THE NEW STATE UNIFORM.

WHY THE SEVENTH REGIMENT IS HOSTILE TO THE PROJECT.

Charging that it is a Useless Piece of Extravagance—Regiments in which Another Opinion Prevails—A Talk with Gen. Wylie.

The news of the adoption of a new State service uniform has created a stir in the National Guard. It is said in certain quarters that the State has not always expended money wisely for National Guard equipments, and, in fact, Col. Clark of the Seventh Regiment, in arguing against the new military code, last winter, before the Military Committee of the Assembly, made a direct charge against the present Commissary-General of Ordnance. It was claimed, for one thing, that the overcoats issued under the appropriation were inferior in quality to those already possessed by several regiments, and that the $170,000 to $180,000 spent for 20,000 overcoats was virtually thrown away. The Seventh received these overcoats two years ago, but have never worn them. When the regiment moved to the new armory the Ordnance Department received the coats temporarily on storage as a matter of accommodation. The Seventh are now fighting hard not to take them back again, and at the same time are preparing for a bitter fight against the proposed State service uniform project, claiming that it will involve another waste of money.

Though last winter several regiments fiercely opposed a State service uniform, facts have since arisen to lead them to agree with the Adjutant-General upon the wisdom of the measure, and the opposition is nearly confined to the Seventh. The views of prominent officers on the subject are interesting. Gen. D. D. Wylie, the Commissary-General of Ordnance, said: "There is a serious misapprehension about these matters which I will be glad to remove. Let us begin on this $400,000 appropriation under the last administration. I issued overcoats to all the regiments under that appropriation. The rest went for tents, camp equipage, camp utensils, blouses, knapsacks, haversacks, canteens, and other equipments for 20,000 men, the strength at that time of the National Guard. Every organization received its pro rata. This is only an office of issue, and I have only to issue State property on duly approved requisitions. The contracts for these overcoats and other State property were given out to the lowest bidder and under the supervision of a board consisting of Adjt.-Gen. John B. Woodward and myself, there being then no Inspector-General."

"It is claimed, General, by the Seventh that they virtually never received any part of that appropriation."

"No part was or could be paid by law in cash, but the Seventh received their proper proportion of overcoats and everything else issued. I can show their requisition, properly vouched for by the Adjutant-General, and their official receipt for the same."

"Well, how about the 1,000 overcoats they are entitled to? I am informed they have not got them, and that the coats are still in the arsenal."

"How many overcoats do you say they were entitled to?"

"Gen. Wylie exhibited the receipt, and continued: "The overcoats are now here, stored at their request, and subject to the order of the regiment. The regiment have carried them on the annual property returns every year since their issue. They have, in fact, issued some of them to the men. The storage at the arsenal was merely a matter of accommodation, and the Adjutant-General has directed that they be returned to the regiment. No complaint has ever been made against these coats, but plenty of requisitions have been made for them. The goods were made by the Pomeroy Mills. The cloth is the best gray wool kersey. It was turned into overcoats at New York Armory and issue at about $9 a coat, which was then considered very cheap. The coats could not now be obtained for the same price. This is only the fag end of an old combination made by Col. Clark with a couple of other regiments. They have all taken the goods, and all taken pride to get more. What his object in personally attacking me was, except because I was a member of the commission for the revision of the military code, I am at a loss to conceive. I don't think the regiment, after adjudicating on the case, will find the fault with me to which Col. Clark gave official utterance."

"As to the new State uniform, General, it is claimed there is a job in that, since the regiments are already well supplied."

"I am not on the Board for the adoption of a new uniform, and did not even know that a Board had been ordered until I received a notice that it would sit here. I think General Headquarters are amply competent to attend to their business, and I am responsible for minding mine. I think whatever is right and proper to make an efficient National Guard without going into useless extravagance the Governor intends to do. Out of the annual appropriation for uniforms and equipments not a dollar goes through this office of issue. The bills are not even audited here."

There is a rule in the Seventh that prohibits members from going into print under their own names on certain military subjects, particularly disputes or controversies, without permission. Col. Emmons Clark and other officers said they would gladly do so at present not to discuss the new uniform or to be interviewed about the overcoat business. A prominent member said:

"The feeling of the regiment is well known. We have already a good State service uniform, ready for instant service, and need no other. It is a question whether so useless an extravagance as the issue of a new State uniform will be sanctioned by the Legislature. Even if the uniforms can be issued, they can't abolish the $8 a man uniform fund without an act of the Legislature, and we will fight them there. We virtually got nothing out of that $400,000 appropriation. We never even unpacked the overcoats, and we don't want them. Ours are better made and superior in quality. Our men want their uniforms made to order, and don't want shoddy clothing made on the bids. We can't make us wear these overcoats, or the proposed new uniform either."

Col. George D. Scott of the Eighth is on the Board for the adoption of a new uniform. He said: "I do not see where there is an job in this business. My regiment is ready to accept the new uniform, and so is every other in the State with, perhaps, two or three exceptions. The fact is, the superb appearance of the Pennsylvania regiments at Yorktown, and of the provisional New Jersey battalion, composed of companies from all over the State, but clothed and equipped alike, has opened our eyes. It is not intended, as I understand it, to force this service uniform on regiments already well provided, but merely to make a standard State service uniform, which is to be taken up by different regiments as their present uniforms wear out. I guess nearly every regiment is ready for a new rig already. The uniform fund will remain as it now is until legislation changes it. As to the overcoats issued under the $400,000 appropriation, I have no fault to find with them at all."

Col. David Auston of the Thirteenth said: "I believe a State service uniform is desirable and all regiments should be compelled to wear it and wear no other. Confound the full-dress uniform, any how. We are for service, and not merely Broadway parades. An admirable State service uniform will not interfere with the social side of the National Guard at all. As to that overcoat business, the Thirteenth had 550 blue overcoats, and about the time the gray ones were issued I asked for 100 more blue ones, 50 for recruits not equipped and 50 to be kept in stock. They were refused, and the Sixth Regiment gave me 650 gray overcoats costing $6.75. As the 100 blue ones I asked for cost only $1.00, the State, of course, lost $5,500. I took the gray ones because the regiment would have had to pay $10 for every blue overcoat purchased. I combined our blue ones, however, the best I could. We sold them for about a dollar apiece. I don't know anything about the contract at all."

Col. Unbehaut of the Eleventh said: "I believe in a State service uniform. We should conform as closely to the regular army as possible. It will not interfere with our social relations in the slightest degree. Regiments should depend on drill and discipline for prestige. Fine feathers don't make fine birds. The overcoats issued to the Eleventh were satisfactory. The only trouble is we want more of them."

Gens. Varian, Ward, and Brewster, all brigade commanders, are in favor of a State service uniform, and in fact it is understood that the three "gray" regiments of Brooklyn are all anxious for a change.

Military goods contractors say there is no job in the new uniform so far as they are concerned. In point of fact some claim that a change from the present system would probably work unfavorably to them. Contracts, they say, are always given out by a duly constituted military board to the lowest bidder, and in the gray overcoat business the profit on the contract was very small.

STERN BROTHERS.

Their Brilliant Display of Holiday Goods.

The beautiful store of Stern Brothers in Twenty-third street is made still more attractive at present by the opening of 200 cases of new fancy goods, embracing a large quantity and variety of articles suitable for holiday presents. The large bay windows afford a brilliant display of specimens of these goods, but to form a correct idea of the immensely beautiful and artistic merit of the articles it is necessary to go through the exhibit on the counters within. Here are French and German dolls, dressed and undressed; jointed and stuffed dolls, little girl dolls, boy dolls, real colored dolls, blonde and brunette, all sorts and conditions of dolls to speak of, mounted on the shelves and counters, dolls that go to sleep when put in the cradle, and other dolls that never close their white open, wondering eyes.

The assortment of china and art pottery seen at Stern's are of the finest quality and in the rare and rich shades, bronze, plaques, bronze finishes, and terra cotta wares are represented and artistic to the highest degree. There is also a fine assortment of Parisian and German leather goods and in these cases Schubert silk fancy fan fobs and receivers, catch alls, wall pockets, brush holders, and that infinite variety of fancy articles for which the silk and satin goods embroidered under the hand of novelties and fancy goods, form a not a little variety to select a Christmas present from with the aid of the fancy receiver, ornaments, Holiday books, albums and nine fancy articles, found here—these are beautiful—are now increased in number and variety by late importations direct from the French capital. Whoever goes shopping in Christmas or New Year's week, or night week, should by all means make a visit to the Stern Bros.

GOING TO WEAR IT ANYHOW.

The Twenty-third Regiment's Sixth Corps Badge and Title Thereto.

Correspondents of THE SUN first raised a question of the right of the Twenty-third Regiment of the New York National Guard to wear the badge of the Sixth Army Corps. Other correspondents maintained that the militiamen were justified in adopting the emblem, and that the Twenty-third had been incorporated with the Sixth Corps in the Gettysburg campaign. Their view did not prevail with the veterans of the Sixth Corps, and a Committee of the "Society of the Sixth Corps, Army of the Potomac," was appointed to investigate the claim. This committee's report was made in June last. It is dated at Hartford, signed by Samuel Truesdell, late Lieutenant-Colonel, James H. Plate, late Colonel, and J. W. Warner, late Brigadier-General, and attested by Ivan Tailoff, Secretary. It declares that in the Gettysburg campaign the Twenty-third was in a division commanded by Gen. W. F. Smith, a former commander of the Sixth Corps, and that according to Gen. Meade's testimony before the committee on the conduct of the war, when Gen. Meade, at Boonsboro, Md., about July 12, 1863, offered to attach the division to one of his corps, perhaps the Sixth, and put them in the front, Gen. Smith advised so strongly against it that Gen. Meade left them in the rear. The committee says that the Twenty-third has no more right to wear the Sixth Corps badge than it has to wear the cross of the Legion of Honor.

Col. Partridge of the Twenty-third Regiment has written the following rejoinder to these and other statements made in the report:

HEADQUARTERS 23D REGIMENT, N. G., S. N. Y., BROOKLYN, Nov. 14.

Major-General Ward, Corresponding Secretary of the Society of the Sixth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 23, enclosing a copy of a report of a committee of your society, appointed to investigate the rights of the members of this regiment to wear the badge of the Sixth Army Corps, extracts from which I had seen in the daily papers some time before receipt of the report.

In this report it is claimed that the "Twenty-third Regiment was not attached to the Sixth Army Corps, or even to the Army of the Potomac; that no proof exists that the Twenty-third ever did, at any time, or were they in any way connected with the Sixth Army Corps," though the report admits that "during the different campaigns the regiment was in the division to which a corps was attached, viz., the Sixth," and that "its members have no right to wear those who found service in regiments that were entitled to the Sixth to wear the insignia of the Sixth Army Corps."

In reply I beg to call attention to the admission in your committee's report that "the Twenty-third Regiment was in the division commanded by Gen. W. F. Smith," and also in an extract from special orders No. 49, dated Headquarters Army of the Potomac, July 10, 1863, and signed "S. Williams, Assistant Adjutant-General," which is addressed to the War Department, and reads as follows:

"Major-General Schenck, commanding Middle Department, W. F. Smith, now relieved from further service with the Army of the Potomac, and will report for duty to Major-Gen. Schenck for further assignment."

This seems to me pretty good proof that the Twenty-third Regiment was attached to the Army of the Potomac.

As a fair conclusion with the Sixth Army Corps, I may add, that during the Gettysburg campaign, Gen. Meade, formerly commander of the Sixth Corps, ordered that the regiment was on duty for a number of days in the immediate vicinity of his headquarters, and that he was constantly meeting with them. I feel, therefore, that the members of that corps are the last persons, or, at most, only a very small portion of the National Guard have to be made, until a number of years ago some unknown person or persons, who, being anonymous, of course, I never received reply from my predecessor in command nor myself.

In view of these circumstances, I must say that I do not consider that the claim of your committee, "that the Twenty-third was not in the Army of the Potomac nor the Sixth Army Corps," is well founded. On the contrary, I assert that this regiment was in some way, though, perhaps, in a very humble way, connected with the Sixth Corps, and that it has, since the war, entered at the regiment to wear the insignia. Also, I would mention that exercises can simply an opinion which the society of the Sixth Army Corps may have, and yet have no right to enforce it; for it is an uncontroverted fact that the Sixth Army Corps has been no more nor less than the Greek cross, and that the Twenty-third Regiment entered the service before the Sixth Army Corps existed. I am not aware that the Sixth Corps, the Twenty-third Regiment, or any other body of men have the exclusive "right" to its use as a distinctive badge.

I agree with the statement in the report that this is a "matter of courtesy," but most solicitous communication from your committee, dated Albany, N. Y., December 1, 1880, from General Headquarters State of New York, enjoins its observance with the provisions of the uniform code of this State, which provides that "the uniform of this regiment including the Greek cross on the breastplates, and as commandant of the regiment it is a part of my duty to see that this order is obeyed. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN S. PARTRIDGE, Colonel.

HOLIDAY FASHION NOTES.

Busties are mortified.

Reenco jewelry is revived.

The crinolet grows smaller.

The Yule log is a favorite Christmas card.

Colored stones, set with diamonds, are much worn.

There is a revival of Etruscan gold as popular jewelry.

Chinese-shaped cloaks grow more and more in fashionable favor.

Shoes to be fashionable must taper to a rounded point at the toes.

Serpent bracelets in silver and silver gilt are very fashionable.

Small screw earrings remain the favorites for very young ladies.

Necklaces, when worn at all, must be high and close around the throat.

Bangle bracelets large enough to slip over the hand are no longer in vogue.

Pink borders for plain felt hats and bonnets are manufactured in large quantities.

Fobs for the watch, with fob chains and seals, are revived among gentlemen's fashions.

Enormous straw hats, ornamented with flowers, are all the rage for driving in the Bois.

Wide full ruffles of old lace are much worn by those who have or can obtain the old laces.

Decorated tambourines and banjos appear among handsome holiday goods for presents.

Bracelets are the favorite ornament of the season, and make very acceptable Christmas presents.

Marie Stuart caps made of satin plush and velvet come with ruffs to match, edged with fine lace.

It is are fashionable this season to set diamonds in combination with colored stones than by themselves.

Very long loose wristed gloves, embroidered with fine bands of Persian, Oriental, Turkish, etc shades, are the latest novelties.

The shallower and the clearer life are the favorite floral ornaments for the lately introduced straw hats from London.

The most fashionable women do not wear earrings with afternoon dress or with morning toilets either at home or abroad.

The new round pointed evening slippers are embroidered with fine beads to match the stockings with which they are worn.

The new silked Surah, satin, plush, and crêpe de chine cotillon's are ornamented with spanish and other laces grow larger and larger.

A plain felt hat or bonnet can be converted into a very stylish chapeau by giving it a band and border of fur or of plush to match.

Silken hose, mittens, lace, and decorated with bead embroideries, are worn for demi-toilet in the "evening at home" of society women.

Pink, blue, and vari-colored sapphires are being brought into notice by the recent discovery in the mineral regions of North Carolina.

There are many very handsome and some very inexpensive Japanese goods seen in the Cooperative Dress Association store in Twenty-third street.

Satin ribbons of various colors are not so fashionable this season as velvet ribbons, which, when rubbed with pearls, emeralds and rubies are all aglow with diamonds.

Fish ribbons of repoussé moire silk, fastened with a gold slide or buckle and pendant coin of any preferred stone, are worn for gentlemen's wear on full dress occasions.

Gold, pearl, silver, jet, coral beads, and delicate gold chains twined several times around the neck are worn as necklaces. These are all worn high and close, but fall out on the shoulders.

The bustles of the present season open on one side with a spring to admit the arm, while the overlapping ends are adjusted into a bell, a shape which the classical lined in good, waved, or carved wood precious stones.

One of the toy shop windows in Fourteenth street displays among its attractions a team of four reindeer drawing a sleigh in a well-laden sleigh—the figures about a third high—and a very lively sleigh.

The Christmas books of the present season show the editorial work of the text, dolls, and playthings for children that have been invented, improved upon, and manufactured during the last decade in civilized life.

Small handkerchiefs of white wool, with small silk cloth borders woven on the sides, and the sheets tops decorated with pretty hand-painted designs, are sold for $1.00 for Christmas gifts, favors for the German, and fancy dinner cards.

Among the new colored chromes offered in the art stores for holiday presents is a fine copy of Munckasi's "Christ to the Mob," the original of which, some of the most valuable pictures in the gallery of Mrs. A. T. Stewart.

Among hands, neat and costly new jewels lately brought into notice are a kind of the green rattle found in North Carolina, of the color of the emerald, and very brilliant, and of the same rank in hardness among jewels as the sapphire.

Many of the new window display three fine, artistic, tempting displays and artistic holiday tableaux this season. The finest is the carnival of Venice, in Venetian steel, with black gondolas on mirror blue water, moored before a marble palace, with balconies and arches, whose balconies and staircases are crowded with gay revelers—both—while mirrors on each side multiply the scene indefinitely. In the next window is a scene in the Bois de Boulogne—children on donkeys, drivers in liveries, and pedestrians diverted themselves around a fountain. In the third window is a fine oval bronze frame including a copy of Murillo's "Charity," a snow scene, with a little girl in scarlet cloak and furs giving a penny to a poor little beggar in rags.

A baby's pretty patchwork spread seen among the art needlework facilities goods in the library of the Cooperative Dress Association is a combination of blue and rose and old gold and brown satin strips about a quarter of an inch in width and two inches long, forming a diagonal striped pattern. This is bordered with a narrow ribbon of old gold edged with Mechlin imitation lace, and decorated with hand-painted designs of daisies, forget-me-nots, or bluebells and birds, with open perch singing in little buildings, the whole, fairies astride of swinging rushes or suspended by the swingy margin of a pool of water. Little fairies, moons and stars, and other suggestive devices, while at intervals along the border are white satin slips feather stitched on the foundation, each slip bearing one or another of the following couplets:

Close drowsy god, and thy fair velvet wing
My pretty baby into dreamland bring.

Come sweetest sleep with noiseless tread,
And gently visit baby's bed.

Come fairies bright on silver wing,
Of Eldorado to my sleeper sing.

Singing birds from sunny skies,
Charm to sleep my baby's eyes.

The price of this pretty fancy, in which such variety of talent is found, is only $25.

CONEY ISLAND AND STATEN ISLAND.

Why the Latter has No Popular Watering Place—Views of an Old Resident.

"This is a splendid place for bathing," said a SUN reporter to an old resident of the south beach of Staten Island, "and yet nobody ever thinks of putting up a hotel here. See what they are doing on the other side at Coney Island. What is the matter with you Staten Islanders? Why don't you wake up and start a first-class watering place?"

"Young man," said the old gentleman, "there will never be a watering place on this island that will amount to anything."

"Why not? Look at Coney Island."

"Coney Island, my dear sir, has something behind it. It has the great city of Brooklyn for a backer. It was started by Brooklyn. No matter who put up the hotels, the move to Coney Island first began with the residents of Brooklyn. A crowd, as you know, grows with wonderful rapidity. It is an attraction in itself. Very soon the Brooklyn crowd on the beach and in the surf at Coney Island began to attract New Yorkers. Then big hotels sprang up, and railroads began to stretch themselves from all directions toward the beach. Coney Island became a favorite place of public resort. The facilities for getting to it are very great. It is not little exaggeration to say that cars for Coney Island pass the door of every man's house in Brooklyn. People can get there from that city in a wonderfully short time. They can enjoy a bath, see the sights, listen to the music, and go home when they please. But here in Staten Island we have no city to support or even help such an enterprise. We have no place big enough to start a small crowd to draw a large one, and the facilities to get here from New York can never be great. You may tell me that we could build docks for steamboat landings, put up magnificent hotels, and run railroads down to the beach; but you must remember that, in order to come here at all from New York, you must take a steamboat, and the steamboat has never been and never will be a favorite with the public. You can never build up a place with steamboats alone. Certainly there are people who like to travel in steamboats, but they are a small minority. You say the Coney Island beats take immense crowds to that place. So they do; but it was the cars that commenced the business, and made it sufficiently attractive for the steamboats. I think it is safe to assert that, if Coney Island had to depend upon steamboats alone for its visitors, it would be a mighty poor watering place. Then, again, of course capitalists can see plainly enough that for any such enterprise here Coney Island would always be their great competitor, whose attractions must become greater as its business increases, so that any watering place here could only get a little of the overflow of the Coney Island crowd. Moreover, the wealthy people of the island appear to be determined to put every obstacle in the way of making Staten Island a place for fashionable resort. Why, I can tell you what occurred to me once. I was crossing from New York to Brooklyn by Fulton Ferry early on a Sunday morning, and was feeling very bad. I had been up all night, and I had no money left to get a drink. As the boat was running into her slip, I saw a large, stout woman, a little ahead of me in the passage, drop her purse, and as she was two steps ahead she missed it. I hung back a little, and gave her time to get into the forward cabin, but then she turned and came back like a crazy woman.

"'Has any one found my purse?' she was crying, and a feel of a fellow behind me told her he had seen me pick up something. She grabbed me by the arm at once, and asked for her money.

"'Don't get excited, ma'am,' said I. 'Nobody saw me pick up a purse. But have you really lost a purse, now? Or is this a trick to induce us to raise a subscription for you?'

"She was indignant, and threatened to have me arrested, so I took a waistcoat button out of my pocket and showed it to her.

"'There, ma'am,' said I, 'is what this gentleman saw me pick up; and here,' showing her a vacancy in the row of buttons on the vest, 'is the place it came from.'

"She had nothing more to say, but I think she suspected me to the end. The purse had $38 and three letters in it; but I never read a letter. I would do such a thing as that."

"What did you do with the money?" asked the conductor.

"Oh, the $38," said the passenger. "Well, when I get home there was not a cent in the house, and the old woman was talking about going to visit her married daughter, just gladdened her heart by laying in a stock of provisions, and I had a two days' spree with the remainder of the money."

"Well," said the conductor, "I behaved like an honest man."

"And I like a sensible one," said the passenger.

"Good heavens!" exclaimed the conductor, "how that cursed toe hurts!"

DOCK DEPARTMENT BOOKKEEPING.

Expert Cowdrey's Queer Discoveries—Another $600 Burnham Probably Got.

Assemblymen Williams and Browning, in their investigation of the management of the Dock Department, heard yesterday the testimony of their expert, De Witt C. Cowdrey. It covered many points heretofore in evidence before the committee. Mr. Cowdrey said that the discrepancies between the department's books and the Comptroller's amounted to $85,153.80, and that there was nothing to prevent a defalcation to that amount until the accounts between the two departments were adjusted. Sometimes two months had elapsed before cash received was credited in the cash book. Amounts due for wharfage between 1877 and 1881, in all $5,000, did not appear on the books, and were discovered only by examining the minutes and papers. Between 1871 and 1875 the department received and used $34,419.58, without depositing it with the City Chamberlain as the law requires.

"That was before my time," observed Commissioner Laimbeer.

Mr. Cowdrey said that deposits had not been made semi-weekly with the Chamberlain, according to law, but that from $12,000 to $125,000 had at times been kept on hand. Penalties incurred by contractors had been remitted. Instances were C. J. Hull, $2,450; J. M. C. Scully, $1,250; J. Devlin, $1,250; R. L. Daskam, $850; S. L. Merchant, $3,150. Comptroller Kelly remitted Scully's penalty, as he was authorized by law to do. Without stating any reason, a contract awarded to Holmes Brothers in November, 1880, for $55,900, was recalled, readvertised without change in the terms, and let in 1881 to the same firm for $5,000 more.

The expert presented some figures on the cost of building the stone bulkhead on the city water front. The engineer in charge of the work had estimated the cost at $281.13 the lineal foot. The expert claimed that many items of actual expenditure had been left out, so that the real cost was $373.31 at the lowest figure; while if all the items properly chargeable to that expenditure were put in, the expert believed, the cost of the bulkhead might run up to $500 a lineal foot, or two and a half millions a mile. No books have been kept to show the exact cost of the work.

The method of keeping the books of the Dock Department, even since the investigating committee began its labors, was pronounced by the expert old-fashioned and entirely improper in his estimation. The books were almost unintelligible to an expert without explanation.

At previous sessions of the committee it appeared that the Commissioners had paid $18,000 out of their private purses to pay for the dishonesty of Clerk Burnham. The expert discovered that since May last Mr. Vanderpoel has paid over $600 of newly discovered deficiencies attributed to Burnham, so that there still exists a deficiency of $28,385.95.

Commissioner Vanderpoel testified that he had never authorized the clerks to withhold money from deposit.

William M. Whitney the present bookkeeper testified, he thinks, that he had written up the books for a year with the help of memoranda left by Defaulter Burnham. Some of the memoranda were in pencil, some were on scraps of paper, and some were in shorthand, and after he had used them he destroyed them. As far as he knew, these memoranda were of no further use. He did not think that such memoranda could have been used to convict Burnham. He admitted that the memoranda were the only original records of the months to which they related, and said that he had got at the facts through the memoranda and through examining persons named in the memoranda.

The committee will sit again on Monday.

The Memphis Walking Match.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 10.—The score in the pedestrian contest at 1 P. M. today stood as follows: Hart, 234; O'Leary, 242; Hartman, 234; Schmidt, 213.

HOURS OF LEISURE.

The Charity Ball of 1882 will take place at the Academy of Music on Tuesday, the 31st of January.

Continuation roll of all the branches of the Irish National Land League, Tammany Hall, 20th inst.

Ball of the pastry cooks and hotel and restaurant bakers, Teutonia Assembly Rooms, tomorrow evening.

Chanukah celebration of the Young Men's Hebrew Association, in aid of the building fund, Academy of Music, Thursday evening.

"Queen Elizabeth" is to be the subject of Dr. John Lord's lecture before the Young Men's Christian Association, Association Hall, Friday evening.

The Rev. William Elliot Griffis of Schenectady will read a paper on "Dutch Life in the Hudson Valley" before the Long Island Historical Society, Tuesday evening.

Many of the mechanics who worked in the east side shirt-waist sweat-shops will be at the reception of the Mechanics' Association in Cooper Union this evening.

Before the St. James Literary Union, on Tuesday evening, Assistant-Engineer Thomas F. Doyle will lecture on "Ireland's Land and Its Great Land Archbishop, St. Malachy."

Dedication services are to be conducted in the Union Temple of the Congregation Ahavath Chesed, Lexington avenue, Dr. Sonderson, the Rev. E. D. Murphy, the Rev. W. W. Faxon, and others.

Free lectures by Prof. Isaac L. Rice, President of the New York Institute for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, on "The Previous Status of Educated Deaf Mutes," Harlem Music Hall, to-morrow evening.

The 20th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims is to be celebrated by the New England Society of Brooklyn at a dinner in the Assembly Room of the Academy of Music and Art Reception Rooms on the 21st inst.

TWO PURSES PICKED UP.

A Conductor who was Honest and his Friend who Thought Himself Sensible.

"Do you often find valuables in your car?" asked a passenger who was noticed balancing himself somewhat unsteadily on the rear platform of a Greene and Gates avenue car, Brooklyn, of the conductor.

"I never found a cent, except once," said the conductor, who had been complaining of a sore foot, and was cross, "and then I was not on this line, but was running down Atlantic street, and along Furman to Fulton Ferry. There were not many people in the car, and among them were a tall literary lady, whom I recognized, and her daughter, a girl of about 18. We had passed Court street when this lady signalled me to stop the car, and I pulled the bell. Her daughter got off first, and as she followed she dropped her purse. Nobody saw it but myself, and as it was winter, and the floor of the car was covered with straw, I had no difficulty in covering it with my foot. At South Ferry every one got out, and as we went up Furman street I picked up the purse and opened it. I found $19.75, and, closing the purse without taking anything out, I put it into my pocket.

"On the return trip, about twenty-five minutes afterward, I met the lady with her daughter coming down Atlantic street. She seemed to be half distracted, and as soon as she saw me she hailed the car and jumped on, crying, 'Oh, conductor, have you seen my purse?' At first I pretended to know nothing about it, just for fun, you know, but she wrung her hands and was so upset that I gave it to her. I am a poor man, and I don't deny that I expected her to offer me a five-dollar bill. She opened the purse, counted the money, complimented me on being an honest man, and handed me fifty cents. I said I did not accept money for doing my duty, and told her that fortune was uncertain, and she might want her half dollar. She asked me if I thought the driver would like it, and I rather thought he would, and I was not far wrong, for when I offered it to him at her request he never bothered himself to ask where it came from, but put it into his pocket at once. A gentleman in the car abused me roundly for not taking the money to the office of the company, but I stood it patiently, for I knew it was all meant for her.

"You were a fool!" exclaimed the unsteady passenger.

"I suppose so," said the conductor, resignedly, "but I was an honest man. Now, what would you have done?"

"I'd have let her whistle for her money," was the reply. "But, taking of finding purses, I'll tell you what occurred to me once. I was crossing from New York to Brooklyn by Fulton Ferry early on a Sunday morning, and was feeling very bad. I had been up all night, and I had no money left to get a drink. As the boat was running into her slip, I saw a large, stout woman, a little ahead of me in the passage, drop her purse, and as she was two steps ahead she missed it. I hung back a little, and gave her time to get into the forward cabin, but then she turned and came back like a crazy woman.

"'Has any one found my purse?' she was crying, and a feel of a fellow behind me told her he had seen me pick up something. She grabbed me by the arm at once, and asked for her money.

"'Don't get excited, ma'am,' said I. 'Nobody saw me pick up a purse. But have you really lost a purse, now? Or is this a trick to induce us to raise a subscription for you?'

"She was indignant, and threatened to have me arrested, so I took a waistcoat button out of my pocket and showed it to her.

"'There, ma'am,' said I, 'is what this gentleman saw me pick up; and here,' showing her a vacancy in the row of buttons on the vest, 'is the place it came from.'

"She had nothing more to say, but I think she suspected me to the end. The purse had $38 and three letters in it; but I never read a letter. I would do such a thing as that."

"What did you do with the money?" asked the conductor.

"Oh, the $38," said the passenger. "Well, when I got home there was not a cent in the house, and the old woman was talking about going to visit her married daughter, just gladdened her heart by laying in a stock of provisions, and I had a two days' spree with the remainder of the money."

"Well," said the conductor, "I behaved like an honest man."

"And I like a sensible one," said the passenger.

"Good heavens!" exclaimed the conductor, "how that cursed toe hurts!"

DOCK DEPARTMENT BOOKKEEPING.

Expert Cowdrey's Queer Discoveries—Another $600 Burnham Probably Got.

Assemblymen Williams and Browning, in their investigation of the management of the Dock Department, heard yesterday the testimony of their expert, De Witt C. Cowdrey. It covered many points heretofore in evidence before the committee. Mr. Cowdrey said that the discrepancies between the department's books and the Comptroller's amounted to $85,153.80, and that there was nothing to prevent a defalcation to that amount until the accounts between the two departments were adjusted. Sometimes two months had elapsed before cash received was credited in the cash book. Amounts due for wharfage between 1877 and 1881, in all $5,000, did not appear on the books, and were discovered only by examining the minutes and papers. Between 1871 and 1875 the department received and used $34,419.58, without depositing it with the City Chamberlain as the law requires.

"That was before my time," observed Commissioner Laimbeer.

Mr. Cowdrey said that deposits had not been made semi-weekly with the Chamberlain, according to law, but that from $12,000 to $125,000 had at times been kept on hand. Penalties incurred by contractors had been remitted. Instances were C. J. Hull, $2,450; J. M. C. Scully, $1,250; J. Devlin, $1,250; R. L. Daskam, $850; S. L. Merchant, $3,150. Comptroller Kelly remitted Scully's penalty, as he was authorized by law to do. Without stating any reason, a contract awarded to Holmes Brothers in November, 1880, for $55,900, was recalled, readvertised without change in the terms, and let in 1881 to the same firm for $5,000 more.

The expert presented some figures on the cost of building the stone bulkhead on the city water front. The engineer in charge of the work had estimated the cost at $281.13 the lineal foot. The expert claimed that many items of actual expenditure had been left out, so that the real cost was $373.31 at the lowest figure; while if all the items properly chargeable to that expenditure were put in, the expert believed, the cost of the bulkhead might run up to $500 a lineal foot, or two and a half millions a mile. No books have been kept to show the exact cost of the work.

The method of keeping the books of the Dock Department, even since the investigating committee began its labors, was pronounced by the expert old-fashioned and entirely improper in his estimation. The books were almost unintelligible to an expert without explanation.

At previous sessions of the committee it appeared that the Commissioners had paid $18,000 out of their private purses to pay for the dishonesty of Clerk Burnham. The expert discovered that since May last Mr. Vanderpoel has paid over $600 of newly discovered deficiencies attributed to Burnham, so that there still exists a deficiency of $28,385.95.

Commissioner Vanderpoel testified that he had never authorized the clerks to withhold money from deposit.

William M. Whitney the present bookkeeper testified, he thinks, that he had written up the books for a year with the help of memoranda left by Defaulter Burnham. Some of the memoranda were in pencil, some were on scraps of paper, and some were in shorthand, and after he had used them he destroyed them. As far as he knew, these memoranda were of no further use. He did not think that such memoranda could have been used to convict Burnham. He admitted that the memoranda were the only original records of the months to which they related, and said that he had got at the facts through the memoranda and through examining persons named in the memoranda.

The committee will sit again on Monday.

The Memphis Walking Match.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 10.—The score in the pedestrian contest at 1 P. M. today stood as follows: Hart, 234; O'Leary, 242; Hartman, 234; Schmidt, 213.

HOURS OF LEISURE.

The Charity Ball of 1882 will take place at the Academy of Music on Tuesday, the 31st of January.

Continuation roll of all the branches of the Irish National Land League, Tammany Hall, 20th inst.

Ball of the pastry cooks and hotel and restaurant bakers, Teutonia Assembly Rooms, tomorrow evening.

Chanukah celebration of the Young Men's Hebrew Association, in aid of the building fund, Academy of Music, Thursday evening.

"Queen Elizabeth" is to be the subject of Dr. John Lord's lecture before the Young Men's Christian Association, Association Hall, Friday evening.

The Rev. William Elliot Griffis of Schenectady will read a paper on "Dutch Life in the Hudson Valley" before the Long Island Historical Society, Tuesday evening.

Many of the mechanics who worked in the east side shirt-waist sweat-shops will be at the reception of the Mechanics' Association in Cooper Union this evening.

Before the St. James Literary Union, on Tuesday evening, Assistant-Engineer Thomas F. Doyle will lecture on "Ireland's Land and Its Great Land Archbishop, St. Malachy."

Dedication services are to be conducted in the Union Temple of the Congregation Ahavath Chesed, Lexington avenue, Dr. Sonderson, the Rev. E. D. Murphy, the Rev. W. W. Faxon, and others.

Free lectures by Prof. Isaac L. Rice, President of the New York Institute for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, on "The Previous Status of Educated Deaf Mutes," Harlem Music Hall, to-morrow evening.

The 20th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims is to be celebrated by the New England Society of Brooklyn at a dinner in the Assembly Room of the Academy of Music and Art Reception Rooms on the 21st inst.

MR. MIXER'S THEORY.

And Why he Went to Court to Ask Damages for the Bite of a Dog.

NORWICH, Conn., Dec. 9.—About Christmas time, last year, Mr. Ezra Mixer, who lives near the old War Office of Jonathan Trumbull in Lebanon, was led by an errand to the farm house of his neighbor, Mr. James M. Kenyon. As he approached the house, he says, Mr. Kenyon's big dog sprang at him and fastened his teeth in his leg. After a fierce fight Mixer got away, leaving a mouthful of his pepper-and-salt trousers in the dog's mouth. He went home and was ill for a time. After he had sufficiently recovered to limp over to the home of Farmer Kenyon he told him that the dog must be killed. Kenyon objected, and Mixer brought a suit for $500 damages, which is now on trial in the Court of Common Pleas in this city. A host of witnesses have been summoned, including Mixer himself. He is a little, nimble, jerky fellow, nearly 70 years old, and yet retains all the physical vivacity of a youthful pumpkin jack. His facial contortions and antics kept the court room shaking with laughter.

"Have you any grudge against Mr. Kenyon?" asked his attorney.

"None at all."

"Do you want his money?"

"Not at all."

"Then why did you bring this suit?"

"Well, you see, I am a believer in the old theory that if a man is bitten by a dog, he will surely have the hydrophobia if he doesn't kill the animal. I asked Mr. Kenyon to kill the dog or else I would have the hydrophobia. That was all I wanted of him; it was a small thing. And I thought that if he would rather have me run mad than kill that brute, he ought to be made to suffer."

"Do you really believe in your theory?" asked the Court smothering a smile.

"Certainly I do," was the answer, "and all the people in my neighborhood believe the same thing."

Mr. Mixer's theory is a very widespread delusion, among the country people in all parts of New England. Several dogs that had bitten persons in this town have been killed within the past five years in deference to this old-time superstition. Mixer's case is still on trial.

Col. Forney's Funeral.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 10.—The funeral of Col. Forney will take place on Monday next from his late residence. By the special desire of Mrs. Forney and the family, the coffin will be borne by Gen. W. S. Hancock, Gen. F. Sinkler, Chief Justice Sharswood, D. Kelley, ex-Speaker S. J. Randall, ex-Mayor A. S. Martin, George W. Childs, the Hon. E. B. Hart, Daniel Dougherty, A. K. McClure, Joel Lewis and Cassidy.

Steward Crump Sued.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Lucy Fowler to-day instituted suit against Wm. T. Crump, steward at the Executive Mansion, for $10,000 damages, for slander. She was employed as a clerk at the White House in July, and left in a huff, she says, when charged to her face by Mrs. Garfield that she had stolen sheets and other things from the Executive mansion.

CLOSING UP THE GAP.

The Brooklyn Bridge Flooring Made Continuous from Pier to Pier.

Another step toward the completion of the Brooklyn Bridge was made yesterday. A complete pathway over the main flooring of the bridge was established, and the only traversable connection between the enormous piers on either side of the river was no longer the airy foot bridge, slung at a giddy height above the river. The gap that severed the flooring of ten-foot steel beams midway in the central span of the bridge has been narrowing each day of the past week. Passengers on the early ferryboats yesterday saw that only a few beams were yet to be placed, and, despite the keen wind, most