The Sun.

VOL XLI.—NO. 310. NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1875. PRICE TWO CENTS.

BEECHER THE SHOWMAN.

HIS BIG TENT AND THE CROWD HE BROUGHT TO IT.

His Wonderful Show and the Wonderful Comic Art of His Sermons So-called—Collecting Money for the Landlord—The Profits of the Refreshment Booth Keepers.

FABYAN HOUSE, Aug. 22.—Late last evening a circular tent of the ordinary circus pattern was pitched in a grass field near the Twin Mountain House, four miles from here. The tent was securely supported upon new spruce poles, and guyed with strong ropes. The air of that place, although excellent for persons afflicted with the hay fever, is subject to fitful gusts, which may, at short notice, prove disastrous to canvas tabernacles. The tent cost $600 in Boston, where it had been bought on speculation for the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

This morning (Sunday) an exhibition was given under this roof of canvas. It offered shelter and accommodation for three or four thousand spectators. Mr. Beecher and his assistants had been driving about and writing for several days to drum up a crowd. They had arranged for extra trains of cars and got the thing extensively advertised. The result to-day proves that the managers of the exhibition had not miscalculated when they invested at the sailmaker's. Besides those who came in carriages forty odd loads of people landed at the nearest railroad station, and hastened to the tent to find seats where they might hear and see to advantage. As the day was warm and the roads dusty, the proprietors of a refreshment booth near the exhibition tent drove a thriving business in lemonade and pop beer, with occasional sales of cigars and pie. The exhibition was located in the immediate neighborhood of the Twin Mountain House, and every plate that could be found, borrowed or rewashed was worth its dollar and a half to the enterprising landlord.

SEATING THE AUDIENCE.

Patrons of the entertainment were received and seated by the members of a well-drilled corps of ushers, each usher being decorated with a small rosette of green and white ribbon, except the chief usher of all. He was distinguished from his subordinates by a larger rosette, and his rosette was of pink and white. These were none of your ordinary ushers. They wore checked trousers and faultless white cravats, and were evidently men of experience in their line. They knew well how to discriminate between patrons who were entitled to seats in the orchestra chairs and patrons who belonged in the outer circle of plain pine plank benches. Each of them had sufficient social address to make less tedious the long wait before the performance by enlivening the brethren with merry quips and cheerful nonsense; and each could help the sisters into position with the affectionate manner of a horse-car conductor.

Half an hour after the advertised time Beecher appeared. His name, in connection with the exhibition, had been attractive enough in connection with the careful arrangements which he and his agents had made beforehand to draw a curious throng that morning from as far east as Portland, as far west as Burlington, and as far south as Boston. He quieted the growing impatience of the audience by the information that his sermon was delayed by the tardiness of an excursion train on the Ogdensburgh road, that this train was expected in another half hour, and that upon its arrival the performance would positively begin. He concluded his apology for the unanticipated disarrangement of the programme with a jest on the Calvinistic rigor of the uncushioned pine benches, at which the ushers, like admirably organized *claqueurs*, smiled and nodded until everybody in the tent smiled and nodded too.

THE ENTERTAINMENT.

But the disappointment of the long delay was forgotten when the entertainment had actually begun. Laggards were hurried and wanderers were recalled to the tent by the same notes of the bugle which are invariably used to summon dancers to the floor. The music furnished by the orchestra of string and wind instruments was really excellent. The rapid and brilliant series of impersonations and character delineations which Mr. Beecher gave, covering the wide range between the truly pathetic and the burlesque, made the time seem very short. When, in the inimitable way, he represented the wild young fellow who had fallen from high estability to the depths of degradation, and who was brought to his senses by a homely but kind-hearted old negro woman, his only friend, who had nursed him through a dangerous fever and gave him much good advice, there were many in the tent, besides the ushers, who had use for their pocket handkerchiefs. When he staggered about the platform in imitation of the unsteadiness of the inebriated, and hiccoughed-broken sentences in the dialect of the wine bibber, the excellence of the acting was attested by an involuntary murmur of applause. When he made a happy allusion to the affairs of Duncan, Sherman & Co., it was received with quiet merriment by the city people in the audience. But his greatest triumph was made when illustrating the doctrine of regeneration he detailed some of the circumstances of physical birth, described the satisfaction of the doctor and the congratulations of friends of the family, and lit off the sheepishness of the uncaustomed father. And when he spoke of the new-born infant as "a palpitating bunch of nothing wrapped up in flannel, with the one faculty of almost automatic suction," men laughed till the tears ran down their cheeks, women hid their faces behind their fans, and rural escorts looked askance at the blushing girls, wondering whether they had not verged on impropriety in inviting maidens to the exhibition in the great tent.

BEECHER PASSING THE HAT.

Mr. Beecher closed the entertainment by announcing a collection for the benefit of the landlord of the Twin Mountain House, who, it seems, had advanced the $600 with which the tent was purchased. Mr. Beecher descended from the platform and himself passed around the hat, while the numerous ushers speedily and energetically followed his example.

In addition to the friends who met Mr. Beecher and a good word for the hotel, and hundreds of hungry excursionists repaired thither for dinner.

But, notwithstanding the familiar and informal manner in which he was conferring with the paying patrons of his exhibition, Mr. Beecher omitted to mention that his friend of the Twin Mountain House pays him in receipted bills for board and the livery of his four-in-hand and other carriages for conducting what he is pleased to call "the worship of God among the hills," for he, with his troupe, is kept here as a dead-head for the sake of advertising this hotel.

THE JERSEY RAILWAY FUSS.

Explanations from Officials who Represent the Opposing Corporations.

Railway men disapprove the compact between President Patterson of the New York and New Jersey Railroad and Mr. J. W. McCullough, Receiver of the Midland Railroad, under which the Hackensack passengers and freight of the former are to be transported over the rails of the latter. They say that it is a jug-handled arrangement, and that the New York and New Jersey Railroad does not hold the handle. Hackensack has always been the mainstay of the road, they aver, and they ridicule the plan that gives another railroad corporation an opportunity to grasp it.

Here, they maintain, has the New York and New Jersey Railroad in her power notwithstanding the combination between the former and the New Jersey Midland Railroad. Nanuet Junction and Spring Valley are connected by the track of the Erie. It is the thoroughfare of the Haverstraw-bound trains of the New York and New Jersey company, and if it were closed they could not reach their destination.

The basis of the difficulty between the two companies, according to the New York and New Jersey Railroad Company, is an old debt, contracted by Erie while dominated by Fisk and Gould. Receiver Jewett rejected a proposition to carry this to the credit side of the New York and New Jersey Railroad's account with Erie, whose figures now show a balance of about $35,000 in favor of the last named road.

General Superintendent Bowen of the Erie Railway said yesterday:

"We did not take up our track at the Hackensack junction to bar the New York and New Jersey Railroad. The frog alone was removed. When we do not intend to use a side track at any particular station we invariably remove the frog. This proceeding would have been adopted earlier had Mr. Jewett been about instead of abed with a recently-mended limb. We did not wish to assume the responsibility of permitting the New York and New Jersey Railroad Company to use our tracks gratuitously, and we took the most effectual course toward making them pay for their employment of it. President Patterson has not tendered the rent for the last quarter. He recently offered to cancel the arrears of rental with the New York and New Jersey Railroad Company's notes, payable at various times between now and December, but we declined to think of his mode of cancellation. We wish to treat his company as we treat all our neighbors—fairly. If he will offer us even a part of the rent due, we will permit his cars to traverse our route."

The New Jersey Midland Railroad transported the commuters of the New York and New Jersey Railroad to Hackensack yesterday.

A Stabbing Affray in a Newport Cottage.

PROVIDENCE, Aug. 24.—In an altercation between two servants at the Cliff Cottage, Newport, this afternoon, Jeremiah H. Crump stabbed Samuel B. Rowden with a carving knife. Lowden will probably die. Crump was locked up.

ALL ON ONE SIDE.

The Flatbush Hospital Authorities Emphatically Denying the Accusations of Cruelty made by Discharged Patients.

The Kings county Commission of Charities hastily met yesterday morning in the Flatbush Hospital to investigate the allegations of cruelty by nurses to the patients, which were made by Mrs. Maria Pennington and Miss Eliza Jane Graham. Although the investigation naturally falls on the committee assigned to the institution, the board, as in the case of the investigation of the asylum abuses, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, thereby rendering it impossible to have their actions questioned or their conclusions changed in their report to the board. Dr. Norris conducted the examination, which was entirely ex parte. The complaining persons were not at the investigation, and no one was in attendance who was not entirely in accord with the hospital management.

Mrs. Mary Phylan, a patient very weak from heart disease, testified that she had not seen acts of violence. Mrs. Pennington and Miss Graham were patients in her ward. Mrs. Pennington fell out of bed several times and hurt herself.

Miss Anna Smith, another patient from Ward 22, remembered Mrs. Pennington and Miss Graham, but did not see them violently used. The nurse talked roughly sometimes, and sometimes cursed, but not often. She never saw the nurse knock Mrs. Pennington's teeth down her throat. Mrs. Hardy, the nurse who was complained of, frequently lifted Mrs. Pennington in and out of bed, but not with any violence. Mrs. Hardy was a rough, cross woman, and spoke coarsely, but the witness never saw her raise her hand to a patient. She pushed a woman to make her come in one Sunday, and threatened to put a strait jacket on her. She never saw the nurse drunk, but she suspected her of drinking when she went to the city. Mrs. Anna Clark, a patient in the same ward, denied all of Mrs. Pennington's and Miss Graham's allegations.

Sarah Jane Howe admitted that Mrs. Hardy had been under the influence of liquor. She thought that the treatment of the complaining patients was good. Mrs. Hardy returned one night, covered with mud.

Mrs. Bridget Hardy, who was the alleged offender, said that she had been a nurse since May 1. She laughed heartily at the questions which involved the alleged cruelty as they were put to her. She said that Mrs. Pennington had no teeth when she entered the hospital, and therefore she did not knock them out. She denied all the accusations of intoxication and cruelty, and testified to her own general good deportment and extreme kindness. She said that she hadn't drank anything strong for twenty-seven years.

Eleanor Martin, the matron of the hospital, said that Mrs. Pennington had expressed satisfaction with her treatment there. She knew of nothing to the detriment of the nurses.

Maggie Quirk, the epileptic girl, denied that she had been roughly used in bathing.

Mrs. McGrath, another nurse with whom was accused of the cruelty, said that she was doing her work for the Lord, and did not want to be accused. She denied all accusations.

Dr. Bristow's testimony was in confirmation of the other employees of the hospital. He was satisfied that there had been no cruelty, or he should have heard of it.

The investigation is to be resumed on Friday.

Dr. Norris is to report for the Committee of the Whole to-day to the Commission of Charities on the testimony taken on Magee's allegations of cruelty in the Flatbush asylum. The spectacle will be presented of a committee reporting to themselves of an investigation involving their official reputation.

THE STEAMBOAT MEN UNITED.

Laws of Congress Under which Treasury Officials are Practising Extortion.

The New York Board of Steam Navigation met yesterday at No. 40 Burling slip to make arrangements for the fourth annual convention of the National Board of Steam Navigation, which is to assemble in the Metropolitan Hotel on Sept. 1. Both the National and State Boards of Steam Navigation were called into existence by the many acts of Congress that are known in the codified form as the Steamboat act. This puts the inspection and licensing of steamboats into the hands of subordinates of the United States Treasury Department, out of whose discretionary powers and disposition to make the most profitable use of them have grown such diversity of inspection in different districts, and such arbitrary regulations that steamboat owners have been forced to crystalize into an opposing association for self-protection. They say that the existing law makes them the prey of patent-rights men to such an extent that every steamboat and steamship is annually mulcted in hundreds of dollars for contrivances which, disguised as safety appliances, actually serve no more worthy purpose than to line the pockets of inventors whose earnings supervising inspectors have been known to share.

The mischief of the Steamboat act, they say, lies in the discretionary powers of the inspectors. For convenience the country is divided into inspection districts, over each of which a separate supervising board has power. Every steam gauge, gauge lock, fusible plug, life preserver, raft, or boat, or whatever else emanates from the brain of needy inventors, is passed upon by the supervising board of the district. If the invention seems to them valuable, every steamboat plying in the waters of their district must be supplied, no matter how efficient her equipment in that respect may have been previously. Lake, for instance, the mud drum job. Steamboats plying in muddy inland waters are liable to have the bottoms of their boilers burned out by a deposit of mud thereupon. Some individual racked his brain and produced a model with which he persuaded the officials that the mud drum job might readily be removed. They ordered its application to all steamers within their jurisdiction. Its expense was only a few hundred dollars apiece, but after all had been supplied it was found utterly unsuited to the purpose, and of no value whatever.

The patent locks which secure steam gauges are a serious and unnecessarily expensive tax upon steamboats. The locks are manufactured by a company that seems to be under the especial protection of the Treasury Department. Every individual who wishes a lock that cannot be tampered with without detection can buy one of these so-called locks for $1.50. When the Treasury Department undertook the sale of them to steamboats, it first directed that every steam gauge should be locked with one of them, and then the price was fixed at $5 a piece. Presumably they all come from the Treasury Department, as they are sold to steamboats only by inspectors who act as agents of Treasury clerks, who, although drawing their public salary, really do only clerical work for the Seal Lock Company.

Taxes like this become almost unbearable when it is considered that such precautions in many cases simply serve inspectors as a cover for extortions. They seem to have aroused the steamboat owners to such lively determination to protect themselves as makes them forget old grudges.

The delegates to the National Board number 180 representatives of as many rival steamers and lines. Their programme for this year's meeting, besides business, includes an excursion up the East river and down the bay to Long Branch.

WHERE IS THE PROFIT?

Bidders Offering to Furnish Coal for Less than the Wholesale Price.

The squabble in the Jersey City Education Board over the question of supplying the public schools with coal discloses some ugly features in the practice of coal sellers. The advertisement called for Lehigh coal, which costs $5.45 on the wharf for the gross ton. Wholesale dealers say that the actual cost of hoisting, screening, cartage, and putting in would be $1.50, thus bringing the total cost to the contractor of the coal delivered up to $6.95. Yet there were seven bids put in below this figure, ranging from $6.50 upward. Of these seven three were in the same handwriting, although purporting to come from different individuals. Autry, whose bid was $6.50, is a coal trimmer on the Hoboken wharves, and Daly, who bid $6.85, is employed in another capacity at the same place. Wagner, who bid $6.80, keeps a lager beer saloon in Hoboken. It was his bid which a majority of the committee favored, and which was called fraudulent in the minority report. The bid favored by the minority was from a firm who, by shrewdly securing a monopoly of the advantages of the trestle work upon which the Pennsylvania Railroad brings its coal into Jersey City, saves much of the expense of handling, the coal being received direct into their bins by means of screen shutes. As compared with the Hoboken bidders for the same coal, they save, according to the best authority, for hoisting, fifteen cents a ton; for screenage, twenty cents; for cartage from Hoboken, thirty cents. Their bid was $6.75.

The members who opposed the award of the contract to Wagner say that he could only fulfil it without loss in one of two ways, of both of which Jersey City has had experience. The first is to use Wyoming coal, which costs from 50 cents to $1 a ton less than Lehigh; the other is to give only 1,700 or 1,800 pounds to the ton.

Still Searching for Charley Ross.

WHITEHALL, N. Y., Aug. 24.—Mr. Ross left here this evening and will arrive in Plattsburgh to-morrow morning in search of his missing child.

A PISTOL THAT WAS USEFUL

DR. HAMMOND'S RECEPTION OF HIS NOCTURNAL VISITORS.

The Medicine that he Administers to Burglars—One Effective Dose—A Prescription for which the Public will Thank the Doctor.

Dr. William A. Hammond, of 43 West Fifty-fourth street, with his family, has been spending some weeks in the country. A few days ago he returned to the city on a visit, leaving his family in the country, and he and a woman servant were the only occupants of the house. Yesterday morning, about two hours before daylight, the doctor was awakened by the violent ringing of his burglar alarm. The wires are so arranged that an indicator in the second story front room shows at what door or window they have been touched. His sleeping room is in this story, and he immediately arose and armed himself with what is known as a house pistol, carrying a ball nearly as large as a hickory nut. With this he hastened into the front room and there learned from the indicator that the wires guarding his office window, in the rear of the first story, had been tampered with.

A little handle fixed by the side of the indicator is attached to a wire that reaches to the American District Telegraph Company's nearest office; and by pulling this handle the number of the house and the name of the street are there registered. The doctor quickly pulled this handle, and hurried to the bath room, in the rear of the second story, from whose window he had a clear view of the office window, and of the yard at the back of the house. Thence he saw three men. One was about twenty feet from the house, beyond the fence that encloses the narrow back yard; another stood in the yard, about midway between the fence and the house; and the third was clinging to the sill of the office window (which was open) trying to pull himself in.

COLD LEAD.

The bath room window was closed; but the doctor cocked his pistol, so that its noise might not alarm the burglars after he raised the sash. Then he laid it on a little stand that stood by the wall, and slowly opened the window. The sash fitted loosely in the frame, and he raised it without alarming the burglars. He stood by the open window for a few seconds, waiting to see what the men would do. The one by the window pulled himself up, got his knee over the sill, and swung himself silently into the office. The doctor considered that if he fired at the man in the yard he would alarm the one in the office, and have another shot at him as he ran out. So he raised his heavy pistol, aimed carefully at the man in the yard, and pulled the trigger.

Dr. Hammond is a very large man, being an inch over six feet in stature, and broad in proportion. He had not stopped to dress himself; and as he stood by the open bath-room window in his white sleeping clothes, he could be seen plainly from the yard, outlined against the dark background. As he fired, the burglar fell, the yard uttered a cry, and staggered against the fence. The man beyond the fence looked up at the window, and seeing the doctor there, his pistol aimed for another shot, shouted, "Good-night! that's the kind of a man he is!" and as he spoke he aimed quickly at the doctor and fired. It was done so quickly that Dr. Hammond had not time to step aside from the window, and the bullet struck him on the forehead, close to the right temple. But as he presented an oblique front to the man beyond the fence, the spectacle will be presented of a committee reporting to themselves of an investigation involving their official reputation.

THE EFFECT OF THE DOSE.

The alarm having been given to the District Telegraph Company, another wire carried the information of the house to the Grand Central depot police station; and before the doctor got down stairs the house was surrounded by policemen. The cellar and all the stories of the house were carefully searched, but nothing was found except a handkerchief, stained with blood, which Dr. Hammond says was from the lungs, and indicates that the wounded burglar was fatally shot. The fence that he climbed was also blood-stained, and there were drops of blood on the brick pavement of the yard.

Dr. McClennan, who lives in the house adjoining Dr. Hammond's, heard the firing, and ran to his back window. As he reached the window he saw three men running through his yard, and fired at them. But, apparently, did not hit them. Dr. Hammond's wound is not serious, but will leave an ugly scar.

A MECHANICAL TRIUMPH.

Moving a Lofty Fourteen-Inch Wall without Disturbing a Brick.

A careful survey that was recently made showed that the west wall of the brick building 114 West Twenty-fourth street encroached eighteen inches upon the neighboring lot. The land trespassed upon is owned by the Catholic society St. Vincent de Paul, and is a part of a wide piece of property extending through from Twenty-third to Twenty-fourth street. On the Twenty-third street front the church of the society stands, and it is proposed to erect on Twenty-fourth street a pastoral residence and a schoolhouse. To accommodate these buildings the society need every inch of their land, and they therefore bade Mr. Mott, the owner of the encroaching building, remove his wall. The wall is sixty five feet in height, sixty feet in length, and of an average thickness of fourteen inches, and the ordinary method of tearing down and building a new wall would have entailed heavy expenses and much time. The building was being used as a livery stable, and Mr. Mott was unwilling to vacate the premises for so long a time as he was told would be necessary. The builders whom he consulted, Weeks & Brothers, urged him, however, to allow them to attempt to move the wall bodily, and with his consent they finished the undertaking yesterday morning. They had previously severed the connection of the west wall with the north and south walls, and had taken from the last two about two feet of brick and mortar. They had also sawed off from the floor timbers lengths of eighteen inches, and had sharpened the new ends of the timbers so that they might fit into the old beam holes on the moving up of the wall. Then, at a height of about four feet above the foundation stones, Mr. Weeks had placed the wall at intervals of six feet, and had inserted in each hole so made a double set of heavy needle-beams. The lower beam of each set had been firmly imbedded in earthwork, and the upper beam, upon which the weight of the building was to rest, was much shorter than the lower, but otherwise it corresponded in size; and the two lay with their vertical faces in the same plane. The horizontal faces which were brought in contact were planed smooth and greased. Then the brick work supporting the wall had been taken away, and the weight of the whole structure rested on the needle-beams.

Yesterday morning at half past 5 o'clock large screw jacks were lashed to the upper sides of the lower beams, which, as has been said, were much longer than the upper beams, so that the end of each screw pressed against the end of an upper beam in such a way that the jacks when operated made the beams, with the whole wall on top of them, slide along the greased surface of the lower beams. There were ten of these screw jacks, and a man stood at each one with a lever in his hand. At a signal given by Mr. Goodwin, who superintended the work, the ten men with their levers worked the jacks in unison, so that no part of the wall should be pushed forward more rapidly than another. The greatest nicety was demanded. For the great wall, more than sixty feet square, was balanced on an edge only sixteen inches wide, and a jar, however slight, would have turned it over to bury the men working at its base. It is the first time that the moving of a detached wall has been attempted in such a way, and a number of distinguished builders and officials of the Building Department attended. The work was slowly and carefully done. Several times the jacks were stopped, and lines were dropped from the summit to the base, only to show that the wall remained plumb, and delicate measurements were taken to retain the face of the wall true. It was nearly 10 o'clock when the work was finished, and then the wall stood exactly upon the line marked by the surveyors, and the floor timbers rested in the old beam holes. Nothing remains to be done but to close the narrow gaps at the corners of building, and to build a new foundation under the wall. The weight of the wall exceeds two hundred and seventy tons.

Three Railway Smashups near Port Morris.

By a collision between a coal train and an engine on the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, near Port Morris, on Monday night, both engines were damaged and the track blocked for several hours. Yesterday morning a temporary switch around the break got out of order and threw a large number of cars off of the track, again blocking the road. At 10 A. M., in the same place, a collision occurred, caused by using only one track while repairs were going on, between a wildcat coal train and the regular freight train, by which both engines were smashed and the fireman of the coal engine killed. The road is open again.

The Escape of a Murderer.

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 24.—K. C. Sprague, a noted counterfeiter and murderer, who was under sentence of death in the county jail at Harrisonville, Mo., for the killing of a man at Holden some months since, broke jail last night and escaped.

EDUCATION FOR THE NEGRO.

The Financial and Moral Difficulties in the Way and How to Surmount them—An Educational Association in Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 24.—The colored Educational Convention at its morning session adopted a report embodying the constitution, &c., for the State society, to be called "The Virginia Educational and Historical Association," the object of which will be to promote the cause of education and aid in the higher instruction of such meritorious youths as give promise of usefulness to the State and country; to encourage the growth and development of mechanical and scientific ideas by the dissemination of useful knowledge and by the collecting of statistics relative to the material interests of the colored race in this State, and incite to higher and higher achievement.

Mr. J. W. Cromwell of Portsmouth delivered an address on the difficulties surrounding the colored youth of Virginia in obtaining an education. These difficulties, he said, were twofold—financial and moral. The financial difficulties, such as the inadequacy of the State and local support, delinquency of the capitation tax, and poverty of the parents, were discussed at length. The moral difficulties, the speaker stated, relate to the supply and character of the teachers who instruct the colored schools, the conditions of public opinion on the object of the education of these youths, and the spirit with which the teachers of these schools enter upon their work. He contended that the State had not done all she could to provide for additional schools, and that it was the duty of the State Government, in furtherance of the necessities of the school system, to enforce the collection of the capitation tax by making the right of suffrage depend upon its payment. He claimed that white Southern teachers are not the best for colored schools, that false and wicked ideas have been so widely spread that their influences have been pernicious in works of instruction by limiting education, checking aspirations, and shutting off opportunities for development and promotion.

A resolution was adopted providing for a monthly publication of the educational progress, statistics, and the history of the colored people of Virginia. Also a resolution requesting the State Board of Education to establish a colored normal school as soon as practicable. It was agreed that the first annual meeting of the Virginia Educational and Historical Association be held on the third Tuesday in August, 1876.

CONCEALING A PRISONER'S DEATH.

A Victim to the Pestilence of Raymond Street Jail—Why Silence was Enjoined.

Complaints against the Brooklyn Raymond street jail for its pestilential condition have been poured forth from the Grand Jury room for more than three years, but not a step has been taken to repair or add to it. When the courts adjourned for their vacation the jail was crowded with prisoners awaiting trial, and every day since their number has been added to, until the deputy sheriffs have been put to their wits' ends to know where to put them all. Yesterday the number of prisoners was over 330, who were stowed away by four, five, six, and seven in a cell seven feet by nine, and with no ventilation. The prisoners have been in the greatest agony all summer, and have howled with pain from heat and suffocation. When the visitors passed the cell doors a blast of heat came from the cells like a blast from a furnace. The prisoners have stripped naked to keep cool, but their ability to do so has availed them little. They say that they petition for baths, but the keepers put them off with a lame excuse of some sort, and they are allowed to suffer from heat, scurvy, and vermin. It is necessary to fumigate the halls with carbolic acid, and what air does reach the prisoners is tainted with the cells. These families with the pestilential condition of the jail have been expecting all summer that either pestilence or some plague would break out there. The jail authorities have represented the prisoners as in good health, denying that there was any sickness.

On Monday a reporter heard that a prisoner had died in one of the crowded cells of the prison, and that the jail authorities were suppressing the fact. The body could not be traced through the Morgue, or through the Coroner's office. A diligent inquiry was made in the jail. The prisoners in the lower tiers had heard of the man's death, and having heard that he was suffocated were in great terror. The deputy sheriff in charge of the jail said: "We are full, sir, and now and then there is one sick, but nobody has died; but it's a great wonder that they have not." Another official said that nobody had died there for a year. By accident it was ascertained that the dead man's name was Ferdinand Achtberger, a basket maker of 69 Moore street, Williamsburgh. He was married and had a family. He was arrested in East New York for intoxication, and was committed by Justice Gertun for ten days under the name of Joseph Oztsperger. He had been there only two or three days. On last Thursday, when he died in his cell, Dr. Shepherd, the county physician, attested him. His certificate of the death was looked up in the Health Board by a clerk, who reluctantly allowed it to be examined. As the reporter prepared to take notes of the certificate the clerk snatched up the paper and said that it could not be seen to that extent. Dr. Oltfelder, the Health Officer, was referred to, and he decided that the paper could not be examined until it was put on the public record, unless an order was obtained from the District Attorney, who, as might be expected under the system of concealment, was out of town. The Doctor was asked when it might be inspected as a public record. "When it is recorded, in a month or so, sir," was his reply. The Health Board granted a burial permit for the body on Sunday, and it was taken from the Morgue, where it was kept five days in the vault, with orders to the keeper to keep mum. It was buried in the branch of Evergreen Cemetery by the family. When these facts, as they had been gathered by the reporter, were laid before one of the officials who was schooled in the policy of silence, he gave no sign of surprise that they could be kept no longer. "Why is such a case concealed at all?" asked the reporter.

"In the first place," he answered, "it raises a howl about the jail's being a pest house, and then the Sheriff gets paid for board for the number of days a man is committed for, and the commitment is his voucher. If the man dies and nobody knows of it, the Sheriff gets paid all the same, you see."

As a reporter passed the cell of Lowenstein, the counterfeiter, the latter held up a pair of boots which were white with mildew, and they had scarcely been in there a fortnight.

A Gas Explosion in a Library.

Last evening Mr. Elizur G. Webster of 394 Clinton avenue, Brooklyn, entered his library to light the gas. As soon as he struck a match a terrible explosion burst about him, and the gas, which had been escaping all day, caught fire and communicated the flames to the furniture and the upholstery. Mr. Webster, Mr. L. G. Tarall of Columbus, Ohio, and Celia Wilson, a servant, made every effort to put out the fire, and in doing so were severely burned. The servant was badly burned about the head and arms. Mr. Tarall and Mr. Webster were removed to Mr. J. Hegeman's residence, at 401 Clifton avenue, and their wounds about the face and hands were dressed. The girl was taken to the City Hospital. The house was badly damaged by the explosion. The library windows were shivered, and the walls of the library were bulged out. Damage $2,000. Mr. Webster is a manufacturer at 14 Maiden lane, New York. His injuries are not dangerous.

A Lawsuit over a Knife.

A Miss Smith of Brooklyn, whose father has a country residence near Merrick, L. I., recently lost a knife which her lover had given her. She prized it very highly and grieved over its loss. A Miss Carman, who lived near by, had obtained a similar knife, and Miss Smith demanded it as hers. Miss Carman refused, and a search warrant was obtained from Justice Bennett of Jamaica, and Miss Carman's room was searched, and the knife was found in a bureau drawer. The case was examined by Justice Bennett on Monday. Miss Smith testified that the knife was purchased three years ago and given to her as a present. Miss Carman claimed that it had been presented to her. The Justice dismissed the complaint, and Miss Carman recovered the knife. A replevin suit has been begun in Justice Lott's court by Mr. Smith for the recovery of his daughter's knife. He says that he will spend $500, if necessary, to get it back.

Stealing Money Order Blanks.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—This afternoon a horse and wagon were backed up to the Post Office building on the F street side, when two or three persons began loading the wagon from the basement with sacks of what appeared to be waste paper. The watchman approaching them, they ran away, leaving the horse and wagon, which were transferred to the police. The contents of the wagon proved to be money-order blanks, worth about 50 cents a thousand. As near as could be estimated, about 100,000 of them are missing, and it is probable that some of them were taken before to-day. The entire basement is undergoing repairs, and a large gang of stone cutters and laborers are constantly passing in and out, while teams are loading and unloading material. The thieves took advantage of this opportunity to commit the larceny.

Cape Cod's Candidate for Congress.

BOSTON, Aug. 24.—The citizens of Yarmouthport, Cape Cod, held a mass meeting to-day, and nominated the Rev. Azariah Eldredge as an independent candidate for Congress from the First District. Resolutions were adopted setting forth that for twenty-five years the people of Cape Cod had supported candidates from elsewhere, and now believed they were entitled to make the selection.

Why was this Engineer Arrested?

An unknown boy was knocked from the roof of a Hudson River Railroad freight car at Canal and Hudson streets last evening. He fell beneath the train and was killed. William Dunnan, the engineer of the train, was arrested.

BUSINESS FOR POLICEMEN.

WHAT IS NEW ABOUT THE BRUSH FACTORY TRAGEDY.

The Arrest of Still Another Desperado—The Victim of the Burglar Delirious and Therefore Unable to Identify the Prisoner.

Since the murderous assault on Mr. Jas. H. Noe, in his brush manufactory at 275 Greenwich street, detectives from the Police Central Office have been on the watch for John Corbitt, a desperado and burglar. Corbitt has served a term of five years in Sing Sing, and has been out of prison about six months. He was sent up for a burglary in an up-town mansion, which he entered by prying off a skylight. His home is at 146 Bleecker street, and his haunts are in the neighborhood of South Fifth avenue and Amity street. Detectives Riley, Williamson, and Von Gerichten searched for him in vain until Monday evening they came upon him, sitting at Amity street and South Fifth avenue. He made no resistance, and went with them to the Police Central Office. He answers so closely to the description given by Mr. Noe of the unknown burglar that Superintendent Walling sent him to the Chambers street hospital for identification. Mr. Noe was delirious, but his wife said the resemblance of Corbitt to the man whom her husband described was almost perfect, and that it was closer than that of any other person who had been arrested on suspicion. Corbitt was taken to the Tombs Police Court, and Justice Otterbourg remanded him back for further examination to-day. He was locked up in the Police Central Office. Corbitt is about 26 years old, is of the same height and build as the man who attacked Mr. Noe, but his weight is thought to be a trifle less.

An acquaintance, who saw Corbitt on Saturday, says that the man's whiskers, which are brownish gray, like those of the unknown assailant, were long and flowing. When he was arrested they had been cut and trimmed in an irregular manner, so as to look like whiskers of several weeks' growth. The police were almost certain that they had the right man.

A resident of the neighborhood of the brush factory saw Corbitt at the Central Office, but did not recognize him as either of the men who were lounging about the new building on Saturday night.

Michael Walsh and John Moore, who had been arrested by Officer Dorcey, of the Franklin street police, were taken before Justice Otterbourg in the Tombs Police Court yesterday afternoon. They are the men who were supposed to have been loitering around the brush manufactory on the evenings of the latter part of the week. Misses Catharine Willey and Louise Allison of 273 Greenwich street testified positively that Moore was one of the men whom they saw late at night on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. They said that he sat for an hour or more on the timbers of the new building, and that his movements were so suspicious that they went near him and took a good look at him. On Saturday night they saw the same building lighted up till about midnight, when they went to bed. They were positive that Moore is the man whom they saw. Mrs. Tompkins of 274 Greenwich street saw a man supposed to be Walsh, alias "Desperate Mike," lounging about Mr. Noe's store, and noticed that he entered the new building not long before the assault, but she could not identify Walsh as the man. The man whom she saw was older, shorter, and less bent. There being no evidence against Walsh he was discharged. Moore was remanded to be examined with Corbitt in the police court to-day.

An examination of the roof of the Noe building satisfied the detectives that no jimmy was used in prying off the scuttle. It is believed that the hinges were broken with a joist taken from the unfinished building. From the random talk of Mr. Noe, his wife infers that her husband, after collaring the ruffian on the roof, descended the ladder first, and that the burglar struck the first blow, at the foot of the stairs, before Mr. Noe had turned around.

Mr. Noe grew worse rapidly late on Monday night, and was delirious most of the time. Leeches and ice were in turn applied to his temples, and yesterday morning he was unconscious again. Dr. Gordon Buck said that he was better, but Mr. Noe soon became delirious again, and in the afternoon the hospital physician said that there was little hope for him. His wife was with him constantly, the hospital officers having given her a bed in her husband's room. In the morning Coroner Croker called to take his ante-mortem deposition, but Mr. Noe was so low that it was impossible to do so. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon Drs. Buck and Kelsey held a consultation and reported that Mr. Noe was no better, but thought that there was still a hope.

Late last night Mr. Noe was still unconscious, and at times delirious. The hospital surgeons said that it would be impossible to determine his chances under twenty-four hours.

COYLE AGAIN BEATEN.

The International Swimming Match Won by the English Champion.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 24.—The second international champion swimming match between Coyle of Chester, Pa., and Johnson of England, took place this afternoon from the Lazaretto to Gloucester, ten miles.

At 3:17 P. M. they took the water together, both taking the Pennsylvania side. Coyle being nearest the shore. After they had passed over about six miles Coyle's trainer, seeing that he looked bad, took him out of the water. Johnson was about a mile in advance. Coyle showed every indication of being chilled and unable to go much further. Johnson continued swimming until he reached the end of the course.

The Last of Cuenties Reef.

Cuenties Reef is no longer a terror to East river navigators. Gen. Newton's subordinates yesterday fired off the final blast, which makes the depth of water over the once dangerous rock twenty-five feet three inches at mean low tide. After the blast had been exploded and the broken pieces removed, a machine rigged to the keel of a steamer was dragged over the entire surface of the rock. It was set at thirty feet four inches, and at no place did it touch. In considering the state of the tide at the time, this at average high tide will give twenty-nine feet and a few inches, which shows that vessels of greater draught than has ever passed the Sandy Hook bar.

The Custom House Whirligig.

Appraiser Darling yesterday appointed Byron Laflin, a brother of the Naval Officer, as examiner, at $2,000 a year; Nathaniel Kelley, clerk and verifier, $1,200; William M. Frew, sampler, $1,200; Thomas Stewart, sampler; Matthew G. Rodinson, messenger, $900; James McLoughlin, clerk, $1,200; Thomas Price, sampler; James Nevin, opener and packer. Theodore C. Peters, Patrick O'Connor, S. M. Berliner, and James Sherlock were removed. Rumors of more changes by the Collector were rife.

A Cotton Factor's Suspension.

Robert H. Johnson, cotton factor at 115 Pearl street, member of the Cotton Exchange, suspended yesterday. Some months ago he suspended, but resumed business, giving accommodation notes to his creditors. These notes maturing he was unable to meet. In his circular to his creditors he says that failure to receive expected remittances precipitated this second suspension. His liabilities are not large, and the event created little feeling in the Exchange.

The Monmouth Park Races.

LONG BRANCH, Aug. 24.—The horses entered in the handicap purse, one and a quarter miles, for all ages, are Sanderer, Camden, Censor, Eclair, Vanderbilt, Dunnybrook, B. F. Carver, Ida Wells, Galway, Century, Monmouth, Burgoo, Spindrift, Mollie Darling, Fashion, Cariboo, Sir Roger De Coverly, Hattie Howard, Jack Trigg, and Verranzo.

Cotton Mills Resuming Work.

LAWRENCE, Aug. 24.—The Atlantic Cotton Mills, which suspended work on the 10th of July last, will resume with a full force on Monday next. The mills give employment to 1,250 operatives. The sales of the goods on hand have been large, and the prospect is regarded as encouraging for fall business.

The Death of Bishop Nazry.

TORONTO, Aug. 24.—Willis Nazry, Bishop of the British Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, died at Shelburne, N. S., on Sunday last. The deceased gentleman was well known throughout Western Ontario, and highly respected by the colored population.

LOSSES BY FIRE.

Barnes's Hotel at West Rutland, Vt., was burned yesterday. Loss about $10,000; partially insured.

James O'Leary's row of frame houses on Franklyn street, Bloomfield, N. J., were burned yesterday morning. Loss, $30,000.

BROOKLYN.

The residences of Francis O. Briggs, 606 Franklin avenue, and Mrs. Thompson, 608 Franklin avenue, were robbed some time on Monday night.

John P. Cox, who attempted to shoot Alderman O'Connell, waived examination before Justice Morse yesterday, and was held for the Grand Jury.

At a meeting of the Kings County Republican General Committee last night, resolutions calling for the abolition of the Brooklyn Ring were unanimously adopted