm was over Central New-York, and behind it were the snow and cold weather. The mercury was considerably below zero in Montana, and was at freezing in Texas and other Southern States. Northwest storm warnings were displayed from Mobile to Charleston.

The temperature yesterday at 9 a. m. was 61 degrees; at 3:30 p. m., 66 degrees (the maximum); at 7 p. m., 49 degrees; at 9 p. m., 45 degrees, and still falling. Up to 8 p. m. .21 of an inch of rain had fallen since 8 a. m. A misty and cloudy evening followed, with a northwest wind blowing twenty-two miles an hour.

A heavy thunderstorm, with all the characteristics of a summer afternoon shower, passed over Atlantic City yesterday afternoon. It lasted about an hour. No damage was done. The weather there up to last evening has been like early summer. It was a trifle chilly last night. A number of persons were in bathing yesterday afternoon.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

Lynn, Mass., Nov. 16.—The wreck of a schooner, subsequently identified as that of the Eben Parsons, of Boston, was found to-day on Oak Island Ledge, off Revere Beach. The vessel evidently had struck on the ledge in a fog. Captain Barnes and his crew launched a boat and rowed to Boston.

Elmira, N. Y., Nov. 17.—Three new cases of diphtheria have developed since last night, notwithstanding the fact that every one in the institution has been inoculated with anti-toxin serum for a week. There have been no deaths since Monday.

Elmira, N. Y., Nov. 17.—Israel Sprague, a lumberman of this city, was drowned in the Chemung River, eight miles west of this city, this morning. He had been rowing, and one of the oars broke and he fell out.

Glens Falls, N. Y., Nov. 17.—The syndicate headed by George R. Finch, which recently secured control of the Imperial Wall Paper Company, has bought $100,000 worth of stock of the Schroon River Pulp and Paper Company, of Greenville. This purchase gives the syndicate control of this property.

New-Haven, Conn., Nov. 17.—Meeting his wife in a throng of worshippers with whom she had just left the Sacred Heart Church in Columbus-ave., today, John Tracy, a blacksmith, drew a revolver and fired five shots at her. One of the shots inflicted a dangerous, though not necessarily fatal, wound. Tracy was arrested. He refused to talk about the shooting.

Ogdensburg, N. Y., Nov. 17.—The Labatte Brewing Company property, with exclusive waterfront at Prescott, has been purchased by the Dominion government as the site of a depot for the manufacture of gas buoys for the St. Lawrence River and Great Lakes and of gas for lighting the same. Large machine and repair shops will be built.

PEACE TALK IN CHICAGO.

Arbitration Expected in Car Strike—Another Line Opened.

Chicago, Nov. 17.—Negotiations looking to an amicable settlement of the struggle between the Chicago City Railway Company and its striking employes were begun this afternoon, and the indications to-night are that both sides will agree to submit their differences to arbitration. After a conference which lasted several hours between Mayor Harrison, the officials of the company and the special aldermen's peace commission, appointed by Mayor Harrison at the direction of the City Council, followed by another meeting, in which President Mahon of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railroad Employes, and his legal advisers, took part, Mayor Harrison declared that the outlook for a settlement of the strike by arbitration was decidedly flattering.

"I was agreeably surprised at the conciliatory attitude displayed by both sides to the controversy," he said, "and we made more progress at our first meeting than I had anticipated." He declined to enter into the details of the discussion that took place, but it is said that a further conference with the railway officials was arranged for to-morrow. The object of the meeting was to bring the two sides to a point where arbitration is possible. This, the Mayor believes, has been accomplished.

Despite the promising outlook for a peaceable ending of the trouble in the near future, the management of the road will to-morrow renew the efforts to break the strike. Announcement was made to-night that an attempt would be made to-morrow morning to open another of the branches of the system, the electric line in Indiana-ave. If successful, it will make three branches that have been opened for traffic since the beginning of the strike last Thursday.

A bill was filed in the Superior Court to-day asking that a receiver be appointed for the Chicago City Railway Company, and challenging the company's right to operate its lines, on the ground that its franchise expired last July, and that the ninety-nine-year act claim is invalid.

Five trains, consisting of a grip car and trailer each, were operated on the Cottage Grove-ave., cable line, under guard of one thousand policemen. Twenty-five cars were operated on the Wentworth-ave. line, under a guard of less than four hundred policemen. The first cars on the Cottage Grove-ave. line traversed the entire route to the centre of the city without serious difficulty. Perfect order on the part of the strikers and the street crowds marked the resumption of service, and Superintendent Weatherwax announced that regular service would be started to-morrow.

On the Wentworth-ave. line switches were found to be spiked all the way from West Seventy-seventh-st. to West Thirty-ninth-st. Occasionally a shot was fired at a car as it passed, or a brick or piece of iron was sent flying through a window, but no person is known to have been injured.

Police Chief O'Neill to-day instructed his officers to board United States mail wagons if the drivers showed a disposition to blockade street car tracks or hinder the police in efforts to keep the streets clear. The drivers in such cases are to be arrested after the mail is delivered at the Postoffice. In general mail wagon drivers have the right of way and are seldom interfered with. On occasions like a street railway strike, however, the chief says, the mail drivers are not exempt from the operation and penalties of the city ordinances.

NO SETTLEMENT WITH IRONWORKERS.

President Buchanan of the Ironworkers' International body had a conference with the local committee at the Ashland House yesterday, and then started for Boston, leaving the affairs of Local No. 2 in the hands of the local committee. A subcommittee of the latter had a conference with members of the Iron League yesterday afternoon, but nothing was accomplished in the way of a settlement by which Local No. 2 could be recognized.

B. AND A. BLACKSMITHS AT WORK.

Boston, Nov. 17.—The blacksmiths and helpers employed at the Alston and Springfield shops of the New-York Central Railroad's Boston and Albany system returned to work to-day under an agreement reached yesterday. The strikers resume their places under the same conditions that existed when they went out.

NOTES OF THE STAGE.

More Pantomime, This Time at the Lyric Theatre—Plans for Miss Lipman.

At the Lyric Theatre last evening, during the performance of the second act of "Red Feather," a pantomime was introduced as an added feature of the entertainment. Mlle. Guerrero, a Spanish dancer and pantomimist, who has appeared recently in Paris, presented a pantomime called "The Dagger and the Rose," a variant of the incident of the chair and the dance in "Carmen." It was a dance for life (or at least for virtue) in "The Dagger and the Rose," and the ultimate object of the dancer was to overcome the emotions of her antagonist and disarm him of his knife. Mlle. Guerrero succeeded, apparently, in doing the former, and there was no doubt that she accomplished the latter, using the dagger at the end with good effect. There is much less of charm about this pantomimist than is possessed by Mme. Wiehe at the Vaudeville Theatre; she is handicapped, too, by the size of the Lyric auditorium. But the subject of her performance is obvious and familiar, and rendered with considerable passion, if not with great allurement. Her male companion was quite adequate, and those who consider pantomimes worth while will doubtless find enjoyment in this latest example.

Miss Clara Lipman will be starred in a new musical comedy at the first of the New Year. Weber & Fields will be her managers. Her tour will include a run in this city. This new venture will make five attractions that are managed by the Music Hall comedians, the others being "An English Daisy," William Collier, "Captain Barrington," with Charles Richman, and their own inimitable low comedy entertainment.

Victor Herbert, Glen MacDonough and Julian Mitchell have begun work on a new extravaganza, which will be produced in Chicago in June, and follow—so it is hoped—"Babes in Toyland" at the Majestic in the fall.

There will be a final rehearsal of "A Japanese Nightingale" at Daly's Theatre to-night. The first performance will occur to-morrow.

Mrs. Blanche Chesebrough-Scott will not appear in vaudeville on the Proctor circuit yet awhile, after all. Illness and bad nerves are given as the cause of the abandonment of the contract.

Henry B. Harris has made two additions—James E. Wilson and Thomas Burns—to the company engaged to support Miss Alice Fischer in Leo Dietrichstein's farcical comedy, "What's the Matter with Susan?" which comes to the Bijou Theatre on December 1. Mr. Wilson will play the part of a military instructor at West Point, and Mr. Burns that of a rural boniface.

NEW OPERA SINGERS SAIL.

Three of the most important members of the Metropolitan Opera House company embarked yesterday on the Kronprinz Wilhelm, sailing from Bremen to New-York. The artists are Mme. Milka Ternina, the dramatic soprano, who is to interpret Kundry in the "Parsifal" production; Alois Burgstaller, the coming Parsifal, and Miss Edith Walker, till lately leading contralto at the Vienna Opera House. The arrival of these singers will almost, though not entirely, complete Mr. Conried's company. Mme. Calvé, Mme. Ackté, the new soprano; Victor Kloepfer, the well known basso, and the new tenor, Fran Naval, are still to be heard from. Pol Plançon will be a conspicuous feature at the first Sunday popular concert given under Mr. Conried's management.

The sale of seats for the regular season of grand opera at the Metropolitan Opera House box office opens to-morrow at 9 a. m.

"LIEDERSPIEL" AT THE MANHATTAN.

A large audience gathered at the Manhattan Theatre yesterday afternoon to see the first performance by Homer Lind's so-called "Liederspiel" company, which is to give a series of performances of lyric plays in English. Yesterday the first play given was "Gringoire, the Street Singer," adapted from the French by Willard Holcomb, with music by Julian Edwards. The chief performers were Mr. Lind, William Evans and Miss Augusta Glosé. This was followed by a one-act play called "Mrs. Robinson's Reception," written by Randolph Hartley and played by Miss Glosé and others. The last play was Mendelssohn's "Return of the Roamer," the text done into English by Willard Holcomb, and the leading parts sung by Miss Bessie Tannehill, Miss Anna Wilson and Mr. Lind. The musical director was Cornelius van der Linden. The audience received the entire programme with favor.

The next matinee will be on Thursday. Mr. Lind has in preparation a new lyric play by Harry Rowe Shelley, called "Lotus San," Humperdinck's "Hansel und Gretel" and others.

CLERK DIES IN STREET.

"Historian of Tammany Hall" Succumbs to Heart Disease.

J. Fairfax McLaughlin, sixty years old, chief clerk in the Surrogate's office, dropped dead at Broadway and White-st. last night, probably from heart disease.

Mr. McLaughlin had been working late in the office last night, and with two subordinates, Henry G. Moore, of No. 121 West Eleventh-st., and John H. Nagle, of No. 137 East One-hundred-and-twenty-third-st., was walking up Broadway. The trio had intended to walk to Fourteenth-st. before taking a car. At White-st. Mr. McLaughlin's hat blew off. He ran after it, but before he had taken a dozen steps he fell heavily to the sidewalk. Moore and Nagle were quickly at his side, and when they carried him to the curb they found he was dead.

Policeman Bergen, of the Leonard-st. station, was called, and he summoned an ambulance from the Hudson Street Hospital. Dr. Warner pronounced McLaughlin dead. The body was removed to the Leonard-st. station and the dead man's relatives were informed.

Mr. McLaughlin lived at No. 949 Pelham-ave., The Bronx. He was prominent in Democratic politics, and was known as the "Historian of Tammany Hall." He was born in Virginia, and wrote several books.

HELD IN AIR BY SKIRT.

Cousin Tries in Vain to Save Girl from Fall.

Held in the air by her cousin, Daisy Carl, who had seized hold of her skirt, while the garment slowly gave way from her weight and she fell four stories to the yard, was the experience of Miss Kate Farrell, sixteen years old, of No. 696 East One-hundred-and-forty-sixth-st., yesterday. She is now in the Lincoln Hospital, probably fatally injured.

The girl had leaned out of the kitchen window of her home to lift inside a can of milk on the window sill. She lost her balance and fell out, clutching a clothesline as she did so. Just as the clothesline broke Miss Carl reached out and caught hold of her cousin's skirt. She used the window sill as a brace and held on tightly, at the same time crying for help. The skirt, however, a flimsy garment, began to rip, and just as several persons, attracted by the screams of both girls, rushed into the kitchen to aid Miss Carl, the skirt gave way and Miss Farrell fell.

When Dr. Foster, of the Lincoln Hospital, arrived, Miss Farrell was unconscious. A hasty examination showed that she had been internally injured and that several of her ribs had been broken. At the hospital it was said she would die.

CRIPPLES IN ACCIDENT.

Narrow Escape When Car and Omnibus Crash.

In a miraculous manner fourteen crippled children were saved from injuries and possibly death yesterday in a collision between a crosstown car in One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st. and a private omnibus. As it ended, only the pole of the stage was broken and the children were not in the least injured, only suffering from the excitement and slight shock.

William Alt drove the stage up Park-ave. and had reached One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st. He saw a One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st. crosstown car going west at a good rate of speed. The motorman saw the stage about the same time, and both made efforts to stop and avert a collision. The motorman put his brakes on as hard as possible, while Alt turned the horses sharply to the west to get out of the way. The attempt to prevent a collision was unsuccessful, however, as the bumper of the car hit the rear axle of the stage with considerable force. The stage was raised clear of the left wheels and shoved along the slippery asphalt for a distance of about fifty feet. It was not overturned, however, although it was in a perilous angle for some time. The pole of the stage was broken, and Alt, the driver, was slightly bruised. The horses were uninjured, and the stage itself, as well as the car, was hardly scratched.

The sudden shock greatly excited the children. They were in charge of Miss Helen M. Stockbridge, a teacher in the Auxiliary School, and she had great difficulty in quieting them. They screamed and wept, and soon a large crowd had gathered. No arrest was made, as the police found that neither driver nor motorman was to blame. In fact, the police did not even get the name of the motorman or the number of his car.

STAGE HANDS WOULD THROW HIM OUT

That Is Why Young Man Did Not Serve Papers on Mrs. Carter Between Acts.

The man who jumped on the stage of the Belasco Theatre on Monday night during the performance of "Zaza" and served papers on Mrs. Carter in full view of the audience was Albert Winters, twenty-one years old, it was learned yesterday. He is employed as a process server by Howe & Hummel. He is also a law student. Asked if he was ordered to serve the papers, which were directed against David Belasco, on Mrs. Carter, in the manner he did, he replied:

"I take my assignments and do as I am told."

He said that he served them when he did, during the performance, because he knew that the stage hands would throw him out if he served them between acts, but that they would not dare to come forth on the stage during the performance. After he left the theatre, it was his mission further to go at once to a telephone and inform the newspapers of what had occurred.

The papers he served, as already stated, ordered Mr. Belasco or his representative to appear in court and show cause why his production of "Zaza" should not be enjoined.

Mr. Belasco went to Boston yesterday, but before his departure he said that he supposed it was quite true, as Charles Frohman's manager said, that there was no clause in the contract which Mr. Frohman had made with Eugenie Blair's manager, whereby Mr. Belasco was to have reserved for him the right to produce "Zaza" in New-York. A year ago, he said, when Mr. Frohman made the contract, he received a letter saying that such a clause would be inserted, and on the strength of this letter he should fight. Last April he admitted that he had been warned by letter that he had no right to produce "Zaza" in New-York three months after the contract had been made by Mr. Frohman, he trusting entirely to his colleague. At Mr. Frohman's offices, it is still asserted that Charles Frohman is entire owner of the play, and Mr. Belasco receives only half the proceeds by virtue of his part in producing it.

CENTRAL WILL FULFIL AGREEMENT.

To Accept $375,000 for Moving Its Tracks in Croton Dam Watershed.

Controller Grout and Ira A. Place, counsel for the New-York Central Railroad, will meet some day this week to exchange conveyances with reference to a settlement of the controversy over the compensation to be paid the company for removing its Putnam and Mahopac Division tracks to higher ground in the Croton Dam watershed. The building of the new dam will make the back flow of water so extensive that the old tracks of the company will be flooded for several miles in the watershed.

About three years ago the company's officials agreed to accept about $263,000 as compensation for the removal of its tracks, the building of new bridges, etc. There was no written agreement. Last spring Mayor Low was surprised to be informed that the company, owing to the increased cost of steel for bridges, would not abide by the former understanding. The city finally agreed to pay $375,000, and it was ordered that the necessary papers and contracts be written. Controller Grout signed a certain contract calling for this payment, and learned afterward that the terms called for the payment of the sum in advance. He then discovered that the city had no quid pro quo, and informed the company that the agreement would be abrogated. Yesterday, at the meeting of the Aqueduct Commission, Mr. Place said that the company was ready and willing to exchange conveyances with the city and to carry out its written contract to the letter.

DRIVES OFF 100-FOOT CLIFF.

Paterson, Nov. 17 (Special).—William Smethers drove a horse and wagon over a cliff 100 feet high, at Ferndale, the other day. The horse was killed, the wagon smashed, but Smethers crawled out from the debris and got away. Smethers was intoxicated, but he managed to get to the home of James Radcliffe, a Bergen County farmer, by whom he was employed. He could give no idea where he had left the horse and wagon, and went to bed. Next morning he arose early and disappeared. Radcliffe started out to find the outfit, and learned that it had been discovered by Thomas Kane, a lineman on the Erie Railroad, who lives in this city. The dead horse and the wagon had landed almost on the tracks of the Erie.

MINISTER TO RESIGN.

Guatemalan Envoy to Practise Law in New-York.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Nov. 17.—What is probably the most remarkable incident which has occurred in the recent history of the diplomatic corps in Washington has just come to light, and is as yet unknown to many of the diplomats themselves. One of their colleagues, with the rank of envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, will shortly give up his rank and official precedence to become one of the many thousands of practising lawyers in New-York City.

The diplomat in question is Señor Don Antonio Lazo-Arriaga, for more than ten years the minister from Guatemala to the United States. Only one other diplomat of ministerial rank exceeds him in point of service, Baron A. Grip, of Sweden and Norway. By the rule of official precedence this placed him ninth in rank in the entire diplomatic corps, as all ambassadors precede ministers.

In giving up this much coveted high official ranking among his fellow diplomats, Señor Lazo-Arriaga is impelled by the infectious enthusiasm exhibited by his North American brethren of the law to make a name for themselves in active practice. He has determined to cut free from the restraints of close mouthed diplomacy and try his legal powers in competition with the best legal talent in the three Americas.

The minister has sent his resignation to his government, it is stated on good authority here, but until it is accepted no official announcement in Washington is expected. When the news is officially confirmed the minister will present his letters of recall to Secretary Hay at once, as he is desirous of taking up his new work in New-York without delay. The legation will remain in charge of the secretary, Dr. Joaquin Yela, until a new minister is appointed. The legation office is now at No. 4 Stone-st., New-York City, instead of in Washington.

M'SWEENEY ON TRIAL.

His Attorney Says Documents Were Packed Away by Mistake.

Edward F. McSweeney, former Assistant Commissioner of Immigration, came up for examination yesterday morning before United States Commissioner Shields, in the Federal Building. Mr. McSweeney, who now lives in Boston, is charged with larceny of important government documents and papers. Abram J. Rose, of Kellogg & Rose, is acting for his counsel, and United States District Attorney Burnett and his assistant, Mr. Baldwin, represent the government.

Mr. Rose said before the examination that the papers in question were never out of the physical possession of the government, but that at the time Mr. McSweeney left the Immigration Department, he had a clerk pack up his private papers in several boxes, to have them sent to Boston. The Government later opened the boxes, and found a number of official records and documents, said Mr. Rose, and charged McSweeney with larceny. He declared his client did not know they were there and that they were of no use to him.

Samuel A. Eppler, of Ellis Island, an immigration inspector, was asked concerning a manifest of the steamer Lucania, in 1900, which showed the arrival of Miss Millie Crosby, from Queenstown. It was said that Mr. McSweeney had illegally ordered her discharge. Mr. Rose objected to this as irrelevant.

E. V. Skinner, the general Eastern passenger agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway, identified some letters, and said he was unable to find the replies to the two letters he had written, which he had been subpœnaed to produce.

Edwin H. Uhl, an Ellis Island employe, testified to the file mark on a number of government papers and several telegrams. He said he had often known of duplicates of records being kept in McSweeney's personal file. Mr. Myerson, a stenographer from Ellis Island, identified the file numbers on two letters from T. V. Powderly and Leo House, particularized in the bill of complaints. O. H. Taylor, general passenger agent of the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad, marine division, also identified letters.

Mr. Fitchie, ex-Commissioner of Immigration, identified a number of letters which had been mailed to him while Commissioner. Some, he said, he considered official and others personal. At the time he left Ellis Island, he explained, he turned over to Mr. McSweeney a large number of letters, some personal and some official, which Mr. McSweeney was to sort out at his leisure and turn over to the government those he considered official and return to the witness those of a personal nature. The personal letters shown him were among those he left for Mr. McSweeney to sort.

Henry McKinley, a lawyer, said that he had been interested with Henry Gottlieb, representing immigrants before the inquiry board in 1898. Commissioner Fitchie had about that time refused to allow Gottlieb to practise before the board. Mr. Rose asked the witness if he knew where Gottlieb was at the present time, and the witness replied that Gottlieb had been arrested on Monday and locked up in the Tombs on the charge of forgery.

The hearing was then adjourned until to-day at 11 o'clock.

WANTS STATE DEPARTMENT'S AID.

Oyster Bay Man Fears Missing Son May Have Been Killed in Mexico.

Oyster Bay, Long Island, Nov. 17.—Emil H. Hill, of this place will to-morrow appeal to the Department of State to aid him in obtaining some trace of his son, who bears his name, whom he has not heard from for over ten weeks. Mr. Hill fears his son has been killed in Mexico, although he continues to hope the young man is in South America. Young Hill left here last summer for Buenos Ayres. There is a possibility that he went on an expedition into the country from Mazatlan, Mexico, about which there was considerable risk, as the Indians were ugly.

CHARITY BOARD'S INVESTIGATIONS.

Ulster Almshouse and Bellevue—President Mulry's Address.

Buffalo, Nov. 17.—A special meeting of the State Board of Charities was held here to-day. A resolution was adopted requesting Attorney General Cunneen to assist in the investigation into the management of the Ulster County Almshouse, and to bring mandamus proceedings to require the trustees of Bellevue and allied hospitals in New-York City to submit to the board the plans for the construction of Gouverneur Hospital, as required by the poor law.

In the Ulster County investigation the commissioners, according to present information, think the most serious charge is the allegation that the keeper of the almshouse permitted the flogging of an imbecile woman.

The committee on reformatories was requested to present its report on the management of the House of Refuge, Randall's Island, in December.

Thomas M. Mulry, the president, was kept away by illness. His address, which was read, contained this:

One great rock which we should avoid is politics. As our power increases and our influence grows, there may be a tendency to use that influence and power for political purposes. It is only on rare and important occasions that this influence should be used. Such an occasion happened a few years ago, when there was danger that some of the charities of the State would be placed at the mercy of professional politicians.

The present condition of labor opens our eyes to the great duty which devolves upon those who have been blessed with time and means of devoting themselves in some measure to the amelioration of the condition of their less fortunate brethren. This duty cannot be shirked by a gift to some favorite charity. Personal interest and personal service must follow the donation to make it effective.

MRS. BRUNES'S DEATH SUSPICIOUS.

A man who said he was a relative of Mrs. Catherine Brunes, the young woman who was shot and killed in the postoffice at Glendale, Queens Borough, on Saturday, called on District Attorney Gregg of Queens yesterday, and requested that a careful examination be made of the body. The bullet hit her in the temple, and Mr. Gregg's visitor asked that the woman's head and face be carefully examined to determine whether there were any powder marks where the bullet entered. The man intimated that he believed the woman had not died by her own hand, although he did not say so. District Attorney Gregg believes Mrs. Brunes committed suicide. Concerning the story that Mrs. Brunes was jealous of Mrs. O'Donohue, the postmaster, the District Attorney said he understood that the dead woman had told her sister that she would kill her husband, Mrs. O'Donohue and herself.

NEVER KNEW MR. GREEN.

STATEMENT BY MRS. ELIAS

Examined by District Attorney—Negro Pleads "Not Guilty."

As a final confutation to the disordered and insane charges of Cornelius Williams, the negro who murdered Andrew H. Green, and sought to justify his deed by vague, wandering attacks on the character of his victim, District Attorney Jerome, as the result of his personal examination of Hannah Elias, whom Williams accused Mr. Green of hiding, declared that there was not a scintilla of evidence to show that the woman had ever seen Mr. Green; that both her testimony to him, in the truthfulness of which he asserted that he believed, and other corroborating evidence, convinced him of the utter absence of basis for the negro's charges. Mr. Jerome made his statement after carefully cross-examining the Elias woman at her apartments, at No. 236 Central Park West, where he went with Assistant District Attorney Appleton, a stenographer and A. C. Nanz, Mrs. Elias's personal counsel, who had earlier in the day informed the District Attorney that his client was unable to go to Mr. Jerome's office.

On his return from the visit Mr. Jerome said:

I have had a talk with Mrs. Elias, or Mrs. Davis, or whatever you choose to call her. I questioned her carefully and she appeared to me to talk with perfect frankness and truthfulness. I questioned her in every way that might throw light on the murder of Mr. Green, and I am satisfied, both from her statement and from other corroborative evidence, that so far as she knew, she had never met or seen Mr. Green. There is not a scintilla of evidence, so far as I am aware, that she ever saw Mr. Green or that he ever saw her. I am also of the opinion that in all human probability Williams has not seen her, nor she him, for the last eight years; since 1895 in fact.

An effort was made to get Mr. Jerome to discuss the rumor that a claim had been brought against the estate of Mr. Green, or that he had been visited by a person who conveyed such an intimation to him, but Mr. Jerome declined to discuss the matter further, refusing to answer any question.

Contrary to general expectation, the negro when arraigned in Special Sessions entered a plea of not guilty, and his counsel did not ask for an examination into the sanity of the prisoner. When the suggestion was made by District Attorney Jerome—who declared that it was his intention to have as speedy a trial as possible and that, if the defence were to be insanity, there should be an immediate examination into Williams's mental condition—his counsel, A. H. Kaffenburgh, declined to accept it, and stuck to the plea of not guilty. Williams was then taken back to the Tombs, and his case was set on the calendar for Monday. During his arraignment Williams maintained the same calm demeanor that has marked his attitude throughout, and showed no signs of anxiety. After the arraignment Judge Cowing assigned the firm of Howe & Hummel as the negro's counsel.

After the court had formally assigned Howe & Hummel as counsel, A. H. Kaffenburgh, of that law firm, who has had charge of the defence, declared that he intended to put the negro on the stand in his defence, that he did not intend to enter a plea of insanity, and intimated that he would subject Mrs. Elias to a searching cross-examination. Further than that he declined to outline his plans. In response to a query as to how soon he would be ready to proceed with the trial he answered that he would ask only two days' notice.

The apparent mixup in the birth and death certificates of the Elias child, which died at the home of Mrs. Elias, No. 236 Central Park West, on April 25 of the present year, will be investigated by Commissioner Lederle. The birth certificate, which is dated October 15, 1902, gives the name of the child was Gwendolyn Elias and that of the father as John Platt. The death certificate names William Elias as the father and his place of residence as Pittsburg. Dr. A. R. Robinson, of No. 159 West Forty-ninth-st., who attended the child, as the certificates record, was quoted yesterday as saying that the change was made at the request of the family, and that he knew nothing about the matter. Commissioner Lederle said last night that he had seen the certificates and noted the discrepancy; that such occurrences were not entirely unusual, as families sometimes filled in part of the certificate. He added:

"It is not true that I have subpœnaed either the physician or Mrs. Elias, but of course some time I shall ask them to explain the matter and straighten it out."

Stories of the mystery with which the Elias woman shrouded herself were told freely by her neighbors yesterday. The fact that some time ago, about the time of the death of the child, in fact, she advertised the sale of a number of Paris dresses, set the neighborhood all agog, and since then the neighbors have anxiously watched to see the woman. But so carefully did she conceal her movements or so quietly did she live, that it was not until last Friday that one of the neighbors finally identified her in the street.

Rumors of large orders placed by her through a French speaking maid, and paid by check, one order reaching as high as $5,000, were circulated yesterday; but little or no definite light has yet been shed on the real personality of the woman. A person who saw Mrs. Elias recently described her as a light colored woman, showing, however, apparent signs of African blood, with attractive dark eyes. He placed her age at about forty.

HIGH SEA KEEPS SICK MAN ABOARD.

Tender Trying to Take Him Off Fire Island Lightship.

The lighthouse tender Larkspur left the Lighthouse Department station, at Tompkinsville, on Monday, to visit the Fire Island lightship, and take off a member of the crew, who was ill, and to replace him by another man. Up to last night the Larkspur had not returned to the pier at Tompkinsville.

Word was received from her that on Monday she had failed to reach the lightship, owing to bad weather. Yesterday heavy weather kept her from making the ship. When off Long Beach in the morning, the commander of the Larkspur decided that in the rough sea running it would be useless to proceed, as the sick man could not possibly be taken off in the high sea. The Larkspur will make another effort this morning.

NOMINATIONS CONFIRMED.

Senate Acts on Long List of Presidential Appointments.

Washington, Nov. 17.—The Senate in executive session to-day confirmed the following nominations:

JOHN G. FOSTER, of Vermont, consul general at Ottawa.

Consuls—LUTHER T. ELLSWORTH, of Ohio, at Cartagena, Colombia; CHRISTOPHER H. PAYNE, of West Virginia, at St. Thomas, W. I.; ALFRED L. M. GOTTSCHALK, of New-York, at Callao, Peru; CHARLES N. DANIELS, of Connecticut, at Sheffield, Eng.; PIERRE PAUL DEMERS, of New-Hampshire, at Port Limon, Costa Rica; EDWARD HIGGINS, of Massachusetts, at Berne, Switzerland; URBAIN J. LEDOUX, of Maine, at Prague, Austria.

DANIEL THEW WRIGHT, of Ohio, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, District of Columbia.

WILLIAM H. POPE, of New-Mexico, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of New-Mexico.

WILLIAM C. HOOK, of Kansas, Circuit Judge of the VIIth Judicial Circuit.

JAMES C. M'REYNOLDS, of Tennessee, Assistant Attorney General.

HERBERT KNOX SMITH, of Hartford, Conn., Deputy Commissioner of Corporations.

E. F. JOHNSON, of Michigan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippine Islands.

A. W. COOLEY, of New-York, Civil Service Commissioner.

F. M. HIGGINS, of Tennessee, chief examiner of the Civil Service Commission.

S. T. M'PHERSON, of Ohio, Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio.

H. W. BAILEY, Marshal for the District of Vermont.

W. H. MAYO, Marshal for the District of Maine.

J. P. NIELDS, Attorney for the District of Delaware.

D. M. LITTLE, Collector of Customs for the District of Salem and Beverly, Massachusetts.

"GRAFTERS" STILL INERT.

Tammany Aldermen Lethargic Toward Port Chester.

GOTSHALL'S MANLY APPEAL.

Despite the fact that the demand from the people of The Bronx for an immediate consideration of the Port Chester Railroad permit is unanimous, the Railroad Committee of the Board of Aldermen yesterday neglected to take any action on the company's application to cross under and over certain streets and avenues in The Bronx.

It is understood now that the Tammany members of the committee, together with one or two of the fusion members, have agreed to keep the application in committee until after the first of the year. Ugly rumors with reference to the motives actuating the committee in its policy of non-action are afloat, and the criticism prompted Alderman John Diemer, chairman of the committee, to issue a call for the meeting of the committee. Mr. Diemer said last night that he thought the committee would get together on Friday.

President Gotshall of the company yesterday sent a pertinent letter to the aldermen asking how soon action on the permit can be looked for. Mr. Gotshall has from the beginning insisted that the company's request be acted on strictly from a public interest point of view. His letter follows:

The New-York and Port Chester Railroad Company takes pleasure in presenting you herewith a copy of the opinion and decision of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, Third Department, in the matter of the People ex rel. the New-York City and Westchester Railway Company against the Board of Railroad Commissioners of the State of New-York and the New-York and Port Chester Railroad Company, affirming the order of the Board of Railroad Commissioners of the State of New-York in granting the New-York and Port Chester Railroad Company the certificate of that board.

The order of the Appellate Division on this matter affirming the order of the Railroad Commission was unanimously sustained by the Court of Appeals in a decision handed down Tuesday, November 10, 1903. By this final decision of the Court of Appeals all legal objections are now removed. There have been absolutely no other objections. The matter of the application of the New-York and Port Chester Railroad Company is now before your honorable body free from opposition or objection of any kind whatsoever.

The citizens of the Borough of The Bronx and of the cities and towns north of The Bronx through which this road will run, as well as all civic and public bodies and organizations interested, are, as you know, unanimous in requesting affirmative action on your part on the ordinance now in the Railroad Committee.

I also inclose you copy of the decision of the Appellate Division, Third Department, in the matter of the people ex rel. the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad Company against the Board of Railroad Commissioners of the State of New-York and the New-York and Port Chester Railroad Company, affirming the order of the Railroad Commission in the matter of the appeal of the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad Company from the decision of the Railroad Commission. This order of the Appellate Division in the matter of the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad, above referred to, was sustained by the Court of Appeals on the 23d of last June, and is reported in 175, New-York, page 516.

Under all the conditions may we not hope that you will now act promptly and favorably upon our application?

New-York, November 17.

AGED WOMAN DROWNS IN CISTERN.

New-Brunswick, Nov. 17.—Mrs. Margaret Zimmerman, eighty-five years old, met her death in this city last evening by falling into a cistern. She lived with her daughetr, Mrs. John Bernheimer. She had been missing from the house for some time, and her daughter in searching for her noticed that the cistern cover was not in place. In replacing it she saw her mother