MAYOR SETH LOW'S MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT HEADS WILL BE PLEDGED TO RESIGN ON DEMAND.

Rapid Transit Not So Important to Brooklyn as Respect for Private Rights—Fourteen New Members of the Board of Education.

The Board of Aldermen in Brooklyn yesterday elected Theodore D. Dimon of the First Ward President. The Democrats failed to get a unanimous Republican vote to elect a Democratic candidate. Alderman O'Connell nominated Alderman Allison, and Alderman Weir nominated Alderman Malcom, the Democratic caucus nominee. The vote was: Dimon, 13; Allison, 1; Malcom, 7; Sterling, 1; Casey, 1.

James Waters, a brother of Alderman Waters, was elected Keeper of the City Hall from May 1 next; Thos. Hobby, Messenger of the Board; Francis W. Weeks, Assistant Keeper; W. J. Tate, City Clerk; Henry W. Squires, Clerk to Committees; W. S. Nicholson and James Leftchild, Clerks to Committees; Lewis Bradenburg, Sergeant-at-Arms; Edward Menken, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms; Alex. W. Benson, Keeper of the Truant Home; Mrs. A. W. Benson, Matron of the Truant Home; James O'Donnell and Francis M. Michael, Watchmen; John Carney, Farmer; Frederick Buchner, Thomas B. Dorrell, Robert J. Ross, A. G. W. Krone, James Sapher, and Robert Miller, Sealers of Weights and Measures, and Thomas Williams, Henry Schmeltzer, and John Teichnor, Bath Keepers. All were Republican caucus nominees.

Having made all the appointments and clinched them by refusing to reconsider them, the Board was then ready to hear from the new Mayor, which it had refused to do before.

Mayor Low was conducted into the Common Council chamber by Aldermen Allison and Weir. He bowed in recognition of applause. He read his message from a printed slip distinctly and without embarrassment. Before beginning he said that in reading it he believed he was returning to a good old custom with which he was glad to comply. At the conclusion of the reading he bowed and retired.

Mayor Low, in his message, shows that the permanent debt of the city has been increased in the last year $499,000; that the water debt has been decreased $1,349,000; that the temporary debt has been decreased $1,038,448; that the tax certificates have been increased $750,000. The net indebtedness of the city is now $38,174,421, which is an increase of $520,819 in the year. The total indebtedness, without taking into consideration the $4,022,629 in the sinking fund, is $42,197,051, made up of $20,857,000 permanent debt, independent of water loan; $9,830,500 of water loan; $7,239,551 of temporary debt, payable from assessment, and $4,270,000 tax certificates. Except for the issue of $971,000 bonds for the East River bridge, the debt of the city would have been slightly decreased. The obligations of the city bearing interest at five and six per cent. per annum have been refunded with a saving to the extent of about $4,000,000, upon which the interest is four per cent. The Mayor says that if, in the immediate future, the city will engage in no more large undertakings of the character of the park and the bridge, it will soon be on the way to a prompt and easy liquidation of its indebtedness.

The system of bookkeeping in the Arrears Department makes it impossible, Mr. Low says, to give the actual amount of arrearages at this time, and it is important to change the form of the accounts to obtain a clear understanding of the magnitude of the arrears problem. He says that now that the Arrearage act of 1881 has clothed the city with all the powers the State envies for the collection of taxes, he hopes to find these powers so ample that a much larger proportion than usual of the current taxes will come into the treasury.

Of assessments, the Mayor adds, the proportion of arrearage is even more formidable. He favors the continuance of the Arrears Commission.

"The slow progress made upon the bridge of late," the Mayor says, "has been justly viewed by our citizens with profound regret and dissatisfaction. The interest charged against Brooklyn alone on the bridge account in running now at the rate of $1,500 per day, and it justifies our people in demanding of the trustees such steps as shall secure its speedy completion. When the construction of the bridge shall cease, interest will still have to be inserted in the tax levy. I do not see any possibility of lowering taxes, in face of these facts, for some time to come."

The Mayor asks for aid to secure the passage by the Legislature of the proposed constitutional amendments to limit the indebtedness of cities. He says he intends to address a special message to the Board of Education, about the suggestions in the official reports, and after referring to the Stuart defalcation, he says that under ordinary circumstances he should expect to reappoint a large proportion of the fifteen members whose terms expired last June, but that in view of the defalcation he proposes to deal radically with the matter.

The main object of the amendment to the charter under which the Mayor is given sole and exclusive power is, Mr. Low thinks, to make the Mayor the responsible head of the city Government, and to secure a homogeneous government by laying upon each Mayor the necessity of making his appointments at the beginning of his term. Then the Mayor adds:

> The law does not give the Mayor the absolute power of removal. I presume it was not thought to be necessary. But the Mayor should be prepared to be held to account for the Mayor shows at all times and under all circumstances that he is responsible, because his appointees represent his judgment. If any of these fail to satisfy him, he must ask for their resignation, and he is entitled to receive them on demand. I wish to state distinctly that the appointees of the Mayor should be made to feel that the evidence to the community that the position an accomplished has personally given me the assurance that he will, without delay, give me his resignation whenever I ask for it. I shall not hesitate to do so if any of my appointees shall develop disinclination to bear responsibility. I will have nothing to do with the rattlesnake theory in politics, which, if I understand it, would have me bring my appointees to act a place for any man. Just because in this matter I propose to hold my appointees responsible, I shall expect to place in their hands the power to make their chief executive officers. I shall expect to be consulted because these give character to an administration, almost as much as fitness for office; and I shall expect that these appointments shall be satisfactory to me as well as to them. I shall endeavor to raise the standard of public service. I shall not hesitate to make this a certificate given to any clerk of faithful service during my administration shall be as valuable in his as a similar testimonial from any of our foremost business men.

Upon the subject of rapid transit he says:

> I adopt with almost every citizen the importance to Brooklyn of efficient rapid transit. I differ with some, it would seem, in believing that justice and protection to the individual are, to our goodly city, more consequent than I hereby will give my support to any scheme of rapid transit that does a single individual a wrong, or deprives of some protection against the certainty of damage. New York has had rapid transit for more than two years and Brooklyn has not one mile. Brooklyn has done fairer things ever before. It is true that rapid transit is important to us but it is not true that rapid transit is everything. Were I to state the case fairly I should say that rapid transit were to bring to Brooklyn at the needs the careful protection of the individual individual in his rights with which Brooklyn is the thousands who are a healthy city and a good place to live in water and an ample supply of it. Let us improve and improve our schools, let us protect the individual from wrong, let us make our city a place in which to live, grow in the future as she never has grown in the past.

Mayor Low yesterday filed with the City Clerk the appointment of the following-named persons as his members of the Board of Education for three years from June 1, 1881: William Cary Sanger; to place of M. Shepherd Tweed; H. Matthews in place of W. E. Scrugue; Ernest W. Flagler, reappointed; Thomas W. Hopkins, in place of S. V. Lowell; Frederick W. Holbrook, in place of A. B. Richardson; Timothy Perry, in place of E. Maguire; E. Dana Fitch, in place of J. B. Sparrow; Henry W. Maude, in place of Francis Burke; James McMorton, in place of T. W. Hynes; Geo. W. Logan, in place of C. F. Jones; Jacob A. S. Simonson, in place of J. F. Culver; Robert Henderson, Jr., in place of N. J. Guiter; John Griffin, in place of Jas. Campbell; H. W. Wheeler, in place of J. C. Williams; Chas. F. Wrenke, in place of Wm. Schwarzwaelder.

Some of the members of the Board who are displaced are Agent officeholders and some belong to the Board for many years. Some of the new appointees are young men, and some of them are Democrats.

The Board of Education yesterday organized temporarily, with Tennis G. Bergen, Jr., as Chairman. The new members took their seats. A motion by Mayor Low was read asking the Board to adjourn until next Tuesday, when he expects to have a special message to send to it. It accordingly adjourned.

A Neat Little Arrangement.

From the Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31.—A Minnesota politician remarked to-day that, while ex-Senator Ramsey is standing out of the way for Windom's entrance to the Senate, he is minded at the same time to make a good bargain, and it would probably appear hereafter that the Senator's act was part of an interesting or ingenious "there is a point or two" said the politician. "At the first opportunity after taking the oath as senator, Mr. Windom introduced a bill to admit part of Dakota as a State. A few days afterward Edgerton was nominated and confirmed as Chief Justice of Dakota. Now, when Windom gets Dakota into the Union, Edgerton will have everything in good shape for his own election to the Senate. You see the Administration has been helping Windom and Edgerton along in this matter."

Gen. Grant Banquets Gen. Arthur.

From the Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—In connection with President Arthur's visit to the metropolis a dinner party given by ex-President Grant at his residence in State third street, last night, occurred. The dinner consisted of a most sumptuous character and the guests of the first possible. Nine hot relaxing in the house yesterday. Among the distinguished guests were Secretary Lincoln, Secretary Blaine, Secretary Chandler, Postmaster-General Key, Secretary Hunt, Secretary Thompson, Ex-Postmaster-General Jewell, Ex-Secretary Robeson, Ex-Secretary Cameron, Ex-Postmaster-General Cresswell, Ex-Secretary Chandler