INSPECTING THE THEATRES.

IN DANGER, HAVE THEY PROPER AND SUFFICIENT MEANS OF EGRESS?

The Inspection Ordered by the Fire Commissioners—Firemen Aloing in Examining Fire Escapes—Business Filing Up for the New Inspector—The Method Explained.

Since the Building Department became a bureau of the Fire Department the Commissioners have shown a disposition to have all buildings examined and reports made to them in regard to fire escapes, and in some buildings in regard to means of egress in case of fire. About a year ago the Commissioners directed an inspection of the large retail dry goods stores, and the result was that additional means of egress were recommended, and the reports were referred to the Building Department. That department had also made an inspection and recommended alterations and improvements. Now that the inspection of buildings is under the charge of the Fire Commissioners the work is simplified. On the 30th of July the Commissioners appointed Wm. F. Esterbrook Inspector of the Bureau of Inspection of Buildings. They defined his duties in a resolution that declared "that Article X., General Orders No. 4, O. B. C., 1878, and all other rules and orders, or parts of orders, which may be pertinent, be and the same are hereby made applicable to the Bureau of Inspection of Buildings; that the Inspector of Buildings shall be directly responsible to the Board of Commissioners for the proper conduct and management of his bureau under the provisions of law applicable to the same, with the prompt execution and enforcement of which he is charged, and that he shall keep an accurate record in convenient form for reference of the public business transacted therein, and shall prescribe all the necessary rules for the government of employees in his bureau not specified in the rules referred to."

There were many applications for appointment as examiners, and several men with the proper qualifications were appointed. The city was divided into districts, and one examiner was detailed to a district. But the Commissioners thought that the commanders of the fire companies could aid in the inspection, and on the 9th of August they passed a resolution that declared that "the Chief of Department be and is hereby directed to instruct the several company commanders to make a thorough inspection of all buildings in their respective company districts, with a view to ascertaining any deficiency in the fire escapes required under the law, and report whether such deficiency consists in the entire absence of fire escapes, their imperfect construction or condition, or in being encumbered or obstructed, such inspection to be begun at once, and reports thereof to be made immediately to this Board." Four days later the duties of the firemen in that respect were defined in the following order:

That the Chief and Assistant Chief of Department, Chiefs of Battalion, Foremen and Assistant Foremen of Companies are authorized and directed to examine all buildings in course of erection, construction, or alteration, and report any violation or evasion of law, through the proper channels, to the Fire Commissioners without delay.

The power of the Chief and Assistant Chief of Department shall extend throughout the city of New York; Chiefs of Battalion to their battalion districts; company officers to their respective districts.

Officers and members of the department detailed to places of amusement shall see that the laws in relation to ramp stairs or other obstructions in aisles, lobbies, &c., are strictly enforced and promptly complied with, and report all violations, through the proper channels, to the Fire Commissioners.

Persons desirous of making complaints of violations or evasions of law to the Fire Commissioners are charged with authority to receive such complaints to the Chief or Assistant Chief of Department, to either of the Chiefs of Battalion, or at the quarters of any fire company to the commanding officer on duty at the time, and a complaint shall be received and entered in full on company or battalion journal, and promptly reported, through the proper channels, to the Fire Commissioners.

Company officers will make inspections of all new buildings in course of erection in their respective districts as often as possible, not thereby interfering with the more important duty of preventing and extinguishing fire. Each and every inspection made shall be entered in the journal with date and time. All violations of law shall be promptly reported, through the proper channels, to the Fire Commissioners. This is not intended to prevent complaints to the Bureau of Inspection of Buildings on any officer thereof, nor in any way to interfere with the powers and duties of that bureau, but to be auxiliary only.

All notices of violations of law, and such other notices as may be necessary, shall be served by the members of the uniformed force of the Fire Department in a careful, exact and proper manner, and thorough reports made thereon.

Battalion and company commandants will be held responsible for the manner in which the resenger service shall be performed in their respective battalion and company districts. Special attention must be given to this branch of the service, that it may be performed in a proper and lawful manner.

The result of this work has been forty reports, on the average, each week. At the meetings of the Commissioners these are discussed in quick order. Secretary Jussen picks up a batch of them and says: "Reports of inspection of buildings and fire escapes."

"Anything special?" President King asks.

"No, sir," the Secretary replies usually.

"Referred to the Inspector of Buildings" is the order of the President.

The chief clerk of the Bureau of Inspection of Buildings receives the reports and distributes them among the examiners. An attempt has been made to examine and report on the inspections made by the firemen, but so many cases have been received that the work is behindhand.

As in the case of the retail dry goods stores a year ago, the Commissioners apparently appreciate the danger of permitting buildings to be without proper and sufficient means of egress, especially buildings in which many persons assemble, and before the winter season of the theatres was opened they turned their attention to the theatres, and on the 2d of October the following order was sent out:

SPECIAL ORDER, No. 154.—Chiefs of Battalions are hereby directed to make an inspection in their respective districts of all buildings referred to in section 20 of chapter 635 of the laws of 1871, and to promptly report the result of such inspection, from time to time as the same is made, taking especial care to make immediate report of any and all serious violations or defects which may be found. By order of

CHARLES G. SHAW, Assistant Chief of Department.

The section reads:

In all buildings of a public character already erected or hereafter to be built in said city, such as hotels, churches, theatres, school houses, restaurants, railroad depots, public halls, and other buildings used or intended to be used for purposes of public amusement or instruction, the halls, doors, stairways, seats, and aisles shall be arranged so as to facilitate egress in cases of fire or accident, and to afford the greatest and proper accommodation for the public protection in such cases; and all aisles and passageways in said buildings devoted to purposes of amusement or instruction shall be kept free from camp stools, chairs, benches, and other obstructions during any performance, service, exhibition, lecture, concert, ball, or any public assemblage; and the Superintendent of Buildings may at any time serve a written or printed notice upon the owner, lessee, or manager of any of said buildings, directing any act or thing to be done in or about the arrangement of the said buildings, and the several appliances therewith connected, such as halls, doors, stairs, windows, exits, aisles, and passageways as to afford the greatest possible security to the public in the uses to which they may be severally applied.

It was understood that the order applied especially to theatres. Most of the theatres are in Chief Gicquel's district. The rest are in Chief Miller's and Chief Bonner's districts. They immediately began an inspection, and from time to time the reports have been sent to the headquarters of the department. But, although it is understood that many necessary improvements or alterations in the means of egress from the theatres were recommended in those reports, such improvements or alterations have not been ordered by the Inspector of the Bureau of Inspection of Buildings. It was understood that prompt action in the matter was necessary. Several of the theatres have been called man-traps, and in one case it is said that the supports under the floor are not sufficient to hold up a household of persons. The reports have not been made public. The Commissioners' action on the reports has been to refer them to Inspector Esterbrook or to them. But after action is taken by the Commissioners the reports cannot be made public because the Inspector will not allow them to go out until after he examines the reports of the examiners.

Secretary Jussen says that before the reports were referred to the Inspector a thorough examination of them was made by the Commissioners. Commissioner Gorman sent to Inspector Esterbrook for plans and reports of the theatres that were made when the Department of Buildings existed. The plans show by black lines the means of egress that were in the theatres before alterations were ordered by Superintendent Dudley, the alterations being shown by red lines. The reports were made under the direction of C. E. Hyde, then Chief of the Bureau of Fire Escapes and Iron Work of the Department of Buildings.

Reports by the examiners on the reports of the firemen in regard to the theatres have not been made. Inspector Esterbrook said that probably no action will be taken on such reports in his Bureau until after the 1st of January. He has only seven examiners to examine and report on the many reports of the firemen's inspection, besides attending to the other duties of their office. He said that although the reports on the theatres are very serious matter, there are hundreds of cases that must be investigated before they are, and until he has more help he cannot see how he can take up the theatres.

"What we intend to do," Commissioner Gorman said, "is to make the theatres safe, and we do not wish to frighten the public mind while we are doing it. We want to see what the evil is, and we will remedy it immediately. According to a resolution that we have passed, the chiefs of battalions and captains and lieutenants of companies have the same power that the inspectors of the Department of Buildings had. When we want to know the condition of any special class of buildings, we send out an order to the department, and in a short time we can have the reports on all those buildings in the city. We are really doing quietly more work than the Department of Buildings did. We were determined to have the theatres safe, and we ordered an inspection of them. When the reports of the inspection came in we found that besides reporting on what they thought was necessary, the chiefs had expressed opinions on what might happen in case certain alterations were not made. Now, of course, those reports are not for the public eye, but we have taken them, examined them carefully, and picked out the alterations or improvements that should be made, and referred the recommendations to the Inspector of the Bureau of Inspection of Buildings. The owners of the theatres are notified that certain alterations or improvements should be made, and in only one instance has an attempt been made to fight us. We do our work quietly, and the theatre men have shown a disposition to comply with our recommendations. They say: 'Just tell us what you want done and we will do it.' If the examiners of the Bureau of Inspection of Buildings cannot find time to go to the theatres and ask the theatre men to make the alterations, we will send the chiefs of battalions to them. Besides that, anybody can make a complaint against any building that is not considered safe. At our request the chiefs of battalions and captains and lieutenants of companies have been appointed notaries public by Gov. Cornell, and anybody can go into any fire engine house and make a complaint. Of course there are some alterations or improvements that we cannot compel the owners of theatres to make, but if they do not comply with our request we can call the attention of the public to it, and public opinion will soon force them to do it. We do not object to allowing the press to have any document in this department, at the proper time, but in this instance we do not think that it is right to inflame the public mind, as I said before, by publishing what the Chiefs think may happen. Before we are satisfied that the theatres are safe we shall personally inspect them and see that the alterations or improvements that we recommended have been made."

THE ESTATE OF JOHN MORRISSEY.

His Sister's Efforts to Set Aside the Work Done by the Executors.

John Morrissey died on the 1st of May, 1878. In his will, which was admitted to probate on the 18th of the same month, Senator Morrissey bequeathed, after the payment of his lawful debts, which he knew to be considerable, $10,000 to each of his three sisters, and the residue of his estate to his widow, Mrs. Susannah T. Morrissey. Edward Murphy, Mayor of Troy, and Wm. R. Travers of this city were appointed executors. The heirs named in Senator Morrissey's will now living are Mrs. Morrissey and his sisters, Mrs. Ellen Campbell of Chicago and Mrs. Mary Murphy of Troy. Mrs. Catharine Morris, also one of his sisters, and an heir, died about a year ago in this city. Her interest in the will is represented by her sole surviving child, John Morris. Mrs. Murphy has been obliged to work in a laundry to obtain bread for her children, on account of her husband's sickness. She has received no part of her inheritance under her brother's will, and she was surprised to learn, she says, when proceedings looking to an accounting by the executors were had before Surrogate Peters, in September last, that the prospect of receiving any portion of it was extremely unfavorable. She determined, recently, to apply to the Supreme Court for relief, and copies of the complaint in her suit against the executors were served last week.

The complaint itself was filed yesterday by Lawyer John McCrone, in the clerk's office of the Supreme Court for this county. In her complaint Mrs. Murphy avers that the suit is instituted to recover her inheritance, and to benefit all others interested in the will. The executors filed an inventory of the estate on the 28th of October, 1879, in Saratoga, but it did not come into her knowledge until September last. This inventory, Mrs. Murphy avers, omits various properties belonging to the estate of Senator Morrissey. Mayor Murphy, Mrs. Murphy alleges, has never properly informed himself as to the legitimate duties of his office, leaving everything to Mr. Travers, who, it is alleged, has not given due personal attention to the affairs of the estate. The estate, therefore, Mrs. Murphy alleges, has been greatly impaired, and the executors have been guilty of such sets of omission and neglect as render proper their removal from office. In support of her allegations, Mrs. Murphy avers that, among other things, the executors allowed J. D. Prince & Co. to sell assets of the estate said to have been pledged with them in February last for $24,000, and to retain for their own use, as creditors of the estate, $15,861.35, a proceeding unauthorized by the Surrogate and unwarranted by law; that the attorney for Messrs. Reed & Spencer and B. C. Spettigue has obtained a suit against the executors for the foreclosure of a mortgage, a deficiency judgment of $12,881.12 being allowed; that ex-Judge Charles S. Lester of Saratoga was leading counsel to the executors, and has continued to guide them in legal matters; and that proper attention was not given to the duty of resisting unjust claims or of recovering collectable ones.

Mrs. Murphy makes the further averment that she was ignorant of the condition of the estate until proceedings were instituted before Surrogate Peters in the matter of the application of the executors to be allowed to make their final accounting, and to be discharged. In those proceedings, she avers, it was made evident that the claims against the estate amounted to $54,535.19, and the assets to $16,599.29, which would go to show that the creditors of the estate would receive no more than 30 per cent. of their claims, and the heirs would receive no part of their inheritance. In conclusion, Mrs. Murphy prays that the Supreme Court assume jurisdiction over the affairs of the estate, the Surrogate's Court of Saratoga County having only limited and statutory powers, and being unable to afford sufficient relief; enjoin the executors from proceeding with the accounting before Surrogate Peters, to the end that they may be compelled to make an accounting in the Supreme Court; and, if such relief appears to be proper upon the showing in the papers, either compel the executors to take steps toward discharging their duties properly, or remove them from office.

The application for the injunction, Lawyer McCrone said, will be argued in the Supreme Court, Special Term, next week. Affidavits in substantiation of the allegations in Mrs. Murphy's complaint will be submitted to the Court.

MRS. RASP'S MISSING HUSBAND.

The Clue that Justice Otto of Newark Obtained by Writing a Letter to Bavaria.

Last evening Mrs. Abraham Rasp of Newark arrived in Cleveland, Ohio, and to-day, it is expected, she will face the husband who deserted her and her four children two years ago. Rasp, in 1878, was a foreman in the tannery of Blanchard Bros. & Lane in Newark. He lived at 69 Madison street. He was then 29 years old, and the eldest of his four children was seven years, and the youngest a babe of three weeks. On the evening of Sept. 2, 1878, he kissed his wife good-by before going out. He promised to return early, but the night passed and the following day also, and still he did not come. His wife sought him at the tannery, but no one there had seen him. After a few days Mrs. Rasp learned that a married woman named Barbara Reitlingshoefer had left her home in another part of the city. Some of Mrs. Rasp's friends told her that Mrs. Reitlingshoefer and her husband had been frequently seen together. The husband of Mrs. Reitlingshoefer was questioned about her whereabouts, and he said that she had gone to Germany to collect a legacy from her father of $8,000. The woman was 50 years old, and weighed 260 pounds.

The deserted wife and children were left destitute. At first neighbors supported them, but afterward Mrs. Rasp was compelled to go to the Overseer of the Poor, who at once sent the whole family to the almshouse. There they were four months ago, when Mrs. Rasp told Justice John Otto her story. She was then sick, her grieving over her troubles having broken her health. At the request of the Justice she gave him the name and address of a brother of her husband named Nicholas Rasp, who lived in Bavaria. In a letter to Nicholas Rasp Justice Otto told all the facts about the mysterious absence of Abraham Rasp and of the deplorable condition of his family, and asked for information about the absent husband. A reply came in a few weeks. Mr. Rasp of Bavaria expressed astonishment. His brother, he said, visited his old home in Germany in the latter part of 1878 with a large woman, older than himself, who, he represented, was his wife. He said his first wife had died, his children were in an orphan asylum, and he had come to Germany with his present wife to get $8,000 that had been bequeathed to her. Nicholas Rasp further said that his brother travelled with his bride over the Continent before returning to America. He believed they were now living in Cleveland.

Justice Otto's next step was to write to Superintendent of Police Smith of Cleveland, enclosing a photograph of Rasp. Last week he received a letter from Cleveland, saying that Rasp was under arrest there for bigamy, and requesting Mrs. Rasp to come at once to Cleveland with her marriage certificate. Justice Otto explained the case to F. Wolcott Jackson of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and he gave Mrs. Rasp a free pass to Ohio. She left Newark at 7 o'clock on Friday evening. Rasp and Mrs. Reitlingshoefer have been prospering as keepers of a hotel and boarding house at 163 Seventh avenue, Cleveland. It is said that they were married in Cleveland. Mrs. Reitlingshoefer has not been arrested.

Held for Extradition.

Samuel B. Bowden, who was arrested as a fugitive from justice on the strength of a cable despatch from England, was yesterday brought before Judge Choate in the United States Court, on a writ of habeas corpus obtained by his counsel, ex-Judge Dittenhoefer. The charge against the prisoner is forgery. Mr. Dittenhoefer contended that the charge of an offence within the scope of the extradition treaty had been properly made out. Judge Choate dismissed the writ and remanded Bowden to custody.

SMOTHERED IN HIS ROOM.

THE FATAL OUTCOME OF A TRIVIAL FIRE IN GRAND STREET.

Engineer James Henry Dewitt Poisoned by the Smoke—Excited Women Jumping from the Second Story of the Burning Building.

The building at 154 Grand street, near Elm street, is a two story and attic house. In the basement is the Central Dining Saloon of Wilson & Thompson. The first floor front was occupied by T. W. Cook, a manufacturer of novelties in brass work. On the first floor rear was the printing establishment of John O'Donnell. The second floor was occupied by Daniel Davis and his family, consisting of his wife and son George. The attic consisted of furnished rooms which were rented by Mrs. Davis. No one slept on the first floor. The dwellers on the second floor yesterday morning were the Davises and James Henry Dewitt, a young man 27 years old, an engineer on the Long Island Railroad. A week or ten days ago he was hurt while at his work, and came to stay with his aunt, Mrs. Davis. He was so far recovered as to be able to go to the theatre on Friday night. He slept in a hall bedroom, more like a closet, which was entered by a door at the side of the stairway leading to the attic. The bedroom was in the form of an L, one-half being directly under the stairs and just large enough to hold a single bed. The room had neither light nor ventilation, except when the door was open. In the attic were Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Hawkes and their nine-year old girl, Emma; Mr. and Mrs. John Heator, Leonard Wilson, Thomas Davis, and Samuel Rodgers. There was also either on the second floor or in the attic a woman whose name has not been ascertained.

John L. Thompson opened his eating saloon at 3 o'clock in the morning. About 6 o'clock he heard a noise in the room above, as though some heavy article had fallen. He thought, he says, that Mr. Cook had come to his shop. A few moments later Mrs. Davis rushed down stairs crying: "For God's sake, Mr. Thompson, come up here, Cook's shop is on fire!" Seizing a pail of water, Thompson ran up the stairs and kicked in the door of the shop of the worker in brass, which had been locked. As the door flew open a sheet of flame swept out into his face. He dashed the water into the room and ran back into the street, crying "Fire!" In the mean time the Davises had run down stairs, and there were none of the dwellers on the second floor remaining save De Witt, who had been forgotten in the hurry and fright. The people in the attic ran down stairs. The smoke came up thick and powerful into the second story, but there were no flames there. When they attempted to reach the street, however, a sheet of fire from the burning room stopped them. They became excited, and, huddling together in the front room of the second floor, screamed for help. The window was about twenty feet from the pavement. Some men on the sidewalk shouted: "Jump, and we'll catch you." The women hesitated, but Alexander James of 144 Elm street, a stout young negro, stepped directly under the window and told Mrs. Hawkes to throw out the little girl. Her mother dropped her safely into James's outstretched arms. Then the mother herself tried the experiment. She fell with great force, knocking the negro down and striking the pavement in such a manner that her right hand was terribly lacerated. Mrs. Heator and the other woman jumped from the windows and were caught by the negro and some other bystanders. Meantime the other inmates, all men, had rushed up to the roof and were safe. Engines arrived promptly, and within five minutes the fire was entirely out. No. 9 truck put up ladders and took the men down from the roof, and then all the engines went back to their houses.

Then Mrs. Davis asked where James De Witt was. No one knew. Some said that they had seen him at the window of the second floor, but that he had gone back. Search was made for him. In the dark and close bedroom the young man was found lying face downward on his bed. He was dressed in his shirt and trousers and stockings. He was carried out into the front room, and Dr. Franklin Smith of 186 Grand street, who was dressing Mrs. Hawkes's wounded hand, hastened to his aid. "His heart beat," the doctor said, "but very faintly. We tried all known methods for restoring him, but he died almost immediately. He had been poisoned. The fire was in the shape of a worker in brass, and undoubtedly the smoke was of a poisonous nature. One good whiff would have killed a man."

The foreman of Engine 20 was surprised when the reporter told him that women had jumped from the windows and a man had been suffocated. "We knew nothing of it. It was all unnecessary. Not a particle of fire got into the second story. Had the women and the young man remained by the windows, they would have been perfectly safe."

The damage done by the fire was slight. The brass worker's shop was damaged about $250, the building $300, and the printing office a little. There was a deluge of water in the eating saloon, but little damage was done there.

A COSTLY BAPTISMAL FONT.

The Thirty-three Sacred and Precious Stones, Representing Christ's Pilgrimage on Earth.

A grand fair is to be held in the Madison Avenue Congregational Church, Forty-fifth street, beginning on Dec. 1 and lasting ten days. Its prominent feature will be a bronze baptismal font, weighing 800 pounds, and valued at $5,000. The base represents water rippled by the wind; here and there a broken leaf floats on the surface. Out of the water rises a rock, which is covered with a mass of lilies in full bloom. From this springs the stem which forms the support of the chalice. Midway up are lilies, half open, intermixed with leaves, and at the top are lily buds. The chalice is one immense flower; the sides beautifully ribbed, like the natural bloom, and finely chased. Inside the chalice the ornamentation is exceedingly rich. Apart from the design decorating the bronze bowl, there are thirty-three sacred and precious stones set in the rim in patterns of flowers.

The water stirred by the wind represents the double baptism of Water and Spirit. The wind is Christ's own image of the Power Divine by which life is made new. The rock represents Truth, which no wave can wear away, and which no storm can move; the mass of open lilies the Purity that comes by truth; the leaf foliage the Freshness of having truth and purity combined; the strong middle stem the Strength which grows out of these two qualities; the chalice the Glory that crowns all noble life. The thirty-three sacred and precious stones stand for the years of Christ's earthly pilgrimage.

The sacred stones are from the wailing place of the Jews, Rachel's tomb; the Fountain of the Virgin at Heliopolis; the Jordan; the tomb of St. John the Baptist in the Cathedral of St. Lorenzo, Genoa; the tomb of Lazarus; the Hall of the Last Supper; the steps of the Prætorium; the Arch of Pilate; our Saviour's prison; where His mother met Him on the Via Dolorosa; where He fell under the weight of His cross; the house of St. Veronica; the Temple at Jerusalem; a piece of the sacred stone of Egypt; jasper from the Dead Sea; flint from Ajalon.

The precious stones are lapis lazuli from the Golden House of Nero, marble from the Temple of Saturn, jasper from the Pantheon, marble from the Castle of St. Angelo, marble from the Palace of the Cæsars, marble from the Temple of Castor and Pollux, marble from the Mamertine Prison, marble from the Old Rostrum, vert antique marble from the Temple of the Deified Julius, marble from the Temple of Antoninus and Faustina, marbles from the Roman Forum, amethyst from the Temple of Vesta, alabaster from the Mausoleum, and marbles from the old baths of Caracalla.

The baptismal basin is of silver, fitting in the chalice. The cover is of silver, also ornamented with bronze leaves and lily buds, with a top of olive wood from Gethsemane.

The font is to be voted for among the churches of New York, Brooklyn, and vicinity. The votes will be $1 each, the highest number of votes cast for any one church securing the font.

New York Soldiers to Visit New Orleans.

In response to an invitation, a detachment of the Seventy-first Regiment, consisting of 100 rank and file, twenty officers, and a number of veterans in uniform, and a complement of officers from other organizations of the First Division, accompanied by a full band and drum corps, will leave Brooklyn on the 1st of February next to take part in the Mardi Gras festivities. The managers of the Southern railroads are taking great interest in the trip, and promise to do everything in their power to add to the comfort and pleasure of the journey. Officers desiring to take part in the trip may address Col. O. C. Hoffman, 165 Broadway, on or before Dec. 6, 1880. The managers of the trip now contemplate timing their departure from New Orleans so as to arrive in Washington on the morning of the 4th of March, when the detachment may possibly take part in the inaugural ceremonies.

A Theological Student Accused of Theft.

CHICAGO, Nov. 27.—Eugene Lafayette, a young theological student at the Union Park Theological Seminary, was to-day held in $1,200 bail to answer a charge of larceny, for stealing various small articles from his fellow students. Lafayette's case is a peculiar one. He has supported himself while at the seminary by dabbing the street lamps, and had a hand-to-hand fight with starvation while pursuing his studies. He has co-ked his own meals, and has expended his expenses down to a dollar a week. In his small money transactions he was exact and prompt, and what friends he has assert that the actions leading to his arrest are in the nature of kleptomania.

The Poisoning at a Wedding Banquet.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Nov. 27.—Of those poisoned at the wedding banquet at Col. Dall's five are dead. The rest are improving and will probably recover. No clue as to how the poison was administered has been found. It is generally believed that arsenic was put in a portion of the dishes that were prepared and left on the dining table the previous night. The excitement in the neighborhood still continues.

PHILADELPHIA'S WING SHOTS.

Capturing Prizes from the New York Boys—A Remarkable Score.

The tournament of the New York Gun Club wound up with an extraordinary score yesterday, made by Mr. F. C. Arnold of Philadelphia, member of the Riverton Club and also of the New York Club. The match was for three prizes, the first including the new championship cup, costing $150, and $100 in gold; second prize, $100 or cup, at the option of the winner; third prize, $50. The shooting was confined to members of the New York Club. Fourteen men shot at twenty-five birds each, thirty yards rise, from five traps. Mr. F. C. Arnold killed 8 birds with his first barrel and seventeen with the second, making a clean score, and winning the first prize. Mr. F. P. Parker took the second prize, killing 21 and missing 4. For the third prize, Mr. W. H. Edmunds, Mr. H. A. Gardener, and Mr. R. Dexter each brought down 20 birds, missing 5. In shooting off the tie all but Mr. Dexter missed their first bird. This gave the prize to Mr. Dexter. Of the other shooters, Col. Armstrong popped 19, missing 6; G. Sherwood tied the Colonel; Col. Butler laid 18 on the snow, missing 7; S. T. Arthur sent 17 emblems of peace out of the world, sparing 8; Dr. Kenney dispatched 16, 9 escaping; H. Dunlevy shattered 14 out of 29 and then withdrew; H. Peterson dropped 8 out of 15 before taking a back seat.

Judge Gildersleeve, President of the New York Club, made a neat little speech on presenting the championship cup to Mr. Arnold. He said that no member of the New York Club envied the success of their visitors throughout the tournament. Like all true sportsmen, they were best pleased when the palm was awarded to the best man. The members of the Riverton Club (some of whom also belong to the New York Club) had won the principal prizes, and now Mr. Arnold had ended by winning with the almost unprecedented score of a clean twenty-five. (Cheers.)

Mr. William Stroud, also of the Riverton Club, won the first prize in the Visitors' match on the first day, tieing on ten straight birds, and then dropping nine in succession while shooting off the tie. Mr. Arnold captured the second prize in this match.

The principal prize on the second day, the Barron cup, was also won by Mr. Arnold.

In the handicap match the first prize was captured by another Philadelphian, Mr. Edmunds of the Riverton Club.

A DELINQUENT FOOTBALL TEAM.

Columbia Wins by the Forfeit of the Pennsylvania Team.

About 300 students visited the polo grounds yesterday afternoon in the expectation of seeing a close contest between the eleven of Columbia College and the Pennsylvania University. Considerable interest was taken in the match from the fact that it was the third time of their playing together, and the contests had been close at both the previous meetings. The weather turned out favorably for play, but, to the great disappointment of all present, the Philadelphians failed to appear. The Columbias had their full team out, and Mr. Watson, the Captain of the Yale team, acted as referee. After waiting until 3 o'clock, an hour after the appointed time, he decided the game as forfeited to the Columbias by the University team. After this a practice game was played by the Columbias present. Capt. Clarke of the Columbias has sent a challenge to the Princeton eleven for a match at the polo grounds next week. The game between these teams, which was to have been played at Princeton two weeks ago, was not played on account of rain. As the Princetons were ready to play on that day they claim a forfeit from Columbia. This subject is yet to be acted upon by the association, and it has an important bearing on the championship question.

Caught in the Act of Burglary.

Mrs. Sophia Palmay occupies a flat on the third floor of 904 Third avenue. Charles Trazer occupies the flat on the opposite side of the hall. Mr. Trazer's family are at present away in Newport, and Mrs. Palmay cared for the flat in their absence. Yesterday afternoon a well-dressed young man rang Mrs. Palmay's bell and asked if she wished any coal. He carried a hook and appeared to be an agent. Mrs. Palmay said no, and when asked if she thought they would want any in the other flat, replied that they were out of the city. Half an hour later, on going to Mr. Trazer's flat, she found the door broken open and two men inside rifling trunks. They attempted to push past her. She tripped one, but he easily broke away and gained the street. She pursued shouting "Stop thief!" Joseph Craft of 702 Second avenue heard her and caught one after a sharp chase. Mrs. Palmay identified the prisoner as the agent, who was taken to the Yorkville Police Court by Policeman Jennings and committed for burglary. He gave his name as Edward Murray, aged 21 years, of 214 Avenue A.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

New York Stock Exchange—Sales Nov. 27.

UNITED STATES, STATE, AND CITY BONDS (IN $1,000s).

10 N. C. 6s, spl tax, Jd cl. 45¾	20 S. C. 6s non-fd. 5
25 N. C. 6s, 3s tax. 4½	3 Ark. 7s R Iss. 8
34 cl. 4½	3 Mo. 6s, '87..... 110½
7 N. C. 6s, iss. to Cont. R. 5	1 Ala., class B 9½
2 N. C. 4½s, cons. 81¼	8 Tenn. 6s, old 48
	10 Tenn. 6s, n. sr. 41½

RAILROAD AND OTHER BONDS (IN $1,000s).

430 B., H. & E. 1st. 43½	1 K. C. & Nor. 8d. 75
1 Cent. Iowa D. 75	6 Cin. S. 2d 105
175 Chic. & O. 8s R. 78½	8 L. & W. R. con. 5s 103
75 Chic. & O. mtg. def. 42½	35 L. E. & West. inc. 10
8 Ch. S. N. W. 1st. 111	3 Lake S. 1st 127½
12 Ch. & N. W. c. 127	4 L. S. & M. S. 1st 117
16 Ch. & N. W. sd. 108½	4 Met. R. 1st 101½
do 108½	8 Mich. C. 1st (int. 88) 95
1 Ft. W. & Minn. 108	20 Mich. A. O. 2d (sub 50) 65
40 Can. So. 1st 105½	10 Mich. Cent. con. 5s 90
2 Cent. Pac. c. 119	3 N. J. Cen. 1st 116
2 C. C. & I. C. 1st, 7 Cons. sub. 103	1 N. J. Cen. con. 5s 113½
42 C. & Alton, inc. 57½	1 N. J. Cen. 2d 112½
5 Ch. & E. Illinois 91	1 N. J. Cent. inc. 95½
73 C. C. Coal 1st 78½	123 N. Y. L. E. & W. 2d 101½
3 Del. & H. 1st 119	10 N. Y. L. E. & W. 2d 101½
Pa. C. c. 119	1 Nash. & Chat. 108
30 Den. & R. G. 1st 110½	5 Nash. & Chat. 108
50 Den. & R. G. 1st 110½	2 Ohio & Miss. 2d 127
1 Dub. & Sioux C. 1st 127½	2 Ohio & Miss. 3d 70
12 Erie 1st 127½	2 Ohio Cent. T. 30½
1 Ft. S. & Muk. 1st 90	2 Ohio Cent. inc. 20
2 Gt. West. 2d 108	8 Home N. & Ath. 78
10 Ill. Cent. 126½	5 St. L. I. M. & S. con. 5s 81½
5 Ind. Bloom. & W. 1st 97½	2 Sun. Pac. Cal. 1st 101½
100 Cent. Pac. 95½	1 St. P. & S. C. 1st 107½
25 Pfd. 144	1 St. L. & S. E. 2d 104½
2 Chic. & Alt. pf. 141	2 St. L. & S. E. 2d inc. 104½
112 Ch., B. & Q. 132½	1 St. L. & S. E. 2d 107½
200 Chic. & O. 29½	2 St. L. & S. E. 2d 107½
180 Chic. & O. 1st 90	23 Tex. Pac. 1st, 5s 74
do 90½	do 75½
50 Clev. & P. 125	76 Tex. Pac. l. gr. inc. 7s 37½
104 Del. L. & Wd. 95½	2 Tol. & Wab. 1st 100
31 Ill. Cent. Lack. & W. 95½	10 Tol. L. 100
80 Den. & R. G. 78½	27 Tex. & S. L. 1st 90
100 Ind. Bl. & W. 27½	
100 Erie pref. con. 48½	
5000 Erie 2d 90½	
21100 Erie & West. 30½	
1100 E. & Pitts. 140	
5300 E. & St. Jo. 70	
2300 Ind., Bl. & W. 27½	
3200 Ind. Bl. & W. 28½	
2000 Kan. & Tex. 30½	
1000 Lake Sh. 114	
711 Lou. & N. 64	
4100 Manh'n El. 39½	
700 Marietta 1st 92	
820 Mich. Cen. 91½	
1800 Mich. Cen. 91½	
1300 Mob. & O. 29½	
200 Mor. & Es. 126½	
1800 Mobile & Ohio 29½	
12500 N. & Chat. 108½	
800 N. Y. Cent. 144½	
300 N. Y. Riv. 12½	
110 North. Pac. 55½	
4881 N. Par. pf. 64½	
19067 Norfolk & West. 12½	
3810 Norw'n pf. 113½	

RAILROAD AND OTHER STOCKS.

500 Alt. & T. H. 31	4 Ill. Cent. & Miss. 37½
308 Alt. & T. H. pf. 80	100 O. & M. 88
305 Bost. A. L. pf. 46	1000 R. & N. Co. 123
700 C., C. C. & I. 80½	4600 Ind. & West. 31½
1000 Chic. & Alton 132	500 Ind. & W. 20
12 Can. South. 77½	100 Lake Sh. 114
1245 Cent. N. J. 51½	100 Mich. S. & N. I. 78
100 Cent. Pac. 95½	100 Pac. D. & E. 3½
25 Ch. & Alt. 141	2300 Pacific Mail 48½
25 Ch. & Alt. pf. 144	6 P. F. W. & C. 84½
1120 Ch., B. & Q. 132½	1085 Reading 44½
700 Chic. & O. 29½	200 Rock Isl. 124½
180 Chic. & O. 1st pf. 90	100 Rome, W. & O. 90
do 90½	7 St. L. & N. O. 40
1400 Chic. & O. 2d 45½	300 St. L. & S. F. 30
do 45½	100 St. L. & S. F. pf. 75
50 Clev. & P. 125	100 St. L. & S. F. inc. 25
1040 Del. & Hud. 95½	1500 St. Paul 110½
3110 Del., Lack. & W. 95½	100 St. Paul pref. 127½
80 Den. & R. G. 78½	1100 St. P. & D. 36½
100 Den. & R. G. pf. 27½	2600 St. Paul & N. P. 37½
1000 Erie pref. con. 48½	50 Texas Pac. 8
5000 Erie 2d 90½	1400 Tex. Pac. l. gr. 37½
21100 Erie & West. 30½	2100 Atl. & Pac. 14½
1100 E. & Pitts. 140	7400 Wab. & P. 7½
5300 E. & St. Jo. 70	Bonds.
do 70½	15 Nassau 98
2300 Ind., Bl. & W. 27½	Government.
3200 Ind. Bl. & W. pf. 28½	10 Carolina 66½
2000 Kan. & Tex. 30½	Miscellaneous.
1000 Lake Sh. 114	40 U. S. Express 65½
711 Lou. & N. 64	Guaranteed.
4100 Manh'n El. 39½	3000 West. Un. .....