INTERESTING REVELATIONS.

How Phelps, Dodge & Co. Paid $210,000, and Who Got the Money and Divided It—How the Republicans Carry Elections.

I.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—When Rutherford B. Hayes announced his purpose of civil service reform, it was hailed by many as the grand boom of his administration. Now that his official career is nearly closed, he begins to comprehend that his platitudes of official reformation only served as a shield to cover the political thieves and corruptionists who are the real managers of the machinery of the party now in power.

That Mr. Hayes in the outset of his administration sincerely intended some reformation must be conceded, because of his determination to remove the New York Custom House officials. The support he received in that effort from Democratic Senators cannot be regarded as a clever trick to aid in widening the breach between Hayes and Conkling and to side with a character whom they believed was fraudulently counted in as President. Their votes to confirm Merritt as Collector of the Port of New York were to sustain any attempt at reformation or purification of the public service. They were familiar with the charges of corruption against the Custom House Ring. Each Senator had been furnished with a printed brief reciting one special rascality, showing that the present Republican candidate for Vice-President, Gen. Chester A. Arthur, had received $21,879.50 out of the moneys extorted from Phelps, Dodge & Co., a large importing firm of New York city, through the villainy of Charles F. Hervé a Frenchman.

Hervé had ingratiated himself with a younger member of the firm, and had stolen private letters whose contents tended to compromise the honor of ladies of high social position. These letters, with invoices of importations which he had stolen from the office of Phelps, Dodge & Co., enabled him to make an arrangement with ex-counsel with B. G. Jayne, a Government agent. Through this agent proceedings were begun against Phelps, Dodge & Co., which resulted in fleecing that firm of $271,000. Gen. B. F. Butler was Jayne's counsel. A fee of $5,000 was to be paid Butler, one-half to come from Hervé's, and the other half from the Custom House Ring (Arthur, Cornell, and Laffin), to be retained from whatever sum could be extracted from Phelps, Dodge & Co. Judge Noah Davis was then the United States District Attorney located in New York city. He was opposed to the villainous attempt to extort money from the firm, did not act as the Ring demanded, and was removed. George Bliss was appointed in his place. Bliss promptly filled the New York Custom House officials in their operations. But every movement of the Ringsters was watched, and their easy success was barred in Washington.

George S. Boutwell, then Secretary of the Treasury, was repeatedly warned of the base attempt to extort money from Phelps, Dodge & Co. Although William E. Dodge had been persuaded to tender a large sum to the Government as a compromise, Boutwell felt that he was bound by the letter of the consequences which were expected to follow. This hesitation caused a new deal in New York. Hervé's counsel was sent for at the Custom House, and Jayne stated that the whole of Gen. Butler's fee of $5,000 must be deducted from Hervé's share, as he had promised Laffin were required to employ and pay $10,000 as a fee to eminent counsel to insure successful action in Washington. Upon the verification of this proposed arrangement by one of the three interested New York Custom House officials terms were agreed upon, and Jayne and the Hon. Roscoe Conkling was named as the eminent counsel. He soon appeared at the Astor House, where all the interested and opposing factions were located. The operation resulted in the payment of $271,000 by William E. Dodge, $13,153.50 of which went into the pockets of the New York Custom House Ring. B. G. Jayne and the informer, Gen. Butler received his fee out of Hervé's share by check from B. G. Jayne on the banking house of John J. Cisco & Son. Arthur, Cornell, and Laffin received $21,879.50 from which they politely agreed to pay the Hon. Roscoe Conkling $10,000. He certainly received that amount. That he earned the fee is equally certain. But when it is known that the Government actually suffered no loss, but that no charge was ever made against the honorable firm of Phelps, Dodge & Co. ever intended or contemplated fraud upon the Government, and that no procedure would ever have been attempted in any open court to maintain such a charge with any hope of recovering a dollar, we are enabled to judge of the effect of the private letters stolen by Hervé and used to extort the money exacted.

The writer compiled and printed the brief which substantially set forth the foregoing facts, and caused the same to be placed in the hands of nearly every Senator in Washington before the confirmation of Edwin A. Merritt as Collector of the Port of New York. This procedure was fully approved and encouraged by Rutherford B. Hayes, and this fact was not unknown to Roscoe Conkling and did not tend to lessen the studied contempt in which the latter holds the former.

II.

Mr. Hayes merits some credit for aiding John Sherman in his aspirations for the nomination for President at Chicago. John's ambition served to defeat the Third Term movement, but Hayes has been badly bulldozed, and has unconditionally surrendered. It is well known that every employee of the Government is menaced with dismissal if he fails to aid by contribution or personal service in the election of the Republican candidate for President.

The Post Office officials were the first to throw off all disguise. They assigned their subordinates for special political duty, employing those possessing ability, audacity, and chicanery for dangerous political manipulation. One of the characters so employed is Gen. George A. Sheridan, a notorious carpet-bagger, not one of the good kind pictured by Gen. Grant, who left their native homes with the object of giving the South the benefit of their energy and industry, and of securing for themselves honest livelihoods and substantial homes, but one of the class who has inflicted upon the South the most unhinshing villainies; characters who would not be trusted in their native States for the value of a second-hand suit of clothes, but who have levied themselves comfortably fitted for Southern Treasurers, Judges, Senators or Congressmen. A carpet-bagger in Louisiana, Geo. A. Sheridan deluded the negroes of that State into running him as a candidate for Congress, he was seated in the House for about twenty minutes, when he was driven out, but received for some valuable Returning Board service. He was next located in Washington, by Executive appointment as Recorder of Deeds, and he was located into this position without the consent, approval, or recommendation of the distracted citizens of Washington. He is now one of the spread-eagle stump orators of the Logan-Kilpatrick order, and a trifle lower in grade as a political huckster.

The general Post Office has a Brady—an Indianian who hails from the town of Muncie, in that State. His official position is Second Assistant Postmaster-General. He is the beginning, side, middle, and end man of the Star Route villainy, an official rascality which was made a success by an appropriation purchased through the aid of the lobby and the corruption of members of Congress. Brady came into the office poor a few years ago. All the Post Office supplies of the mail equipment service are under his charge. It would require too much space in this letter to go into details, showing how and why he has fattened into wealth, and we will limit this paper to one transaction:

Brady saw in Sheridan a worker, and he soon arranged to provide him a perquisite outside of his position as Recorder of Deeds. While Key was nominally responsible as Postmaster-General, Brady is the official who regulates and offers all proposals inviting bidders to compete for the various requirements incidental to the necessary mail equipments of the Post Office Department. An employee of the mail service invented a mail sack fastener, which he believed valuable. He is an ingenious man, but had limited means. Another employee was willing to pay for the model and attorney and Patent Office fees. A patent was obtained, and shortly after advertised proposals were offered inviting inventors to submit their patented devices for mail sack fastenings for the adoption and use of the department. To this proposal the inventor, George H. Fayman, submitted in his own name, with an approved bond, a proposal for the use of his patented device, upon the payment of a royalty of three cents each, accompanied by a letter showing that his device could be manufactured for the department at a cost of five cents each. The offer was not accepted, but a cord clamp was adopted by the department, which cost five cents each, composed of two malleable iron pieces, about one inch long by three-quarters of an inch wide, and a quarter of an inch in thickness, held together with a thumbscrew. The mail sack cords pass between corrugations in each piece, and are held fast or released by tightening or loosening the screw. The patented mail sack fastener, invented by Fayman, was laid over for another occasion. A railway service employee, Wm. W. James, induced and persuaded the inventor to make an assignment of his patent to the said James, under the assurance that by such assignment he would secure the adoption of his patent mail sack fastener by the Post Office Department, and thereby be more certain of remuneration for his invention. The inventor assigned all his right, title, and interest in the invention for one dollar, and placed his signature to the assignment papers on Dec. 10, 1879. By reference to the record books in the Patent Office there can be seen recorded side by side in the same book the assignment from Fayman to James, and an assignment from James to George A. Sheridan, both assignments being made on the same day, Dec. 10, 1879. On June 14, 1880, an official advertisement appeared inviting proposals as per form B, No. 2,376, for cord clamps for mail tie sacks (the device adopted for 1879), and also as per form C, No. 2,376, for a patented tie sack fastener. This was the peculiarity Brady intended for Sheridan. He received the contract at thirteen cents each. Immediately thereafter the first order was given for one hundred thousand patent tie sack fasteners. It will require many duplications of the first order to repay the service. Comment upon such favoritism and rascality is unnecessary.

III.

The desperation of Radical partisans in Indiana knew no bounds. They purchased the assistance of the Greenbackers, while they ridiculed the national currency as the rag baby. Before the mechanic they raised the cry of protection to American industry, when their candidate for Governor was known as an ultra free trader. In Quaker and Methodist localities they proclaimed no Popery, while in the First Congressional District their party managers took up a mortgage of $18,000 upon a Catholic institution to aid in securing the election of Heilman to Congress.

Hundreds of repeaters from New York, Philadelphia, and other cities were sent into the State to repeat as often as opportunity offered, and thousands of political strikers were appointed as deputy marshals to intimidate doubtful voters.

Besides all this, several thousand Southern negroes were imported into Indiana to secure the State to the Republicans by their assistance. The Republicans also received the aid and support of a secret organization whose headquarters was in Louisville, Ky., from which place revolvers were delivered to their political buccaneers. By such means the Democracy of Indiana was defeated.

The Hon. William H. Barnum, Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, has in his possession a lengthy statement prepared by a Republican of veracity, and sworn to before a United States Commissioner at Indianapolis. Its publication would make interesting reading for the American citizen.

The writer has always been a Republican. He holds the only commission ever written by the great war Secretary, the Hon. Edwin M. Stanton. Under the Hon. Hugh McCulloch, while he was Secretary of the Treasury, I held a position of high trust. The record of my fidelity during that time speaks for itself. No charge for neglect of duty, betrayal of confidence, or official shortcoming of any kind has ever been made against me, and no one will dare do it now. To avoid all mistakes of identity I am respectfully,

WM. P. WOOD,
402 Sixth street, Washington, D. C.

DAVENPORT'S CONTEMPTIBLE WORK.

Gen. Stewart L. Woodford Reminded of his Testimony and of his Duty.

The following letter was sent to Stewart L. Woodford yesterday:

Hon. Stewart L. Woodford, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York.

SIR: On the night preceding the election of 1878, Commissioner John I. Davenport, upon complaints made to him, by his direction, by one of his clerks, issued three thousand two hundred warrants for the arrest of that number of citizens, being all those who had registered to vote at that election upon naturalization certificates issued from the Supreme and Superior Courts during 1868.

These warrants were not issued through the Marshal's office, but were delivered directly to the special marshals stationed at the various polling places in the city, so as to be there at the commencement of the voting. Whenever any of the three thousand two hundred persons named in these warrants endeavored to vote, he was arrested, taken before a United States Commissioner, and held to answer as well him to be guilty of fraud in procuring his certificate of naturalization, discharged on his own recognizance if he had voted or would promise not to vote, and imprisoned if he would not so promise. Out of the 3,200 citizens registered in 1868 only about one hundred proportion succeeded in voting; the others were disfranchised.

No attempt was made, then or subsequently, to arrest any who did not offer to vote, and after the election all unexecuted warrants were returned to Commissioner Davenport.

During the two years that have since elapsed no more of these warrants have been executed, and not one of these 3,200 cases has been tried, or brought before the courts in any way, with the exception of Peter Coleman, in whose case Judge Blatchford held:

"To the complaint, on which three thousand two hundred warrants had been issued by Commissioner Davenport, "gave no information as to any fact or as to any really knowledge by Coleman," and "no allegation that any crime was committed."

"If that crime really had been committed, would not the mere fact that a certificate issued by the court, where theender had done what he had been directed by the Court to do, [illegible]

"If the record of naturalization by the Superior Court was proper."

Which decision, in the opinion of all fair-minded men, stamps the whole transaction as a judicial outrage.

As under the rules of the United States Circuit Court no warrants can be issued by any Commissioner for the arrest of any offender without the consent of the United States Attorney, you, sir, are the person who is primarily responsible for this burning wrong, by which this vast number of persons in number not only far exceeding the capacity of the Federal courts of this district to try in years, but many times exceeding the entire amount of their annual criminal business, were, in a single day deprived of their liberty as individuals and robbed of their right of suffrage as American citizens.

In your examination before the Lynde Congressional Committee you testified (page 465) that you had been informed by Mr. Davenport, about Nov. 1, 1878, that there were a considerable number of complaints in his hands, where the parties had not presented themselves; "that you told him "you had no time to examine them; that you *trusted and believed he intended no wrong to any citizen*;" and added, "I think that you (Davenport) to do as near right in this thing as you can. I cannot examine these special cases. *When you think that you should receive the complaint, I authorize you to issue a warrant. It is a pretty large responsibility to take, but I believe you will exercise it kindly and wisely.*" That as he knew more of the subject than any one else, I must leave to him the responsibility as magistrate of determining on what complaints he could issue his warrants (page 466). That Mr. Davenport did not explain to you that it was his intention to issue warrants against all persons naturalized in 1868 who had registered in 1878 (page 469); and you added, "*I should not myself as a magistrate have issued a warrant against a man simply because he was naturalized in 1868.*"

On Tuesday next another election of national importance is to be held in this city. During the recent registration many Federal supervisors have threatened persons registering upon 1868 papers with arrest upon that day if they offer to vote.

No such arrests can be made without your prosecution, your sanction and approval.

Your testimony, above quoted, shows that the confidence you were induced to place in Commissioner Davenport in 1878 was abused. We address you now to remind you of that fact; to insist that you shall not throw upon any one else the responsibility which rests upon you as United States Attorney, under the rules of the Circuit Court. That you yourself will examine all complaints that may be made between now and election in regard to election matters, and will see that no wholesale raid against the holders of 1868 papers is made, that no warrants are issued which can as well be executed upon other occasions as upon that day, or which may be used to prevent those against whom they are issued from voting.

We would remind you of the language of Attorney-General Devens, in his letter to you of July 31, 1878, that "the criminal law is intended only for the purpose of bringing those who offend against it to justice, *and no case should be prosecuted unless it is your purpose to pursue it and if possible, obtain a verdict*, * * that the law intends to prevent crime by the punishment of those who have sinned against it, and does not contemplate preventative proceedings * * to determine the right of men to vote."

Respectfully yours,

EDWD COOPER, AUGUSTUS SCHELL, GEO. W. WINGATE, JOHN T. AGNEW, ABRAM S. HEWITT, E. ELLERY ANDERSON, C. C. BALDWIN.

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, 1880.

ONE OF DAVENPORT'S DEVICES.

Questioning a Man's Citizenship because of a Clerk's Error.

United States Commissioner Deuel reserved his decision in the case of Frederick Cordes, a carman of 68 Henry street, who was arrested on complaint of John I. Davenport on the first day of registration and lodged in Ludlow street jail over night. The accused man was born in Germany. To show that he was an alien the Government produced the depositions upon his naturalization from the files of the Superior Court. These are in printed form, and in them the applicant renounces allegiance to all foreign princes, potentates, and powers, and "especially to the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland." The clerk, it is claimed, omitted to erase the last words of the printing and insert "Emperor of Germany."

Gen. Wingate, for the defence said that the certificate of naturalization of his client set forth that he had taken the oaths required by law, and that the error in question was a technical one; that even if the proceedings of the court were irregular the man was a citizen until they were set aside, and that to arrest him upon the pretence that he was an alien was an abuse of judicial process.

There are more than 1,000 naturalized citizens in the State, it is claimed, whose cases are similar to that of Cordes.

The House of Edwin Adams's Widow Robbed.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., Oct. 28.—During the absence of the widow of Edwin Adams, the actor, at Boston a few days ago, her seaside cottage at this place was broken into by burglars, who carried away everything of value. The police have no clue to the robbers.

Gold stem-winding watches, perfect timekeepers, warranted, $35; silver, $15; installment plan.
J. H. JOHNSTON, 150 Bowery.—Ads.

AS TO AN ALLEGED FORGED LETTER.

The Examination of Kenward Philp—Sharp Passages in Court.

Judge Noah Davis sat yesterday in the Supreme Court from 11 A. M. to 7 P. M. for the purpose of hearing the examination in the case of Kenward Philp, an employee in a scurrilous newspaper of this city. Philp is charged with libelling James A. Garfield by the forgery of an alleged letter from him, and the publication of various statements, in the newspaper referred to, concerning Garfield. The accused was represented by Roger A. Pryor, Charles W. Brooke, ex-Surrogate Vreeder of Brooklyn, and several consulting counsel. The prosecution was represented by Assistant District Attorney Bell, E. W. Stoughton, George Bliss, Henry E. Knox, John I. Davenport, and others.

Col. A. F. Rockwell, an army officer stationed in Washington, was the first witness. He testified that he had known Gen. Garfield twenty-seven years, was a classmate with him in college, had seen him write a thousand times, and had corresponded with him. He identified a letter written by Gen. Garfield to him included in the papers used to procure the arrest of Philp. At this time Mr. Bell called upon Philp's counsel to produce the original letter alleged to have been written by Gen. Garfield to one H. L. Morey. Then there was a long discussion as to whether the letter should be produced. It appeared that the letter was in the possession of Joseph Hart, brother of the former minstrel, Josh Hart. Hart was called to the stand, but said that he had not the letter with him: it was, he said, in the possession of a friend. He refused to give the name of his friend when asked, and the Court ordered him to give it. He again refused, and the Court directed Assistant District Attorney Bell to prepare a commital. He was placed in charge of Capt. Walsh of the City Hall Precinct.

Gen. Pryor at this point said that the defence was prepared to furnish the letter, and a lawyer who appeared for Hart said that his client was desirous of purging himself of the contempt. He would furnish the letter to Judge Davis and two other Judges.

Mr. Stoughton said: "I hope that there will be no bargain made with such a person."

Judge Davis said that Hart should be brought back into court. When again on the witness stand he agreed to produce the letter, and in order to give him time to do so, an adjournment was ordered until 2.30 P. M.

Upon the reassembling of the Court the letter was produced and was examined by counsel. Then Mr. Bliss asked for the envelope, it being alleged that the postmark thereon was also not genuine. The witness said he had not been instructed to produce the envelope. Mr. Bell said that the failure to produce the envelope with the letter was an evasion, and Hart's counsel promised to produce the envelope also. The prosecution called attention to the fact that the libelous publication complained of had been composed of the envelope as well as the letter, and that when the letter was called for the envelope was included. Mr. Bell called attention to the fact that the witness had stated that it would be produced from his hat instead of his pocket, and had also admitted that during the recess he had gone to his home, besides going out of the city.

The witness explained that he had been delayed by his apprehensions that the letter would be taken from him if he went and he was yet under apprehension that the envelope might be taken from him. He promised to produce the envelope, and hand it to Judge Davis.

Mr. Bliss suggested that the witness should be directed to bring the stamp on the envelope, as circumstances might be found upon it.

The witness, with tears, protested that his long absence had been due to his fear of arrest, and he said that, therefore, he had gone to see his wife and children. Judge Davis said that he should be protected as long as he was a witness, and if arrested for contempt of Court he was released, he should be restored to liberty. Mr. Bliss said: "And we will consent to the discharge." The witness called back as he left the stand: "I don't want your consent."

Col. Rockwell was then recalled, and the letter alleged to have been written by Gen. Garfield to Morey was shown him. He was asked whether in his opinion it was in Gen. Garfield's handwriting. Col. Rockwell replied that in his opinion the letter was not in the handwriting of Gen. Garfield.

On the cross-examination the witness said that he was indebted to Gen. Garfield for his position in the army and for his position at Washington, where he is attached to the Quartermaster's Department, with the rank of Deputy Quartermaster, in charge of the military records of the war. This time there was some laughter which was checked with acrimony by Judge Davis. Then Mr. Brooke inquired whether Col. Rockwell had received any other letters from Gen. Garfield besides the one put in evidence. Col. Rockwell answered that he had received about forty others, one of which he had in his pocket. The latter letter he declined to exhibit, as he said it contained private matters that he did not desire to make public. The witness testified that he was requested by Mr. Henry E. Knox, one of the counsel engaged in the prosecution of Philp, to come to New York. The witness said that he and Mr. Knox were both classmates of Gen. Garfield. After he had said that he had received about forty letters from Gen. Garfield he was asked how it was that the one which had been selected was original. He replied:

"I think George Bliss had as much to do with that selection as anybody. The laughter which this elicited led Judge Davis to announce that "Gentlemen who continue to laugh will not have the opportunity long." On the question with regard to the particular letter of Gen. Garfield to the witness had been selected for comparison with that attributed to Gen. Garfield, he said it was selected because it was the shortest. Mr. Bliss interrupted the witness to say the letter was selected because it was the nearest in date to the one alleged to have been written by Gen. Garfield to the Morey letter. He denied that it was selected because it resembled the letter of Gen. Garfield to Marshall Jewell. He said that the private letter was precious to him as a personal association with Gen. Garfield. He had seen a fac simile in Jewell's Memoirs published in Washington, and said that before he came to New York he had formed the opinion that the Morey letter was a forgery.

Albert Daggett, the Republican ex-Sheriff of Brooklyn, was the next witness. He testified that he had known Kenward Philp, the accused, for seven or eight years. That Philp was in the habit of coming into his office when he was Sheriff, and he had seen him write. The witness examined several papers shown him, and gave it as his opinion that they were in the handwriting of Philp. The papers he referred to were those in the handwriting of the Morey letter.

On cross-examination Mr. Daggett admitted that he held an office under John Sherman; that he had voted for Garfield at the Chicago Convention; that he had voted for him; that he obeyed the instructions given him to vote for Grant, and was, therefore, in antagonism to the Republican Committee of Kings County. He did not know that the manuscript of Philp had been abstracted from a newspaper office.

"Have you large sums of money wagered on the result of the election?" inquired Mr. Brooke. Mr. Bell objected, but Judge Davis said he thought the question was pertinent, and Mr. Daggett answered promptly, "Yes, sir," amid great merriment. Then Mr. Daggett was cross-questioned closely as to whether he had not said that he believed Philp was innocent. Mr. Daggett said that Philp had made such a strong protestation of his innocence that he had expressed the opinion that he believed Philp must be innocent. The asseverations of innocence that Philp made were by the honor of his mother, by the memory of his dead child, &c., the solemnity of which impressed Mr. Daggett with the belief that Philp had neither forged the Morey letter nor written the comments on it attributed to him. But upon looking at these comments in manuscript, he was of the opinion that they were in the handwriting of Philp.

The last witness of the day was Daniel T. Amos, an expert in handwriting, who testified that, in his opinion, the Morey letter was a forgery, not at all like Gen. Garfield's handwriting. On cross-examination Mr. Brooke sought to show that the witness was unworthy of belief for various reasons, particularly with reference to various cases where he had appeared as an expert. The further hearing was adjourned until this morning.

A speaker at the stand in front of Tammany Hall last night said: "A well-known gentleman told me not a half hour ago that Gen. Butler is in town. He has brought with him from Massachusetts the widow Morey, to whom the alleged Garfield letter was sent. She will take the stand to-morrow (Friday) and swear that the letter in question was found among the effects of her late husband."

On the Testimony of a Child.

Edward Doody and Emma Rosy quarrelled at 171 Elizabeth street, on the evening of the 15th inst. Richard Mortimer, the landlord, ordered Doody to quit the house. There was a fight in the hallway, and Doody was worsted. Leaning out of the window of a room opening into the hallway, Emma Rosy stabbed Mortimer in the back. Doody and Emma Rosy were tried, yesterday, in the General Sessions. The principal witness for the prosecution was Maggie Mortimer, the seven-year-old daughter of the complainant. She gave a clear account of the affray.

"Run home," said Assistant District Attorney Phelps "and tell your mother that you are the best witness that I ever had upon the stand during the term." Maggie's face lightened, and she tripped proudly from the stand.

The jury convicted the prisoners of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, recommending Doody to the mercy of the Court, because of an appeal in behalf of the wife that had been made. Recorder Smyth sentenced Emma Rosy to the penitentiary for four years and six months, and Doody to State prison for eighteen months.

A Society for the Care of Infants.

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 28.—Ida Van Etten and twenty others of New York have filed articles of incorporation of the Society for the Care of Infants and Young Children. They are to receive children under three years of age. The business of the society is to be conducted in New York.

Brain and Nerve.

Wells's Health Renewer cures sexual debility, restores manhood. $1. 115 Fulton st., New York.—Ads.

THE BUDGET FOR NEXT YEAR.

Why the Attendance in the Colored Schools is Steadily Decreasing.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment resumed the preliminary consideration of the appropriations for 1881 yesterday afternoon. Stephen A. Walker, President of the Board of Education, asked the Board of Estimate for $3,620,095, an increase of $120,000 over what they obtained for this year. This, he said, was owing to the increase of school population. In some of the city schools the pupils sit in rows at the feet of the principals on the edges of the platform. The amount asked for salaries in the grammar and primary schools for 1881 is $2,350,000. The amount for 1880 was $2,410,000. Mr. Walker explained that a year had been added to the previous three years' course at the Normal College, but that the Saturday sessions had been abolished. He wanted $95,000 for this college for 1881, against $92,000 in 1880. For the colored schools only $26,000 is wanted for 1881, against $28,000 for 1880. The reason is, Mr. Walker explained, that the number of pupils was decreasing, and the reason for the decrease is that colored children are going in larger numbers than formerly to the schools for white children. The schools in some of the wards, he said, present "a very speckled appearance." The salaries of the officers, clerks, and other employees of the Board are estimated at $33,000, against $33,637 for the present year. The expenses of carrying out the Truancy law are estimated at $11,000, against $12,500 for 1880.

The estimate asked for the nautical school is $26,500 for 1881, against $30,000 for 1880. The appropriation asked for purchasing books, maps, slates, &c., is $140,000, being $10,000 more than the apportionment for 1880. The total amount asked for by the Board of Education is $3,620,095 for 1881, against $3,500,000 for 1880.

President King of the Fire Department asks for a total of $1,568,959, against $1,307,670 apportioned for 1880. The increase, he explained, is due to the extension of the department by the building of five more engine houses.

President Cheney of the Board of Health asked for $253,273.32, against $251,540 for 1880. The increase is due to the desire of the Board to purchase a small steamboat (for about $2,000) for the transmission to Blackwell's Island of small-pox patients, and to the expenses incident to the night medical service. The amount asked for charities is $114,362, against $126,540 apportioned for 1880.

The amount asked by the Commissioners of Charities and Correction is $1,612,416, against $1,318,383.34 apportioned for this year.

The estimates of the other departments will be taken up for discussion at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

FALLING WITH A BRIDGE.

Mrs. Murray's Tumble and the Narrow Escape of Other Persons at Newark.

The old wooden foot bridge spanning the Passaic River at Bridge street, Newark, and connecting that city with East Newark, has long been regarded as unsafe. A month ago a herd of cattle fell through the floor of the draw into the river. After the creaking structure had been repaired to the utmost limit, the authorities of Essex and Hudson Counties appropriated $35,000 towards a new iron bridge, and recently the removal of the present bridge was begun. The first span from the Newark side was taken away, and a narrow temporary span was put in its place. This end of the bridge was supported on a stone abutment, at the base of which some dredging was done this week for the laying of a new abutment. This dredging, and the removal of the superstructure of the bridge, weakened the abutment, and it was noticed that it was giving way before the pressure of earth back of it. Cracks showed themselves yesterday in the pavement of the street near the abutment. Light wagons only were allowed to pass over the bridge, and at 6 o'clock last evening Henry Warner, the bridge superintendent, stopped all wagon travel. A gentleman with a fine team was refused permission to go over a few minutes before 7 o'clock, and as he turned away Mrs. Margaret Murray of East Newark stepped upon the bridge. As she did so a dozen shop girls started upon the bridge from the other direction. Immediately a cracking sound was heard, and the girls turned and ran back in fright toward East Newark. In a minute more the bridge gave way, and Mrs. Murray was plunged down the high, the falling timbers, landing upon a pile of stones and timber. The abutment had given way. When she was rescued a large beam lay across Mrs. Murray, and one of her legs was broken. She was also internally injured. She said that two other persons went down with the bridge, but they could not be found. There is always heavy travel over the bridge, as teams for New York pass over it, and the interruption of travel caused by the accident will give much inconvenience.

FAGAN'S DEATH.

The Mysterious End of a Notorious River Speculator in Brooklyn.

The body of James Fagan, the notorious river speculator of Red Hook Point, in South Brooklyn, was found in the East River at the foot of Amity street, Brooklyn, yesterday morning. It bore bruises which seemed to indicate that Fagan had been murdered in the same way that the sailor, John Wright, murdered the old river speculator, Bernard Fearon, two years ago. Fagan had the reputation of being the most desperate of the river speculators, and was known to the police as a thief and a dangerous man. He served four and a half years in prison for burglary, six months for larceny, and six months for assaulting two ladies in Clinton street, and for severely beating a gentleman who attempted to protect them. Fagan, when intoxicated, made brutal assaults upon any persons he met. Fagan was 35 years old. He had been missing from his home at 55 Columbia street since Oct. 14. On that night he was seen in the company of a captain of a scow drinking in the saloons of the Sixth Ward. At a later hour he borrowed a boat from Frank Smith of 518 Hicks street, saying that he was going to get 2,000 pounds of pig iron from a scow at the foot of Amity street, which he had bought of the captain of the schooner for $2. Smith says that since that time he has seen neither Fagan nor the boat, and that he heard nothing of Fagan until he learned yesterday that Daniel Murphy, another boatman, had taken his body from the river.

A post-mortem examination yesterday afternoon, made by Dr. Shephard, showed that the apparent wounds upon the head were caused by fish, and that death had resulted from drowning. Fagan was unable to swim, and it was concluded that he was overturned in the boat with the pig iron, and that in attempting to get it ashore the boat capsized and sank and he was drowned. Smith, who had been arrested on suspicion of being implicated in his death, was discharged from custody.

Henry Krafts, who had charge of the scow from which it is supposed Fagan obtained the iron, was arrested at his residence, 132 Wolcott street, South Brooklyn, last night by Detective Roche and Policeman Mahony.

Run Over in the Dark.

River street is a dark alley running from Grand street to First street, Williamsburgh. On Wednesday night, as car No. 30 of the North Second street line was passing through River street, the driver felt the wheels jolt over something, and then heard the cry of a person in agony. He stopped the car immediately and saw a man lying across the track. The wheels had passed over the man's legs, and it was painfully mangled. He was taken to the St. Catharine's Hospital, where he now lies. He gave his name as Henry Donnelly of North Seventh street. It seems that he had fallen upon the track in a drunken stupor.

A Chance for Amateur Clog Dancers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: I hereby challenge any amateur clog dancer from 17 to 21 years of age to dance against me within three weeks for $25 and the amateur championship. I would like, especially, to challenge Mr. Weber, or Mr. J. Rogers, so I understand these young men claim great proficiency in the art. Nail and money to be held at any place by calling on

MARK KATZ, 1,001 Dutchess street.

NOTES OF THE POLITICAL CANVASS.

Meeting of the Democratic Union Club of the Seventh Assembly District at 24 Greenwich avenue this evening.

Independent citizens will hold a ratification meeting this evening at 12 Bleecker street to endorse the nomination of Hancock and English.

Preparations have been made for a great Democratic parade in Brooklyn to-night, of which Gen. John R. Woodward will be grand marshal.

Alderman Charles D. Graham, who was nominated by the Republicans in the Fourth Assembly District, has declined because of his ineligibility, caused by his being an office holder.

Jacob Schenling, a well-known German produce dealer, has been nominated for Assembly by the Democracy in the Sixth District. His support is expected his election by a large majority. The district is largely Democratic.

The grandest political demonstration ever witnessed at Bayonne took place Wednesday night. About 4,000 men were in line. After the parade a meeting was held and speeches were made by the Hon. George C. Ludlow and others.

Meetings will be held this evening under the auspices of the Hancock Republican Club at Tompkins square, Seventh street and Avenue A, and Seventh street and Avenue B. German voters are especially invited. Major Kinkel and other German speakers will be present.

A large and enthusiastic Democratic mass meeting, under the auspices of the Citizens' Protective Association of Hoboken, was held in Odd Fellows' Hall, Hoboken, last evening. Senator Rudolph Rose presided, and speeches were made by ex-Gov. Bedle, Congressman Hardenbergh, and others.

At a meeting of the Thos. F. Meagher Association held at 84 Greenwich street, it was unanimously resolved that the members support and vote for Hancock and English, also the reelection of Hon. Wm. R. Grace for Mayor. This organization is composed of young men of the First Ward, and numbers 150 members.

BROCKWAY'S WONDERFUL SKILL.

What the Alleged Bond Forger in Brooklyn is Said to have Accomplished.

William E. Brockway, the alleged counterfeiter of the $100 bank notes now in circulation and of the Government six per cent. coupon bonds, of which $204,000 worth were captured in Chicago on Thursday last upon the person of J. B. Doyle, was arraigned before United States Commissioner Allen in Brooklyn yesterday, but the prosecution was not ready to go on, on account of the many election cases on hand, and the case was adjourned until Nov. 12. After the examination was adjourned, Brockway asked his counsel, Noah Tebbetts, to secure him the privilege of taking a walk with one of the deputy marshals for exercise. The request was refused by Assistant District Attorney Angele, who said that he would not run any risks with such an important prisoner, nor take any chances of his escape. Brockway was taken back to Raymond street jail, where he is held in default of $15,000 bail.

The secret service men say that Brockway, as master of the art of electro-chemistry, is able to accomplish what, before the discovery of this forgery, it was not believed to be within the power of any man to do. According to the confession of William H. Smythe, the engraver, Brockway needed but one perfected part of a plate to make a duplicate of the work equal to the original engraving. In preparing the plate for the counterfeit $100 note, Smythe made a vignettee containing the figures 100, which occupied one corner of the back of the bill. Brockway took the finished piece, and in a few days returned with three other vignettes exactly like it, which he had made by his process. In like manner Smythe made one corner of the delicately engraved border of the face of the bill, and Brockway returned a counterfeit border.

Secret Service Detective Drummond yesterday received one of the counterfeit bonds. Its workmanship was pronounced equal to that of a genuine bond. Only an expert could tell that it was a counterfeit. The forged bonds are numbered from 37,156 to 37,170, from 38,615 to 38,649, from 97,715 to 97,743, and from 103,301 to 103,497.

AMUSEMENTS.

"The Upper Crust" at the Standard Theatre.

The regular season at the Standard Theatre opened last evening. A new play of French origin was produced, entitled "The Upper Crust," and it was described in the bills as a beautiful society sensation and a pleasing emotional satire. Whatever it may have been in the original it is, as given at the Standard Theatre, a badly constructed and stupid drama, improbable, incongruous, and inartistic. It is badly put upon the stage, and as indifferently acted as any play that has been seen this season. It is a pretentious production, in which some good material is put to utter misuse. Its quality of emotional satire is only discernible in its effect of presenting some persons with titles and some high commoners under conditions that are vulgarly ridiculous. Whether the author of the production is not anywhere apparent. Miss Annie Graham takes the leading character, that of *Marie Hagar*, an actress of the Comedie Française. It is a French dramatist's notion of the sort of character that the indignant Miss Dickinson has delineated in "Miss Fanny Davenport's An American Girl." Miss Graham is pretty, talented, well dressed, of fine presence, and graceful bearing. These charming qualities compensate one in great part for the immaturity of her art. Mr. Charles Loveday personates a pathetic *Duke* in a way that does not even once on an easy footing with the nobility, while Mr. Joseph Grismer, in the character of a social serpent, shows how affable and unpretending a real count may be. Mr. Lewis Morrison has a great emotional part, which he does in novel fashion, and clothes with curious effect. He is an actor of undoubted ability, and as *Judas Iscariot*, which he is to do in the forthcoming "Passion Play," he will shine. Of the other persons of the drama the most notable was the *Cornelia Walpole*, who made matters extremely uncomfortable for the other persons of the drama, and for the audience.

OUT OF PROPORTION.

Twenty Minutes for the Trial and All Night for the Finding of a Verdict.

James Ryan, 78 years old, of Thirty-second street, near Eighth avenue, was placed on trial in the United States Circuit Court, criminal branch, before Judge Benedict and a jury, yesterday, on the charge of attempting to pass a counterfeit trade dollar in June last. The testimony of the prosecution was that the defendant got a five-cent cigar at a German uptown store and tendered the trade dollar. He was told that it was bad. He offered the coin a second time a short distance from the store first entered. He had seventeen cents in good money in his pocket when arrested. The officer's testimony was not denied, and the jury that he was as deaf as an adder and as stupid as a beetle, and that his act of offering the coin a second time was what almost any poor and ignorant person would have done to get rid of it when informed that he had a dollar that was bad.

Four witnesses were examined. The trial of the case, from the impanelling of the jury to the summing up and the charge of the Judge, occupied just twenty minutes. It was said to be the quickest jury trial known in any court in the city.

The jury having failed to agree after an hour's absence, court was adjourned, Judge Benedict directing that they should continue locked up, and, if they agreed, to hand a sealed verdict to the Marshal.

The prisoner went away on his recognizance.

William Dalzell Acquitted.

The jury in the case of William Dalzell, tried for the shooting of John Joseph Van Houten at the Garret Mountain riot in Paterson, in May last, came into court yesterday morning, after having been out for seventy-two hours, with a verdict of acquittal. This verdict caused considerable comment, and no little adverse comment in Paterson. Dalzell was overjoyed at the verdict, and received the congratulations of his counsel and friends. He said he did not intend to do more than give the defendant's counsel for securing a jury of Bergen county farmers, as a chief point in the defence was that a man has a right to defend his property from trespassers. The result in this case, it is thought, will have an important bearing on a civil suit for damages that has been brought against Dalzell by young Van Houten's family, and also on the forthcoming trials for riot of those that have been indicted for complicity in the scenes on Garret Mountain.

Preferred Death to Suffering.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 28.—Mrs. Margaret Pilitt, aged 52 years, committed suicide this morning by severing an artery in her arm with a case knife. She had long been a sufferer from asthma, and frequently declared she would commit suicide rather than die by suffocation attending the disease. At 4