THE GIRL THAT WAS CHAINED.

Her Testimony Clears her Father in the Court of Special Sessions.

Annie Louisa Crawford, the twelve-year-old girl who was chained to a wall by her father in his house, in 161st street, Morrisania, told her story in the Special Sessions yesterday. Her father was arrested on a warrant issued by Judge Donohue of the Supreme Court. Judge Donohue, after an examination, allowed the girl to go home to her father's house, where she has been living for some time. She said yesterday that last December, after the second of two fires had broken out in the house, her father called her into a room and asked her what she set fire to the clothes basket for. She denied that she had done so.

"You must have set fire to it," her father said.

"I didn't," said the girl.

"Nobody else could have done it," said the father.

"Yes, I did do it," said the girl.

"He fastened my hands," Annie continued, "with a strap, so that they were about so far apart (indicating about eight inches). Then he tied my elbows to my waist with a cord. I wore the strap and cord for a week. I was in the parlor all this time, tied to the knob of the parlor door. Before my hands were strapped together I was whipped. It was the half of a whip that my papa used to use on his horse. The lash part was gone. The upper end was so big (indicating a diameter of a little more than half an inch). This whipping was before I told him I had set fire to the clothes basket. The whip was afterward burnt up. Papa stood off about so far as I am from that man about four feet. He struck me two or three times, not very hard, across the shoulders. I had a thick dress on. The blows did not leave any marks. It was when Mrs. Schoemaker's coat was stolen in the house that I was chained. My papa said that he was going to put the chain on me, but that if I kept on stealing he would fix me so that I could not do anything. He put the chain around my waist, and tied it to a little thing like that (crooking her finger to resemble a hook or a staple in the kitchen). I was chained up for a week. At night the chain would be fastened to the bed post. After Mary Dooley (a servant in the house) was arrested for stealing the things, the chain was taken off of me."

To Justice Otterbourg Annie said the chain around her waist didn't prevent her from sleeping soundly in bed. When her hands were strapped they were left so far apart that she could sew, and she did sew. The weight of the chain at night she said did not hurt her. There had been many thefts in the house, and her father thought she committed them. She told him that she took a ring that was stolen.

When the lawyer representing the District Attorney asked her whether she really did take the ring she was for a long time silent. At last the lawyer withdrew the question. Apparently he expected a denial from her on the theory that her father had made to excuse herself by a friend of hers in the country. If the two fires she had set had been discovered in Annie's bed and the other in a clothes basket in a room to which she had access. Over the clothes in the basket kerosene had been poured. T. Col. John B. Fellows, her father's lawyer, said that her father always treated her kindly.

The three Justices, Morgan, Otterbourg, and Gardiner, decided to dismiss the charge. While the decision was being given, the chain, an ordinary dog chain of iron, about seven feet long, and with links less than half an inch wide, was held up to view by a constable in the interest of the prosecution. It had just been brought into court by an officer, Col. Fellows took hold of one end of it to claim it for his client. The person who was holding it up resisted. While the two were pulling, Justice Morgan inclined his head toward Col. Fellows, and the original holder naively gave the chain up.

As Mr. Crawford reached the aisle, where Annie was waiting for him, she sprang toward him and he caught her up in his arms. Each kissed the other.

A TITTER IN THE COURT ROOM.

The Sentence of James Dunne for Assaulting Ex-District Attorney Morris.

There was a large audience in the court room of the Kings County Over and Terminer yesterday morning to witness the closing scene of the trial of James Dunne, the politician, for assaulting ex-District Attorney S. D. Morris on Nov. 10 in a saloon in Clinton street.

Associate Justice Adolph Gubner, a Gravesend farmer, said, as the prisoner stood up:

"James Dunne, you are fined $250, or else you stand committed to the penitentiary for six months."

There was a titter in the court room, and Gen. Tracy, half laughing, said that the sentence could not stand, as it was not in legal form, and as it gave the option to a fine, Justice Gubner looked about in a puzzled way. Justice Cullen sat in silence, and seemed much annoyed, but he did not endeavor to assist his associate. Dunne did not understand the sentence, and Justice Gubner did not understand the commitment. When the clerk read the form of the sentence Justice Gubner said:

"Well, it is pronounced by the authority of the court."

Justice Cullen grew nervous, and springing from his chair, walked over to the other end of the bench to speak to Judge Tracy. He came back in a minute and took his seat, evidently intending not to interfere in the dilemma. Justice Gubner, being prompted by Justice Rogers, saw the mistake, and repeated the sentence, imposing the fine of $250 and adding:

"In default thereof you are to stand committed to the Kings County Penitentiary for six months."

Dunne seemed to have been provided with the exact amount of the fine, for he at once handed it over in bank notes, and when Deputy Clerk Byrne handed him a receipt he said: "Give this to Mike." He left the court with the receipt and walked out followed by a throng of political friends.

There were many inquiries made about Justice Cullen's refusal to pass the sentence, as it is the custom for the presiding Justice to do it, and it was explained by those who informed that he had been overruled by the side Justices. He had favored a sentence to the limit of the law, six months in prison and a fine of $250, but Justices Gubner and Rogers decided to impose only a fine, and Justice Cullen insisted that they should pronounce their own sentence.

CASSIDY'S TESTIMONY.

A Pardon to be Sought for a Woman who was Recently Convicted by It.

Charles Cassidy, lately a collector for the Savannah Ocean Steamship Company, appeared in the General Sessions, on the 9th inst., as the complainant against Kate West of 19 Chrystie street, whom he charged with stealing a $50 bank note from him. He gave his name then as Charles Weffer. While he was upon the witness stand, a detective, who had a warrant for the arrest of Cassidy upon a charge of embezzlement, entered the court room and discovered that the complainant in the case was the man he was looking for. After Kate West had been sentenced to the penitentiary for two years Cassidy hurried from the court room and was arrested on the stand by the detective.

Cassidy was tried yesterday, in the General Sessions, for forging a check to his own use $230 that he collected from the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, on the 1st inst., for his employers. The jury convicted him without quitting their seats.

"The result of this trial shows, in my judgment, Cassidy," Recorder Smyth said, "that if all the circumstances had been known your testimony in the trial of Kate West would have been open to grave doubt. It is now clear that you, at a time when you were a defaulter to your employers, and had a warrant of arrest hanging over you, went about this city with stolen money in your pockets, spending much of it, as I am informed, for liquor. Whether you spent it so lavishly that you did not know what became of it, and charged a woman, without good and sufficient reasons, with stealing a part of it, is uncertain. But it is certain that there is now serious reason to doubt whether Kate West was guilty. In the light of all the facts now before the Court, that she was unjustly charged with crime by you. In this view, I propose to have the pardoning power of the Governor sought for her. I sentence you to State prison for two years and six months."

Recorder Smyth then directed Lawyer Charles Stecher, Kate West's counsel, to prepare an application to Gov. Cornell for a pardon for her. The application will be signed, it is understood, by Recorder Smyth, the jurors who convicted Kate West, and Assistant District Attorney Phelps, the prosecutor.

Policeman Devery and his Club.

John Dunn, a lad of 16, stepped to the prisoner's bar in the special Sessions Court yesterday, to answer the charge of assaulting Policeman John Devery of the Fifty-first street police. Devery testified that a gang of boys was in the habit of congregating evenings at Forty-fourth street and Second avenue. On Saturday night he drove them away, and he said they would come back and cause him trouble.

"Where did you go to drive them?" asked the Court.

"To the bay opposite Forty-fourth street," he answered. "I was doing so when the prisoner came up and struck me on the top of the whole mob got at her. They threw me down and kicked me."

Lawyer Kelly, who asked for the discharge of the boy, is of respectable parents. He was merely standing on his own door when the policeman came along, and he was struck by the club with which Devery had been chasing children, knocked down, and beaten. His sister came to his assistance, and she too was struck. The lad said he was "knocked out" with a blackened eye. I ask that the prisoner be discharged.

The request was granted.

Hours Over a Verdict.

In the United States Court, before Judge Benedict yesterday, the jury gave a verdict after twenty-eight hours' deliberation in Goodrich Maxone of Hard Darling, and acquitting Peter Maxone.

ANTHONY COMSTOCK CRITICISED.

Superintendent Walling Complaining that he is Unjust to the Police.

Anthony Comstock asked Justice Patterson, in the Jefferson Market Police Court, on Tuesday, to grant him a search warrant for a house in the district covered by the Tombs Police Court, and when Justice Patterson asked the special agent why he did not make his application to the presiding Justice in that court, Mr. Comstock said that he had previously "been given away" by officers of the Tombs squad. He said that on a recent occasion he had gone from the Tombs directly to the place of a suspected person, and had there met Officer Dwyer, whom he had left in the officers' room at the Tombs, coming out of the suspected house in citizen's dress.

Superintendent Walling said yesterday that Mr. Comstock on Jan. 13 obtained warrants at the Tombs Police Court against lottery or policy shops at 210, 228, and 230 Greenwich street. The places were raided the same evening. Six arrests were made, and the parties were arraigned on the morning following, Jan. 15. Two of them were held by Justice Morgan in $500 bail, and the other four were discharged. The warrants were all taken in charge by the clerk of the court, and filed, according to custom.

Mr. Comstock went to Sergeant Thomas James of the Tombs, Superintendent Walling continued, on Jan. 27, fourteen days after the warrants had been chained and served on the Greenwich street places, and asked where the warrants were. Sergeant James told him that they were in the hands of Justice Morgan or of the clerk of the court. Mr. Comstock replied that there were two more men at one of the addresses mentioned when he wanted to get. This was at 3:10 in the afternoon, and Mr. Comstock went off without asking for an officer to accompany him or even intimating that he himself was about to go to the place in question. Officer Dwyer, whom Mr. Comstock says he saw a few minutes later coming out of this alleged policy shop, did not, so Sergeant James says, leave the Tombs until fully twenty-five minutes later. He then went to the place in question with a message from Sergeant James to Wm. Robinson, one of the accused persons, at that time under $500 bail to answer.

On the day following these circumstances, Mr. Comstock called upon Sergeant James at the Tombs and said that he had a suspicion that the officer whom he saw in the neighborhood of the raided house had given information. Sergeant James explained to him then the errand upon which the officer had been sent to Robinson. The officer had simply taken a note asking Robinson to call upon Thomas on the day following in relation to other matters.

Superintendent Walling says that Mr. Comstock in his published card of Thursday has entirely ignored this explanation, and has chosen still to hint that the officer's errand had been one of information. The Superintendent says that the imputation on Mr. Comstock's part is gratuitous and wholly without warrant.

STRUGGLING WITH HER RESCUER.

The Persistent Attempt of a Homeless Young Woman to Drown Herself.

Night Watchman Thomas Smith was on duty at the long wooden pier at the foot of East Nineteenth street at about 5 o'clock yesterday morning. He saw a young woman of slender form wearily approaching from Avenue A. The watchman stood still for a moment to see what the woman would do. As soon as she arrived at the land end of the pier she went to one side and, without uttering a sound, jumped into the water. The watchman's two cloaks and his vest were off in a second, and he jumped in after her. She had sunk once and had come to the surface when the watchman seized her. She repeatedly tried to duck her head under the waves, while Mr. Smith struggled to keep her in a position in which she could breathe. They had drifted under the bows of a brig tied to the wharf, and some of the crew, aroused by the splashing in the water, let down a line, and they were hauled on board.

The woman, when asked why she tried to drown herself, said that she wanted to die. Policeman Dunn of the Twenty-second street police took the young woman to the station, and from there she was sent to Bellevue Hospital. Dr. Dunn said yesterday that she had a high fever, but that, unless she has pneumonia, she will probably recover.

The young woman was Mary E. Robinson, aged 25 years. Her parents are dead. She had spent much of the time since last December at the home of Donald Bethune, 360 Third avenue. Last Wednesday morning she packed her clothing in her trunk and told Mrs. Bethune that she was going to seek work at an employment office in Twenty-second street. Mrs. Bethune did not hear from her again till yesterday. In the hospital the young woman told Mrs. Bethune that she quitted her house on Wednesday she did not go to the employment office, but went out into the streets. She ate nothing all day, though she had $3 in her pocket. Late at night she became exhausted and lay down in a hallway somewhere in East Thirteenth street. Whether she slept or not she did not remember. At length she determined to drown herself.

The young woman was for several months a domestic in the house of the Rev. Dr. R. S. McArthur, pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church. She is attractive, with large blue eyes and dark hair.

A. T. Stewart & Co.

In the dress goods department of A. T. Stewart & Co. are seen among the great variety of novelties some lovely alpaca cloth robe dresses, embroidered in silk in Oriental colors and designs of rare beauty and originality. In the luxury department are now laid out for inspection a number of robes found in the new Japanese silk, embroidered on designs to match exactly the work having all the delicacy and artistic merit of handpainted designs.

In the silk and dress goods departments are found some of the most beautiful shades in satin Africaine, trimmed and embroidered to match, with fringes to match, and other ways intended for carriage wear, with gold and steel effects, and other novelties.

In the glove department 12 button length gloves, not half worn and soiled, wrinkled over the wrists, are sold for 75 cents a pair. Wrinkled gloves are not to be confounded with soiled ones. The latter are those exposed to contamination, others are handled in the dark all over the back of the hand and up the curve leading to the fingers. The latter reason is why the factory, low by, and damaged in the packages, imperfect, are generally displayed in an open box under shades of subdued light, the bargains and Roman stripes, and other new styles being in another case.

Gregg's Great Carpet Store.

On the site of the old Delmonico's in Fourteenth street is the great carpet store and new building of the Gregg's. In every action on every floor of this house, there is a display of taste, which is rarely equaled. Wherever visits the establishment should take a look at the American moquette manufactured especially for the house from their own designs. They have 22 the variety of tapestry and designs, the delicate buttons, the rich and vivid colors, the delicate buttons, the shadowy, yet glowing hues, and in every, fixed, and certainty no house in the French Moquette, and they sell the new carpets at prices ranging from $1.90 to $1.25 a yard.

The New York Furniture Company.

The immense building in West Fourteenth street formerly occupied by the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art is now filled with the vast collections of furniture in all styles of the New York Furniture Company. Not only is the stock of furniture, from the cheapest to the costliest, with its rich and elegant adornments, selling at a sacrifice, but