The Sun.

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A FINAL BLOW AT THE RING

MR. CLUSS VINDICATING HIMSELF BY THE RECORDS.

How Attorney-General Williams's Property was Improved at Public Expense—John O. Evans's Flagging Job—The Sewer Tax Swindle—Magruder's Bookkeeping.

WASHINGTON, May 27.—The District investigation closed to-day, so far as the taking of testimony is concerned. The character of the testimony to-day was in keeping with that taken yesterday. Attorney-General Williams, at the request of the committee, appeared and made a statement concerning the grading of his lots on Rhode Island avenue by the Board of Public Works. He denied in the most emphatic manner that there was any collusion between himself and the board to have this work done at the expense of the public. His story, in substance, was as follows: A contractor, Mr. Riley, asked permission to take gravel from his lots and he gave him that privilege, with the understanding that he was to level the surface and replace the soil removed. He also gave the contractor permission to take dirt from his ground to fill lots near by which had been declared a public nuisance. There was no understanding that anybody was to be paid for grading his lots, and he had no idea that the Board of Public Works was to pay one cent for that purpose. This was his version of the case; but when the records of the Board of Public Works were produced it appeared, first, that

MR. ATTORNEY-GENERAL WILLIAMS

had addressed a letter to Boss Shepherd asking that lots on which the Attorney-General's palace stood should be graded and fixed up in fine style. This letter Shepherd endorsed in substance as follows: "Referred to Clem Hall, General Inspector, who will have this attended to at once to the entire satisfaction of Mrs. Williams." Then followed a further endorsement by the General Inspector that he had ordered Riley and Clark, contractors, to grade the grounds about the Attorney-General's house as directed. Accompanying this letter were the bills for the contractors, the certificate of the General Inspector that the work had been done as per order of Shepherd, and the measurement of the same by assistant engineer Franklin, showing that about 10,000 cubic yards of earth had been removed. The contractor, Mr. Riley, was sworn and testified that the General Inspector urged him to do the work, telling him it was to accommodate Mrs. Williams; that she herself came after him and urged him to take the job and finish it immediately. He did undertake it and complete it, with the understanding that the work was being done for the special accomodation of the Attorney General, and performed it in good faith. After the work was completed there was difficulty about getting his pay, which he could not understand until he found out that they were troubled to find a job to charge it to. Finally they charged it to Rhode Island avenue and a part to a public alley, and for this he received certificates; but for the balance, some $1,800, he was still unpaid. The General Inspector, Mr. Hall, was called, and corroborated the story in every particular. It also appeared that a great deal more work would have been done had not Chief Engineer Cluss discovered what was going on, and thereupon stopped the work.

THE FLAGGING JOB.

Adolf Cluss was again recalled and examined in regard to various things by the committee, but especially as to the flagging done by John O. Evans. He stated that he had obtained late last night the papers relating to this work which had been so repeatedly called for. He had worked nearly all night to prepare a statement as the committee had directed. It appeared from his statement that all the flagging used by the Board of Public Works was purchased from John O. Evans. There was this very peculiar *modus operandi* of making these purchases. The flag was supplied by Van Brunt & Co., ship brokers of New York, and was sold to the Board of Public Works, but consigned to John O. Evans. The board paid Evans 55 and 75 cents per square foot for the common quarry face flag in five and six feet long by irregular in width.

The price lists of Van Brunt & Co. for last year as well as for the present year show that this size and quality of flagging was worth, delivered at Washington, from 20 to 23 cents per square foot. Thus it will be seen that Evans made from 32 to 55 cents per foot profit. His sales in all to the board footed up $250,256. Then all this flagging was laid by Evans at 65 cents per square foot. All this work was done for Evans by sub-contractors, who received from 32 to 35 cents per foot for dressing and laying the flagging, furnishing cement and sand. Thus Evans made another 30 cents per foot profit on the laying. A very nice little job for Mr. Evans. It is not all surprising that he can afford to employ the best legal talent in the United States to defend him.

THE SEWER TAX.

Another very important statement by Mr. Cluss was in reference to the sewer tax. In the fourth sewer district the main sewers were all built and had cost the board just $140,171 12. The United States had paid on account of these sewers $123,20.70. There remained $25,000, and to pay this the private property in the district was taxed to the full extent of the law. In Georgetown the total cost of the main sewers was less than $25,000, and yet private property was assessed under the sewer tax over $100,000. In this so-called tax-payers' association he received the card of invitation of the committee. Mr. Cluss further said that the settlement voucher made by Connolly for grading was $17,644 76, which appears in the Governor's answer as $3,000. He said $39,175 10 had been paid Connolly in all, and $25,000, as it is sworn to by the Governor, as a sewer. Everything was needed to complete the triumph of Mr. Cluss, to-day's work furnished it. He stands now sustained by the records of the board, and corroborated by the testimony of the subordinates of the Vice President and Engineer's office. All the efforts of the Ring attorneys have utterly failed to affect his integrity, his honesty of purpose, or his professional skill. The committee are perfectly satisfied on these points, and their report will be unanimous in commending him for his fearless, honest course.

CLUSS SUSTAINED BY ONE OF HIS ACCUSERS.

But the Board of Public Plunder have another opportunity now to combat that they have been certainly in the habit of doing in their own body. Dr. John B. Blake was put on the stand this afternoon and questioned in regard to the methods of doing business by Shepherd & Co. He condemned the system still more emphatically than did Mr. Cluss. He said that he had only been giving his undivided attention to the affairs of the board since the 1st of January, but in that time he had discovered many irregularities. He thought for instance that it was a very bad thing for a member of the board to act as a surety. Such again there was no check whatever on the tax bill. He could do just as he pleased with the money, and no one could tell what he had done without investigating all his transactions from the original. The board was broken down to the present day. There had never been a settlement with Col. Magruder; his accounts had never been examined, and even the auditor who issued credit upon which all expenditures of Magruder's disbursements were based had never settled with him. There was no way in which anything certain could be discovered concerning the treasurer's accounts, without going over them from the commencement to date. Dr. Blake said that he had discovered this defect shortly after he came into the system, and within two months had always recommended and insisted upon a change had it not been for the investigation which he hoped would cure many errors. Another defect which he had succeeded in remedying was that he had practice Magruder had always carried on of running the bureau, presuming to act for it, exercising all its powers. This, he thought, was wrong, and he had therefore joined with Mr Cluss in insisting upon regular meetings of the board, and that all important matters should be referred to the members for their action thereon.

TREASURER MAGRUDER'S BOOKKEEPING.

Col. Magruder was again examined in regard to his accounts, and, as in his former examinations, the utter unreliability of his bookkeeping was demonstrated. Several days ago he was requested to produce vouchers to correspond to certain payments which his check stubs showed he had made. He pretended to have them, but when they were submitted to the committee it was discovered that they in no way corresponded to the amounts of the checks. The issue of the committee was that Magruder owed $3,000 out of the way. Mr. Bass, in examining his check books, found that on the 12th and 15th of July, 1873, he had issued checks payable to Gen. Baker, Treasurer of the National Board of New York, for $19,000. The stubs of these checks bore certain figures entered in a different ink and evidently at a subsequent date to the issuing of the checks. These figures Magruder said were the number of the auditor's certificate which were paid with the checks. Mr Bass asked him if the natural inference from all the circumstances would not be that he had given Baker the money to buy up the certificates at forty or fifty cents on the dollar, and when they were turned in a month afterward entered the numbers on the stubs of the checks. Magruder said of course if the committee thought they were ill scoundrels they might infer anything. "But," said Mr. Bass, "was there anything to prevent you from doing this very thing?" He had to admit that there was no check on him whatever, and that he could have done this in almost every case.

Plundering Officials Convicted.

CHARLESTON, S. C., May 27.—The three Commissioners of Barnwell county, who were indicted last week for stealing public funds, have been tried and convicted.

THE NATION'S DEFENDERS.

The Veteran Gov. Dix Reviewing the First Division in Washington Square—Yesterday's Military Pageant.

One of the most brilliant military pageants seen in this city for many years was the review of the First Division N. G. S. N. Y. yesterday by Gov. John A. Dix. The announcement of a review by his Excellency caused the citizen soldiery to turn out in unusual force, and the ranks of most of the regiments were well filled.

The troops formed in line at 3 o'clock on Madison avenue and the intersecting streets, the right resting on Thirty-fourth street, each regiment having been assigned its position prior to leaving its armory. At 4:20 P. M. the head of the column began to move along Thirty-fourth street toward Fifth avenue, each regiment falling into its proper place as its predecessors passed. The bands struck up a lively marching tune, and the division moved quickly down Fifth avenue, flanked on either side by an admiring multitude.

At the Fifth avenue entrance to Washington square a stand, capable of accommodating nearly a thousand persons, had been erected. Gov. Dix, his staff, and several generals of other divisions stood at the southern end of the structure in an enclosed space, which was gracefully festooned with the national colors. Major-Gen. Shaler, commanding the division, rode by with his staff shortly before 5, and wheeling to the right dismounted and took his station near the Governor. His body guard was Capt. Klein's troop of cavalry, which was well mounted and splendidly uniformed.

The Third Brigade, Gen. Varian, had the right of the column, and was headed by the peerless Seventh Regiment. Grafulla's band, in magnificent uniform, was greeted with loud cheers, and when the regiment, marching in columns of companies, appeared opposite the stand, the shouts of applause were redoubled. After the Seventh Regiment came the Ninth, Col. Braine, with company fronts of fourteen files marching like veterans. The Eighth, Col. Scott; the Fifty-fifth, Lieut.-Col. Schilling; and the First (the old Hawkins Zouaves) brought up the rear of this brigade. They were followed by Gen. Ward and the First Brigade, consisting of the Twelfth; the Sixty-ninth, Col. Kavanagh; the Seventy-ninth, Col. Shaw; the Twenty-second, Col Porter; and the Seventy-first, Lieut.-Col. Vose. The Twenty-second was preceded by Gilmore's band in uniforms rich with gold lace and weighted down with bullion. Arbuckle, the cornet player, was on the right of the first rank. The band is uniformed more richly than the famous Ninth Regiment band in the halcyon days of that corps. Their marching and wheeling showed perfect drill and discipline. The Seventy-ninth Highlanders in kilts created a sensation, the companies maintaining as perfect positions, especially while passing the grand stand, as ever did the crack Second infantry of the regular army. The Sixty-ninth, the representatives of the Irish element, also did good marching. Battery K brought up the rear of the brigade.

Col. Conklin and staff, Second Brigade, were followed by the Fifth Regiment, Col. Spencer; the Sixth, Lieut.-Col. Van Wyck; the Eleventh, Col. Vilmar; the Eighty-fourth, Lieut.-Col. Mitchell; and the Ninety-sixth, Col. Stone. The Fifth in regulation uniform, with the Prussian helmet, was nearly three-score strong, and looked well. The Eleventh was also well handled. The rear of the procession was brought up by the Third Cavalry, Col. Budke, and a platoon of police.

The Governor's staff comprised Adjt.-Gen. Rathbone, Paymaster-General King, Commissary-General Burton, Quartermaster-General Knapp, and Maj. Gen. Dunn, engineer-in-chief, and Col. Hamilton Fish, Sidney De Kay, Haven, Hopkins, and Griswold, aides-de-camp.

Maj.-Gen. James W. Husted, late Speaker of the Assembly, and Maj.-Gen. D. P. Wood, the Premier of the State Senate, stood near the Governor throughout the review.

Gov. Dix expressed himself highly pleased with the appearance of the troops. As he stood, hat in hand, waiting the regiments file by, the veteran warrior forgot the stoop of old age, and carried himself as erect as any man in all those thousands. He will review the Second Division in Brooklyn to-day.

THE NEW DIAMOND WEDDING.

The Marriage of Frederica Howlden to Gen. Raphael Benavides.

Gen. Raphael Benavides, the Mexican Minister to Berlin, was married yesterday in Trinity Chapel to Miss Frederica Ida Howlden. The bride's father, Mr. Frederick Howlden, of E. Remington & Sons, rifle manufacturers, visited Mexico two or three years ago in the interest of the firm, and was hospitably received by the officers of the Government. His family, among whom was his accomplished daughter, Miss Frederica, accompanied him. They tarried in the city of Mexico for several months, and there made the acquaintance of Gen. Benavides. He was of Spanish parentage, commanded a division of the army, and was well informed in military affairs. He had been in twenty-two engagements, and was looked upon as a hero. Several military works in the Spanish language were written by him. His last, "the Manual of Arms," has been highly commended by the chiefs of office of the United States army. He stood aloof from politics, preferring to be a soldier, but a few months ago President Lerdo asked him to represent the republic at Berlin, and he accepted the position.

Mr Howlden and his family returned to their elegant mansion at 61 West 16th street, in this city. Gen. Benavides, who had been much attached to Miss Frederica, proposed marriage. He was 42; she 20. She fluently spoke the Spanish, French, and Italian languages, and was a pianist and singer of promise. She was educated in this city, and her teachers pronounced her one of their greatest stars. The General was accepted as her suitor, and the engagement was celebrated by a grand soirée, to which many of New York's fairest sons and daughters were invited. Yesterday was fixed for the wedding. The Mexican Minister to this country, Señor Mariscal, was instructed by President Lerdo to lend his presence to the occasion, and the Mexican Consul in this city, Juan Navarro, was asked to be present and certify to the marriage.

About 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon Twenty-fifth street, between Broadway and Sixth avenue, was lined with carriages. The steps of Trinity Chapel were covered with Brussels carpet, and a canopy was stretched to the entrance. Over this was a bright-colored awning. Before 2 o'clock the edifice was filled. The organist, Mr. W. B. Gilbert, played an "Andante" by Haines, an "Allegro" from Beethoven, an "Andante" from Haydn, and Handel's "Grand Wedding March." As the bridal party were entering the church white-robed choristers sang:

How welcome was the call,
And sweet the festival
When Jesus graced the nuptial hall
To bless the marriage day.
Amen.

Two ushers leading the procession were followed by Minister Mariscal and wife. Mrs. Howlden, mother of the bride, leaning on the arm of Gen. Benavides, walked next, and following them was the bride at her father's side. Miss Howlden was attired in white satin, *decolleté*, and orange blossoms were in her hair.

The Rev. Dr. Price, assisted by the Rev. Dr. McWhicker, performed the beautiful ceremony of the Episcopal church, and pronounced Gen. Benavides and Miss Howlden husband and wife.

In the church were many natives of Mexico and of Spain.

In Mr. Howlden's residence the bridal presents were displayed in the spacious reception rooms. A diamond necklace that cost $5,000 was the gift of the bridegroom. The General and his charming wife will sail in the Scotia on the 10th of June.

Unveiling the Ellsworth Monument.

MECHANICSVILLE, N. Y., May 27.—The Ellsworth monument was unveiled here to-day. The weather was fine, and the military made an imposing appearance. After the procession reached the grand stand in the cemetery, and after prayer by the Rev. Mr. Flagler, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, a spring was touched by one of the committee, and the canvas sprang back, exposing to view the imposing granite shaft. Hon. Marshall P. Wilder delivered the memorial address, giving the history and career of Col. Ellsworth. The orator of the day, the Hon. Julius C. Burrows of Michigan, was introduced by Gen. Barnum, and delivered the oration. W. H. McElroy of Albany read the poem.

The monument is of Quincy granite and has what is called a rough finish. The shaft is finished in octagonal form. On the west side of the base is the word "Ellsworth" cut in bas relief in glass-letters five inches long, and on the east side of the base is a bronze medallion of Ellsworth. The north front of the die has this inscription: "Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth, Commander of the Regiment of the New York Fire Zouaves. Born at Malta, Saratoga county, New York, May 11, 1837. Killed at Alexandria, Va., May 24, 1861, in taking the first rebel flag in the war for the Union." On the east side of the die is a slab of white marble, on which is carved a unique and beautiful coat of arms, copied from a drawing made by Ellsworth. A rifle, sword, pistol, bayonet, flag, banner, and all the accoutrements of war are cleverly arranged underneath a shield. Over all is a shield, bearing the initials "E. E." Underneath this coat of arms is the exact fac simile of a letter written to his parents a little previous to his setting out on the expedition on which he met his death: "I am content, confident that he who notes even the fall of a sparrow will have some purpose even in the fate of one like me."

At the head of the grave stands a granite stone bearing the inscription "Elmer." On the south side of the shaft gilt letters tell that "The State of New York united in commemorating the patriotism of Col. Ellsworth by contributing out of the public funds to the erection of this monument. Chapter 730, laws of 1873." A beautiful shield is carved midway up the shaft, and surmounting all appears Freedom's proud bird, done in bronze, standing guard with outstretched wings.

After the Flood.

Accurate sketches of the aqueduct in its present condition. Also incidents of the Massachusetts flood, see *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*. Out to-day at all news stands.—Adv.

FRENCH BILLIARD EXPERTS

LAST NIGHT'S GREAT GAME IN TAMMANY HALL.

The Players Cool and Confident—Magnificent Round-the-Table Shots—The First Victory for Francois Ubassy.

The long-talked-of match at the three-ball carom game of billiards between the two French experts, Albert Garnier and François Ubassy, was played last night in Tammany Hall. The rules were those governing championship matches, and the stakes were nominally $500 a side. Ubassy, who had never won a match in New York, was by some supposed to be an easy prey for his competitor. Others believed that Ubassy's reputation as a player in Europe had not been overestimated, and that under favorable circumstances he would prove his superiority to Garnier.

Before the game was opened two, three, and even four to one against Ubassy was offered and taken, and it is probable that more money was lost on the match than on any played here for the last four or five years. To the surprise of all but Ubassy and his friends the awkward farmer-like player beat his dainty opponent by long odds. Knowing ones say that Ubassy has been awaiting his opportunity to make money; that knowing his ability to compete successfully with any player in this country, he has allowed himself to fall below par in the pools until the chance offered to speculate at odds; and that he has through his friends taken every bet at odds against him. If this be true, then Ubassy's winnings on account of last night's match cannot fall far short of $8,000.

OPENING THE BALL.

The game opened at 8:05, Ubassy winning the lead and starting off with a miss. In his fifth inning he made the first two-figured score (12), and at the close of the ninth, after ordinary play on both sides, he stood 31 to his opponent's 22. A beautiful round-the-table shot and a magnificently executed massé follow by Ubassy and two or three pretty draws by Garnier were, up to this point, the only remarkable features of the play.

The two Frenchmen were cool and collected, and played with no sign of enthusiasm. Garnier in his tenth inning ran up 21 by delicate work, and in his twelfth Ubassy made 10, and the score stood 43 to 44 in favor of Garnier. Several uninteresting innings followed, but Ubassy opened the seventeenth with a magnificent round-the-table shot that left the balls so disposed that he could, after the execution of one of his wonderful long draws, do pretty much as he pleased. He rolled up 15, and had scored 63 to Garnier's 58.

The eighteenth inning was a blank to Ubassy, but was worth 5 to Garnier, and the players stood even at 68. This fact seemed to stir Ubassy. When he entered on the work laid out for him in the nineteenth inning he had a difficult cushion kiss to make to get the balls together, or within good carom range, but the shot was made, and more than three score others followed this in rapid succession, some of them wonderful in the delicate certainty with which they were executed. His inning footed up 68, and his total stood 131 to Garnier's 64.

WARMING UP.

Both men now warmed up to their work. Garnier broke for 22 in his 21st inning, after Ubassy had scored 16, and closed with a miss from the spot after a freeze. Then Ubassy ran his 14; and after three unprofitable innings scored 38, in making which he almost excelled himself in the ease and skill with which he played. The score then stood, Ubassy 192; Garnier 186, and the audience became nervous. During the next eight or ten innings there was some beautiful play, but no large run except in the 28 h when Garnier scored 41. The marker's call at the close of the thirty-third inning was: Ubassy, 218; Garnier, 192. Garnier brought the next inning to a close with a fluke, the insecurity of the bridge for the first time in the game. He had closed the gap between him and his competitor and was 2 points ahead. But Ubassy was not to be left behind without a struggle. He scored 15 in the thirty-fifth inning, and followed this with 8 and a 1, while Garnier added nothing to his tally.

In the thirty-eighth inning Ubassy still further increased his score by adding 51, the result of such play as has seldom been seen even in Tammany Hall. Draw shots, follows, cushion caroms, cushion kisses, and brilliant massés followed each other in rapid succession. After this run until the intermission there was but little extra play, the only run of note being 17, made by Garnier in the 40th inning. The game when the score stood: Ubassy, 304; Garnier, 261. Garnier closed his fifty-second inning with a neat run of 15. His score was 276, Ubassy's 340—the game was 2 hours and 17 minutes old. In the next inning Ubassy footed up 48, and in the fifty-fourth 19. He was now

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and the over-sanguine people who had bet two and three to one on Garnier were anxious to hedge. The anxiety was increased when in the next he scored 40, and entered his fourth hundred at 442, leaving Garnier at 297. The latter at this stage was playing in a remarkably bad luck. While Ubassy's fortune promised never to desert him. He made 23, 10, and 46 in the fifty-ninth, sixty-first, and sixty-second, and at the close of the sixty-fourth was 520 to Garnier's 358. The latter's play was brilliant, but between the fifty-sixth and the sixty-fourth innings it seemed as though the fates were against him. In the sixty-fourth he made 11, which gave him encouragement, and in the sixty-fifth he added 27 by a run which might have been made by accident, or, as the unfortunate slip, Ubassy followed with 4, Garnier with 0, and the score stood Ubassy, 590; Garnier, 388. Then the elder Frenchman added 12 to his score, and then 47, and had but 11 to go. It was now apparent that Garnier was playing for the game, and, with a small chance to retrieve, yet with commendable spirit he went to work and scored 61 by perhaps the best play he has ever shown in New York.

Ubassy closed the game amid tremendous cheering at 11:20, in his sixty-ninth inning.

The winner's average was 8.5. His best runs were 68, 16, 21, 51, 33, 19, 40, 25, 46, 47.

Garnier's best runs were 21, 22, 38, 41, 28, 18, 17, 27, 61.

Time of game—3 hours, 24 minutes.

The umpires were Messrs. Guirand and Guillette; the referee, Mr. Edward Daniels, ex-champion of Massachusetts.

THE BRINCKLEY DIVORCE SUIT.

The Jury's Verdict Received Late Last Night—The Judge's Charge and the Closing Scenes in the Great Trial.

The Brinckley divorce suit was finally submitted to the jury yesterday. At the hour of opening the plaintiff appeared in the court room accompanied by four elegantly dressed ladies, and later the number of her female friends was augmented. Gen. W. H. Anthon, defendant's counsel, consumed nearly three hours in his final argument to the jury, and ex-Judge Beach replied in a speech of equal length. Both counsel were listened to with close attention, and with occasional manifestations of applause, which was checked by Judge Van Brunt's threat to clear the room of spectators.

The Judge's charge was a succinct summary of the material facts of the case. He explained the law of marriage, defending the New York statutes and adjudicated cases by saying that the English cases reported and referred to almost uniformly involved an absurdity in the application of the doctrine of presumptions favorable to legitimacy. They did not come up to a full appreciation of the logical consequences of declaring judicially that marriage, in the eye of the law, was simply a civil contract, and could be performed by any magistrate. Upon the subsequent liability of this contract, growing out of its very nature, and the semi-ecclesiastical forms and elements when in former times were thought to be necessary incidents to its validity, were the stumbling blocks of legislators and jurists. He did not think the hardships and absurdities of the old rules of the common and of the civil law on this subject were compensated by the greater degree of certainty as to the fact of marriage which their application secured. Besides, the New York law on marriage or what might could possibly be disagreeably involved in a matrimonial connection except by his or her own fault. On this point he said: "It is certainly far better that a man should blunder into matrimony with impending on society by representing his mistress as his wife, than that a man who believes the woman of his bosom to be his wife should leave her, by death or otherwise, under circumstances which the law declared left her without rights and her children illegitimate."

The jury retired at six o'clock and returned at seven for further instructions. They had portions of the Judge's charge repeated, and retired again. Meanwhile, the plaintiff and her friends were suffering from great excitement. At half-past ten the crowd of spectators had thinned out, but those who remained seemed as anxious about the verdict as the defendant and his father, who walked through the corridors biting the ends of cigars and talking in a low tone to their friends and to Gen. Anthon. The jurors stepped briskly to their seats. The clerk asked the foreman in an undertone, while the other jurors were seating themselves, whether they had a verdict. The plaintiff and the reporters understood him to reply that they found for the defendant, and Mrs. Brinckley came near fainting. A minute afterward, however, a verdict finding for the plaintiff on all the issues submitted to them reversed the situation. Mrs. Brinckley reclined her head on the shoulder of one of her lady friends, and for a few moments made a vigorous use of her handkerchief. After a formal motion to suspend judgment for a time sufficient in which to prepare the case for an appeal, the Court adjourned.

THE MILL RIVER DISASTER.

Further Testimony as to the Insecurity of the Dam—The Stockholders Conscious that it was Weak and Unsafe.

NORTHAMPTON, May 27.—Among the witnesses examined at the Williamsburg Reservoir inquest to-day were George Raymond, a civil engineer of Fitchburg, who gave testimony as an expert; Lewis Bodman of Williamsburg, one of the original stockholders of the Reservoir Company; and Alfred D. Tilley, a mill owner of Florence, the person appointed by the stockholders to take measures for freeing them of their personal responsibility in the event of the breaking of the dam. The gist of the expert testimony was that the dam was built on an insecure foundation, and that the cement used in the wall was of poor quality.

Mr. Bodman said the company had fears concerning the reservoir when it was first filled in the spring of 1866. They took such precautions as were possible to protect the dam, and knew at that time that it was weak and unsafe. The County Commissioners, he said, were called to relieve the corporators of every damage they might incur by a contingent emergency, which they did not expect to occur. For the first year the stockholders all feared it, especially Messrs. Spellman, Skinner, Hayden, and Bodman; but after the company's repairs they were satisfied with its strength.

Mr. Tilley testified that the stockholders were confident of the safety of the structure after it was strengthened. They first wanted to quiet a general apprehension and to free themselves from a feeling of personal liability. He had shared the general apprehension during the first year for the safety of the dam, but became convinced of its safety from the assurances of Mr. Dimock and Gov. Hayden. At the examination of the reservoir by the County Commissioners, no expert was employed. The contractors were not present. He only remembered that Gov. Hayden and Mr. Dimock were there. He felt that the Commissioners had power to summon witnesses and experts, and left it with them.

Joel Bassett of East Hampton, one of the contractors, was recalled. He testified that the contractors had first looked on the ground with a view to beginning the dam with Mr. Clark, Jr., and W. P. Clement, with whom they made a bargain, but signed no contract, being told to utilize the stone scattered in the lot—some flat, but mostly boulders and cobble stones—as the company wished to lessen the cost of the dam. They could, after the execution of one of his wonderful long draws, do pretty much as he pleased. He rolled up 15, and had scored 63 to Garnier's 58.

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In the thirty-eighth inning Ubassy still further increased his score by adding 51, the result of such play as has seldom been seen even in Tammany Hall. Draw shots, follows, cushion caroms, cushion kisses, and brilliant massés followed each other in rapid succession. After this run until the intermission there was but little extra play, the only run of note being 17, made by Garnier in the 40th inning. The score when the score stood: Ubassy, 304; Garnier, 261. Garnier closed his fifty-second inning with a neat run of 15. His score was 276, Ubassy's 340—the game was 2 hours and 17 minutes old. In the next inning Ubassy footed up 48, and in the fifty-fourth 19. He was now

102 POINTS AHEAD,

and the over-sanguine people who had bet two and three to one on Garnier were anxious to hedge. The anxiety was increased when in the next he scored 40, and entered his fourth hundred at 442, leaving Garnier at 297. The latter at this stage was playing in a remarkably bad luck. While Ubassy's fortune promised never to desert him. He made 23, 10, and 46 in the fifty-ninth, sixty-first, and sixty-second, and at the close of the sixty-fourth was 520 to Garnier's 358. The latter's play was brilliant, but between the fifty-sixth and the sixty-fourth innings it seemed as though the fates were against him. In the sixty-fourth he made 11, which gave him encouragement, and in the sixty-fifth he added 27 by a run which might have been made by accident, or, as the unfortunate slip, Ubassy followed with 4, Garnier with 0, and the score stood Ubassy, 590; Garnier, 388. Then the elder Frenchman added 12 to his score, and then 47, and had but 11 to go. It was now apparent that Garnier was playing for the game, and, with a small chance to retrieve, yet with commendable spirit he went to work and scored 61 by perhaps the best play he has ever shown in New York.

Ubassy closed the game amid tremendous cheering at 11:20, in his sixty-ninth inning.

The winner's average was 8.5. His best runs were 68, 16, 21, 51, 33, 19, 40, 25, 46, 47.

Garnier's best runs were 21, 22, 38, 41, 28, 18, 17, 27, 61.

Time of game—3 hours, 24 minutes.

The umpires were Messrs. Guirand and Guillette; the referee, Mr. Edward Daniels, ex-champion of Massachusetts.

THE BRINCKLEY DIVORCE SUIT.

The Jury's Verdict Received Late Last Night—The Judge's Charge and the Closing Scenes in the Great Trial.

The Brinckley divorce suit was finally submitted to the jury yesterday. At the hour of opening the plaintiff appeared in the court room accompanied by four elegantly dressed ladies, and later the number of her female friends was augmented. Gen. W. H. Anthon, defendant's counsel, consumed nearly three hours in his final argument to the jury, and ex-Judge Beach replied in a speech of equal length. Both counsel were listened to with close attention, and with occasional manifestations of applause, which was checked by Judge Van Brunt's threat to clear the room of spectators.

The Judge's charge was a succinct summary of the material facts of the case. He explained the law of marriage, defending the New York statutes and adjudicated cases by saying that the English cases reported and referred to almost uniformly involved an absurdity in the application of the doctrine of presumptions favorable to legitimacy. They did not come up to a full appreciation of the logical consequences of declaring judicially that marriage, in the eye of the law, was simply a civil contract, and could be performed by any magistrate. Upon the subsequent liability of this contract, growing out of its very nature, and the semi-ecclesiastical forms and elements when in former times were thought to be necessary incidents to its validity, were the stumbling blocks of legislators and jurists. He did not think the hardships and absurdities of the old rules of the common and of the civil law on this subject were compensated by the greater degree of certainty as to the fact of marriage which their application secured. Besides, the New York law on marriage or what might could possibly be disagreeably involved in a matrimonial connection except by his or her own fault. On this point he said: "It is certainly far better that a man should blunder into matrimony with impending on society by representing his mistress as his wife, than that a man who believes the woman of his bosom to be his wife should leave her, by death or otherwise, under circumstances which the law declared left her without rights and her children illegitimate."

The jury retired at six o'clock and returned at seven for further instructions. They had portions of the Judge's charge repeated, and retired again. Meanwhile, the plaintiff and her friends were suffering from great excitement. At half-past ten the crowd of spectators had thinned out, but those who remained seemed as anxious about the verdict as the defendant and his father, who walked through the corridors biting the ends of cigars and talking in a low tone to their friends and to Gen. Anthon. The jurors stepped briskly to their seats. The clerk asked the foreman in an undertone, while the other jurors were seating themselves, whether they had a verdict. The plaintiff and the reporters understood him to reply that they found for the defendant, and Mrs. Brinckley came near fainting. A minute afterward, however, a verdict finding for the plaintiff on all the issues submitted to them reversed the situation. Mrs. Brinckley reclined her head on the shoulder of one of her lady friends, and for a few moments made a vigorous use of her handkerchief. After a formal motion to suspend judgment for a time sufficient in which to prepare the case for an appeal, the Court adjourned.

THE STAGE DRIVERS FIRM.

BROADWAY OMNIBUS LINES PARALYZED BY THE STRIKE.

The Tribulations of the New Drivers—Hooted at by Draymen and Street Arabs—Both Parties Confident of Victory.

Yesterday Broadway partly resumed its usual appearance. The proprietors of the stage lines, determined to solve the riddle of transportation, had rebussed the streets, many of the 'busses being driven by new drivers. The mental anguish and physical suffering that the sensitive-souled and tender-handed neophytes endured yesterday was something wonderful. In the first place they were allowed no money with which to make change. If a passenger had the exact fare all was well; if not, he was told by the driver that he had no change, and he thus secured a free ride. In the latter part of the day this fact became generally known and many availed themselves of this opportunity to deadhead. Then the new drivers were not treated with the utmost kindness and consideration by the hack and truckmen, who persistently drove in their way, and answered their mild expostulations with "Shoot that driver," "Git off er that box, you slouch," and like expressions. The horses, too, refreshed by three days' rest, were on their mettle, and many hands were blistered in the efforts to control the frantic steeds. The stage of a new driver could be easily distinguished by the unlimited number of street Arabs who rode in undisturbed security on the rear steps, while their less fortunate companions yelled in vain to the fully occupied drivers, "Cut behind!"

YESTERDAY'S TRAVEL.

The Fourteenth street line started eighteen stages driven by new men. At the office of the Twenty-third street line the cashier said they had started about forty stages driven by new men entirely. All the men employed, he said, were old hack and truck men. There was no trouble to get men. They could, if they wished, have put drivers on sixty stages. At the Fifth avenue office Mr. Andrews said they had fifteen stages running, and about half the drivers were old men who had left the strikers and gone to work again at the old wages. They could get all the men they wanted, but, as many ladies rode on these lines, they were particular in their selection of drivers. Mr. Alexander said that he had been told on good authority that the strikers would return to work this morning.

Mr. Wilkins, one of the proprietors of the Madison avenue and Fifth avenue lines, said they were running about forty-five stages on the two lines, driven mostly by new men. He said he told the strikers that they could all go to work at the old wages this morning, and if they refused this he should hire new men and pay no attention to the strikers. All the stages on the several lines were started about an hour late and were filled with passengers all the way up. The proprietors had their usual meeting at the Hoffman House, and were as firm as ever in their determination not to pay the $3 a day.

WHAT THE DRIVERS SAY.

At the drivers' meeting in Concordia Hall, nearly all the old drivers were present. The reports from the different lines were substantially the same—that the new men, on leaving the stables, the drivers say they went to their stables at six in the morning, found about forty new men whom they tried to dissuade from driving, but they used no force.

They say that only three of the twenty new men driving on Tuesday were driving yesterday.

The drivers all agree in saying that the majority of the men driving are employees about the stables, and that one proprietor who has a large family and many connections, has his sons and numerous nephews on the stages.

As to the report that 100 men have been sent for from Boston, they say it is absolutely wrong, when so many men are out of employment in the city, to send for men from out of town, who will spend their last cents in getting here, and then demand that they will not go out. As the soup kitchens are not running, they fear they will starve. They say that a prominent proprietor not long since advertised for 100 drivers, and then only hired one of them. Many of the rest had to be sent home by the drivers, who made a contribution for that purpose.

NO WEAKENING.

They deny the report that many of the strikers are "weakening." Only two have driven so far, and one of them, an old man whom they all respect, did so understanding that he was to get $3 a day.

The drivers are as unit in their determination not to drive for $2.50, even if they have to engage in some other work. They will present themselves at their stables this morning ready for work at $3. A committee has been appointed who will investigate cruelty in regard to the licenses. A man must be a resident of the city and county of New York, as well as of the United States, before he can have a driver's permit. The drivers are confident that many men now driving have no permit. Such men are to be arrested.

John Kelly of Boston and Patrick Trainor of West Sixteenth street, two new drivers on the Fourteenth street line, were attacked by a number of the old drivers as they were entering the company's stables last night and were slightly injured.

A BIG JOB KILLED.

An Effort to Smuggle through Additional Subsidies to the Union Pacific.

WASHINGTON, May 27.—The central branch of the Union Pacific Railroad Company have a modest little claim against the United States for an additional subsidy of $16,000 per mile for 400 miles more than the department has allowed them, and also for the land subsidies proportioned to such additional 400 miles, the whole amounting in value to about eight millions of dollars. Mr. Phillips, one of the members from Kansas, on Feb. 25 introduced a bill to enable the company to go before the Court of Claims, with a right of appeal to the Supreme Court, and obtain a final judgment for these money and land subsidies. Mr. Phillips says that he is opposed to the bill and also to any measure contemplating a further grant, but introduced the bill to give the company a hearing before the Judiciary Committee.

And now came into play the sharp practice by which the people of this country are so often robbed in this capital. On Friday last an effort was made to smuggle this bill through as a mere private bill. This fraud was pointed out and the Speaker ruled properly that it was not a private bill. To-day, the Judiciary Committee having the field for their bills, Mr. Frye of Maine made an effort to put this measure through without any explanation of the large interests involved. It seems, however, that Mr. Wilson of Indiana, and Messrs. Speer and Randall of Pennsylvania, have all been watching this job, and when it came on to-day Mr. Speer promptly made the point of order that as the bill involved an appropriation of money, it must go to the Committee of the Whole. Speaker Blaine very properly sustained the point, and the result was instant death to this promising little job. It died without even a struggle. There is no fear that it will ever be reached this session.

The Sioux on the War Path.

WASHINGTON, May 27.—A despatch from Gen. Sheridan says that hostile Sioux entered the Bohemian settlement, near