THE ISTHMUS CANAL SCHEME

THE PANAMA RAILROAD COMPANY IS SAID TO FAVOR IT, AND WHY.

Money Not Forthcoming in New York—The Pacific Railroads Working Quietly Against the Canal—The Panama Company's Contract—The Estimated Cost of Several Routes.

The publication by THE SUN of yesterday of the views of prominent shipowners in favor of the De Lesseps Isthmus Canal scheme, together with the significant fact that not one of the admirers of the project had ventured to take stock in it, formed a leading topic in Wall street circles yesterday. Much surprise was expressed that with so much professed good feeling on the part of merchants and others toward the canal and M. de Lesseps there was so little willingness to put money into his project. As far as can be discovered, not one dollar of bona fide American capital has been put into the scheme. To a SUN reporter who called at the Credit Lyonnais yesterday afternoon the agent said positively that there was nothing new to communicate, and intimated, as he had done the day previous, that the subscription books of the canal company still remained a blank. He did not expect news as to the success of the loan in Paris for a day or two at least. The latest financial news from that quarter was concerning the subscriptions to the Credit Foncier's mortgage bonds, which were offered for sale by the same agencies that are negotiating the canal loan. The amount advertised to be sold was 450,000,000 francs ($90,000,000), and in twenty-four hours subscriptions to the enormous amount of 3,600,000,000 francs, or more than eight times the total loan, were received. This is regarded by Mr. Maillard as an evidence that the supply of money in the Paris market was abundant, and therefore to a certain extent was favorable to the success of the canal loan.

The position of the Credit Lyonnais toward the canal scheme is simply that of financial agent, and it is in no way involved in the failure or success of the canal. The Credit Lyonnais is in fact a great French banking house—established for twenty-three years—with a capital of $20,000,000, a surplus of $4,000,000 or $5,000,000 and an annual business of something like $100,000,000. Its President and Chairman of the council of administration is M. Henry Germain, a wealthy banker, who belongs to the French Assembly, and is a leading member of its Finance Committee. He is a member of the Right Centre, and has been talked of for Minister of Finance.

The favorable attitude of the Panama Railroad toward the canal was, if possible, still more of a surprise to the general public who naturally imagined that as that road would be the first to suffer from the construction of a canal alongside of it, it would oppose the project with vehemence. The true inwardness of the Panama Company's position is shown by the following transcript, from its contract with the Colombian Government:

The Government of the republic binds itself, during the time in which the exclusive privilege which is conceded to the company for the working of the railroad remains in force, not to construct for itself, nor to concede to any person or company, by any title whatever, the power to establish any other railroad on the Isthmus of Panama; and it also stipulates that while the said privilege continues in force the Government shall not have the power to undertake for itself, nor of permitting any person to undertake, without the concurrence and consent of said company, the opening or working of any canal or road which may unite the two oceans across the said Isthmus of Panama, to the westward of the line of Cape Tiburon in the Atlantic and of Punta Garachina on the Pacific.

But it remains stipulated that the right which is conceded to the company to give its consent does not extend to its opposing the construction of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama to the east upon the route of the railroad itself, but only to its exacting an equitable price for such privilege, and as indemnification for the damages which the railroad company may suffer by the rivalry or competition of the canal.

If the sum which may be demanded by the company shall not appear equitable to the Government of the United States of Colombia, then it shall be fixed by arbitrators in New York or Panama, one to be named by the Government, the other by the company, and in case of their not agreeing, the two shall name a third, whose decision shall be without appeal. In pronouncing their decision the arbitrators shall take into consideration the original sum which the company rests, and the information which the Government shall give upon the matter, and in view thereof shall decide, without appeal, as they may deem most just and equitable. The said, whatever it may be, when fixed, shall be duly satisfied, shall belong exclusively to the railroad company and one half to the Government of Colombia.

"By this provision," said a prominent stockholder yesterday, "M. De Lesseps must come to our terms before he can build a bridge on ground, for our concession covers the entire Isthmus for 150 miles on either side of the railroad, and even if De Lesseps's route did not actually cross our track, as it does twice, we would have the right, in conjunction with the Colombian Government, of exacting from him such a sum as we saw fit. But as the railroad has already appropriated to itself the lowest dip in the summit or ridge between the two oceans, it follows as a matter of course that De Lesseps must take that also, or, at all events, come sufficiently near to it to fringe upon our property. In any case, he must and will reimburse us handsomely, while, should the Nicaragua or one of the other routes be chosen, the railroad would lose immensely without getting one cent of compensation. If the canal is to be built, it is for our interests that it should bridge the railroad as closely as possible."

Jay Gould and the united influence of the Pacific railroads is said to be working quietly against the canal. In case it should be built, it is thought it would divert the greater part of the China overland trade by way of San Francisco and Chicago, to Darien. There would be no breakage of bulk by the Isthmus, as is now suffered on the transcontinental railroads. A large amount of the English traffic with Australia and the East would, it is claimed, go via Darien. The greatest benefit would be to agricultural interests, which now sends from 700,000,000 to 800,000,000 of wheat to Europe by way of Cape Horn, but which, under the stimulus of the canal, would, in M. de Lesseps's opinion, increase her exportation to 1,500,000,000 or 2,000,000,000 tons within a year or two after the opening of the canal. A Wall street man who is familiar with the subject says that the project will be opposed in the next Congress by the representatives from the central Western States—Illinois, Ohio, Iowa, and the others of the Mississippi Valley—and will be supported by the Pacific slope. On the other side, he thinks it will damage San Francisco more than it would profit, but the farmers of California, and the Kearneyites might take it into their heads to raise an issue against the railroads and in favor of the wheat-growing and agricultural interests, from which their main support in the last campaign had come.

Brown Brothers were among the bankers who had canal shares for sale yesterday. Mr. Brown explained that this came about from their being American agents of the Comptoir d'Escompte of Paris.

"Have you received any subscriptions?" asked a SUN reporter late in the day.

"Not a dollar!"

Mr. Thompson has received a letter from Admiral Ammen, with regard to interoceanic canal communication, and the proposed visit of Civil Engineer Menocal to Nicaragua. The Admiral says: Should the department grant the request of the Nicaraguan Government for a permanent Civil Engineer, G. H. Cooke, United States Navy, to go to that country for the purpose of improving the navigation of the San Juan River, in the vicinity of the Castillo Rapids, I would suggest that he be informed that it is desirable to reexamine the region of the Lake Nicaragua route, which lies between Lake Nicaragua and its junction with the Rio del Medio route, with a view to ascertaining whether a considerable amount of the surface drainage now falling into the Pacific cannot be diverted into Lake Nicaragua at a reasonable cost. If this could prove to be practicable, it would allow the safe location of a ship canal through a summit level of only forty-three feet above Lake Nicaragua, but with an increase of length of 19 miles in lieu of a deep cut of 133 feet by the Rio del Medio route, now preferred on account of its supposed better conditions of permanency. Another advantage would be that our interoceanic canal surveys was to secure the element of permanency, especially from floods, in as great a degree as possible; hence the Rio del Medio route was preferred. The estimate of the cost of this route was $65,722,147, and of the Lajas route, $53,352,780 in the aggregate, with an estimate of $5,369,360, with the disadvantage of troublesome surface water on the Lajas route. It was not supposed, however, that the preliminary location of the work when the contract was made might not end in a preference for the Lajas route. In my report to the Secretary of the Navy, as Chief of the Bureau of Navigation in 1875, will be found the following: "It is proper to add that the most careful and elaborate surveys would necessarily have to be made in advance of any point heretofore examined, before commencing the construction of an interoceanic ship canal, and that these surveys would only lessen the labor and cost of excavation in proportion as their actions is given and distributed throughout their length, and would only be engaged when advantage could be gained by doing so."

While a company organized for the purpose of constructing a ship canal would not fail to reconnoiter every part of the route, a preliminary examination by Civil Engineer Menocal may be of advantage that the surface drainage above allotted to any advantageously be thrown into Lake Nicaragua with a considerable decrease in the aggregate estimate for labor, in the substitution of the lower lines of levels of the Lajas route, and without any sacrifice of the conditions of permanency.

Washington, Aug. 7.—As the result of inquiry at the State Department, and an interview with Hayes this afternoon, it may be stated that no action has been taken and no correspondence had by this Government, either with regard to the De Lesseps Canal scheme in its relation to our foreign policy or with regard to the further exploration of the Isthmus by another Government expedition with a view to the organization of an American Canal Company. As far as the De Lesseps scheme is concerned both Hayes and Evarts are firmly convinced that no exigency is likely to arise which can cause disquietude or make it necessary for this Government to take steps for the protection of American interests. They believe that M. de Lesseps and the Paris Congress have selected an impracticable route, and that the De Lesseps scheme will eventually fail through the lack of financial support and for want of American co-operation.

THOSE COUNTERFEIT BONDS.

Three of the Prisoners Released, and Two Held to Bail for Trial.

Police Justice Smith's examination room in the Essex Market Police Court was crowded yesterday by lawyers, bankers, and detectives, who had assembled to hear the proceedings in the case of the five men who had been arrested on charge of counterfeiting Brazilian bonds. Mr. Gustave D. Gossler, the Brazilian Vice-Consul, looked seriously upon the prisoners, who, but for the quiet efforts of Mr. A. G. Goodall, President of the American Bank Note Company, would by this time have been on their way to Brazil with a hundred weight of remarkably well executed counterfeits of that empire's currency.

Justice Smith, before formally opening the case, requested the lawyers to agree upon some specific course of action; and after they had had a consultation Mr. Brooks said:

"The prosecution have decided to abandon all further prosecution against the prisoners Lopez, Donvan, and Moriarty, and we ask your Honor to discharge them at once."

"Is that your decision?" Justice Smith inquired, turning to Messrs. Devine & Wilmot.

"It is, your Honor, on the understanding that there is no direct evidence against the three, and that they will become witnesses for us."

Justice Smith thereupon released the three men.

There was a sudden clearing out of the examination room, and then a law clerk for Messrs. Devine & Wilmot took down the following formal affidavit of Paul P. Donvan.:

I know the two men named Sanabria and Bebelaqua. I was introduced to them by Secunder Lopez about nine weeks ago in my store at 28 Broad street. Lopez at that time introduced to me Sanabria, and showed me what he said was a bill, and asked me to have some printed like it. I then refused. Two or three days afterward he called again and repeated his desire that I should make the impression. I again refused. Five weeks afterward I was met at 55 Exchange place by Lopez and Sanabria; the latter then handed me a mutilated bill and asked to have it lithographed. At the same time he promised to give me $200 for a lithograph. I replied that I had not enough money to do the work. He said he would promise me an advance of money to buy an outfit, if it was necessary to fit up a shop. I asked Lopez if the work was all right, and he and Sanabria spoke with each other, and then Lopez assured me it was all right. He continued, saying that he should have a great deal done, that he was come from Brazil, and would soon have enough to buy two or three presses. I then accompanied them to Moriarty's, and we subsequently went to Bebelaqua's. I spoke to Moriarty of the proposal of the Spaniards, and he said he would go into it if it was all right. I replied that I had been assured that it was all right. We then went together to a house in Nassau street, Brooklyn, where we were met by three Spaniards. I got from Sanabria the $300 I had been promised, and we then separated. We then bought the stones, presses, and other materials. Then a box came to 81 Nassau street containing seven stones, engraved. Moriarty then struck off the impressions of the bills. I was taking the sheets to the steamer bound for Rio de Janeiro, about to sail, when I was arrested.

The foregoing and other affidavits, having been placed in the hands of Justice Smith, Sanabria and Bebelaqua were arraigned, and, after argument by the lawyers, the prisoners were held for trial in $2,500 bail each.

Sanabria, in his bond, describes himself as a Cuban, 31 years of age, a planter. Bebelaqua describes himself as a general merchant of Brazil, 27 years of age.

POLICE COURT SECRETS.

How Lottery Men are Said to have Been Enabled to Avoid Arrest.

William H. Bogert of 88 Lexington avenue, in company with two friends, called upon Justice Wandell, at the Tombs Police Court, on Tuesday, and, taking a large yellow envelope out of his pocket, said, "I purchased these two tickets in the Kentucky Lottery of the firm of Jackson & Co., 82 Nassau street. I desire to make a test case of this. As I subsequently found that there is really no such firm as Jackson and Co. I took pains to watch the men who had charge of the place." He then carefully described the men he saw. Justice Wandell, taking up the large yellow envelope, found that it contained eight folios of legal cap, charges and affidavits against Jackson & Co., and two warrants, properly made out for the arrest of Richard Roe and John Doe.

"You say you desire to make a test case of this, Mr. Bogert," said the Justice. "Now tell me what led you to take this step; is it a desire to do a public service, or have you been actuated by some private feeling?"

Justice Wandell was not satisfied with the answers, and declined to grant a warrant that day. After Mr. Bogart went away, Justice Wandell summoned Capt. Caffrey and Detectives Hagan and Oates of the New Street Police. He instructed them to make inquiries about the firm of Jackson & Co., and to report to him on the following day.

On Wednesday morning Capt. Caffrey and his detectives reported that they had made due inquiries, and the result of their report was that Justice Wandell refused to sign the warrants, but granted Mr. Bogart a warrant specifically aimed at Jackson & Co. This warrant was then placed in the hands of Capt. Caffrey, who arrested a man, whom Mr. Bogart failed to identify.

The complainant then began to make his own researches, and returned disgusted. He claims, it is said, that the fact of his calling at the Tombs Police Court for a warrant had leaked out, and that some person had gone to Jackson & Co. and given them due warning, as he had ascertained that the men composing the firm of Jackson & Co. had moved away.

Justice Wandell said he could not believe that any one attached to the court had given information of an application having been made for a warrant. He will, however, take the matter before the Board of Police Justices and have an investigation.

FIGHTING OVER THEIR CHILDREN.

A Peculiar Case in Brooklyn—Two Women Asking for Protection.

Mrs. Catharine Ries, aged 34, a comely Jewess, was before Judge McCue, in Brooklyn, yesterday, in response to a writ of habeas corpus obtained by her husband, Max Ries, a clothing dealer of this city, who is separated from her. Mr. Ries allows his wife $20 a week for her support, and she insists upon keeping charge of her six children. Yesterday Mr. Ries complained to the Court that his wife was not a proper person to have the care and education of all the children, and he applied for the custody of three of them. Mrs. Ries was in court with one infant in her arms, two clinging to her skirts, and three in the charge of two servants. She was accompanied by a number of friends. Counsellor Towns opposed the adjournment for which she asked, alleging that she had entered upon the scandalous course of visiting the house of a lady and accusing her of being intimate with her (Mrs. Ries's) husband, and that she had gone to persons who had been servants in certain houses and offered them money to come into court and swear to falsehoods.

Judge McCue decided to adjourn the taking of testimony, but having learned from Mrs. Ries that she was willing to yield her 4-year-old daughter Rose to the custody of her husband, he ordered the child to be transferred to the father. Mr. Ries was willing to have his wife see the child if she behaved herself; but as Mrs. Ries was not content to have the Judge limit her to one visit a week, and insisted on going to see the child every day if she chose, Judge McCue refused to grant her permission to see the child at all, saying that her visits would only lead to a row and scandal.

Two well-dressed ladies in mourning habit appealed to Judge McCue for protection from Mrs. Ries. One said that Mrs. Ries visited her house and accused her of impropriety with Mr. Ries, while the other, an older woman, said that Mrs. Ries came to the sidewalk in front of her residence, and shrieked and called her vile names. They asked the Judge whether he would not have Mrs. Ries locked up. He told them that if they were annoyed they must call in the police.

Mr. and Mrs. Ries manifested much animosity and passed out casting black looks at each other.

PLUNDERING A WRECKED STEAMER.

With Threats of Violence Sweeping the Decks of All Things at Hand.

HALIFAX, N. S., Aug. 7.—The *Newfoundlander* newspaper says that after the wrecking of the steamer Burgos in St. Mary's Bay several large boats with between 300 and 400 men arrived, and that "some of the men board of the ship in spite of the remonstrances and orders of the captain, and began throwing the wheat, which was in bags, into their boats. The captain offered them salvage, but this offer they declined and persisted in their work, with threats of violence, sweeping the deck of all materials, &c., at hand. There were some four hundred sheep on board, and these the captain agreed with one man to let him have on halves, but as soon as the man began to take possession of them a mob before them rushed forward, seized the sheep, and in a short time they were all put on board their boats amidst much shouting and execrations. Efforts of Deputy Sheriff Crosse and Inspector Carty, with their police party, three small schooner loads of the property abstracted, including about half the sheep, have been recovered, and will be given over here. In many instances those who had held the goods came voluntarily before the authorities, acknowledging and giving up their possessions, while in other cases they were discovered and surrendered under compulsion. Only a part of the cabin furniture has as yet been restored."

A Challenge to Young Swimmers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The undersigned challenge any two junior swimmers in South Brooklyn to swim a one or five mile match in Bottermilk Channel within the month of August. Address 48 President street, Brooklyn.

JOHN W. WALLACE.
JOHN CONNEER.

WATCHING THE TENEMENTS.

HEALTH BOARD INSPECTORS AT WORK IN THE CROWDED WARDS.

Houses Kept Better Since the Advent of the Elevated Roads and the Sanitary Regulations—The Astor Property in Order.

The forty physicians appointed by the Board of Health to visit the tenement houses in the city and report upon their sanitary condition have encountered a much more arduous task than was anticipated. Nevertheless, not one of the inspectors has abandoned his trust, and, though the pay is only $60 a month in each case, they have all gone around day after day laboring as conscientiously as though the work brought rich emoluments. There is much work to be done that seems more suited to a surveyor or an engineer than to a physician, but Dr. Janes, Assistant Sanitary Superintendent of the Board of Health, says that as the object is, primarily, to see that the overcrowded tenement houses are in a healthy condition, medical men only are competent to make the inspection. The doctors are now engaged in going over the Seventeenth and Thirteenth Wards, which have an abundance of tenement houses, and, as a general rule, the dwellings are cleaner and in better sanitary condition than was expected. A vast number of them are "double houses," having one large house in front, facing the street, and another in the rear, with a yard between the two. Occasionally this yard is disgracefully small, and several houses will be reported to the Board of Health, who will sue their owners for failing to have the necessary outside accommodation. The doctors have to measure all the yards carefully, to ascertain the length, breadth, and height of the rooms, the number of windows and doors in each apartment, and the various dimensions of the house, as well as its sewerage capacity, and the extent to which it is supplied with water. All this takes time, and it is calculated that it occupies about a week to inspect one side of a square. Sometimes, of course, a row of houses is found, each one of which is precisely like the other, and then the work goes rapidly on; but this is rare, especially in the Seventeenth Ward where, in many rows, every house is entirely dissimilar from its fellow.

The inspectors are supplied with large note books, in which they enter all the details which they have to report to the Board of Health, and, in addition, make a drawing of the interior of each house they enter. These sketches are not, usually, works of art, but they are, in nearly every instance, amply sufficient to give the Board a good idea of the dwelling reported upon. Very little trouble is experienced in the shape of opposition from the owners of the houses, though now and then is found one who considers it an outrage upon decency and good taste that they should not be permitted to keep their dwellings in as filthy a condition as they see fit. "Only once did I have any difficulty in that regard," said a young doctor who had just entered Dr. Janes's office after having finished his tour of inspection. "I asked a woman how many families lived in the upper stories, and she became indignant. I might go up and find out if I desired, she said, but I should get no information from her. I went up accordingly, and then, I think, I discovered the cause of her reticence. She had only one family living over her head, and this was too humiliating a fact for the landlady to know."

But though in this instance the upper stories were not well tenanted, as a general thing the rooms on the higher floors are far more crowded than the apartments below, doubtless because they are cheaper. From thirty to forty persons have been found sleeping on the floors of a large tenement house, and if they are people of cleanly habits the number is not considered too great. But when they are slovenly and dirty the case is different, and disease is almost sure to result. "I went into one room of a tenement house to-day," said a doctor whose report was visited last night," and I found six or seven women lying upon the straw mattresses, some of them asleep, and others only half conscious from the effects of liquor, as I supposed. The place must be a sort of cheap day lodging house; of course that was all wrong. In such weather as this a house of that kind, and with such people in it, is simply a hot bed of pestilence. I shall report it to the Board of Health."

Many of the houses belonging to the Astor estate have been inspected, but they are well built and carefully looked after, and no complaints have been made. "I consider them far above the average of tenement houses," said a doctor who had examined several of them. "Their sewerage is unusually good; they are well supplied with water, and no uncleanliness is tolerated."

The revenue of a double tenement house is very large, but in the Seventeenth and Thirtieth Wards it is not found that landlords are especially desirous to expend any great portion of it in the necessary repairs of the dwelling. Whatever may be done cheaply they do, for the most part, but where a large expenditure becomes necessary for renewing the sewerage and water pipes, it requires the most persistent efforts on the part of the Board of Health to force the owners to take action. The suits that are now instituted against many landlords when this inspection is over will, it is hoped, bring about a better state of affairs in tenement houses than has existed heretofore. "The day when a landlord could charge his tenant the very highest rent he could scrape together, and at the same time keep his house in as disgraceful a condition as he saw fit, has passed away," said one of the inspecting physicians yesterday. "Between this action of the Board of Health and the opportunities afforded by the elevated railroads to laboring men to live far away from their old crowded quarters, which shows most yet get to their work in the mornings and home to their families in the evenings as quickly as formerly, the ground has been cut from under the feet of the tenement-house owner. He must decrease his rents and keep his houses in better condition, if he expects to get tenants. Under any circumstances, I have no doubt that the Legislature will now give the Board of Health power to regulate these matters according to its own discretion."

One thing is noticeable in nearly all the tenement houses that have been inspected. The arrangements to enable the inmates to escape readily in case of fire are admirable. It does not come under the regular duties of the inspecting physicians to examine the fire escapes, but they do so, to a great extent, nevertheless. "If the sewerage, and the water pipes, and the water fixtures were as well looked after as half as good condition as the iron ladders to provide escape from fire," said one of the inspectors, "there would not be much danger from disease." In many of the most crowded tenement houses it was found that the owners kept fowls in the yard, and made a comfortable income by the sale of the eggs. In a country place, or even in good sized gardens of a city house, a hen is an inoffensive and cleanly bird enough; but when she is confined in a small yard dividing the rear from the front portion of a "double tenement" she becomes an unmistakable nuisance. The hen house, in this hot weather, emits a strong and sickening odor, and it is only fair to say that all the houses that have poultry yards attached will be reported.

The corps of tenement-house inspectors have not, strictly speaking, anything to do with the actual cases of sickness existing in a dwelling at the time they visit it, except as the illness may have been caused by some lack of sanitary arrangements, when it is their duty to report it. But they have all carefully watched the sicknesses that have come under their notice, and their observations have led them to the same conclusion arrived at by the other corps of visiting physicians—that charity is to search in the tenement houses for sick children, and furnish prescriptions free of charge.

"The city is, at present, very free from infantile complaints," said Dr. Janes, yesterday. "We have had a few cases of cholera infantum reported to our inspectors, but, as a general thing, we have heard little or nothing of any serious sickness."

A Fairy Queen in Court.

Mrs. Bella Howitt Williams, the golden-haired blonde who once startled the audiences at Niblo's "Black Crook" and "Stalacta," as the smiling fairy who suddenly springs from a hidden trap amid her adoring sylphs, was a weeping, black-eyed complainant before Justice Smith at the Essex Market Police Court yesterday. She was dressed in silks and had sparkling jewels in her ears. She wore a heavy blue veil, which completely hid her face from view. Detective Williams informed Justice Smith that she married eight years ago Edward T. Williams of Jones & Williams of the Merchants' Detective Bureau, at 4 Warren street, for the twelve years or so thereafter she lived happily enough. But as she was admiration as "the Queen of the Enchanted Realm of Stalacta," her husband grew jealous of her and constantly accused her. Last Monday night, she said, he came home and struck her two terrible blows in the face, blackening both her eyes and then kicked her down the stairs.

Justice Smith immediately issued a warrant for Detective Williams, and placing it in the hands of Court Officer Bell, ordered him to bring Williams to court forthwith.

An hour later Detective Edward T. Williams, a powerful but not unkindly looking man, appeared before the Justice. He denied striking his wife without provocation, and that he merely pushed her away from him, as he found she was intoxicated. He asked for an adjournment to enable him to produce his witnesses. Justice Smith held him in $500 bail to appear on Saturday.

One of John Sherman's Men.

Joseph H. Rainey, colored, for many years a Congressman from South Carolina, has been appointed a Special Agent of the Treasury Department by John Sherman. Rainey's headquarters are in New York, and he lives at 2 West Third street. Rainey still retains his South Carolina residence, and is said to have considerable influence with the colored voters. He is in favor of the negro exodus, and it is understood that he is a strong supporter of John Sherman for the Presidency.

The Dead Actor's Funeral.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 7.—The Actors' Order of Friendship to-day adopted resolutions deploring the death of Fechter. The funeral will be held at 10 o'clock to-morrow at the home of Mrs. Fechter's family.

Merit Must Reap Reward.

And so it is with Quirk's Jamaica Ginger Tea, the great bilious remedy. It only costs 25 cents, and is sold by druggists.—*Adv.*

DEAD HEATS AT BRIGHTON.

Four Remarkable Races Over the New Course on the Seashore.

The races at Brighton Beach were well attended yesterday, the events hotly contested, and the time fast considering the rather heavy track. The boys tossed their money up in the pools as though they were all Coney Island hotel proprietors, expecting their pockets to be filled the next day.

A sweepstakes of $15 each, with $350 added, $75 to second horse, one mile and three-quarters, came first over the course. The starters were Glenmore, carrying 113 lbs., and Claudia, 92 lbs. Glenmore was a strong favorite, selling at an average of $250 to $110 on Claudia.

The pair were sent away on even terms, Glenmore taking the lead in a few strides. Claudia hung to the horse all the way round, about a length behind, until the last quarter mile, when Riley, who had ridden Claudia under a pull for a mile and a half, gave the filly her head and lapped Glenmore. Within fifty yards of the wire they were neck and neck, running under the wire in this manner. To many it looked as though Glenmore had the race by a head, and that Claudia might have won it if her rider had started earlier for it. The judges decided that the race had ended in a dead heat. Time, 3:25. The purse and money in the pool boxes were divided. Much dissatisfaction arose among the betting men at this. Austin, the rider of Claudia, was fined $25 by the judges, after the race, for dismounting without permission. The French pools on Claudia paid $7.15, and on Glenmore, $3.55.

The next race was a mile and a half run for a purse of $350, of which $50 to second horse; the winner to be sold by auction under the rules. The bell called out for this race Viceroy, carrying 116 lbs.; Carver, Jr., 97; Enterprise, 92; Farley, 95; and Shylock, 111. Enterprise was the favorite at $100; Shylock, $61; Viceroy, $42; Carver, Jr., and Farley in the field at $37.

The five were off at the dropping of the flag in very close order, running in a snug bunch around the mile and a half, making a beautiful race. Shylock showed first in front, then Farley held the lead for a while, Viceroy taking it next for a few strides at the three-quarter pole on the last turn. Enterprise took the lead on the homestretch keeping it to the finish, and winning by a length from Carver, Jr., second, Farley coming third one length behind, Shylock fourth, and Viceroy last. Time, 2:45¾. French tickets paid $14.15. Enterprise was bought in by his owner, Mr. A. West.

A dash of one mile for a purse of $300, of which $50 to second horse, brought out Surprise, carrying 92 lbs.; Janet Murray, 112; Scotilla, 105; Baton Rouge, 106; and Glen Ogle, 88.

The betting men were all at sea in this race, one pool selling with Janet Murray, Surprise, and Baton Rouge at $60 each; Scotilla, $50; and Glen Ogle, $38.

The five dashed away well grouped, running in close company around to the homestretch, where Scotilla and Baton Rouge left the pack, making an open gap in the rear of the horses, passing under the wire lapped, Scotilla's nose barely in front of Baton Rouge's. Janet Murray came third, a half dozen lengths behind, and Glen Ogle fourth. Time, 1:45¼. This was fast for the track. French mutuals, $24.75.

The racing ended with a handicap hurdle race, mile heats, over four hurdles, for a purse of $450, of which $50 to second horse. The jumpers were Zodiac, carrying 100 lbs.; Loiterer, 123; Dadigasian, 148; Bay Rum, 132; and Ventilator, 133. Dadigasian was the favorite at $100; Loiterer, $50; Ventilator, $30; Zodiac and Bay Rum in the field at $40. All ran well together after the start, except Ventilator. At the Parish Lodge came the jumps, a length in front of Zodiac, who was lapped by Dadigasian third, Bay Rum fourth, and Ventilator distanced. Time, 1:52.

For the second heat Loiterer sold at $100 to $50 on the field. Loiterer and Dadigasian ran a wired race in the lower front until they were swinging around the lower turn into the homestretch. Here Bay Rum took up the running, passing Dadigasian and coloring Loiterer. These two ran under the wire head and head, making the second dead heat of the day. Time, 1:51.

Bay Rum was the favorite for the third heat, selling at $60 to $33 to Loiterer. In a few bounds after the send-off the pair ran lapped until they had nearly swept around the lower turn into the homestretch. Here Loiterer forged ahead, proving the fleetest footed at the finish, and winning, with nearly six lengths to spare, in 1:55.

French mutuals paid $28.20 in the first heat, and $11.20 in the last.

Loiterer was saluted with loud yells by his backers when he came in a winner of the third heat.

MORE SURPRISES AT SARATOGA.

Dan Sparling Defeated by Clara D.—Other Favorites Easily Vanquished.

SARATOGA, Aug. 7.—The attendance on the second regular day of the second meeting was fair, the race course in good order, and the races exciting and rather surprising to the knowing ones.

The first race was for a purse of $400, to which $100 to the second horse, and the entrance money to be divided between the first and second horses; one mile. J. R. Keene's Dan Sparling, 3 years, 103 lbs., was the favorite, bringing in a late pool $600, to D. J. Crouse's Jericho, 3 years, 103 lbs., $200; O. Bowie's Belle, 4 years, 106 lbs., $70; and E. J. Baldwin's Clara D., 4 years, 106 lbs., $45.

Starting even, Jericho and Clara D. went around the first turn yoked in front, Clara D. soon opening a slight gap. Then Dan Sparling went out after her, but the gap opened by Clara was too great to close, which she succeeded, hands down, in 1:44¼, with Jericho a poor second, and Belle third. The French pools paid $128.50. In the last auction pool the winner brought $10 to $400.

The next race was for the Clarendon Hotel Sciatan Stakes, two-year-old fillies; $25 entrance, p.p., with $700 added by the Clarendon Hotel; second horse $150 and third $50 out of the stakes; one mile and a quarter. From twenty-nine nominations the starters were: G. L. Lorillard's Perdita, 113 lbs., sold in pool at $600; L. Hart's Bonnie Carrie, 118 lbs., $155; C. Reed's imported Contessa, 108 lbs., $155; the field, consisting of F. M. Hall's Eunice, 113 lbs., T. W. Doswell's Dairy Maid, 108 lbs., and W. Astor's Lulu, 108 lbs., $90.

Perdita showed ill temper, and had to be accompanied to the post by a stable companion. Finally she settled down to a fair start. Contessa showed first, but soon gave place to Bonnie Carrie, who led with ease to the finish in 2:12, Contessa a fair second, and Lulu a good third. French pools paid $39.60.

The third race was the Kentucky stakes for two-year olds, $100 entrance, half forfeit, with $700 added, the second to receive $200 out of the stakes; three-quarters of a mile. Out of twenty-one nominations the following started: J. W. Bell's Minos, selling in the pools at $200; H. F. Carter's By-and-by, $175; E. A. Clabaugh's Olen, $65; H. P. McGrath's Duplicate, $80; the field, E. V. Snedicor's Giralda, Wm. L. Connor's Cidelia, and T. W. Doswell's Neufchatel, $110.

The youngsters started well, Neufchatel, wanted on by Minos, led down the shute, Cidelia got the lead on the turn, but they swung into the homestretch all in a heap, opening out to company front as they got half way in. It was then Olen came out and neared the stand. Then Olen broke ranks and led under the line, with Minos second, Giralda third, and Cidelia within a head. Time, 1:17¾. The French pools paid $17.40.

The last was a selling race, purse of $300, 1¼ miles. The pools sold very irregularly, the last three standing—T. Puryear's Jackscrew, 4 years, 93 lbs., $200, $350, $300; J. R. Morris's Ezrid, aged, 115 lbs., $205, $310, $290; Dwyer Bros.' Rhodamanthus, aged, 102 lbs., $85, $325, $100; E. Yates's Bowstring, 3 years, 91 lbs., $70, $135, $110. Bowstring was a favorite. He finally went off in a good lead, which he kept to near the homestretch, Bowstring was second around the turn, Rhodamanthus went for the leader on the backstretch, and after fast running showed even in the stretch. They came in almost with a rush, Jackscrew second under the line, and Ezrid third. Time, 1:59¾. The French pools brought $16.40.

The following pools were sold to-night on to-morrow's races:

First Race—Purse $300; weight allowances to non-winners; one mile and a half. Pools: Vagrant, $50; E. J. Robinson's Jennie S., $62; J. G. Schorr's Lackawanna, $40; Dwyer Bros.' Charlie Gorman, $36; P. A. Weed's Hippolyte, $26; P. Lorillard's Pique, $22; A. Smith's Lady Pearl, $15.

Second Race—Free handicap, $20 each, $500 added; one mile and a half. L. Hart's Bonnie Carrie, $60; Dwyer Bros.' Jenny, $40; E. J. Baldwin's Blossom and Clara D., $25.

Third Race—Purse $300; weight allowances to non-winners; one mile and an eighth. W. P. Hayes's Gertie, $100; Dwyer Bros.' Rhodamanthus, $100; A. Belmont's Susquehanna, $55; J. McCulloch's Geo. McCulloch, $15.

No pools were sold on the selling race. Checkmate is entered for the second and third races, but was not sold in either.

A Valuable Trotter Driven to Death.

William L. Allen of Elizabeth, N. J., and Robert A. George of 132 Madison street, on Wednesday afternoon, hired Central Boy, a trotting horse of some note, from the livery stable of William Masterson, in Seventh avenue, near Fifty-ninth street, and went to a place on the Westfield Road. At a point that is said to be two miles and a half from Westfield they were arrested near McCoun's Dam House by Policeman Dolan for overdriving the horse. The animal's body was covered with sweat. The horse died fifty minutes after the arrest. Yesterday the Harlem Police Court, Allen and George were held for trial. Three weeks ago Central Boy is said to have won a race at Bridgehampton in 2:28. He was valued at $5,000.

Broke his Neck while Diving.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD, Mass., Aug. 7.—Henry Blanchenck of Pittsburgh, Pa., dived from a bathing landing yesterday, and, striking bottom, broke his neck, and suffered other severe wounds. His death is momentarily expected.

Nearly Beheaded by a Steam Shovel.

OYSTER BAY, Aug. 7.—Samuel Collins of Centre Island, employed in Smith's brick yard, had his head nearly severed from his body this morning by a steam shovel.

EXCITING SUMMER POLITICS.

THE BROOKLYN DEMOCRATS ALARMED BY A POSSIBLE COUP D'ETAT.

Mayor Howell Seriously Ill, and the Republicans Separated Only by a Pledge from the Control of the Entire City Government.

Upward of a thousand men did nothing in Brooklyn yesterday excepting to cluster about the public buildings in the morning and discuss what the Common Council was likely to do in the afternoon toward filling the dozen fat offices over which there has been a deadlock since the 1st of May. When the Common Council met, these men flocked to the City Hall, and those who could not get inside smoked in the corridors or lounged in the well-furnished committee rooms, and awaited the result of the meeting. Their day's work was at an end when the Common Council adjourned. President Ray of the Common Council was acting Mayor yesterday, and although a number of Democratic politicians were going about with assurances that Mayor Howell was better, the truth was that the Mayor was suffering from a relapse, and was so seriously ill that his friends had already begun to fear a fatal result. It was said that having already suffered three relapses from the excitement forced upon him by reason of the critical situation of politics in Brooklyn, the worry attending what might be done yesterday, at the only meeting for the summer, by the Republican acting Mayor and the Republican majority had caused Mr. Howell a fourth relapse, and that his malarial fever had begun to assume typhoid symptoms. Ex-Mayor Booth, who had been admitted to Mr. Howell's room, had advised him to put politics out of his mind, and to think only of regaining his health. The Mayor was too sick even to permit his being carried to the City Hall on a litter, which some of the politicians said would be done if the temporary Republican Mayor and the Republican Aldermen attempted to break the deadlock in his absence.

Acting Mayor Ray said, early in the day, that there were some Democratic politicians heartless enough to take a paper containing nominations already made out to Mr. Howell's bedside and secure his signature to it, but those familiar with the Mayor's condition hinted that he would not be able to exercise even his signature toward relieving his party's difficulties. A reconnoissance by the Democrats, however, made it pretty certain that nothing could be accomplished by the Republicans yesterday, as not only had all of the Democrats signed a pledge not to take advantage of the Mayor's absence, but three Republicans had done the same thing, leaving the Republicans with one short of a majority. These three Republicans were Alderman Petry of the Fifteenth Ward, Alderman Smith of the Sixteenth Ward, and Alderman Powers of the Twenty-fifth Ward. The Republicans had a caucus before the meeting, but were divided in their councils. But they been united it is claimed that Acting Mayor Ray could have sent in nominations, and the entire city Government could have been centered legally and irrevocably for the Republicans.

The Common Council met at 3 P. M. in a crowded chamber. The Clerk had barely finished reading the minutes before Alderman Powers moved to adjourn. The motion was lost by a vote of 12 to 12, the Republican Aldermen—Powers, Petry, and Smith—voting with the Democrats. The only communication received from Mayor Howell was one vetoing the resolution of the Common Council at its last meeting had adjourned, subject to the call of the chair, on the ground that the charter did not provide that the body could hold a special meeting called in that way.

President Ray—I simply have to say that I received a communication from the Mayor, and allow it to take its usual course.

A large amount of routine business had been transacted before Alderman Powers said that he had been sick and was unable to attend to the business of the Board. His wife, too, was on her dying bed, and he renewed his motion to adjourn.

Alderman Baird said that if the gentleman wanted to go the Board could get along without him. Alderman Kenna excitedly jumped to his feet and began to call for order. Alderman Baird spoke on