The Sun.

VOL. XLI.---NO. 96. NEW YORK, MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1873. PRICE TWO CENTS.

MUSIC IN TWEED'S PRISON.

A SINGING PARTY'S SUNDAY TRIP TO THE PENITENTIARY.

Song that Melted the Convicts' Hearts—A Kind of Prison Reform which Good Men will Encourage—Brightening the Weary Hours of the Millionaire Hospital Nurse.

There was music on Blackwell's Island yesterday. William M. Tweed, as well as his fellow prisoners, and the poor lunatics in the asylum, heard it, and all were made happier. A number of ladies and gentlemen of the Church Music Society of this city proposed several days ago to visit the Penitentiary and neighboring institutions and give a Sunday entertainment. Early yesterday morning Mr. J. H. Todd, leader; H. G. Guild, G. R. Lothrop, and Alfred Nelson, basses; Dr. F. W. Potter, B. L. Harsell, E. K. White and William E. Bond, tenors; the Misses Ida J. Abbott, Lida J. Wasley and M. H. Robbins, sopranos; the Misses Susie England and Bessie Bridge, altos; Miss M. J. Blanchard, organist, and Miss Linda Gilbert, and Miss F. H. Churchill were in the little boat house at the foot of East Sixty-first street looking for Warden William Johnston of the Tombs. A Sun reporter, who was passing, and who had heard of the Warden's musical talent, readily understood why the company were so anxious to have him with them. The reporter informed the party that he was a particular friend of the Warden, and received a hearty greeting. Mr. Todd and Dr. Potter strained their eyes in looking up the street for the coming of the shapely Warden. The captain of the large yawl, which was in readiness to take the singers across, said that there could be no further delay, and the ladies and gentlemen, with many regrets for the absence of Mr. Johnston, entered the boat, and the oars men pulled out into the stream. Some one started a song, and all joined in. As the strains floated over the waters and reached the ears of the small boys and other loiterers on the limber piles on shore, there was a general uprising. When the boat reached Blackwell's Island,

THE SINGERS

went to the workhouse. All, including the reporter, had song books. The services of the Catholic Church were just being concluded in the chapel, when the singers entered into the room, and the prisoners were retiring to their cells. Those who chose to take part in the exercises conducted according to the religion of Protestants were permitted to remain. About one hundred wretched beings kept their seats. The singers ranged themselves near the platform. The reporter took Warden Johnston's place and brought up the extreme left. Miss Blanchard performed on the organ. The singing was excellent and the congregation were delighted. The services lasted about an hour, and the singers were conducted to the asylum for the insane and there had dinner, after which the party were given seats around the organ on the third floor under the dome, and the harmonious music-lovers were all soon relieved from their cold and pitiful listening to the songs. The patients seemed to be entranced, and when the organ was closed and the singers prepared to depart they reluctantly returned to their quarters.

Mr. Todd directed his company to the penitentiary. A few young men with clean-shaven faces and hearts attuned to the music took a seat in the chapel when the party, anticipating a fine reception in the prison, passed along. It was thought that

THE BIG TIGER

would be glad to hear the singing, and notwithstanding the feeling any of the company might have entertained in regard to the conviction of the fallen chieftain of Tammany, all seemed anxious to make him happy, for an hour or two at least. Warden Liscomb was not in his office, having gone to his fine residence on the island to dine. Keeper McDonnell had charge of the prison. Whenever Tweed was mentioned, the keeper's attention was diverted to some object across the river, and he was silent. He ventured to say that he thought Tweed would not take part in the exercises. Everybody was disappointed. Warden Liscomb, when afterward spoken to upon the same subject, agreed with Keeper McDonnell that the Tammany Boss prefer to remain in the hospital, not far from the chapel, and listen to the music from there.

Tweed has become much stronger than he was when received in the prison. One of the prisoners, a young man who was sentenced to one year for stealing a comfortable, said, "He was game, he was. He was fixed like us all when he came here. Had his hair clipped and his face scraped, and was jumped into a striped uniform. That's so," he continued, when one of the party expressed his doubts about it. "I ought to know it, I've been there myself. I looked at him when he walked in line with us carrying a bucket. I haven't seen him since he was shoved into the hospital, but I hear he has got down to his work well." He consider, feeling to say more lest some of the keepers might approach, turned his head. Tweed and his superior officer, the orderly of the hospital, are very much attached to each other, and the physician in charge is pleased at it too.

THE ASSISTANT ORDERLY

wears a suit of brown. The striped clothing was removed when it was learned by the Warden that Tweed's offence did not make it necessary that he should be so attired. Gen. Wm. M. Tweed visits his father almost every day. Mrs. Tweed calls once in a fortnight. She has visited upon her husband once only since his incarceration in the penitentiary. S. Foster Dewey, the Boss's private secretary, is a frequent visitor, and one or two others who were closely associated with the Boss see after him. The rules of the prison forbid any others than near relatives or intimate friends to have access to a prisoner for four weeks after his confinement. Tweed reads a good deal, and, notwithstanding the summary punishment of members of the Ring and the probability that others are soon to travel over Canada road, is hopeful, and thinks that at an early day his counsel will be able to obtain, on facts that a new trial will be granted him, the question whether New York has a city jail, and whether the sentence of Judge Davis is being carried out in its literal sense. Tweed has fine courage. When he heard that Fisk was shot he said, "Poor Jim Gordon's gone," and for some time was silent and thoughtful. Some one in the hospital said that it was "bad weather for the boys," and that

PRINCE HARRY

was about the most astonished man in New York. Tweed heeded, but said nothing. The convalescent patients in the hospital, it is said, feel highly honored when Tweed attends to their wants. The other day a convalescent Ring is discredited by many of his friends, but it is known that a work has been suggested to him, and that he said that it might be a very interesting book. He smiled and seemed pleased with the idea, and was quite willing to say much about his prospects for fear they might be misconstrued, and has quietly and meekly attended to his duties. The warden says Tweed still submits on prison fare. Visitors to the penitentiary are not allowed to go through the hospital.

The singers yesterday would have been delighted to entertain the seventeen patients, the orderly, and his million dire assistant, but could not enter. They took seats at the right of the bottom in the chapel, the reporter being assigned a conspicuous position in the grand gallery. The chaplain was on the platform, and Miss Blanchard was at the organ. This was the organ on which it had been hoped

WARDEN JOHNSTON

would perform "Sharkey's Grand March from the Ruins." At 2 o'clock the chapel bell was ringing and the doors were opened, and the cells filled with several hundred wretches, including a few women prisoners attired in the men's clothing, with their heads shaved, ranging in age from twelve and fourteen, with bright faces, to hard-faced, shabby-clothing against hard-faced, shabby-clothing. There were four hundred in all, and all were interested, but few were in good humor. They intently eyed the speaker and singers, and at the close of the short concert evidently regretted that it was not continued. The congregation then sang "Coronation," which was followed by a hymn. After an hymn

MISS LINDA GILBERT,

a beautiful and accomplished woman, who has spent much time and money in the cause of prison reform, was introduced. She has proposed libraries for many prisons in the west and has had many abuses corrected. She appeared herself at home with the prisoners at once and her words cheered them. Her appeals to them to lead better lives when set at liberty and to remember that there were parents, wives, and children who must suffer when they did wrong, brought tears to the eyes of many. She spoke about fifteen minutes, and when she took her seat the congregation expressed their thanks in their faces. There was more singing and then Miss F. H. Churchill, the well-known elocutionist, appeared to the front of the platform, and in a melodious singing voice, spoke to the convicts. Her graceful form and fine voice kept her auditors entranced. She said that she had read to spellbound audiences in all parts of the country, audiences of all classes, but until yesterday appeared but that she had never spoken who were suffering before an audience of convicts, laws made by their improvisement for breaking them to undoubtedly fellow men. She wanted to shake hands with every that she thoroughly sympathized with her, and wished that it was in her power to do them some good. Her earnestness worked the convicts to enthusiasm, and forgetting themselves they applauded her to the echo. This outburst was checked by the keepers, who ordered several of the men from the room. Miss Churchill, seeing this, appealed to the keepers not to have the men punished, saying that he did not know the feeling of the prisoners, and was responsible for the outburst displayed by the convicts. The keepers consented to return to their seats. At the conclusion of Miss Churchill's address Mr. Todd, the leader of the singers, gave out the "Beautiful River," and requested the prisoners to join in the chorus. The walls rang when the convicts sang, and they seemed proud of their effort. Mr. Todd thanked the congregation and the doxology was sung, and the convicts were marched back to their cells. It was learned that Tweed and his patients much enjoyed the singing, which was plainly heard in the hospital. At nightfall the company of singers returned to the New York shore. Warden Johnston was not in sight.

THE GREAT CONVICT'S HOPE.

Is the Blackwell's Island Penitentiary Properly the County Jail?

The legality of the sentence pronounced against Wm. M. Tweed by Judge Noah Davis is, according to rumor, to be a subject of judicial investigation this week. Tweed's counsel have discovered what they regard as fatal errors in the legislation relating to Blackwell's Island, and there is a prospect that the Boss will be in the Over and Terminer again within a few days by virtue of a writ of habeas corpus, which will raise the question whether the island penitentiary is a county jail, or is any institution to which a man may be legally committed after conviction of a misdemeanor. If all the points made in Tweed's behalf are sustained, there is nothing to prevent the discharge of all his fellow prisoners except the slow working of legal machinery. But the language of the judgment pronounced against Tweed is peculiar, and it is within the range of possibilities that within a few days he may be a free man, owing to careless and bungling legislation. In the office of the District Attorney the subject has been carefully investigated. Assistant Russell, in conversation with a member of the bar on Friday last, evidently referring to this subject, said jocularly: "I could give you a point which would make your fame and fortune. If I were on the other side of the bar I would get out a thousand writs within a week." The delay in the fixing of the bill of exceptions in the Tweed case is partly attributable to this new question, the determination of which will be reached in a few days.

REVISING THE ESTIMATES.

Where Expenses may be Reduced without Detriment to the Public Service.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The several Executive Departments of the Government will next week begin the work of revising the estimates and setting forth in detail what public expenditures for the current fiscal year and what estimates for the next fiscal year can be reduced without serious detriment to the public service, in order to have the same ready for Congress upon reassembling after the recess, in accordance with the resolution of the House of Representatives. The estimate for the running expenses of each Department, such as salaries of clerks, books, stationery, postage, &c., cannot be reduced, but those for work upon public buildings throughout the country, erection of lighthouses, &c., will be cut down extensively. The estimates for work on public buildings and lighthouses for the next fiscal year amount to $10,000,000, which, it is thought, will be reduced to three or four million. Most of the $10,000,000 is for beginning work on new buildings in various parts of the country, and as there is a manifest disposition in Congress not to commence any new buildings, these estimates will all be omitted. Upon the completion of the buildings in course of construction some appropriation will be necessary to continue the work, as its cessation would result injuriously to that already done. For instance, the work upon the buildings in Philadelphia and New York can be continued with an appropriation of about $1,000,000 for each, and smaller buildings in other parts of the country can be completed or kept in a fair stage of progress with smaller sums.

Another item in which there will be a very heavy reduction is the estimates for public works under the Engineer Bureau of the War Department, amounting to $21,500,000, for the improvement of rivers and harbors, fortifications, &c. The appropriations for these purposes will probably not amount to one-half of the estimates. The expenses of the War Department, including the Military Academy, cannot be reduced, as they are now at the lowest possible figure for a satisfactory management of that branch of the service.

The estimates for the government of the Indians, the pay of superintendents, fulfilling treaty stipulations, &c., amount to $7,500,000, an increase of $2,000,000 over those of two years ago. In these there will be some reduction, though it will probably be small.

A Hint to Messrs. Dawes and Garfield.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Messrs. Dawes and Garfield, the Republican leaders in the House, having assured the country that before taxation is increased the expenditures shall be cut down to the last notch, it may be well for them to look closely to the army expenditures. It is stated on good authority that large expenditures have been made in provisioning the forts on the sea coast. This has been done by private contract, the War Department claiming that the imminence of war with Spain created a necessity which would not permit advertising for proposals. It is said that Col. Wormley, who is connected with Gen. Ingalls, is the head of a Ring that has made a great deal of money out of this job. It is understood here that the army deficiency will be almost as startling as that of the navy.

OUR PURCHASE.

What New York Must Pay for Two New Wards Above the Harlem River.

The Aldermen of New York have spent much time endeavoring to ascertain the amount of debt which the city is to assume in the new wards of Westchester. Although committees and sub-committees have met similar committees from Westchester, the riddle is still as far from being solved as it was the next day after election. The authorities and others interested have attempted to show that New York will not have to assist in paying Westchester's debt, which on the 1st of January, 1873, was $809,000, independent of the town debts. Including town debts the total county debt is $5,161,858.52, of this town debt Morrisania has contracted $4,2,500 since 1865. West Farms comes forward with a debt of $349,900, contracted since 1861. Of Morrisania's debt $19,500 is for roads and bridges; other purposes, $121,000; war bounty debt, $12,000; but the county issued the bonds and levied the tax for these, thus making the county responsible; but the county holds the town's bonds, and New York in assuming the town's debt must pay to the county this $12,000. The war debt of West Farms is $4,800, and it was contracted in the same way. This makes a debt of $16,800 which New York owes Westchester county. Then there is a debt of $115,500 for public buildings, of which the towns must pay their share. As Morrisania and West Farms represent less than one-seventh of the entire wealth of the county, to say nothing of Kingsbridge, which is a new town and must take its proratta with Yonkers, it will be seen that New York must pay at least $20,000 of this $115,000, thus making $35,000 the least possible amount which New York will have to pay of Westchester's debt.

Now we come to the town debt of Morrisania and West Farms, which foots up $1,156,900, exclusive of the $15,800 bonds before enumerated and classed as a county debt. Add the county debt of $35,000 which belongs to these towns to their own independent debt, and it will be seen that New York has a mixed inheritance of $1,251,600 in these two towns. The value of the entire county property may offset $12,000 of the $35,000 county debt, but that is all the offset which can possibly be credited.

Kingsbridge was taken from Yonkers last year, and the amount which Yonkers has to pay New York on account of this town, Yonkers debt, minus the town was created, amounted to $35,000. Since then the new bonds issued by the county as in other towns, $316,888.75 for roads and bridges, and $[illegible] for other purposes, leaves a balance that Kingsbridge owes about one-eighth of Yonkers debt. Add this to the amount already shown in Morrisania and West Farms, and our annexed debt reaches a total of $1,321,600.

The Chicago Workingmen Demanding Employment.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—A very large meeting of workingmen was held at the West Side Turner Hall tonight, at which speeches were made in English, German, and Polish, urging the right of every man to employment at the hand of the city government when other sources failed, or in the event that the city cannot furnish work, that it should supply the laboring man with food and other necessaries of life. Resolutions embodying these views were adopted, and it was also resolved that those present would march in a body to the Council chamber to-morrow evening and present these resolutions and their claims.

The Senate and the Bankruptcy Act.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—From conversations with Senators it is safe to say a majority of them, instead of agreeing with the House in a total repeal of the bankruptcy act, are in favor of amending it in such particulars as will guard the debtor from the exactions of a minority of his creditors, leaving the question of compulsory bankruptcy to be determined by those most interested. The Senate Committee on the Judiciary will give this subject their consideration during the holiday recess. Numerous petitions and letters have been received from all parts of the country by which referred to the action of the committee.

THE CORNELL LAND SALES.

THE INVESTIGATION AT ITHACA ON SATURDAY.

The Lands Sold under a Pressing Need for Money—An Explanation from Mr. Cornell—Inspecting the University—Everything Found Perfectly Satisfactory.

Correspondence of The Sun.

ITHACA, Dec. 20.—The Cornell investigation was resumed this morning, with the same attendance as yesterday. The first witness sworn was Mr. Francis M. Finch, one of the trustees of the University, and the Secretary of that board. He had general knowledge of all that Mr. Cornell had done in regard to the college land grant. He never knew Mr. Cornell to do a single thing in regard to these matters with a view to his own interests or the interests of his family, or any of his friends. As to the sale to Mr. McGraw, before that sale was made witness, with other members of the board, was impressed with the necessity to the interests of the University that the transaction should be consummated. Mr. Cornell thought that a better price could ultimately be obtained by holding on to the land. The trustees objected to this that the institution imperatively needed a larger income and more capital than it then had. They also urged that the taxes and expenses incident to the handling and holding these lands was a heavy burden—witness thought of from $20,000 to $25,000 annually. They therefore urged that the sale be made promptly to Mr. McGraw, or to anybody else who was willing to take them at $4 an acre. The result was a partial and provisional promise to sell. When he did sell, the whole Board of Trustees sustained the action, and they have never changed their opinion of the wisdom of that policy.

THE DUPLICATE CERTIFICATE.

The witness then explained the demand made by him as Cornell's attorney in the case of Woodward against Cornell on Mr. Woodward for the surrender of all certificates and patents held by him for these university lands. Mr. Finch knew in a general way that Mr. Woodward had some sort of evidences of title to these lands, and he was convinced that whatever of such papers he held belonged to Mr. Cornell. He therefore, as Mr. Cornell's attorney, demanded the papers. Later in the day the attorney for Mr. Woodward surrendered to him a package containing duplicate certificates of location, with a promise that the patents would be surrendered when the consent of the Comptroller of the State should be obtained. All this occurred during the absence of Mr. Cornell. He had general instructions from Mr. Cornell to obtain from Mr. Woodward all papers relating to these lands.

Mr. Cornell submitted the following statement in further explanation of the Chippewa land taxes:

To the Commissioner of the Land Bureau:

SIR: In my testimony taken in New York respecting the supposed discrepancy in my reports to the Comptroller of the State of the amount of taxes on the college lands, I stated that the Comptroller was misinformed by my report, and that he understood the report to state the amount of taxes paid when it was only the amount of taxes assessed, and not to represent the amount of money which had been paid for that purpose. As proof of this understanding in the premises I quote the following from the report of the Comptroller Allen to the Legislature, 1870:

"The taxes upon a portion of the lands prior to 1869 are stated by Mr. Cornell, estimated in part, at $[illegible]

"Of taxes, taxes have been paid by Mr. Cornell, as appears by his report, ... $4,169.39

"Leaving due for taxes prior to 1869 ..... $15,414.[illegible]

"The taxes upon the Chippewa, Pottawattamie and Lincoln counties, Minnesota, are not included.

"It is understood that most, if not all of these lands, have been sold for nonpayment of taxes on one or more years, and that the amount paid by Mr. Cornell have been either in the redemption or purchase of the certificates of sale."

I am now also in possession of my books, so that I can show you the original and only charges that I made for my services in the liquidation of this amount of $15,[illegible]59 of taxes, as follows:

1869

June 10—To paid 1st Nat. Bank, drft. on N. Y. for W. A. W. Woodward's tax bills $15.00

Sept. 28—To paid W. A. Woodward, att. N. Y. for tax bills 5.00

Oct. 21—To paid W. A. Woodward, att. W. C. Tel. Co. for taxes 5.00

..... $25.00

This report to the Comptroller was dated Sept. 30, 1869, only two days after the second draft was sent to Woodward, and three weeks before the last draft was made. I do not see how I could not know the amount that it would require to liquidate these taxes, touch the certificates had been purchased in gross, and the agreement made for paying the chippewa lands' taxes, leaves me my justification in reporting that they had been paid.

You will see, therefore, that there was no error or mistake in the matter, but a misunderstanding by a stenographer, and that the Commissioners of Land Office told, that in reporting the amount of taxes paid I was not intending or claiming that I had advanced the money out of my own pocket. In my judgment, I could claim upon the State or the fund wasteful made by me for the time beyond what I had actually and in fact paid. [signed] EZRA CORNELL.

THE LAND CONTRACTS.

Mr. John McGraw, one of the trustees, and the partner of Henry W. Sage in the fam[illegible] contracts subsequently referred to, testified to his purchases of lands from Mr. Cornell were made for the interests of the university, and after a failure had been met with in every other direction in trying to sell the lands. The purchase was not a profitable one. There was no personal profit to him. He had had a lot of Col. Wormley, who is connected with Gen. Ingalls, in the head of a Ring that has made a great deal of money out of this job. It is understood here that the army deficiency will be almost as startling as that of the navy.

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TURNED OUT OF THEIR HOMES.

Men who Built their Cabins in the Woods Thirty Years Ago Ejected—Three Thousand Men and Boys Discharged.

Correspondence of The Sun.

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 20.—One of the bitterest quarrels in the history of Carbondale, between the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company and its miners, has just reached its climax. The employees of that company at Carbondale have been squatters on the land for the last thirty-five, and some forty years, during which period no rent was demanded of them, and as a natural consequence the lots upon which their houses stood have passed into what is known as the squatter's right. About 250 acres of land at the head of the Lackawanna valley are thus occupied. A few days ago the company issued a notice that any of its workmen who would not sign a lease of his lot might look out for work elsewhere.

This notice was disregarded for the time being, the men going to their work as usual until Monday last, when the company's officials appeared at the works and refused to let the men work any longer. Consequently about three thousand men and boys were by this means suddenly thrown out of employment.

When I visited Carbondale to-day the city presented the appearance it was wont to have in the days of the long strike. The men have held meetings, denounced the action of the company, and commenced to organize a new Miners' Union. About 300 names have already been enrolled.

A party of civil engineers in the employ of the company, who have for the last few days been surveying the squatter property and apportioning it into lots, were set upon the other day by a crowd of men, women, and boys, and beaten with stones and clubs. The engineers fled for their lives. One of them, a Mr. Forry, who was dreadfully maltreated, signalled a passing train and took refuge in it from his infuriated assailants.

The most intense excitement prevails at Carbondale. The company stands firm, and the men are equally resolute and swear they will not yield up the homes which many of them made at the midst of the forest many years ago, by sheer industry and hard work.

Carbondale numbers a population of some 12,000 persons, and is wholly dependent on the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's coal works for support. The trouble grows more serious every day, and there is no saying to what extremes these agrarian difficulties may lead ere the matter is settled.

BOSS SHEPHERD'S SCRIP.

The Investments of the First National Bank of New York—The Property Owners Threatening to Resist Payment.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The First National Bank of New York appears to have done a large business in buying up the scrip of the Board of Public Works. Their agent here, Mr. Samuel Cross, has been busy during the past two or three weeks notifying property holders that that bank held certificates of indebtedness against their property, and if they were not paid by the 24th of this month he would have to advertise it for sale. It is said that but few persons intend to make payments. The property holders on Four-and-a-Half street held a meeting, last Friday evening, for the purpose of taking action regarding the enormous assessments made for improvements on that street. The following report of the proceedings is from one of the Ring organs:

Mr. Boswell, the delegate in the Legislature for the Seventeenth District, was called upon and made the following statement: Some time since the Board of Public Works issued certificates on Four-and-a-Half street and sold them to the First National Bank of New York. He had consulted the Governor, and he had instructed the Comptroller to have no dealings with the bank in the matter, and that it was solely in the hands of the bank authorities. On or about the 24th of December they will offer for the sale of property on Four-and-a-Half street and advertised, unless the assessments were paid. The amount taxed was $[illegible] per square lot, and some of the items for which they were assessed had really been done by contract.

Dr. Bacon moved that a committee of ten be appointed to wait upon Gov. Shepherd and ascertain from him the exact status of the case, and what action could be taken in the premises. Adopted.

The Chair announced as the committee: Dr. R. A. Bacon, chairman, Geo. S. S. Smoot, William Isley, Sam. Hyman, Samuel Newman, R. A. Wager, T. Ellis, William A. Barnes, F. A. Boswell, and Simon Joseph. The President of the meeting was also constituted a member of the committee.

Dr. Bacon thought that if this committee could accomplish nothing else, they had better secure legal talent and fight the New York ring.

Several gentlemen of ample means who own property on this street and in other parts of the city say that they will fight the New York bank and the Board of Public Works to the bitter end.

FIGHTING ALECK'S LATEST RAID.

What the Gamblers Do after they Pretend to Close their Places.

Capt. Williams of the Prince street police since the effective raids on gamblers and policy shops has been taking large odds on the improved morality of his precinct. He prided himself on having employed the strong arm of the law in sweeping out the evils that disgraced the old Eighth Ward, and smiled as he read on the closed shutters of 83 Thompson street on Saturday morning, in a clear, bold hand, the following notice:

This business is closed on account of the raids. For further particulars inquire of ——.

As usual, "Fighting Aleck" on Saturday night made the rounds of his precinct in plain clothes, entering dens that even his bravest officers do not dare to venture into alone. Entering a saloon in Houston street, the Captain noticed a suspicious looking character at the way the "Captain had been fooled by the proprietor of 83 Thompson street, who was running a large and successful policy shop on the second floor, rear of his former store."

Quietly ordering his men to follow, he ascended the stairs, reaching the second floor, the Captain saw a number of men hurrying out through a hall to Spring street. Pushing forward, he and his men, unmindful of a shower of brickbats, reached the spring street entrance, and passed through a small grocery where newly painted signs of "envelopes sold here" told him what was going on. He next entered a large room where six men and a woman were trying to jump out of windows and a transom. Capt. Williams gave a crowed man just as he was about to drop into the street below. Sergeant Brown hurried to arrest the young colored woman, who was trying to escape through the transom. The property seized was a large quantity of envelopes, some counterfeit money, a few chairs, two bottles of whiskey, some bad cigars, and a rare collection of old hats and greasy caps. Andrew Van Vorst, the proprieto, Patrick Henry, George Washington, and Arabella Smith, colored, were locked up.

TAMMANY REORGANIZING.

Preparations for the Creation of the New General Committee.

The Tammany General Committee met on Saturday evening to make arrangements for the election of the General Committee for 1874. It was resolved to hold the primaries on the 29th inst. A report of the Committee on Organization recommended that the Twenty-third Ward should send fourteen, and the Twenty-fourth Ward nine delegates to the General Committee; and that when those wards were properly divided into election districts, their delegations should adjust their number in conformity with the by-laws of the General Committee. The report was recommitted.

Address of the Hon. Alfred E. Ackert the the following were adopted:

Whereas, Great public wrongs have been committed by those holding high official positions; and

Whereas, Through the earnest and untiring energy of our present prosecuting officers and able assistants, assisted by true and patriotic men of both political parties, some of these wrongdoers have been brought to justice; therefore,

Resolved, That we congratulate the people of this city and county on this vindication of the law, and return our thanks to all who have assisted in securing the triumph in our courts, and that our justices, juries, and attorneys who have been so faithful to duty are entitled to the gratitude of all good and honest citizens.

In response to resolutions of thanks to the Hon. John W. Chanler, Chairman of the General Committee, and the Hon. John Kelly, Chairman of the Committee on Organization, Mr. Chanler congratulated the General Committee on the successful organization of the Democratic party, and urged them to be true to themselves and conciliatory to all Democrats. Mr. Kelly touched upon the ingratitude of some of the men who ruled Tammany Hall two years ago, and said that as the law had been vindicated it would not be magnanimous for the committee to congratulate one another on the fall of those men from their high position. He cautioned the committee to be careful in the selection of the delegates to the new General Committee.

Movements of President Grant.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 21.—President Grant met a number of old friends at an informal dinner at the house of ex-Governor Harvey to-night, after which he became joined by his son and several other gentlemen who came with him on the train for Washington.

THE SANTIAGO SLAUGHTER.

ENGLAND TO DEMAND THE PUNISHMENT OF BURRIEL.

Concentrating a Large Naval Force in Cuban Ports to Enforce the Demand—Spain's Proposed Salute to the American Flag.

KEY WEST, Dec. 20.—Information reached here from Havana yesterday which, if authentic, is highly important. It is rumored there that serious complications in regard to Cuba have arisen, it is understood, between the Spanish and British Governments. Precisely what these difficulties are does not yet appear; but it is certain that the British West India squadron is to be speedily and largely increased. The British Consul-General at Havana has received despatches from Lord Granville to instruct all naval commanders in the West Indies to immediately rendezvous in Cuban ports. It is stated that in official circles it is certainly known that the British Government will demand the punishment of Burriel. The British Admiral has left for St. Thomas, where he expects to be relieved.

Admiral Scott looks for the arrival of our European squadron in a few days, when Admiral Case, unless relieved, will assume command. It is now looked upon as certain that the salute to our flag, required by the terms of the protocol, will be made in as informal a manner as possible. The feeling among the officers of the squadron here is one of much dissatisfaction.

The Virginius passed here yesterday to the north anchorage of the Ossipee, in a leaky condition.

Spain Demanding the Return of the Virginius—Gen. Sickles's Resignation.

MADRID, Dec. 20.—It is reported that the Cabinet has decided to make a demand upon the United States Government for the return of the steamship Virginius and her passengers and crew, recently given up. It is also said that in accordance with this decision President Castelar has written to Minister Sickles. Gen. Sickles has determined to tender his resignation.

PARIS, Dec. 21.—A cypher despatch from Madrid announces that Spain demands the restoration of the Virginius. There is great exultation in consequence of Secretary Fish admitting that the Virginius was not entitled to carry the flag of the United States. The demand was delivered on Friday. Gen. Sickles has telegraphed to Washington, insisting upon the acceptance of his resignation.

Our Flag not to be Saluted—Grant's Attorney-General's Decision.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—It has been known for some days that the Spanish Government has furnished evidence with regard to the Virginius and her claim to the right to bear the flag of the United States, and that the President has submitted the evidence to the Attorney-General for his opinion thereon. It seems now to be understood in official circles that the Attorney-General has given the opinion that the vessel had forfeited the right to bear the flag of the United States, and at the time of her capture she was carrying it without right and improperly. In view of this opinion, our Government will, in accordance with the terms of the protocol, institute inquiry and adopt proceedings against the Virginius and against any of the persons who may appear to have been guilty of illegal acts in connection therewith. As Spain has proven to the satisfaction of the United States, according to the Attorney-General's opinion, that the Virginius was at the time of her capture carrying the United States flag without right and improperly, the salute to the flag on the 25th day of November will be dispensed with as now not necessarily required; but the United States will expect a disclaimer of intent of indignity to its flag in the act which was committed. From the proofs submitted by Spain it appears the clearance papers of the Virginius were obtained by perjury.

The Department of State has no information concerning the complications between Great Britain and Spain.

Rear Admiral Scott has sent to the Secretary of the Navy a large mass of documents connected with the capture of the Virginius and the executions which followed it.

These include the list of 103 who were in the prison at Santiago de Cuba, thirteen of whom were shot. Among the surviving appear the names of Manuel Moraes of Philadelphia, Philip Metzler of Charleston, S. C., Salomon Gray of Harrisburg, Pa., Alfred Parker, location not given.

These are all the Americans among the number given. Those who were executed in addition to the thirteen above mentioned were in jail only a few hours, with the exception of Capt. Fry, who was not taken to that place.

According to the official report concerning the mode of trial by the Martial Court, Capt. Fry declined to answer all the questions put to him, protesting that by the laws of nations he and his crew had committed no offence that justified his or their imprisonment or trial as pirates, claiming to be the commander of an American merchant vessel furnished with all properly certified papers, which he had delivered to the boarding officer of the capturing vessel.

J. N. Rowe, of Rockland, Maine, deposed at Kingston, Jamaica, that from his knowledge of navigation, the Virginius when captured could not have been less than 70 miles from the coast of Cuba.

The report from Madrid that the Spanish Government has decided to make a demand upon the United States for the return of the Virginius and her passengers and crew is not credited here, for the reason that it would be contrary to the United States by virtue of the protocol between the two countries, subject to judicial proceedings.

Commander Braine, in his letter to the Secretary of the Navy, dated Santiago de Cuba, Nov. 30, communicating the information he obtained about the executions, says: "I am informed by my letter to his Excellency Señor Brigadier Commandante General de a Morales, and the protest that I protested against any further punishment to any of the officers, crew, and passengers of the Virginius, which I have done in a manly, and if, any more were ordered to be executed I must be informed before it took place, as I claimed the American flag protected all.

"I have taken means to circulate it ashore in the city, that any of the prisoners taken from the Virginius are executed I will sink every Spanish gun boat and other Spanish men-of-war here that I can get at. I feel assured that this rumor has had a good effect, and I believe should any Government demand the prisoners taken from the Virginius yet alive, the authorities will surrender them.

You will observe by my interview that the General asks in reply to my question that an easy partial solution to this already complicated affair would be to deliver up all the people now alive belonging to the Virginius.

He replied, "In what manner could that be done?" leaving me to believe it to be really a wish of mis to deliver them all to the United States.

I replied, "By putting them in boats and putting them on board the ship I have the honor to command, restoring them under the flag from which they were taken."

The Governor replied he could not do so without orders from his superiors.

Commander Braine asked if the people taken from the American steamer Virginius were executed by the authority of the highest ruling power in the island or by the order of the Government officials here.

The Governor answered, "By the Government here."

Commander Braine said: "Could not the same power that ordered their execution order their release and delivery to him?"

The Governor replied in the negative. The people taken from the Virginius were executed by an order previously issued by the Captain commanding the naval forces of the island, others were executed under authority of an order issued by Gen. De Rodas.

Commander Braine—But were these not passengers on board the American steamer Virginius?

The Governor—You must recollect that there were many Spaniards among the passengers, and one among them a deserter from our army on this island.

Commander Braine—Yes, but they were taken from the American steamer on the high seas.

The Governor—On the night of the arrival of the Virginius at this port in looking over the papers an order was found issued by the late Capt.-in-General, and it was under his order that the trial and executions took place.

Commander Braine—But I have to remind you that both the United States and British Governments protested against that order, and told the Spanish Government that they would not allow any such interference, and the most that the United States Government would admit would be the confiscation of the vessel and cargo.

Commander Braine, having received assurances that his despatch to the United States Government would be forwarded without interruption, thanked the Governor for his courtesy and withdrew after delivering in person a written protest relative to the officers, crew, and passengers of the American steamer Virginius.

The American and Spanish Navies.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—A well-known shipbuilder furnishes the following statement: The American navy, as compared with that of Spain, shows that we will have thirty-four guns in all our ironclad fleet when the vessels now under contract shall be repaired, and twelve guns that will remain worthless, as Congress has made no appropriation to repair them. Spain has now afloat one hundred and fifty-one guns in ironclads alone, and is building three of the largest class of ironclad iron ships, carrying each twenty-four guns, or nine times as many as we have afloat. When these are completed and will have [illegible] guns, or nine times as many as we have afloat.

CRASH ON THE EASTERN RAILROAD.

Two Freight Trains Coming in Collision in a Blinding Snow Storm—Three Men Killed—Criminal Carelessness Somewhere.

KENNEBUNK, Me., Dec. 21.—Two freight trains came in collision on the Eastern Railroad, near this place, yesterday morning. The killed are: Conduct