The Sun.

THIRTY-SEVENTH YEAR. NEW YORK, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1869. PRICE TWO CENTS.

THE PALISADES TRAGEDY.

THE MURDERER DICKEY EXECUTING HIMSELF IN HIS CELL.

Dead within Four Hours of the Verdict—Hanging in a Cell with another Convict—Determined to Escape the Gallows—Details of the Murders and the Trial—The Last of the Bombay Horror.

John Dickey, the murderer of his wife and Colin Colquhoun, cheated the gallows by hanging himself in his cell, in Hackensack, N. J., jail, on Wednesday night. On the 15th inst. he was placed on trial for the murder of his wife. Six days were consumed examining witnesses, and on Wednesday evening the Jury returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. Judge Bedle announced that he would pass sentence in the case on Monday morning next. The prisoner was recommitted to his cell, where, at 10 o'clock, his lifeless body was found suspended by a handkerchief to the grating of the window.

The particulars of this double tragedy have already appeared in THE SUN. The prisoner was a laboring man, and resided with his family and three children at Bombay Hook, N. J., opposite Yonkers. Besides, he had as inmates in his house two lodgers, Wm. Moore and Colin Calquhoun, the latter being one of his victims.

On the night of Nov. 1, Dickey and his lodgers passed the time at his house in a semi-drunken carousal, drinking whiskey and playing cards. At about 10 o'clock Dickey and his family retired, the two lodgers also seeking their apartments. At midnight Mooney and Colquhoun knocked at the bedroom door of Dickey and asked for something to eat. Mrs. Dickey arose and proceeded to the kitchen to obtain food for them. While so engaged, Dickey made his appearance with a revolver in his hand, and without uttering a word first shot Colquhoun through the heart, and next directed his aim fatally at his wife, who died after lingering a few hours in great pain.

The murderer attempted to escape by crossing the Hudson River, but was arrested in Glenwood, N. Y., at noon on the 2d of November, by Roundsman Austin of the Metropolitan Police.

On the trial the principal witnesses against him were Mooney and the prisoner's eldest daughter, Margaret Jane, both of whom saw the shooting. An effort was made by the defence to show that an adulterous connection had existed between the prisoner's wife and Colquhoun, but this utterly failed. It was shown by the prosecution that the prisoner had acted with cruelty toward his wife, and on one occasion had attempted to drown her in the Hackensack river.

The prosecution was conducted by District Attorney Ackerson and Mr. Edward Knapp, Esq. and Beadle assigned as counsel for the prisoner ex-Judge Voorhies and Messrs. P. A. Youngblood and A. D. Campbell. The jury were absent only twenty minutes, when they agreed upon their verdict.

The composure which marked the demeanor of the prisoner during his protracted trial forsook him utterly when he heard his sentence, and while leaving the court room in charge of the Sheriff he was seen to weep. When the Sheriff left him Dickey bade him good-bye, and told him he wished his watch given to his son. This struck the official as being singular, and he determined to watch him, but, as he sequel shows, he was not sharp enough, and the convict outwitted him by anticipating his certain execution.

At about 9 o'clock the Sheriff entered Dickey's cell, and, seeing him with a long leather strap, took it from him; Dickey saying, "You needn't be afraid of my harming myself. I use that strap for my waist." Owing to the crowded condition of the jail, Dickey was put into the cell of the murderer David D. Eckerson, who was sentenced to twenty years at hard labor a few days ago.

At about 9:25 the Sheriff again visited the cell, and called out to Dickey. Receiving no answer, he called again, on which Eckerson, who was lying on his bed, looked up, saying, "I guess he is asleep. Not there? He is, hanging there," pointing to Dickey's body. The cell was immediately opened, and it was found that Dickey had pushed a little stool under the barred window of the cell, and had tied one end of a long common red cotton handkerchief to one of the bars with a running noose in the other, which he had slipped over his head. The body was not cold when it was cut down. Dr. H. A. Hopper was called in, but in vain.

The mystery is, how could he commit suicide by hanging himself in the same little 12x8 cell occupied by another criminal who should know any thing of it? There is a strong probability that Eckerson helped him. The stool, on which he had to stand on his tiptoes to get the noose over his head, was not two feet from the bed on which Eckerson was lying.

An inquest was subsequently held, and the jury found that "Jonas Dickey came to his death by hanging, at his own hands." Thus ends the last act in the Dickey tragedy.

THE SAVIOUR'S BIRTHDAY.

Extensive Preparations for the Celebration—Elaborate Decoration of the Temples of Worship—Fine Floral Display.

The churches are making extensive preparations with flowers and evergreens to fitly celebrate the anniversary of the Saviour's advent to-morrow. In some of the Catholic houses of worship midnight masses will be celebrated; in others, a mass at 4:30 A. M., and in all low masses will follow every half hour until half-past ten, the time of the solemn high mass of the day. Every priest makes it a duty to offer up three masses on Christmas Day, although it is not obligatory.

Trinity Church displays great taste in the arrangement of its adornments save in the too profuse use of pine boughs about the pulpit. This leads some wag to suggest that each member of the congregation, to-morrow, will be converted into a Moses, and hear the Word of God from a bush. A mammoth Christmas tree will this evening shower its gifts upon the 500 children of the parish Sunday School.

The Rev. Dr. Potter will preach in Grace Church, and the usual fine choir will be doubled. St. George's and St. Alban's are both beautifully decorated. The Presbyterian, Baptist, and other Protestant churches will all have their Christmas evergreens, and the children of many of the Sunday schools will sing Christmas Carols. The usual sermons at half past ten will be preached.

Many of the Roman Catholic churches, besides the usual green adornments, will display symbolic representations of the manger of Bethlehem and the infant Christ. In St. Stephen's the new marble altars have been finished by placing the statues of St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin in their respective positions. There will be a private solemn high mass at midnight and a public one at 10½ o'clock, at which last a new mass by Carl Anchutz will be performed under his own direction, with a full orchestral accompaniment of 50 instruments and a choir of 40 voices. Geo. W. Morgan, as usual, will preside at the organ and Toulon at the harp. In St. Patrick's Cathedral, the Rev. Joseph Shea, President of the Jesuit College in Fordham, will preach, and mass will be celebrated by the Very Rev. Father Starrs, V. G. In St. Ann's, Chancellor Preston will say mass, and the Rev. Father Keogh will preach the sermon. The new decorations and the new altar—one of the finest pieces of workmanship of that description in the city—of St. Francis Xavier's are now completed. The music will be under the direction of Bergé, and the choir is considered one of the finest in the city. St. Peter's, St. Boniface's, and all the others will do their part to celebrate with due pomp and reverence the sacred occasion.

To-day, the Vigil of Christmas, or Christmas Eve, is observed by all good Catholics and by many Protestants as a fast day of obligation.

A Nice Little Plum for the Lawyers.

One of the heirs of the Calyer Greenpoint estate has sued to recover his share of the property. Peter Calyer, the owner of a farm at Greenpoint, died in 1804, and left a life interest in his property to two of his sons, Peter Calyer and Jacobus Calyer. Some of the property was disposed of by the sons and their children without the authority to sell, but supposing they had the right to do so, while other portions of the estate are still in the possession of some of the descendants. The land comprises upward of one hundred acres, extending from Oakland street to the East River, all of which has been built upon, and includes many very fine residences and extensive warehouses and manufacturing establishments. The water front alone is estimated to be worth several millions of dollars. In addition to the suit for the recovery of the property, it is understood that other actions will be instituted against the present holders for damages and compensation for the use of the land for a number of years past.

Death from an Old Charge in a Pistol.

At about 2½ o'clock yesterday afternoon, Charles Edwards, of 53 Carll street, Brooklyn, entered John Langstaff's barroom, at 173 Myrtle avenue, and asked for a pistol. Mr. Langstaff produced three, one of which was a revolver, and a second, a single-barrelled pistol. As the revolver had been loaded for a year, Mr. Langstaff retired to the rear of the premises and discharged it, after which he returned to the barroom, when his son remarked that he preferred the single-barrelled weapon. Mr. Langstaff took the single-barrelled pistol, unconscious of the fact that it was loaded, and snapped it in the fireplace. The charge exploded, and at the same moment Edwards, who had been standing near him, suddenly turned toward him and received the ball in his abdomen just above the navel. He was borne to his residence. He exonerated Mr. Langstaff. Edwards, who is about 48 years of age, was foreman of Lockitt's pork-packing establishment in Myrtle avenue. Mr. Langstaff was arrested and discharged.

THE FESTIVITIES OF WINTER.

Magnificent Floral Display—The "Lierre" Reception—Elegant Costumes—Bewitching Beauties—New and Beautiful Figures in the German.

Last evening the second reception of the Lierre Sociable was given in the residence of Miss Fannie Morris, 117 West Twenty-first street. Few outside invitations were issued for this entertainment, and it was in consequence exceedingly select.

The walls, cornices, paintings, and statuary in the parlors were festooned with bouquets and evergreen and ivy chains; wreaths and other devices were handsomely arranged on the chandeliers; there were four large jardinières filled with the choicest exotics; the cabinet, étagère, and mantels were crowded with baskets of rich and rare flowers; and in each window stood a rustic stand with beautiful living plants. A superb contrivance in flowers was the stand presented by the Sociable to the hostess. The choicest flowers and leaves composed this device, and the name "Lierre" was tastefully worked in with carnations.

The hostess, Miss Morris, was attired in a pink and white striped silk, made low-necked with train, tunic of pink silk, trimmed with black velvet and Mechlin lace. She wore diamond and jet ear ornaments, hair powdered, arranged in braids and frizzed in front under a spray of pink flowers. Mr. Thos. Clarke, the President, was at her right, and very attentive.

A beautiful costume of white grenadine, cut circular in the neck, with train, and trimmed with black velvet, was worn by Miss Menzies of Twenty-third street. Her diamonds were very elegant. Mr. James Tappin was her escort.

Miss Fanny Clarke, the Saratoga belle, was very conspicuous in blue silk with white tarlatan overdress. It was made high-necked, with medium train. She wore valuable pearl ornaments, and was escorted by her brother.

Miss Sage of Washington square, wore black silk, with cherry colored tunic; it was cut square in the neck, and was *en train*; hair *à la reine*, and Etruscan gold jewelry. Attended by Mr. Kendall.

Miss Giles, of Fourteenth street, was attired in light blue silk made *décolleté*, with train, and trimmed with satin and lace.

Miss Evans of Madison avenue, the Misses Butler of Ninth street, Miss Fling, Union Place Hotel, Miss Howell of Twenty-second street, Miss Emmons of Twenty-ninth street, Miss Corwin, and Miss Lamson were also very richly dressed.

THE NEW GERMAN.

The dancing began at 9 P. M., and continued till 11 P. M., when the guests partook of a substantial and elegant supper. The German was started at 11:30, and the novelties began with the introduction of the Lierre figure, which was danced by eight couples, who form a double quadrille. The heads forward and back, and forward again to a pyramid of wreaths and bouquets in the centre. The gentlemen take a wreath and each remaining partners, the ladies in turn insert a unique little floral design in the lappels of their partners' coats, and all return to places. Sides perform the same. Afterward the ladies all advance to the centre and prepare for a grand right and left. Gentlemen form circle around the ladies, and at a signal from the leader, both circles execute the grand chain and set out with their partners for the waltz. The ivy wreaths worn by the ladies had a very charming effect. The Montfort Grecian and other new figures were led afterward by Mr. Taylor.

We noticed several gentlemen dressed in black dress suits with velvet collars and buttons, which we think is much "quieter" than the blue cloth and brass buttons. The new Palmerston scarf was generally worn, and was shown to great advantage with cameo and mosaic pins. The sombre black was relieved sufficiently by white duck undervests. We noticed among the gentlemen the following who are well known in social circles: Mr. George Hobart Scott, Theodore Blondel, Harry Howell, John Walker, Thomas K. Miller, Frank Howell, James Menzies, Wm. Cassard, Chas. Smith, Geo. Stanfield, and Mr. Geo. Howell. At midnight the entertainment was at its height, and it was not until a late hour that it broke up.

A CORNER IN APPLES.

A Finger in an Apple Stew—Prolonged War Between the Bear and Bull—Counter Suits for Assault and Slander—The Bear Caged in Ludlow Street Jail.

A conspiracy has grown out of an attempt of two wealthy speculators to make a "corner" in apples. The bull movement was begun last August by Isaac Huyler, of Fulton and West streets. He had it in view to "lock up" immense quantities of apples coming to this market in the same manner and for the same purpose that the gold speculators in Wall street lock up gold. The bear movement was started by Charles Finger, 17 Vesey Pier, who had a large number of contracts to fill. The contracts required that the apples should be furnished at a fixed rate. Mr. Finger knew that if he was held to his contracts, and Huyler got a "rise" on the market, he was ruined. One day they met and there was

A COLLISION.

Mr. Finger was trying to buy of a Mr. Hover, who raises apples, and Huyler objected. As an earnest evidence of his feelings, Mr. Huyler took off his hat and wiping the perspiration from his forehead, bid higher and higher until he outbid Finger. Then he began to crow. Finger made a remark which Huyler did not like. Huyler thereupon hit Fingle. A policeman who had been eating a number of Mr. Hover's apples, came up quietly and requested the belligerents to stop.

Mr. Finger resides at Hudson, on the Hudson. When he went home that night he consulted a lawyer, who instituted a

COURT AND TAPE WAR,

or criminal prosecution, with alacrity, on behalf of Mr. Finger. But Huyler was sharp, and transferred his attention from a "corner" in apples to a "corner" in law. He was successful, and had the case "locked up."

Subsequently Huyler managed to meet Finger and to get into another dispute with him, in the presence of witnesses. Finger was riled, and said things which were hard. Huyler saw he had him, and sued him for slander. A few days afterward Mr. Finger was standing on the street among a number of barrels filled with fruit, when a lank specimen of a lawyer's clerk from the firm of Mayham & Wet more waited on him, bearing a long legal paper. Mr. Finger inquired what it was the cadaverous youth had handed him, and the youth explained. A second afterwards and the messenger was tearing up Vesey street as though there were a thousand mad dogs after him.

AFTER THE KICK—IN LIMBO.

Huyler was in reserve. So was a Deputy Sheriff. They had just finished a drink, and when the bear kicked they came down on him together, like the ancient Assyrian. The Deputy Sheriff cleared a dozen or more barrels in a jiffy, and got Mr. Finger by the collar.

"You are arrested, sir."

Mr. Finger saw that he was. The officer bore him to Ludlow street jail.

THE CONSPIRACY REVEALED.

Mr. Finger, having been detained in jail five days, was released yesterday morning, on signing a paper relinquishing the prosecution of the assault and battery suit against Mr. Huyler. He has now taken further legal proceedings and placed his case in the hands of Erastus Cooke. He proposes to prosecute Mr. Huyler and several others for conspiracy

THE CURIOSITIES OF CRIME.

Encounter with River Pirates.

At 4:45 o'clock yesterday morning, Officers Fallon and Rooney observed two boats—one containing three and the other two men—rowing in the Thirty-fourth street dock. The officers watched and saw them attempt to board a sloop, but apparently seeing the officers, they pulled further up the river, then pushed out into the stream. The officers then—with Officer Breckell, whom they called to their assistance—pursued as far as Thirty-ninth street, where they again observed the marauders cutting the ropes from the barge William, whereupon the officers bade them surrender. The only answer they received was a volley from the pirates, which Rooney gallantly returned, wounding two of them. The thieves escaped.

A Burglar at a Woman's Bedside.

Mrs. Johnson, of 203 Mercer street, Jersey City, awakening at 3 o'clock yesterday morning, saw a man standing by her bedside with a candle in one hand and a revolver in the other, while a confederate was ransacking the room. When the burglars went out she awoke her husband, who started in pursuit. He discharged two shots without effect as they were passing through the back yard. One of the burglars, Edward Rogers, was subsequently arrested.

Bluebeard in Chandlerville, Ill.

POTTSTOWN, Pa., Dec. 23.—John Hickman, who murdered his wife a few days ago near Chandlerville, Ill., and had previously to this killed a former wife near the same place, was formerly a resident of Pottstown. While living in this region he was twice married. He murdered both wives, and was declared insane. He then removed to the West, where he has just killed his fourth wife.

The Ayres-Oliver Tragedy.

CHARLOTTEVILLE, Va., Dec. 23.—In the case of Ayres, accused of killing Dr. A. R. Oliver, Miss Ellen Ayres, and Dr. Brown, the family physician, testified that Miss Ayres was about to become a mother, and that Oliver had seduced her. Ayres was held to bail in $25,000.

Execution of the Murderer Morgan.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Dec. 23.—Oliver A. Morgan, the murderer of John Petrie, was hanged at a few minutes past 12 o'clock to-day. The execution took place in a small building reserved for such purpose, near the jail. Morgan met his fate with seeming indifference. The execution was unattended by any unusual incident.

LIFE IN THE METROPOLIS.

DASHES HERE AND THERE BY THE SUN'S REPORTERS.

Tunnelling Broadway—The Pneumatic Tube—Profound Secrecy of the Work—New Underground Railway—Defective Masonry—Broadway Pavement Sunk.

Broadway, at Warren street, was astonished yesterday by the tubular and other blocks of iron that the workmen were lowering into the basement of Devlin's building. These blocks are unlike anything that has been exhibited by the American Institute. They are semicircular iron tubes, whose diameter is equally divided from end to end by a substantial iron bar. The central division forms two pneumatic tubes, along which passenger cars may travel, while between them is another space that can be used to transmit packages. Thus, it may be seen, travel may be maintained up and down at once. The tubes have already been put in place from Warren street down to the Astor; but the masonry is thus far imperfect. For example, in front of Devlin's the street pavement has sunk from four to six inches beneath the average level. This depression runs along a line of about fifteen or twenty feet from the sidewalk of the Park. No one save those employed therein is admitted into the mystic depths of the Broadway bore, and none of those employed there will utter a word.

Church's Picture of Damascus.

Frederick E. Church is considered by many good authorities the first of American painters. His Niagara Falls created an immense sensation, and great expectations were entertained of his pictures of the Holy Land, where he has recently travelled. The first fruit of his expedition to Palestine is now on exhibition at Goupil's Gallery, in Fifth avenue. Of course it is warmly praised by the majority, who are satisfied to accept everything as perfect that comes from one of acknowledged reputation. But to many the picture was full of disappointment. Though of high merit in certain particulars, it is really more like a map or a bird's-eye view than a landscape. In the foreground are the rugged slopes of the Anti-Lebanon, and beyond the vast plains of Barada covered with trees. In the distance are discerned the white minarets of Damascus. The distance is so enormous that the entire city, girdled by its fair white wall and lofty towers, occupies but a small space in the picture. The plain, covered with forests, is a green mass, the trees being of microscopic size. The river Abana and the streams and canals that flow into and from it are designated by blue meandering lines, exactly as in the maps that adorn the offices of merchants and journalists. All the wealth of the artist's genius, all the resources of his talent, have been exhausted on the mountain slopes. That these masses of sandstone, rounded by the winter's storms and the fierce winds of the equinox, are accurately delineated, will be denied by no one. The careful minuteness of the lines and sinuosities is indeed almost painful. The glow of dying sunset thrown over their ruggedness produces an eminently pleasing effect; and the shadows sweeping from their huge flanks give a strange sentiment of majesty to the work.

But we are forced to admit that this is not landscape painting. The eye is better served by representations of what we see close at hand, or within a moderate distance, than by these enormous canvasses, full only of space. What is given is neither a copy of the canvas nor of the powers of the artist. The dooling of microscopic ones over hundreds of miles of distance is a mechanical work unworthy of genius. And the lines of the mountain are not drawn with sufficient majesty. These are careful, but they are weak. They want breadth; they want power; they want firmness. Mountains can neither be drawn nor painted with microscopic strokes and careful scumbling. They require strength of drawing and solidity of manipulation.

In these respects, Mr. Church's latest work seems to fall short even of the standard that he has created in some of his earlier ones.

The Wardenship of the Tombs.

On the 1st of January, the Wardenship of the City Prison becomes vacant by the resignation of Capt. Coulter, who will take his seat as Police Justice in the Ninth District. Several names have been mentioned for the succession, among them that of Thomas Smith, present keeper at the Jefferson Market Prison, who is backed up by Tweed, Connolly, and other prominent Democrats. John Stacom, an ex member of the Common Council, a resident of the Sixth Ward, and who keeps a liquor store in South street, is also urged, but meets with decided opposition, as it is claimed the Sixth has enough political pap.

Enlarging a Noble Institution.

Mrs. C. P. Daly and other managers of the Union Home and School for orphans of soldiers killed in the late war have purchased the mansion in 131st street formerly occupied by the Colored Orphan Asylum. This they are enlarging at a cost of about $25,000. To meet this expense they ask contributions. The Home was established in the city of New York, May 22, 1861, and has provided for 2,700 children. To-day it shelters over 200 orphans. Assistance may be sent to Mrs. Charles P. Daly, 84 Clinton place; Mrs. Admiral Farragut, 113 East Thirty-sixth street; Mrs. J. R. Brady, 51 West Thirty-third street; and Mrs. James Gillies, 51 West Forty-second street.

The Famous Balls in Union Square.

The two stone balls surmounting the granite posts at the southern entrance to the Park in Union square originally surmounted the granite posts which formerly stood at the southern entrance of the City Hall Park. When those posts were removed to give place to iron ones, the stone balls were moved to their present location. These balls were presented by the Turkish Government to Commodore Perry, and were given by him to the city of New York. They are specimens of what were then used by the Turks as cannon balls.

Neil Bryant's Opening.

The Hon. Neil Bryant opened a magnificent billiard room at the corner of Broadway and Thirty-second street last evening. Don Bryant is a partner of Neil's. Among those present were the Hon. Wm. Leaning, the Hon. Harry Genet, Col. James Mix, Gen. Christopher Connor, his Honor Judge Bedford, Secretary Welles, and Col. Joseph Howard, Jr. Neil Bryant was as sober as a judge, and treated his guests with becoming dignity.

When U. S. Citizenship is Extinguished.

In the case of Jane Massey against James H. Fay, Surrogate Tucker yesterday decided that a permanent residence in a foreign country, with the declared but unexecuted intention of becoming a subject of that country, does not operate as a renunciation of allegiance and citizenship by a citizen of the United States until he actually becomes a citizen of another country.

Mr. Sweeny Cracking his Whip.

Mayor Hall and other magnates of Tammany are making preparations for the election of a new Democratic General Committee. A private caucus yesterday resulted in a recommendation that a call be sent out next week for the primaries. Mr. Tweed will undoubtedly wield the gavel another year.

Metropolitan Police Changes.

James J. Kelso, chief (*pro tem.*) of the detective force, was promoted to be Captain of the new Thirty-fifth Precinct, whose boundary is from Broadway to the Bowery and from Bleecker to Houston street. Patrolmen Henry Young, of the City Hall, and John Oates, of the Fourteenth Precinct, have been dismissed.

Important Insurance Decision.

In the suit of William H. Sherman against the Niagara Fire Insurance Company, tried yesterday before Judge Monell, the Court decided that a defence by the Company that the policy was assigned without their consent, and that proofs of loss were not delivered to the Company within the time prescribed by the policy, would not avail. The jury gave plaintiff a verdict for $972.

Florence Scannel and Judge McCunn.

The Hon. Florence Scannel was sworn in yesterday as Alderman for the Sixteenth District, Eighteenth Ward, by Judge McCunn, who went to the Bellevue Hospital especially for that purpose. Scannel is paralyzed below his thighs, but is doing well, and is out of all danger to himself.

The Great Storm at Buffalo.

BUFFALO, Dec. 23.—About four hundred feet of the Niagara Falls branch of the New York Central railroad has been washed away. On the same road the trestle bridge near the depot was carried away by a floating crib. One hundred and forty feet of the Erie and Niagara railroad opposite this city is also washed away. The water is higher than it has been in the last thirty years.

HOW THE K. G. C. ARMED THEMSELVES.

The Box of Arms which Found no Owner—Pistols for Union Citizens of Huntsville, Ind.—Bricks and Straw for Revolvers.

In June, 1863, a man signing his name as H. Sam Bright, of Huntsville, Ind., sent an order to Merwin & Bray in this city for a box of pistols, averring that the Union residents of Huntsville found it necessary to go armed, because of the persecutions of the rebels. He ordered the pistols to be sent by the American Express Company in care of the Provost Marshal, the bill to be collected on delivery. The box reached Huntsville, but the agent could not find any such man, and the package was sent to Columbia City, a few miles distant, the Company having no office at Huntsville. No one called for the box, and when it was opened it was found to be filled with bricks and straw. Messrs. Merwin & Bray sued the Company for the value of the firearms, and the case came to trial yesterday in the Supreme Court Circuit, before Judge Ingraham. The Express Company claimed that the pistols were intended for the Knights of the Golden Circle; that Bright was a fictitious name, and that the pistols were stolen from the box at Huntsville, without any fault on their part. The jury gave the plaintiffs $338.

POLICEMEN GOING TO SING SING.

The Officers who Became Highwaymen—One said to have once been a Methodist Minister—Drugging and Robbing a Man.

The trial in the Court of General Sessions yesday attracted more than ordinary attention. The court room was filled with all kinds of persons interested in the proceedings, not the least of which was the sentence of the two policemen recently convicted of robbing Mr. Wells, of Kentucky, of $430, in Forty-second street. This robbery was the more remarkable, though by no means a solitary instance, because the police plied the man with liquor until he was drunk, and then, under cover of seeing him safely to the St. Cloud Hotel, where he boarded, took him up Forty-second street, toward Sixth avenue, and robbed him on the way, and then, with an admonition not to "peach," lest he should receive worse next time, they let him go. It was remarkable also in that, as it is currently asserted, Remsen was once a Methodist minister. In passing sentence upon Remsen and Hannigan yesterday, Recorder Hackett said:

Remsen and Hannigan, I have no desire to add to the remorse which I must believe now controls you, but a sense of duty impels me, in passing sentence, to speak of the enormity of the crime for the commission of which you stand convicted. That you have been fairly tried I know, that you have been vigorously defended you cannot deny, and all that have listened to the details of the testimony upon this trial must have been forced to the conclusion of guilt, which the jury so quickly found by their verdict. You stand convicted of grand larceny, committed at night, in the public streets, and its atrocity in your case is magnified, from the fact that at the time of its commission you were on duty as policemen to perpetrate this inhospitable crime upon that man. The oath you took when you were imposed upon you the duty "to assist, advise, and protect emigrants, strangers, and travellers in public streets." You knew that the old man was a stranger and a traveller. You had partaken also of his generous hospitality. Yet, in your police uniform, at night, in the public streets, while he was appealing to you for protection, under circumstances bracing the appeal, you robbed him of his money; you broke the rules of hospitality, you acted with base ingratitude, you violated your oath of protection, and you robbed a stranger. Had you contented yourselves, I were less than human did I not yield to them my heartfelt sympathy in this their sad hour of trial, and gladly would I for their sakes relax the stern rigor of the law; but the aspersion of the good name of a worthy community imperiously demands, both as a punishment and as an example, that the full penalty of the law be enforced. You are respectively sentenced to the State Prison at hard labor for the term of five years.

THE BOND ROBBERIES.

No End of Legal Skirmishing—Persons of Standing in the Community Profiting by the Bond Robberies and Forgeries.

The case of Jerome Bradley was before Judge Barnard in the Supreme Court yesterday on a motion of Mr. Wm. F. Howe to discharge Bradley, on the ground that he was held by Justice Dowling on the bare testimony of a convicted felon, Barton M. Johnson. District Attorney Garvin opposed the application, and said he would be prepared to show at the proper time that persons standing high in the community, both here and in Washington, had profited by the stolen bonds, and he wanted the prisoner kept until the case could be thoroughly investigated by the Grand Jury.

Mr. Howe said it was clear that there was no evidence upon which to hold Bradley, and that no jury could convict him on the testimony of Johnson.

Judge Barnard refused to interfere with the case in the present form, nor until the District Attorney and Grand Jury shall properly bring it before him.

Bradley was therefore taken back to the Tombs, and, in conjunction with Johnson, was rearraigned before Justice Hogan, in a case in which Johnson is defendant. Here also Mr. Howe contended that the arraignment of his client a second time for an offence which had been already adjudicated by another Judge was illegal. He suggested to Justice Hogan the propriety of conferring with the District Attorney before taking any action.

Justice Hogan refused to recognize the validity of any previous proceedings, and held Bradley to bail in $50,000 for forgery, and Johnson in $25,000 for his connection with the crime. The prisoners were thereupon committed.

It is understood that some prominent Wall street brokers, who fear that they may be implicated in this case, are doing their utmost to quash the proceedings or prevent a trial.

RECONSTRUCTION IN GEORGIA.

The State to be made a Military District under Gen. Terry—Gov. Bullock's Summons under the New Act of Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The President will probably to-morrow make a military district of Georgia, and assign Gen. Terry to its command. It is to be kept as a military district until it is properly reconstructed and admitted.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 23.—Gov. Bullock has issued a proclamation summoning all persons elected to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, by the proclamation of Gen. Meade, June 25, 1868, who are qualified, to appear in Atlanta on 10th of January next, where persons qualified to hold office in accordance with the acts of Congress, in such cases made and provided, will be organized in a Senate and House respectively, as the provisional Legislature of Georgia, for the purpose of promoting the reconstruction of the civil government in Georgia in accordance with the laws of the United States.

Wreck of a Railway Train.

WHEELING, Va., Dec. 23.—This afternoon the mail train going east on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad collided with the Cincinnati express train going west, near Burton. Engineer McGahan, Fireman Vineyard, and Baggage-Master Ross were seriously injured. No passengers were hurt. The trains are an utter wreck.

THE LATEST LABOR NEWS.

The Journeymen Plumbers elected Arthur Savage President last evening.

The strike of the Philadelphia carpet weavers is ended, the strikers yielding to a reduction of 45 per cent.

The Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners will celebrate the second anniversary of their organization by a supper in Munzinger's Hall this evening.

FLASHES FROM THE OCEAN CABLES.

The steamer Estrella has arrived at St. Nicholas, Jamaica, in distress.

The steamship Empire, from Quebec for Cardiff, came in collision with a vessel in the English Channel.

President Monagas, of Venezuela, having appointed a new ministry, has sent troops to operate against guerillas in Valencia.

The English brig Cyprus from Liverpool for Matanzas, was wrecked on Conflete's Key on the 5th inst. The crew were landed at Havana.

The yacht Meteor, in which Mr. Geo. L. Lorillard and Mr. Philip Robinson sailed to the Mediterranean a few months ago, has been lost. All on board saved.

The Bishop of Havana has disappeared from Madrid. It is said that he has gone to France with the Bishop of Cuba, who has openly declared that he does not recognize the Provisional Government, the Regent, or the revolution.

The *Journal Officiel* contains an imperial decree making new postal arrangements between France and the United States. Letters sent direct, of 10 grammes weight, require a prepayment of 80 centimes; sent via England, 70 centimes.

MASONIC CHIT-CHAT.

On the retiring of R. H. Silber as H. P. of the Gate of Temple Lodge, 209, F. and A. M., he was presented with a magnificent gold watch and chain.

LODGE ELECTIONS.

Lodge.	No.	Masters.	Secretaries.
Yew Tree	461	Thos. C. Stokes	Jos. C. Cabble.
Doric	56	Thos. M. Abell	H. Morgan.
Eureka	243	Geo. E. Horne	Jos. A. Cook.
Hope	244	Wm. A. Auen	Thos. G. Wilson.
Forbitten	19	T. C. Meaher	—— ——
Hohenlinden	58	Enoch George	—— ——
Anglo-Saxon	137	N. Gladding	—— ——

CHAPTER ELECTIONS.

Chapter.	No.	High Priests.	Secretaries.
Zerubbabel	147	M. Leggett	R. Ransom.
Adelphi	158	L. J. Belloni, Jr.	Wm. B. Shove.
Enterprise	2	L. Schermerhorn	T. H. Smith.
Constitution	239	H. C. Parke	Ed. T. Mahon.
Zerubbabel	147	Merrit S. Leggett	Malcm. Stewart.
Union	150	Mas. L. Ritchie	M. Ex. J. Hoole.

CORRUPTION IN HOBOKEN.

THE NEW JERSEY IMITATORS OF THE TAMMANY RING.

An Investigation that Puts Congress to the Blush—A Councilman Disgusted at the Thieving of his Colleagues—A Surveyor who is a Model for Vanderbilt—Open Encouragement of Fraud.

The uncommon fathers of Hoboken convened on Wednesday evening, and continued in session until midnight, to hear the appeals and remonstrances of the overridden taxpayers on the Third street assessment. The meeting was in the chamber of the Council, directly adjoining the model city prison, and the great Parliamentarian Peter Ritter presided. Long before the appointed hour a large number of the victims of the swindling surveyors and contractors were huddled together in small groups, talking over their grievances, and explaining to each other the manner in which they had been defrauded on their assessments.

All the Councilmen were present except Mr. Besson, who says that he has become utterly disgusted with the actions of his colleagues, and that he is not going to give more than one night to such corporation

Mr. John M. Board appeared on behalf of Adeline Chadwick, who was assessed on Third street for nearly double the amount that certain contractors were, who also owned property on the same street. Mr. Board said that it was evident that the fault lay with the Surveyor. Two affidavits were read from two surveyors who had been hired by Mr. Board to go over the ground, both of whom deposed that there was not more than eight feet of filling put down by the swindling contractor. Mr. Board said further that he could not see why contractors living on the same street should have the work in front of their own premises well done, while those who were heavily assessed were compelled to put up with whatever the contractor deemed proper.

Mr. John McCarty testified to having been assessed $14.50 on the Third street intersection, while on the Second street intersection he was only charged $7.50.

Mr. De Puget, who was the surveyor, was here asked how there was so great a difference (both streets requiring the same amount of filling), and replied that he was at a loss to conceive, but would look into the matter. [Laughter.]

Several questions from Councilman Lee brought Surveyor De Puget to his feet. He turned a sort of half summersault to one of the desks, and whispered confidentially in the Chairman's ears, whereupon the noble President threw his right leg over the side of the chair, and answered aloud "No, no, certainly not." He then cut short all further debate, saying, "That will do, Mr. McCarty; that will do. Step outside." Mr. McCarty retired in disgust.

The most important case was that of Mr. John McLaren, who it seems did his own filling in on Third street, but nevertheless was assessed $556 for the same. The evidence went to show that only fourteen inches of dirt was put over Mr. McLaren's filling, for the contractor, Mr. Coughlin, had imposed upon you the duty "to assist, advise, and protect emigrants, strangers, and travellers in public streets." You knew that the old man was a stranger and a traveller. You had partaken also of his generous hospitality. Yet, in your police uniform, at night, in the public streets, while he was appealing to you for protection, under circumstances bracing the appeal, you robbed him of his money; you broke the rules of hospitality, you acted with base ingratitude, you violated your oath of protection, and you robbed a stranger. Had you contented yourselves, I were less than human did I not yield to them my heartfelt sympathy in this their sad hour of trial, and gladly would I for their sakes relax the stern rigor of the law; but the aspersion of the good name of a worthy community imperiously demands, both as a punishment and as an example, that the full penalty of the law be enforced. You are respectively sentenced to the State Prison at hard labor for the term of five years.

THE VACANT JUDGESHIP.

The Senate's Debate on Hoar.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Hoar was terribly excoriated in the debate yesterday; he was not only objected to on the ground of locality, but Senators Conkling, Edmunds, Morrill of Vermont, Thayer, and Carpenter, arraigned him for mismanagement of his Attorney-General's office, charging that he was but the merest tool of Wm. M. Evarts. His opinions were assailed, and he was accused of holding views that would induce him to join in an opinion setting aside the Legal Tender and Reconstruction acts. Senators who have served many years pronounce Conkling's speech against him the severest and most crushing effort they ever listened to. It is not possible for Mr. Hoar to remain in the Cabinet if he has any self-respect. If he tries to hang on, the Senators will renew their assaults.

Hoar Cannot be Confirmed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The President was today informed of the action of the Senate upon Mr. Hoar. He said that he would leave it to that gentleman to decide whether he would let it go to a vote or be withdrawn. Senator Wilson, who especially represents Mr. Hoar, thinks that under no circumstances can he now be confirmed.

Convoy for the Spanish Gunboats.

The Spanish steam frigate Isabel la Catolica, Commander Don Luis Regalado, arrived in this port yesterday from Havana, five days. She is 500-horse power, carries 16 guns, and has a complement of 36 officers, and 530 men. She came to convoy the Spanish gunboats.

Intense Excitement in St. Domingo.

The news of the lease of the Bay of Samana to the United States caused intense excitement in St. Domingo. The revolutionists are making efforts to overthrow Baez before the American Congress can ratify the arrangements for the lease. Baez's troops have taken Carlo Volta. Two of Cabral's Generals who were captured were immediately executed.

Gin and Riot in a Railway Car.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 23.—A riot occurred on a train of the Chicago and St. Louis Railroad on Monday night. Two drunken men refused to pay their fares, and attacked the conductor and brakeman and passengers, knocking down several, and breaking the car windows.

Davis's Majority in Texas.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The President received a despatch yesterday from Gen. Reynolds, saying that Davis was elected by 400 majority, not counting two counties which have not yet voted.

Candidate for an Office in Poughkeepsie.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Dec. 23.—A butcher of this place to-day expressed a forty-pound turkey to President Grant for a Christmas present.

LONG ISLAND NEWS.

A line of stages has been put on between Bridgehampton and Good Ground.

The people of Riverhead are agitating the question of digging out their river so as to admit vessels carrying freight to that place.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

The Hon. S. S. Cox lectured on "Spain" in Providence, R. I., last evening.

The newly-appointed Consul for Jamaica, J. W. Wheeler, Esq., sailed yesterday, with his family, in the bark Parga for