The Sun.

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BEFORE THE COMMITTEE!

THE ARRAIGNMENT OF SECRETARY GEORGE M. ROBESON.

Prompt Appearance of the Editor of the Sun—Judge Sargent's Attempt to Cover the Accused Robeson's Anxious Appeal to the Committee—His Trial Postponed.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—The select committee recently appointed by the House to inquire into the irregularities charged against the Navy Department met this morning. There were present Messrs. Blair, Chairman, Sargeant, Peters, and Warren. Mr. Voorhees is absent in Indiana. Secretary Robeson occupied a seat near the head of the table, and Charles A. Dana at the foot of the table. Near Mr. Dana sat his counsel, Mr. Willard Bartlett.

After the usual preliminaries, Mr. Bartlett rose and said that he appeared as counsel for Mr. Dana, editor of THE NEW YORK SUN; that Mr. Dana came to Washington in response to an invitation extended by the committee, and that the question as to whether or not he would take part in the proceedings must depend on the rights or privileges which the committee was willing to accord him in the investigation. In order to prevent misconception, he would state that Mr. Dana desired to be present throughout the investigation both in person and by counsel, and to propound such questions, either by direct or cross-examination as he might desire to any or all the witnesses.

ACTION OF JUDGE SARGENT.

Mr. Sargent (Rep., Cal.) asked whether he understood the party was to make statements of his own knowledge.

Mr. Bartlett remarked that Mr. Dana was here by his own volition, in response to an invitation of the committee, but not as a witness; that he declared his readiness and willingness, and was anxious to substantiate the charges in the way he had suggested.

Mr. Blair (Rep., Mich.) said perhaps it was desirable for the committee to take the suggestion into consideration among themselves, and it would be courteous to ask Secretary Robeson whether he desired to make any suggestion.

Secretary Robeson replied that he had no suggestion to make.

Mr. Sargent remarked that Mr. Dana, who appeared as prosecutor, should be the first witness. He wished to learn what Mr. Dana knew of his own knowledge, and on what authority he made the statements against Secretary Robeson. After that he would have no objection that the examination of witnesses should be reasonably extended.

JUDGE SARGENT'S ACTION.

Mr. Bartlett responded that Mr. Dana appeared as the prosecutor of no person, save in the manner and on the conditions he had indicated.

Mr. Sargent said it should be determined that Mr. Dana state on what authority he made the charges.

Mr. Blair remarked the simple question was whether the committee would allow Mr. Dana to state his charges. This did not involve the question as to whether they should call him as a witness.

Mr. Sargent said he found many things specifically stated which could not be of Mr. Dana's own knowledge. He should like to know who Dana's informers were.

Mr. Blair remarked that if Mr. Dana desired to make a statement in his own way, the committee could then inquire how much of it was of his own knowledge.

Mr. Sargent would like to see some responsible person make the charges.

Mr. Blair concluded that the offer was that Dana would establish the truth of the charges by evidence.

JUDGE SARGENT WANTS NAMES.

Mr. Peters (Rep., Me.) said Mr. Dana might not have personal knowledge of all the facts, but offered to prove them by testimony. Judging from his experience he thought it would be a relief to the committee if both sides employed counsel. If the accuser had counsel, the accused should also have counsel.

Mr. Sargent did not object to counsel, but thought the committee ought to have something more specific to go upon than newspaper articles.

Mr. Blair said if the Secretary of the Navy or any one else desired to employ counsel, nothing would be more agreeable to the committee.

Mr. Sargent remarked that the names of the witnesses could be given and subpœnaed.

Mr. Blair said he supposed that not more than two or three witnesses a day would be examined, and this might take place in the evening.

WITNESSES READY.

Mr. Bartlett observed that if the committee should pursue the course he had indicated, he would furnish the names of witnesses from day to day, but before furnishing the names he wanted to know what course the committee was going to take.

Mr. Peters expressed a desire that Secretary Robeson employ counsel to relieve the committee from embarrassment.

Mr. Robeson replied that he should not employ counsel unless the committee made such a request. He was here ready to be examined.

Mr. Blair said the committee could hardly concur in making such a request, but he believed it would be agreeable to the Committee if Mr. Robeson should employ counsel.

ROBESON'S PLEA.

Mr. Robeson said he was charged with certain gross abuses of his office, and desired, first, to know from whom the charges came; and second, whether the accusations were in a responsible form. He understood there were no charges on which investigation could go on as yet. In a common police court every man accused is arraigned on sworn charges of some responsible party. If the committee think it were better I should employ counsel, I will do so. I desire that this matter be concluded as soon as practicable, as it interferes with my official business.

Mr. Bartlett remarked, if no such charges are here it is the fault of the House who raised the committee.

Mr. Blair—I understand it is the purpose to produce charges before the committee.

Mr. Bartlett—What we propose is to produce such proof as applies to irregularities in the Navy Department. There is nothing calling on us to make the charges definite or indefinite. If we have made charges in the newspapers we are ready to substantiate them. The House has no power to call us to account for what is published in newspapers, but if anybody claims he has been thus injured he can call us to account. We are required by the resolution of the House to present evidence of irregularities in the Navy Department. Mr. Dana has been placed in the position of accuser and he will substantiate these charges if allowed the legal methods of procedure, but otherwise he will not do so.

WHAT JUDGE SARGENT UNDERSTANDS.

Mr. Sargent understood from what counsel had just said, the charges in THE NEW YORK SUN were abandoned, and that any person aggrieved by them could bring suit if he chose against that paper.

Mr. Blair remarked that the resolution of the House, under which the committee was appointed, referred to charges in the newspapers. It did not specify any particular newspaper, but newspapers of large circulation published in New York.

Mr. Bartlett said the resolution by no means spoke of THE NEW YORK SUN.

Mr. Sargent remarked he had before him articles from that paper which contained charges of corruption against the Secretary of the Navy.

Mr. Bartlett said the resolution spoke of charges of irregularities.

Mr. Robeson called attention to the language of the House resolution, namely:

Whereas, Charges have appeared in newspapers of large circulation, published in the city of New York and elsewhere, calculated to affect injuriously the reputation of the Secretary of the Navy and to cast doubts upon the integrity of the administration of the Navy Department:

Therefore Resolved, That a select committee of five members be appointed to investigate any irregularities charged, and to inquire generally into the administration of the affairs of the Navy Department during the incumbency of the present Secretary, and report the same to the House.

ROBESON'S SECOND PLEA.

Secretary Robeson said the attack on his character for honesty was the ground on which the subject was to be investigated. Neither Mr. Dana nor any other gentleman got the investigation on the general administration of his office. But as attacks were made on his personal integrity it became his duty and privilege to ask for this investigation, which was ordered. He had received a note from the committee enclosing a copy of the resolution and informing him that the charges would be made the subject of an investigation by the committee, and inviting his attendance before it. If the publisher of the paper can substantiate the charges, he has now an opportunity of doing so. He (Secretary Robeson) did not suppose the committee wanted a general investigation, unless specific charges be made here. If the charges be made he wanted to meet them. He had a right to know what were the specific charges to be investigated.

Mr. Bartlett said they had no intention to present written charges, but to substantiate such as were referred to by the resolution.

EFFECT OF ROBESON'S PLEA.

Mr. Sargent remarked that if the party do not intend to present charges of corruption, it was the duty of the committee to proceed and call Mr. Dana to the stand. He should have an opportunity to show whether the charges were true or false.

Mr. Bartlett repeated that they came here to substantiate the charges of irregularities in the Navy Department, as embraced in the scope of the resolution.

Mr. Sargent said the charge that the Secretary of the Navy was concerned in corruptions to the extent of a million and a half of dollars was something more than irregularities. Such charges of corruption challenged investigation.

Mr. Peters presumed if there were no evidence to sustain these charges of corruption, they would fall to the ground. Let the names of the witnesses be given, and let the committee examine them with reasonable discretion.

TIME.

After further conversation Mr. Peters interposed and submitted the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the editor of THE NEW YORK SUN be allowed to have produced before the committee such witnesses as he may desire to have examined, and by himself, or by counsel, to examine such witnesses in relation to any matters within the scope of the inquiry before the committee; and that the Secretary of the Navy be allowed to appear with counsel, if he see fit; and that, if the preference of the committee that both of said parties shall either in person or by counsel, conduct the examination and cross-examination of witnesses.

Mr. Bartlett said he would present a list of witnesses.

Mr. Robeson thought that the naval officers could be produced without being summoned.

It was then agreed to adjourn until Monday evening at 7 o'clock, when the investigation will be commenced.

JERSEY CITY'S OFFICIALS.

The Trial of the Police Commissioners for Conspiracy—An Inspector that Does Not Know what his Salary Is.

The trial of the Jersey City Police Commissioners was continued yesterday. Inspector Dickson described how the pay rolls were prepared. He testified that the Chief of Police had informed him that he had received instructions from President Pritchard to allow him (the Chief) $2,000, and each of the Captains $100, on the pay roll for the first half of November. Witness pay for the first half of that month was only $84 less than $1,000. He did not know what his regular salary was, ordinarily he received a captain's pay. The last half of February the captain's pay was reduced below $84.15 by direction of President Pritchard. Witness had collected $3,000 from the force as a political assessment, and had paid that sum over to President Pritchard.

George Warren, clerk to the Commissioners, Mayor O'Neill, City Clerk John Scott, City Comptroller Carman, and Treasurer Hornblower then severally testified as to the routine observed in the departments in the payment of warrants. The State then rested.

Mr. E. M. Pritchard, the President of the Board of Police Commissioners, one of the defendants, was the first witness called by the defence. He is over six feet high, and a very powerfully built man. The Hon. Rufus Peckham conducted the examination in chief. Mr. Pritchard testified that Capt. Benson first asked him for an advance on his salary in September. The Captain repeated his request two or three times, complaining that he could not make both ends meet. Witness consulted with the other members of the Board, and they agreed to advance the officers $200, which was to be subsequently deducted from their salaries.

Mr. Herbert R. Stout cross-examined Mr. Pritchard. The cross-examination did not appear to shake Mr. Pritchard's testimony, but it made Mr. Pritchard very uneasy. The counsel was not very coherent in his questions, which tended somewhat to embarrass the witness. Mr. Pritchard answered him with a savagely polite emphasis, pounding off all his replies with a "I presume so, sir; to the best of my recollection, sir; if I remember right, sir." At the conclusion of his testimony the court adjourned.

It is said that the advances were made to the police captains on the understanding that they were to be allowed an increase of their salaries. The money was to be refunded if the Legislature failed to legalize their action. The fact that a bill was killed in the Assembly yesterday to increase the salaries of the captains gives color to this supposition.

A HOUSE WITHOUT A WALL.

A Death for which a Landlady and Gin may Divide the Responsibility.

The death of Mrs. Juliana King, who had fallen from the second story of 34 Hamilton street, has been the subject of comment in the Seventh Ward.

The circumstances, as given by the relatives, are as follows: The house where Mrs. King resided with her husband and three children had been condemned as insecure by the Superintendent of Buildings, and last Saturday Mrs. Costello, the landlady, requested Mr. King to find other apartments immediately. In order to appropriately celebrate St. Patrick's Day, he neglected to attend to it, and on the following morning at 6 o'clock, before the family had arisen from their beds, the men employed to tear down the walls were at work.

As soon as possible Mr. King secured rooms on the same block, and proceeded to remove his furniture. Mrs. King was naturally agitated, as the work was damaging her furniture and clothing. At 6 o'clock the greater portion of the front wall had been torn away. Mrs. King was still superintending the removal of her household goods, but venturing too near the front of the room, she became dizzy and fell to the pavement, about fifteen feet. Her left thigh and arm were badly broken, and she was otherwise seriously hurt. When picked up she was still alive, but unconscious. An ambulance conveyed her to Bellevue Hospital, where she died Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock. She was buried from her daughter's residence at Rutgers-street and East Broadway yesterday afternoon.

Mr. King intends to sue Mrs. Costello for the loss of his wife, and for the destruction of his household furniture and clothing.

A SUN reporter called upon Mrs. Costello at her bakery, 28 Hamilton street, last evening. She is the owner of much real estate in this city. She says that Mrs. King was an habitual drunkard, and frequently quarrelled with the neighbors, and that some months ago she fell down four flights of stairs in a neighboring tenement, and injured her brain, and that since that time she has been flighty and irrational.

Mrs. Costello notified one of the family to quit the premises, as it was unsafe to remain there, but they did not heed what she said. She offered them apartments in the house directly opposite, which she also owns, telling them (as she says, but Mr. King emphatically denies this part of the story) that the money already paid would entitle them to one month's rent therein. Believing that Mr. King would vacate the house on Tuesday she set the men to work on the wall.

Mrs. King drank to excess during the morning, and became exceedingly abusive, threatening the lives of all who approached her, and resisted the attempts of her friends to secure her. She remained in sole possession of the room, which was then minus a front wall, denying admittance to her husband, screaming, and throwing bricks and other missiles on the workmen. Finally in her fury she rushed to the front of the room and fell headlong into the street.

This story is corroborated by a number of persons, although stoutly denied by her husband and daughter. Mrs. Costello seemed to be much grieved in consequence of the sad death of Mrs. King, with whom she said she was on the most friendly terms. She was at the funeral.

THE ALBANY LEGISLATURE.

THE ASSEMBLY BY NO MEANS READY TO ADJOURN.

Everybody's Railroad Schemes under Discussion—County Clerk Loew's Reply to Thomas C. Fields's Question—Sixty Thousand Books of Record Examined.

ALBANY, March 21.—The Senate resolution to adjourn *sine die* on the 10th of April came down to the Assembly this morning, and is sleeping quietly on the table. The "orators" will not be half through talking by that time. The Speaker having recovered, and Brown, Rose, and Fort positively refusing to be fashionable and catch cold, the session of the grand high inquest bids fair to last until about the middle of June.

THE SENATE

presented a very respectable appearance this morning, owing, perhaps, to the presence of several members of the Committee of Seventy. Ex-Gov. Salomon, the blooming Blumenthal, and John Wheeler, the general worker, were present, looking very anxiously for the charter that did not come. While the journal was being read, Baby Elephant Barlow and his red Bandana scarf entered the Senate Chamber simultaneously. After buzzing Senator O'Brien, who, by the way, bore the affliction with remarkable fortitude, the Attorney General leered at the ladies in the gallery, and then waddled from the chamber.

REPEALING TWEED'S WATER BILL.

Senator Robertson's bill repealing Tweed's measure providing for the supply of pure and wholesome water to New York, was taken up. Senator Robertson said that the bill had been delayed long enough, and he thought it time for a vote to be taken, and concluded by saying that the friends of Tweed might record their votes against the measure. He was very promptly rebuked by Senator Benedict, who took occasion to say that the day had passed when Senators could be coerced by such talk. The name of Tweed frightened no one. He asked if the property around the lakes from which water was drawn was not properly purchased and paid for. The query was unanswered, but the bill was passed nevertheless, every Republican voting aye.

The act regulating the running of the Greenpoint ferry was then passed, despite the remonstrances of Senator Benedict; also the bill incorporating the National University of Washington other liberal arts in the city of New York. Senator Benedict expressed the opinion that Gov. Hoffman would veto the bill.

THE BEACH PNEUMATIC

bill was then taken up, whereupon the representatives of the various rapid transit schemes came pouring into the Senate gallery. Awful Gardner, Brennan and his bear-skin cap, Crosstown Cary's white neckties, Frank Spinola's wonderful shirt collar, Elevated Railway Gilbert, three-tier Swain, and a host of other disinterested patriots were ushered into back seats. After the bill was read through, Senator Tiemann carefully adjusted his copper-fastened turtle-back spectacles, and said in a voice full of emotion that he had an amendment to offer. He then moved to amend by adding to the first section a clause providing that the company should procure the consent of the Common Council and two-thirds of the property holders along the streets under which the road is proposed to run; also prohibiting the Pneumatic Company from running under Broadway. The Senator called upon a distinguished ex-Assemblyman to reduce the amendment to writing.

"Send up the amendment," said the President of the Senate.

"I can't just yet. Wait till my antithesis—no, my amaranthsis—I mean my amendnoosis finishes it," answered the Senator.

At this remark two old men in the gallery smiled. Finally the amendment was read.

THE EVILS OF TUNNELLING BROADWAY.

Senator Benedict arose to advocate the adoption of the amendment. In graphic terms he described what would or might ensue if Broadway was tunnelled. Said he, turning to Senator Weissman, who sat perfectly horror-stricken:

"Suppose the tunnel should fill with water. Suppose the Croton water mains should burst and run into the tubes at night when we are all asleep. What would become of us?"

Senator Tiemann shook his head solemnly and murmured, "Oh, it's perfectly horrible." This remark made the two old men in the gallery appear nervous.

Senator Winslow said the amendment was offered for the purpose of killing the bill, and after repeating the idea in a variety of different phrases, sat down burning with indignation.

Then Senator Madden bounced up and said that there was a combination of rapid transit men who were trying to kill the Beach Pneumatic bill. He thought that any one who would oppose the bill under the discussion was an enemy to progress, and would wipe out of memory the great inventor of steam power, the great and good Dr. Watts. Having blown of his usual amount of steam, Madden sat down. Senators Wood and Winslow followed in advocacy of the bill. Senator Benedict in his next speech, said that

A GUST OF AIR

couldn't blow a car from the Battery to Harlem. This remark gave Senator Madden a chance to quote from history. He defended "a gust of air" in words of burning eloquence, and told how the aforesaid gust landed the Pilgrim Fathers upon the shores of Massachusetts—how it filled the sails of Nelson at Trafalgar—how it blew Copenhagen into Denmark, and performed other wonderful feats too numerous to mention. "And now, sir," shouted Madden, as he blew his malignant breath upon Senator Tiemann's bare cranium, "don't you sneer at a gust of air."

Senator Benedict intimated that he wouldn't sneer at him again—and quiet reigned once more. Madden then read a letter from Contractor O. P. Byrne, showing in which he was said that he entered into a contract for the construction of the Central Underground road, and the terms were given. The Senator held that Byrne would be able to clear $2,000,000 by the carrying out of the contract. After a long and windy discussion Senators Wood and Winslow moved to adjourn. Tiemann looked mad, and in turning on Madden said: "You've been blowing off your steam all the morning; now, I want a chance." Notwithstanding the earnest and pathetic protestations of the Senator who wanted to blow off steam, the bill was progressed and the Senate adjourned.

BROOKLYN REFORMERS.

With a laudable determination to keep pace with New York, the City of Churches has organized a nice little reform committee of its own and sent its representatives to Albany. A delegation from this city met the Brooklyn officials in a parlor of the Delevan House yesterday, and put in an appearance at the capital for the purpose of urging the passage of a reform charter for Brooklyn. The committee consists of Col. A. C. Davis, prosecuting counsel for the Reform Association, W. W. Goodrich, the little Game Chicken, of Kings, R. Cornell White, the wealthy steamboat owner, Louis Palmer, A. D. Wheelock, and Harvey Farrington.

As soon as the river opens, the Committee of Seventy-five will charter a steamboat and visit Albany—provided the charter is not put through both Houses by that time. The first time during the present session that the committee came to Albany the members were very much surprised to learn that Alderman Richardson, United States District Attorney Tracy, and other colleagues of the committee were opposing the charter. A reconciliation has taken place, however, and now a united effort will be made toward securing its passage.

Judging from the number of Brooklyn officials in town, the municipal government machine of that city must be running itself. For instance, Tax Collector Burrows, Supervisors Searing and Fairchild, Alderman Wyne, Fire Commissioner Massey, Assessor Jourdan, Fire Commissioner Campbell, and a score of other city officers can be seen at any time in the day or night running around the corridors and lobby of the Delavan. It is estimated by close observers that about one-half of the Administration party of Kings is now in Albany. The remaining half will arrive to-morrow night in time to witness the wiping out of the Democratic commissions now ruling Brooklyn.

COUNTY CLERK LOEW

this morning sent in an answer to Fields's resolution calling upon him to report within 10 days the title of all actions, motions, and proceedings in the Supreme Court of the First Judicial District in which a referee, receiver, arbitrator or commissioner in lunacy had been appointed, the names of the referees, receivers, arbitrators, and commissioners, the amount of relief granted, costs and allowances in each case, the name of the Judge before whom proceedings were had, and the name of the Judge by whom the allowances and costs were made or allowed, from Jan. 1, 1865, up to the present date; also requiring him to furnish the House with all other information in his possession calculated to inform the House on the matters referred to.

Mr. Loew says that immediately upon the receipt of the resolution he caused all the available force of his office to be placed upon the work required to be done; that at the time the resolution was adopted he and several of his assistants were engaged before the Judiciary Committee of the Assembly in the production of various records and books before it, which necessarily prevented the result of this examination being more comprehensive. He says that the carrying out of the resolution would involve the labor of examining some

SIXTY THOUSAND DOCUMENTS,

books of record, and tabulating the results of such examination in a comprehensive manner. He says the examination is still going on, and when completed the result will be forwarded to the Legislature. He concludes by asking for more time in order to complete the examination and make his report. No action was taken on this request, the members evidently being frightened at the huge bundle of manuscript accompanying this partial report, and ready to cry quits. Besides, it is said that the information sought for would not be "pleasant to take" by some of the pet judges of the majority. Subsequently, on motion of Mr. Fields, who was not in the House when Mr. Loew's answer was read, he was granted ten days further time in which to make his report.

JUSTICE SHANDLEY

also sent in a reply to Foley's resolution requiring the Commissioners appointed to construct the new Court House in the Third Judicial District, to furnish a detailed statement of the work done, materials furnished, and amount of expenditures thus far. He says that the resolution did not reach him until three days after its adoption, and that the Commissioners had been unable to collect all the information called for within the prescribed time. On motion of Mr. Foley ten days further time was granted the Commissioners in which to report.

EXIT NELSON J. WATERBURY.

The Hon. Nelson J. Waterbury yesterday sent to the Governor his resignation as one of the Commissioners to revise the statutes. The differences existing between his associates and himself are given as a reason for resigning. His convictions of duty, he says, required him to submit the matter to the Legislature, and having fulfilled that duty the only proper course left for him was to resign.

CARRYING DEADLY WEAPONS.

Senator Lewis introduced a bill providing that every person who shall within this State use or attempt to use, or with intent to use against any other person, shall knowingly and secretly conceal on his person, or with like intent shall wilfully and furtively possess any instrument or weapon of the kind commonly known as slung shot, billy, sand club, or metal knuckles, or any dirk or dagger or sword cane or air gun, pistol, or revolver, shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and on conviction thereof may be punished by imprisonment in any prison for a term not more than one year, or a fine not exceeding $500, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

COST OF THE NEW YORK COURT HOUSE.

Comptroller Green's report on the cost of the new Court House in New York, has been received by the Senate. The total cost of the building, so far as paid, is $8,193,989; of furniture and repairs, $5,326,329; additional claims outstanding, $242,559. There are other claims which are believed to be large, but the Comptroller has no means of ascertaining the amount.

THE NEW ERIE BILL

is understood to be already numbered among the dead. It has been discovered that a great mistake was made in introducing it at all, and it was the intention to offer a resolution to the morning reciting it; but there being no way by which this could be done, it is now said that it will be allowed to sleep in the committee that sleep which knows no waking. Senator O'Brien, when he introduced the bill, stipulated being committed to its support, and, in fact, was opposed to it. He was perfectly satisfied with his bill, which passed last week.

The fact seems to be that the new Erie Ring, in their eagerness at failing to get the Governor to delay signing the Erie Bribe bill until they could get in a resolution recalling it, with a view to strike out the objectionable clause, put in this supplementary bill without stopping to think what the effect would be. They have since been convinced that they would cost more to get it through than the new management, they could afford to pay; hence they will not press it. Great indignation exists among the bone brigade at this cowardly retreat, and they are not smiling so much as they were. They long for the good old days when Tweed and Jay Gould, who never took water—however much they may make other people take—after once getting into a fight, but fought it out, regardless of expense.

THE SEVENTY'S CHARTER.

The Senate Committee were again in session to-day on the Seventy's charter. The whole session was consumed in the discussion of various amendments, and they adjourned without being any nearer an agreement than they were a week ago. There seems to have reported this charter yesterday for a certainty, and it was said they will try and do so to-morrow, but it is not likely that they will, and perhaps not even this week. The fact is the charter elephant is daily growing in proportions on the hands of the committee, and they don't know what to do with it. On the one hand the Committee of Seventy want them to keep their hands off and not destroy its symmetry, or they will throw it up and go home and denounce them to the great reform element of New York; on the other hand, party considerations tell them that they should take care of their friends, and not hazard being said they may get under the charter framed to meet the political situation. Between the two contending parties, the committee are having a very pleasant time of it indeed. The best thing they have done yet was to give the charter to the Senate, and let that body take the responsibility of killing it, which it is now conceded they will do by amending it so that his own friends will not recognize it.

EXTENDING THE DRY DOCK RAILROAD.

The Assembly this evening started off with the intention of doing some business, but unfortunately two or three Brooklyn bills turned up early in the evening, and nearly the entire session was spent in discussing them. One bill to authorize the Dry Dock and East Broadway Railway Company to extend their tracks was ordered to a third reading. Hawkins and Husted opposed it bitterly, while Tim Campbell and John Blair defended it on the ground that the road was now in the hands of the tracks of the Iron Tim, who had the bill in charge, proved too much for Husted's eloquence and Hawkins's denunciations.

RAPID TRANSIT.

The Beach Pneumatic bill was discussed in the Senate to-night. Senators Tiemann and Benedict opposed the measure. It was amended by Senator Winslow so as to prohibit the city from aiding the Pneumatic Company in the construction of its road. Senator Murphy also introduced an amendment making the company liable for damages arising from the construction of the road. The bill, together with Swain's Metropolitan Railroad scheme, was ordered to a third reading by an almost unanimous vote. The House Railroad Committee will to-morrow report favorably the Central Underground Railroad bill, and adversely on the Beach Pneumatic.

THE PRO RATA FREIGHT BILL.

The House Railroad Committee had Mr. Alvord's pro rata freight bill before them this afternoon, and Mr. Chauncey, Superintendent, and Mr. Worcester, Treasurer of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, were examined by Horace F. Clark. They testified that if the bill was passed and enforced, they would have to abandon either the through or way freight business of their road. Horace F. Clark addressed the committee on the subject of railroad management generally, and asked that all the railroads in the State shall be given a hearing on the provisions of the bill.

A motion was made by members of the Committee to postpone further action until next Tuesday. Pending its consideration George O. Jones said he should protest in a most solemn manner against further delay. The people had petitioned for this bill in great numbers, and delays were only asked for in order to defeat the measure. He said he spoke from experience as an ex-member of the lobby and an ex-corruptionist of legislators.

Mr. Clark desired to know if the gentleman said he was an ex-corruptionist?

Mr. Jones replied that he was.

Mr. Clark said he was glad to hear that he had abandoned his old business.

Mr. Jones—And I am sorry to see the gentleman has not abandoned his.

The Committee then adjourned until Tuesday next.

STREET CLEANING IN NEW YORK.

The House Committee on Public Health had Jackson S. Schultz before it this morning. He declared that the street contractors in New York were allowed to shake the terms of their contract through political influence. The Board of Health had called the Corporation Counsel's attention to the subject, but through political motives he had always decided in favor of the contractors. He said that the contract was so valuable that it had frequently been sold for $30,000 a year bonus. He testified that all the streets could be thoroughly cleaned under the contract at a profit of $30,000 a year. Under the terms of the contract the contractor now receives $1 for every cart load of dirt, because of the front, Pierheads and slips had not been cleaned for months. The removal of offal and night soil contracts were perfect swindles, because nineteen-twentieths of the houses are now drained into the sewers, yet the contractor receives $10,000 per annum for removing this stuff. The contract for removing dead animals was also a fraud.

The city paid $5 for every dead horse removed, when plenty of men would give $4 for each dead animal and remove it himself. One man received $10,000 for securing this contract. Brown, the contractor, had told Schultz that he did not get the whole of the money. Mr. Schultz said he knew that some parties were receiving $200,000 per annum out of the contract. He thought the police ought to be authorized to see that the contract was carried out.

Dr. Elisha Harris was next examined. He testified that at the time of the cholera the Board of Health cleaned the streets at an extra cost of $10,000. Last an addition of $300,000 was voted for that work, and the streets were not cleaned at all. Sickness prevailed to an alarming extent in the districts where garbage had been thrown to fill up. He asserted that the contractor received $20,000 annually from persons for removing ashes and attending to work that he was bound to do and to under the contract. The committee will report a bill to remove the abuses.

A Strike that Must Win.

The Paper Hangers' Association met last evening to consider the discharge by Solomon & Co. of eight of their members because they would not betray the Association's secrets. It was resolved to keep Solomon & Co.'s establishment on strike, cost what it might.

THE PENNSYLVANIA FRAUD

THE COMMITTEE EXAMINING THE PERSONS ACCUSED.

Moon and McClure Declare their Innocence—Hartranft and Mackey Own Up, but Say that they Did Not Involve the Treasury.

Correspondence of The Sun.

HARRISBURG, March 20.—The Evans Investigating Committee met this evening. Mr. Mackey, the State Treasurer, was first examined. He testified that Gen. Hartranft called upon him in reference to the war claims in the spring of 1870. Soon after Evans called upon him. Evans asked him to see Hartranft and to urge him to surrender the vouchers, as otherwise the State might lose the claims. Mackey declared that he had never received a dollar from the claims and that he had never bargained with anybody about a percentage or a commission. He said that a gentleman in Evans's interest had urged him to settle the State claims, and had offered him two per cent. on $300,000 if this was done. This person was an attorney named S. W. Pettit. The witness replied that he could not afford to do such a thing. Mackey owned up that he had kept an account as State Treasurer with Yerkes, who is now in prison. The money deposited with Yerkes was on call and credited to the State Treasurer. He had never kept any private account with Yerkes. Yerkes told him once last summer that he had bought some

STOCK ON WITNESS' ACCOUNT,

but witness told him to sell the stock at once, and not to offer it in that way. He declared that he had never authorized the use of any State money to purchase stock of any kind for private speculation. He owned up that when Yerkes failed he held $165,000 belonging to the Commonwealth, but said that he (Mackey) and his friends had stepped forward and had made up the amount. He testified that the allegation charging him with a clean steal of $20,000 was based on a legitimate transaction with Yerkes. He said that he had borrowed that sum from Yerkes, and had given a note in Philadelphia. He was unable to take up this note, he declared that he had paid the said sum into the State Treasury, and then

SENT YERKES A TREASURY CHECK,

but the funds of the people had not been used. This mixing of private affairs with public business is perhaps plausible, but not exactly satisfactory.

The next witness was John F. Graff. He swore that he was connected with the Philadelphia *Press*, and added that he knew nothing about the Evans business.

Sammy Moon was the next witness. He denied that he had urged the passage of the resolution under which Evans had been appointed. He said he never made any arrangements with Evans, and had never received any part of the war commissions.

Gen. Hartranft was the next witness. He testified that in March, 1870, Evans asked him for the vouchers for the war claims. He did not give them to him until Evans presented a letter from the Governor. He declared that he had never received any money from Evans, nor any paper except his official report. He owned that he had

KEPT A PRIVATE ACCOUNT WITH YERKES;

that he had bought and sold stocks on margin, and had paid the same interest and commissions as others paid. But, he said, these transactions were not made through the use of the public funds. In reference to Oil Creek and Allegheny stock, he owned that he had bought and held 100 shares six months before the transaction between the State and the company, but he declared that he had never made any arrangement with Yerkes to use the money for stock purposes, and the only profit he made was by running his own risks. He said that Evans offered to lend him money in March, 1871, and that

HE HAD ACCEPTED A LOAN

of $7,500, for which he had given his due bill. But he declared that he had repaid Evans the money with interest to date, and had taken a receipt, although Evans retained the due bill. The witness was next sworn. He said that he had never seen Evans. The correspondent of THE SUN was then sworn. He said that he had no hesitation in declaring that his information was derived from Dr. Palne, of Philadelphia, that Dr. Palne had affidavits substantiating his allegations, and that the documents published were printed from photographic copies of the originals.

DID NOT APPEAR.

Mr. Wm. H. Kemble did not appear. Neither did Mr. Wien Forney nor Col. John W. Forney. Mr. Kemble, it will be remembered, wrote the following letter:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, HARRISBURG, March 1, 1872.

DEAR TITIAN: The bearer of this friend is Mr. Geo. O. Evans, a very intimate friend of mine. He has some very large claims against the Government, and I want you to give him all the help you can. You would like, I understands addition, division, and silence. You will find him a perfect gentleman, and I expect you to confide him. Yours truly, WM. H. KEMBLE.

TITIAN J. COFFEY, ESQ., Washington, D. C.

If the committee understand their business, and are not "fixed," they will subpœna these gentlemen and Dr. Palne. Some of the accused have been heard. Now let the people hear the accuser. Mr. C. T. Yerkes, Jr., would also be a good witness to examine. Dr. Palne and Mr. Yerkes will be able to throw new light upon the matter.

Prince Edward Island Betrayed—Success of the Dominion Party.

CHARLOTTETOWN, March 16.—The Government party of Prince Edward Island was defeated last night upon the Union question, the Confederates gaining by a majority of one vote. This quite unexpected result produced a continued response of hissing and hooting among the audience of the House, and the Sergeant-at-Arms appealed in vain to the crowd to preserve order. Finally the police were ordered in and the galleries and floor boxes were vacated before the Speaker announced, in a somewhat melancholy tone, that the die was cast—that the scheme of Confederation was successful in its appeal to Prince Edward Island.

Those who betrayed their party by consenting to become the tools of the Dominion of Canada upon this occasion are Messrs. Macdonald, Sullivan, Sons, and Wilmot. The popular indignation is intense, as the voters of the Island are unanimously opposed to Confederation, which act they believe will inevitably insupportable taxation, and the deprival of roads and privileges which no benefits accruing from Dominion rule can substitute.

The Island of Newfoundland is now the sole remnant of the old British colonial regime in North America. Its people and their chosen representatives have successfully opposed the Union scheme since it was first proposed by the Government of Great Britain. It is doubted whether the question will be permitted to come before the people of Prince Edward Island again. Should it be so, there is no doubt that a new and reliable representation composed of determined anti-Unionists will be elected with one voice.

A Married Woman Eloping with an Erie Railroad Brakeman.

PORT JERVIS, March 21.—Mrs. Brown, a married woman of respectable connection, attempted to elope with Kindred Rice, an Erie Railroad brakeman. Mrs. Brown did not live happily with her husband. A few days ago she informed her servant that she intended visiting her mother, and departed, having the only child, a boy, at home. Instead of going to her mother's house she met Rice, who, with horses and carriage, was waiting for her. They crossed the Delaware on the ice and drove rapidly in the direction of Milford. Further hearing of the elopement procured a horse and carriage and captured the runaways at Port Jervis.

The woman was taken back to her husband, but made her escape again. Once more she has been captured, and is now under lock and key. Rice had fled.

The Opera House Lease.

The rumor published in the *Tribune* yesterday that the new managers of the Erie Railway Company intended to remove their offices from the Grand Opera House to the old Erie buildings in Chambers street has no foundation. A SUN reporter called on Horatio N. Otis, Secretary of the Company, yesterday, and was told by Mr. Otis that nothing of the kind was contemplated, that he knew of. He had not even heard of the rumor. Mr. Otis said that the premises were leased to the Erie Railway Company in September last for five years, the yearly rent being about $2,000. Mr. Otis thought that there would be no change of locality under any circumstances until after 1876.

A Burglar in Nyack.

On Thursday night some burglars effected an entrance into the house of Mr. Francis Tillou at Nyack. They were surprised, and all effected their escape except one who sought refuge in the chimney. As he was trying to get out at the top he was fired at, the ball taking effect in his head and bringing him to the ground, dead. A photograph was taken and sent to Police Headquarters in this city for identification. It is in the hands of Capt. Irving of the Detective squad. His age is about 27, height 5 feet 6 inches, slim and muscular, complexion light, and light sandy moustache. The following marks in India ink are on his body: Right hand, on wrist, a dancing girl, star between thumb and finger; left hand, band on wrist, anchor on hand; dagger on forearm.

A Butcher Boy Kills Himself.

A lad known as Robert, employed in the butcher shop of Benjamin Rabus, on Hanburgh place, Newark, yesterday killed himself by accidentally cutting an artery. He was chopping a piece of meat when the knife slipped and severed an artery in his thigh. He was discovered by Dr. Lois lying in a pool of blood, and Dr. Herzog was called, but they were unable to staunch the flow of blood, and the lad soon died to death.

THE HEATH PERJURY CASE.

The Mysteries of Broad Street—How the Reading Pool Failed—And How Joseph F. Young Broke Four Brokers in One Day.

At Jefferson Market yesterday Justice Ledwith continued the examination in the Heath perjury case. The defendant, Wm. Heath, a Broad street broker, is accused of having committed perjury in a civil suit growing out of the famous pool in Reading Railroad stock in 1870, in which a large amount of money is involved. The fact that the decision of the referee in the civil suit, which has been given in favor of Heath, will be reversed if the present charge is established, makes the case additionally important.

Heath is a tall, determined-looking man, with large moustache. During the examination he amused himself by reading THE SUN. Assistant District Attorney Sullivan represented the prosecution, and Messrs. John D. Townsend and M. J. Devine appeared for the defence.

Joseph F. Young, who was interested in the civil suit, was cross-examined by Mr. Townsend. He testified:

THE TESTIMONY OF JOSEPH F. YOUNG.

Wm. Woodward and myself jointly operated in Reading stock, with Heath & Co. as our brokers. Stephen Y. White came into the pool subsequently. Woodward and I had a balance of $38,000 to our credit at the time White came into partnership. The balance was divided between Woodward and myself. About the 1st of June the joint operations in the pool ceased and I continued operating for myself. The joint operations began shortly afterward. I do not recollect that any instructions were given to Heath & Co. by a member of the pool to have the stock taken out of the market. On the 15th of July I notified Woodward and White and Heath & Co. of my failure. I did not tell before the Referee all I now remember about the transactions; did not remember all. Between 5 and 6 o'clock on the 15th of July, 1870, I had a conversation in Heath's office about my failure. I said to White and Woodward that I was about 11,000 shares of Reading on the books of Heath & Co., White said I should give the benefit of the short interest to the pool,