QUEEN VICTORIA'S SPEECH.

READ BY THE LORD CHANCELLOR FROM THE STEPS OF THE THRONE.

Announcing Prince Leopold's Marriage Improved Condition of Ireland—Mr. Bradlaugh Again Asking to be Sworn In.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—Parliament reassembled today. The House of Commons was well attended, but there was a sparse attendance in the House of Lords. Mr. Bradlaugh was under the gallery of the House of Commons. When he arrived at the members' entrance he was greeted with cheers. He looked pale and anxious. The Queen's speech, as usual, was read by the Lord Chancellor from the steps of the throne; the Speaker and the members of the Commons having been summoned to hear it, a summons that only few of them obeyed. The speech carefully avoids all reference to American matters. There was an expectation that her Majesty would make some reference to the assassination of President Garfield, but no paragraph in the speech refers to that event or to the United States. The following is the full text of the speech:

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN: It is with much satisfaction that I again invite your advice and assistance in the conduct of public affairs. I have given my approval to a marriage between my son Prince Leopold and Princess Helena of Waldeck. I have every reason to believe this will be a happy union. I continue in relations of cordial harmony with all foreign powers. The war for the cession of Thessaly to Greece has not been executed in the main. The transfer of the sovereignty and of the population was effected in a manner satisfactory to all concerned. In concert with the President of the French republic I have given careful attention to the affairs of Egypt, where the existing arrangements have imposed on me special obligations. I shall use my influence to maintain the rights already established whether by firmans of the Sultan or by the various international engagements, in a spirit favorable to the good government of the country and the prudent development of its institutions. I have pleasure in informing you that the pacification of peace beyond the north-western frontier, together with the continued internal tranquility, plentiful seasons, and increase of revenue, has enabled my Government in India to resume the works of public utility which had been suspended, and devote its attention to measures for the future improvement of the condition of the people. The convention with the Russian Emperor has been ratified by the representative assembly, and I have seen no reason to qualify my anticipations of its advantageous working. I have, however, to report that adverse influences have not been wanting in Roumelia, the country still is quiet and tranquillized.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons, the estimates for the service of the year are in an advanced stage of preparation, and will be promptly submitted to you.

My lords and gentlemen, my communications with France on the subject of a new commercial treaty have not been closed. They will be presented to me, as I have strong augmented confidence in coming to a result satisfactory to the extensive interests involved in the two nations to whose commercial industry I attach so great value. The trade of the country, both domestic and foreign, has for some time been improving, and the indications of a further advance in prosperity have been in operation. Better prospects are, I trust, thus opened for the classes immediately concerned in agriculture. The agricultural interest, which has not shared in the advance elsewhere, affected by the state of industry and commerce, has not yet exhibited an upward movement in proportion to the improvement in other interests.

The condition of Ireland at this time, as compared with that which I described at the beginning of last year, shows signs of improvement, and encourages the hope that a permanent amelioration in the course of events will be crowned with the happy results which are so much to be desired. Justice has been administered with greater efficacy, and the intimidation which has been employed to deter occupiers of land from fulfilling their obligations, and from availing themselves of the act of last session, shows upon the whole a diminished force. My efforts, through the bounty of Providence, have been favored by an abundant harvest in that portion of the kingdom. In addition to a vigorous execution of the previous statutes of the realm, which are still operative, and to the painful necessity of the case, to employ largely the exceptional powers intrusted to me for the protection of life and property by the two acts of last session.

You will be invited to deal with proposals for the establishment in the English and Welsh counties of local self-government which shall be as large a boon by towns, together with enlarged powers of administration, and with financial changes which will give you opportunity of considering, in the light of experience, what may be the proper extent and most equitable and provident form of contribution from the imperial taxes in relief of local charges. The proposals, so far as they are financial, will apply to the whole of Great Britain. It will be necessary, to reserve the case of Ireland for separate consideration.

In connection with the general subject of local administration I have directed a measure to be prepared and submitted to you for the reform of the ancient and illegitimate method of appointing the aldermen and of the municipal government in the metropolis at large. The bills will again be laid before you with which during the last session notice has been taken of the duration and your unwearied labors it was found impossible to proceed. I refer particularly to those concerning bankruptcy, the repression of corrupt practices at elections, and the conveyance of rivers and prevention of floods. Measures will also be proposed to you with respect to the criminal code, and to the consolidation and amendment of the law of patents. The interests of some portion of working-class have suffered peculiarly of late years from the extreme pressure of the public business, which you are strength but I trust that during the session you may be able to consider the bills which will be presented to you in relation to the law of entail and of educational endowments in Scotland, and to improve the system of education in Wales.

I commend these and other subjects with confidence to your care and to my earnest prayer that your wisdom and energy may, under the blessing of God, prove equal to the varied and increasing needs of this extended empire.

After the reading of the speech the Commons returned to their own chamber and took a recess until 4 P. M. At that hour Mr. Bradlaugh presented himself at the Clerk's table and asked to be sworn in as a member for Northampton.

Sir Stafford Northcote moved that he be not allowed to swear.

Mr. Bradlaugh, at the request of the Speaker, withdrew to the bar of the House asking to be allowed a hearing before the decision is given.

Sir William Harcourt, Home Secretary, moved the previous question. He advised the House that as Mr. Bradlaugh had been admitted at a different subject to the decision of a court of law, he be now allowed to swear similarly. This proposition was received with ironical cheers.

Mr. Bradlaugh, addressing the House from the bar, declared most solemnly that the Parliamentary oath would be binding upon his honor and conscience.

Mr. Gladstone maintained that the House could only see that the formalities of administering the oath were observed and could not inquire into Mr. Bradlaugh's convictions.

Sir Stafford Northcote's motion was then adopted by a vote of 286 against 247.

The Speaker ordered Mr. Bradlaugh to withdraw. Mr. Bradlaugh at first refused, but withdrew on a motion ordering him to do so, which Mr. Gladstone said he would not oppose, being agreed to.

In the debate on the address in reply to the Queen's speech, the Marquis of Salisbury (Conservative) made a violent attack on the Government. Earl Granville, Foreign Secretary, replied.

Mr. Sexton gave notice of a bill to repeal the Coercion act.

The Speaker read a letter from Mr. Forster, Chief Secretary for Ireland, informing him of the arrest of certain Irish members of the House.

Mr. E. Dwyer Gray, Home Rule member for Carlow, moved that the letter be referred to a select committee citing precedents in support of his motion. He contended that the Coercion act had been isolated.

Mr. Gladstone opposed the motion, which was finally rejected by a vote of 174 ma ys to 45 yeas.

Sir Dudley Majoribanks moved and Mr. Firth seconded the reply to the Queen's speech. The House then adjourned.

AFTER A CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE.

A Sailor who is About to Carry his Bride to Sea Shoots his Father-in-Law.

Charles H. Smith, the boarding-house keeper of 15 Hamilton street, this city, who was shot on Monday night at the foot of Washington street, Brooklyn, by Henry Purdy, mate of the brigantine Harriet G., is believed to be dying in the Long Island College Hospital. The shooting was a sequel to a clandestine marriage between Purdy and Miss Mamie Douglass, Smith's stepdaughter, which occurred on last Thanksgiving Day. He went upon a voyage the next day, but they arranged that when he came to port again she would run away from home. The vessel was to have sailed on Monday, but was detained.

In his ante-mortem deposition yesterday, Smith said to Coroner Keller:

I believe in God, and know that I may die of this wound. On Monday my stepdaughter went to church. After supper I asked her if she was going out. She said she had promised her mother she would be home early. I went to the brigantine Harriet G. at Bedell's yard. I met my friend, named David Monroe, to go on board and see Purdy. We had known Purdy seven years. Purdy came off the vessel and we had a talk together. I told him if he had done the proper thing he could have had the girl. From the dock I was that my stepdaughter was on board of the vessel. We had several words together then Purdy and I and he told me to go and then he fired two shots at me. I did not see where he was. I staggered on and I have just got up from a sick bed. My stepdaughter's name is told me that Mamie was in board of the brigantine.

Smith is a well-to-do man, and his wife dresses in silks and diamonds. The girl was averse to being the companion of sailors, and during her mother's absence in Europe accepted Purdy's offer of marriage. Purdy was yesterday held by Justice Walsh to await Smith's injuries. He says that Smith and two friends, Monroe and James M. Brady, all attacked him as soon as he got off the vessel.

Carts Better than Steam.

Mr. Walton has received about 150 letters in answer to his advertisement for snow-melting machines, the most of which, he says, seem to have been written by crackpots; no visionary are the plans suggested. A few suggestions seemed practicable, and he determined to try them.

A steam hose attached to a boiler in the steam boiler works of Sun, A Son, on West Thirty-fourth street, was thrust into a bank of snow, and the steam turned on. In an hour four cart loads of snow had been melted.

Mr. Walton's time was then claimed by the men who proposed to tackle the snow with fire. But the contrary is of the opinion that the use of plenty of carts is the only way to get rid of the snow.

If It is Thrown in Your Teeth

That you do not keep your dental apparatus in proper trim, it is our own fault, for all the world knows that you might do so by using that most-bless vegetable dentifrice, sozodont.—Adv.

Keen's patent partly-made shirts, cuffs, 6 for $6; boys, 6 for $4.50; only plain seams to finish. 637 and 1,181 Broadway, 65 Cedar st.—Adv.

ONE OF THE POTTER BUILDING DEAD.

A Touching Scene at his Funeral—A Discovery at the Inquest.

Many sleighs glided into the little village of Allendale, N. J., yesterday afternoon, and stopped before a white dwelling house standing on a snow-covered hill. Inside the house were congregated the relatives and friends of Alfred W. Harris, assistant foreman of the *Observer* composing room, who perished in the Potter building fire. His remains had already been interred in the cemetery near Fort Lee. The Rev. Elbert Clements, pastor of the Methodist church at Allendale, conducted the funeral services yesterday. The Rev. James Cameron of the Edgewater M. E. Church, the Rev. Mr. Collins of Hoboken, and the Rev. J. W. Lake of the Ramsey's Lutheran Church assisted him. Mr. Clements said it seemed strange in an age when the genius of man had so strongly allied itself with inventive science that a fire such as that in which Mr. Harris perished could occur. They were not there, however, to discuss that subject, but to pay tribute to a noble volunteer and offer sympathy to the afflicted. Mr. Harris had come to Allendale from the industrial mart. He was a member of a Presbyterian church, a hearty worker with an Episcopalian Sunday school and an attendant at a Methodist church.

The Rev. Dr. J. Brigham Paine said he had been associated with Mr. Harris for many years. He was the pleasant assistant of Dr. Francis in the relation of employer. He was always a clear and pleasant young friend. He was always kind, faithful and gentle. His ambition was focused in whatever he was doing.

Dr. Paine spoke about a little more than a minute he was speaking. In an upper room the widow sobbed aloud, and her little daughter prattled innocently while the services went on. The Rev. Mr. Wilson of the Spring Street Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Harris was formerly a member, spoke of his Christian character. Among those present were G. S. Chapin of the Union Dime Savings Bank, O. H. P. Archer, and James Yeomans, all intimate friends of Mr. Harris. Memorial services will be held at the Spring Street Presbyterian Church on Thursday evening.

Through a misunderstanding of an injunction of the Bureau of Encumbrances prohibiting blockade of the surrounding streets, the search of the ruins of the Potter building was temporarily stopped yesterday. Carpenter Weir said there were people in no mean stead in the ruins. Too search, however, will be resumed to-day, either by Mr. Potter's men or by authority of the Fire Commissioners. Men were sorting and removing rubbish yesterday. Joseph Cummings, a lively wag, is removed from the Bourgeois to Bellevue, and Street Cleaner Jerome Reans, brother to his namesake, the remains supposed to be bones are here and they are still at the Morgue. Robert T. Freadway's body was removed by his mother and brothers to Tarrytown, where, after funeral services, it was buried in Sleepy Hollow cemetery. Mr. Potter paid the funeral expenses.

At the Coroner's inquest yesterday Samuel Weir, Jr., Potter's carpenter, testified: Since the fire he had discovered that there was a recess in the flue that had been filled up in the wall to hold a water pipe, and that there was a fracture in the wall between the recess and the flue. The fracture was blackened by smoke, as though it were old. It could not have been seen before the fire, because it was covered up. The recess extended to the roof. Part was plastered and the rest boarded.

Juror Darragh—The indications are that there was no plastering in the basement. Do you know whether there was a gaspipe in that recess?

The witness said he did not. He saw yesterday that the pipe was smutty on one side, near the fracture in the flue. There was no beam between the recess and the flue. The wooden ladder from the fifth floor to the roof was never locked out of place, but only held by a turn of the chain. The *Times* building was not 15 feet higher than the Potter building on the Park row side. There was a ladder leading to the roof of the *Times* building. All the fire used in the building was for heating purposes. There were no stoves. Only the ceilings on the second, third and fourth floors were of wood. The partitions were studded with plaster. There were fire extinguishers on every floor, and large tanks on the top floor filled with water. There was no time to use these extinguishers, and there were only half a dozen pails. It was a good, well-built building, which it will cost $300,000 to rebuild.

William Smith, who kept the news stand in front of Wallach's store, testified that it seemed to him fifteen or eighteen minutes before the engines came to the scene.

John H. Russell, who keeps a news stand on the opposite corner of Beekman street testified that the fire broke out at 10:05 o'clock. It seemed ten minutes before the firemen arrived. John Banks, foreman of Engine Company 6, testified that the first water came at 10:15. The company was 2½ minutes in getting to the fire. The hydrant did not have force enough to carry the water into the pump. He had power in twenty-three years' service seen a building burn so fast. If all the fire companies had arrived in two minutes they could have reached no effect on the fire. He had been in three fires (including the last) in that building in two years. One, about a year ago, burned about half an hour and burned out one room. Charles Hodgins, a boy, testified that he worked in Keenan's saloon. He heard of the fire ten or fifteen minutes after it had started. There were two or three men at the top story windows. He noticed a large wire running from the top window at the Beekman street corner to the opposite side of the Mail building. He thought that if he could get to the pole and cut the wire they could get down by it. The pole was thick with ice, and he had nothing to climb with. The men saw what he intended to do, and shouted to him to hurry. He had in his pocket a large knife with which he cleared sawdust off the steps of the saloon. There was a good deal of ice on the wire, which was five strands twisted.

The witness knocked the ice off and tried the wire off. His fingers were stiff with cold, and he had to stop down carefully. The sparks fell on his face and neck and burned him. Two men got down on the wire before he reached the street. He heard that another came down afterward. He twisted his ankle on the sidewalk and went into a saloon, where a man gave him some liquor and a blanket. He was in a head shed, and lives at Broome and Chrystie streets.

Frederick C. Beach of the *Scientific American*, who escaped from the building, testified that he was on the ceiling upwards of five minutes. He had left his desk just as the clock struck ten. He was three feet distant. The wall was too hot to be touched. There was a smell of smoke. Last fall there was a wooden ladder from Mr. Potter's building to the roof of the *Times* building. This ladder was removed when the elevator was building.

The inquest will go on this morning.

BROOKLYN'S DEMOCRACY.

How, When, and by Whom it is to be Enrolled—The Committee Selected.

At a meeting of the Democratic General Committee last night in Brooklyn, Jacob I. Bergen, the President, who had, in conjunction with William Marshall, President of the Central Democratic Association, and George L. Fox, selected a committee of 150 citizens to supervise the reenrollment of the voters of the Democratic party in Brooklyn as a basis for reorganizing that party, reported the following names by wards:

First—H. J. Cullen, William A. Cox, M. P. Schenck, John C. Nelson.

Second—Frank Doty, G. P. O'Rourke, John McNally, Hugh Kelly, Jacob Harper.

Third—Thomas H. Lowry, Augustus Ivins, John McNamara, Edward J. O'Brien, Aaron Brinkerhoff.

Fourth—Thomas Carroll, Thomas Carroll, Elisha Theall, George S. Anderson, Robert Black.

Fifth—William Jordan, Patrick W. Fanchon, Daniel Beardsley, Jesse M. Polk, Thomas Duff.

Sixth—Thomas Kinsella, Patrick Fallon, P. J. Ryan, R. W. McCreaken, Thomas H. Rodman.

Seventh—James H. Flynn, R. E. Brandeler, John Mc Nanny, A. C. Smathwick, John W. Sanderson.

Eighth—Francis F. Underhill, Francis Morrath, Robert Bishop, Patrick J. Lambert.

Ninth—James A. Walsh, M. McCarty, J. B. Jordan, Thomas R. Farrell, Patrick J. Gibson.

Tenth—John H. Moore, William White, Philip Casey, Charles Henry, Bartle Gray.

Eleventh—John R. Merrsberg, Anthony Barrett, Bernard J. Ward, J. J. Keenan.

Twelfth—John Cunningham, J. J. Nolan, Michael Lynch, Patrick Sullivan, James Mahoney.

Thirteenth—Jos. B. Hamilton, James Rodwell, Anson Ferguson, Wilson Dorrick, James Anderson.

Fourteenth—Thomas Williams, H. McKinney, John W. Hughes, Walter S. Reiners, Patrick Clark, Samuel Winchell.

Fifteenth—James Langan, John D. Ahrens, Joseph Brown, Jacob Lewis, Stephen Roder.

Sixteenth—John Simmons, Henry Hosselman, Peter Stadtmuller, Ernest Fevential, Jos. Burger.

Eighteenth—H. H. Shook, Thomas Cummings, Wm. E. Wallace, Jos. Cummings, Edward W. Hoskins.

Nineteenth—Chas. H. Baldwin, John M. Rankin, Frank E. O'Reilly, Joseph Fiorstein, John Sayforth.

Twentieth—Samuel B. Morris, R. J. Van Valkenberch, A. M. Sandifrack, Thomas Forsyth, James Tully.

Twenty-first—George W. Anderson, Andrew Wissell, Robert Sullivan, Morris Rogers, James B. Lary.

Twenty-second—Michael Bennett, James F. Denkman, J. Rooney, Theophilus Abeia, S. Y. McNair.

Twenty-third—R. S. Bedford, A. Van Wyck, Thos. B. Kinan, J. F. Adams, James M. Mallon.

Twenty-fourth—C. Shule, Peter W. Birk, Geo. Kaekle, Frederick Shea.

Twenty-fifth—Henry Schneider, James T. Easton, J. W. Flaherty, C. L. Brower.

New Lots—E. D. Benedict, F. J. Kennedy, Emil Scherlein, C. B. Rouse, J. W. Ferreger.

Flatlands—W. Wyckoff, W. G. Kouwenhoven, D. B. Ames, R. L. Baisley, Frederick Smith.

New Utrecht—F. F. Desmond, Francis Hopkins, Wilmont E. Bennett, P. J. Connolly, John Furman.

Gravesend—John Y. McKane, Thomas C. Abbott, Wm. Vandervoort, M. A. Smith, John McMahon.

Flatbush—Gilbert Hicks, Peter Williamson, Edward O'Connor, Wm. J. Gaynor, James Harden.

The plan decided upon by the committee of Presidents and Mr. Fox was that the committees thus selected by wards should enroll the voters in their respective wards, and that on March 22, between the hours of 4 P. M. and 8 P. M. primaries should be held in each ward and town, and twelve members from each ward and seven members from each town representing each election district should be elected to a new General Committee, upon the formation of which the present Democratic General Committee and the Central Democratic Association shall disband. The report was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" is the debilitated woman's best restorative tonic.—Adv.

THE TARIFF COMMISSION BILL.

Nine Persons to be Appointed to Report a Scheme of Tariff Revision.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—The Ways and Means Committee had two meetings to-day, and finally decided to report Kasson's bill appointing a Tariff Commission of nine, with an amendment by Judge Kelley, striking out internal revenue taxation from the scope of the investigation. The amendment promised at one time to cause serious disagreement between the friends of the measure. It was the understanding last week that they were all united in the plan to leave nothing but the tariff question to the Commission, but to-day on the first vote four of the protectionist members of the committee, Russell, Hubbell, Dunnell, and McKinley, voted with the revenue reformers, Morrison, Carlisle, and Tucker, against Judge Kelley's amendment. This vote of the seven four against a good deal. Dunnell, as it afterward turned out, was against the bill, and Russell and McKinley were also, although they did not care to vote directly against the measure. Hubbell is presumably of the same mind. They therefore voted against Kelley's amendment on the supposition that, in case of its defeat, Kelley, Randall, Haskell, Errett, Spear, and Kasson would vote with Morrison, Carlisle, and Tucker against the bill itself, and thus the project would be accomplished without casting a vote against the commission project. They seemed to have accomplished their purpose at the morning session.

The time between the adjournment and the afternoon session was spent in active work. When the committee reassembled, efforts were at once made to secure a reconsideration of the morning's vote, and finally this was accomplished, Russell, Hubbell, Dunnell, and McKinley throwing directly about and voting for Kelley's amendment. There was not much discussion in the committee room of the merits of the bill. Dunnell attacked the commission scheme on the ground that it is intended to delay a revision of the tariff, which, he declared, is needed at once. He made a long speech, but the bill was finally carried, every member of the committee voting for it except Morrison, Carlisle, Tucker, and Dunnell. It goes to the calendar of the Committee of the Whole, and must be discussed section by section.

When the decision was made Mr. Russell Errett, Pennsylvania's second Republican member, moved that the bill be reported by the chairman, Kelley. Kasson at once protested against this, insisting that the bill was his, and that he was entitled to the charge of it on the floor. His protest was so vigorous that Errett withdrew his motion, and Kasson will have charge of the bill.

The bill provides that the President shall appoint the Commission, and that it shall be its duty to "take into consideration and to thoroughly investigate all the various questions relating to the agricultural, commercial, mechanical, manufacturing, mining, and industrial interests of the United States so far as the same may be necessary to the establishment of a system of taxation in conformity with existing tariff laws upon a scale of justice to all interests.

The committee, having reserved to themselves the consideration of internal revenue matters, will start the ball to-morrow by giving a hearing before the sub-committee on the proposition to abolish the stamp tax on bank checks and the tax on bank capital and deposits.

SUICIDE FOR LOVE.

A Rejected Suitor Shooting Himself Dead in the House of his Sweetheart.

PHILLIPSPORT, N. Y., Feb. 7.—This little hamlet, on the Ellenville branch of the Ontario and Western Railroad, was the scene of a shocking tragedy yesterday. For three years Miss Oriella Dened, a pretty brunette of 19, daughter of Gabriel Dened, a worthy and respected citizen, had received the attentions of Frederick Misner of Ellenville, who was three years her senior, a harness maker by trade, and well connected. Up to November last no outward manifestations of any description of their mutual regard were shown to outsiders. At that time a new teacher of the village school came in the place in the person of Isaac Soule. Mr. Soule is about 25 years of age, of good acquirements and gentlemanly manners. Early on assuming his duties as teacher he was attracted by the beauty of Miss Oriella Dened, of Oriella Dened, and began showing his preference for her by marked attention. To her and her family he appeared a welcome guest. During the holidays young Misner became acquainted with the attentions of Soule, and while the latter and Miss Dened were at church Misner rode to Ellenville. Misner met them and showed much feeling. He was determined to unbraid Soule in person, but was prevented by the interference of some of the party, who kept them apart. This was followed by an early declaration of passionate love for the girl in the presence of her parents and his protestation against her associating with Soule. He declared that if she did not return his affection and become his wife he did not know what he would do. Subsequently Publicly he denounced Soule as an intruder and threatened to shoot him, displaying a pistol which he said he had purchased for that purpose. These protestations and declarations he repeated at times on his visits to Phillipsport in January.

Last week he appeared moody and sullen. On Friday he was around the village, trying to sell his pistol. On Saturday he went to Middletown, it is presumed, to see Oriella's father. Who works in that place. On Saturday evening he was seen in Phillipsport, driving to Ellenville, but in the uncertainty of the departure of the train on account of the snow he got left. On Monday he took the first train up the road, getting off at Summitville, two miles below Phillipsport. Reports not acquainted, but claiming to be a ballad singer, he sold a few of the most stirring ballads of his sweetheart. Thus he passed the day. At night he went to the house of his sweetheart. Mrs. Dened was at the door he met Grant Dened, a brother of Oriella, and asked him where his sister was. He was told she was in the parlor. Dened's house is at a hotel. Misner went there, and I understand that he had been interrupted. Turning back he went to Gabriel Dened's. His approach was noticed by Oriella and her mother. The only occupants of the house were sitting sewing. Unbidden the visitor, the daughter fled out of a back door. The mother answered his knock at the kitchen door and passed out to prevent his entrance. Misner passed her and entered the room, while Mrs. Dened remained on the porch filled with terror at the determined look their unwelcome visitor bore. She waited for a moment undetermined what to do, and soon heard the report of a pistol inside. He had shot himself, and he died soon afterward.

IN THE RACKET COURT.

Exhibition Games by New York Players and the Canadian Champions.

The first of a series of exhibition games, arranged to come off in the course of the visit of the Canadian champion professional racket players to this city, was played yesterday in the New York Racket Club court at Twenty-sixth street and Sixth avenue. The contestants were Beakes, the professor and marker of the Quebec Racket Club, and the two young markers of the New York Racket Club, Moore and Wright, the former competing against the two latter in a match of best three in five games.

The contest began at 2 P. M. with Wright and Moore having the hand in, and both were handsomely put out without scoring by Beakes, who also failed to score in the first game. In the second game the pair had the best of it by 3 to 2, but Beakes got even in the third, and in the fifth he took the lead and finally came in victor by the appended score.

Wright and Moore	0	3	0	4	0	0	4	0	0—11
Beakes	5	0	2	1	4	2	1	1	1—15

In the second game, though Beakes led off with a score of five aces, the pair had secured the lead in the fifth inning, and they won in the eighth as follows:

Beakes	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0—8
Wright and Moore	0	0	1	3	4	0	3	0	3—15

The third game was an extended one, as they set a 5 after scoring 11 all, Beakes winning after a close contest by the following score:

Beakes	2	0	3	0	2	2	0	0	2	1	2	0	1	0	1—15
Wright and Moore	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	1—13

The left Beakes victor in two out of three games, and by winning the match in the first game, the score is:

Beakes	1	3	0	2	2	3	2	1	1	15
Wright and Moore	0	0	1	3	4	0	3	0	3	9

The aces by services in all the games were: Beakes, 18; Wright, 6; Moore, 14. Three by returns: Beakes, 36; Wright, 11; Moore, 18. Total: Beakes 54; Wright and Moore, 47.

Mr. La Montagne was referee and Messrs. Smith and Lydig were markers. Joe Lockhart marking the game.

This afternoon Beakes and Wright will play against Moore and Lockhart in a match of best three in five, the former giving the odds of two aces in a game.

Mr. and Mrs. Low at the Ball.

The Brooklyn Academy was brilliant until an early hour yesterday morning with the festivities of the Saengerbund masked ball. Mayor Low was present, accompanied by his wife, who wore white satin and swan's down, with diamond ornaments. The Academy was decorated with huge stacks, and the horseshoe arches were hung with cages of singing canary birds. The Mayor's box was filled with distinguished personages of twenty gymnastic dresses for clowns. The most novel of costume was that of Miss Frances Inligar, who appeared as a jack, with Frank's slippers, red silk stockings, light blue knee breeches tight as fitting, and a jacket and waistcoat of the same color. Her coil of blond hair was crowned with a jaunty hat. Her dancing attracted much attention.

Jersey City's Street Commissionership.

A few months ago Hugh Murphy was elected Street Commissioner of Jersey City, but Mayor Tenney vetoed the appointment, on the ground that a member of the Board had told him he had voted for Murphy under a misapprehension. Subsequently Michael Sachar was elected. Murphy has begun a suit to enforce his claim. Three of the six Commissioners favor Murphy, while the rest support Nathan. A motion to pay the January salary to Murphy was defeated on Monday by a tie vote. A similar motion in Sachar's interest met the same fate.

TIGHTENING THE DEADLOCK.

The Assembly Caucus Nominating the Old Ticket and Tammany Indignant.

ALBANY, Feb. 7.—The Assembly deadlock was suddenly renewed to-night, so far as the clerkships and minor places are concerned. The Tammany men, reinforced by Major Haggerty, went into the Democratic caucus, and it was supposed that John B. Haskin's noble sentiment, "Peace, harmony, and monopoly, and a fair distribution of the spoils," would unanimously prevail. J. Stanley Browne of Otsego immediately moved that the roll be called on a vote for Clerk. This was agreed to, and Browne's candidate, Walter H. Bunn of Otsego, who was the original caucus nominee, was voted for until the name of Bogan of Tammany was called. Major Haggerty, who made his first appearance after his long illness, arose and requested that the Tammany delegation be allowed to retire for consultation. The caucus voted to excuse them, and they went out. Major Haggerty returned in a few minutes and asked that the caucus adjourn until to-morrow morning. What followed occurred several members. Here Mr. Newman of Kings got the floor and withdrew the name of George Moss, who had been in the field against Bunn. Major Haggerty then said: I am the last man to do anything to obstruct an organization; the adjournment will be in the interest of harmony and the good of the party. Mr. Keyes of Westchester favored Major Haggerty's request, and said that he had reason to believe that an adjournment would result in restoring harmony. The caucus refused to adjourn on a vote of 38 to 14. Major Haggerty requested the Tammany men, who did not go back into the caucus, Mr. Bunn was nominated for Clerk by acclamation, and John De Long the nominee of the former caucus, for Sergeant-at-Arms, also by acclamation. Then Harmony Higgins tried again to get an adjournment, but his motion got only nine votes. John Quincy Adams was nominated for Doorkeeper, and the rest of the old caucus ticket had no opposition.

The Tammany men are highly indignant at their treatment in the caucus, and say they will not vote for the Democratic slate. They say that the withdrawal of the nominations by the caucus implied a concession, and that the nominations were made for the purpose of being able to cram the old ticket down their throats. They threaten now to tighten their grip on the Senate, and to reject all overtures for peace. The Tammany Assemblymen want to have Major Moss for Clerk, but some of them were willing that Mr. Bunn, and Major Haggerty, it is said, would have moved in the morning, had the caucus adjourned, to make Bunn's nomination unanimous.

Some of the more conservative rural Democrats are disposed to censure the County Democracy, and for the outbreak in Tammany. "We see now," said a country Democrat, "what we ought to have seen in the beginning, that the County Democracy bosses are trying to prevent an organization. They possess any fair dealing with Tammany whenever they can do so."

Speaker Patterson will not announce the Assembly committees before Thursday. It is understood that Erastus Brooks will be chairman of Ways and Means, Poucher of Judiciary, and probably Murphy of Cities.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Philharmonic Club's Concert.

The refined concerts of the Philharmonic Club always attract a refined and appreciative, if not a very numerous, audience.

The programme of last evening was not one of exceptional interest, nor did it develop the full strength of the club, which on occasion plays septets and octets. Last evening we had instead a trio by Gade, a violin sonata by Porpora, and a quartet by the violinist Bazzini. In the trio Mr. Constantin Sternberg took the piano part. He is a correct and facile but an uninteresting player. He brought no imagination nor any quality of grace or fancy to the interpretation of Gade's bright and interesting work. Nor did he show that aptitude for part playing that has become a second nature to such artists as Richard Arnold and Charles Werner, who took the violin and violoncello parts.

Later Mr. Sternberg appeared as solo pianist and displayed his skill in playing that fine composition—a gavotte, a mazurka, and a Moskowski dance. He showed himself to better advantage as a soloist than as a player of concerted music, though even here his touch was unusually hard. There was neither brilliancy nor great finish to recommend his work. All dancers seem to find it necessary to their happiness to perform that feat which they are pleased to consider as composing. It ordinarily consists of piecing together the odds and ends of musical phrases which have caught the ear of the works of the real composers, and which, lingering in their memories and are reproduced in a slightly different dress. It is exasperating to listen to these echoes of the great and good, and to reflect how much better the pieces would have sounded in their original form. Mr. Sternberg had only played a gavotte, by Bach or a mazurka by Chopin in place of his own reminiscences of these composers, the result would certainly have been more satisfactory.

Mrs. Annie Norton Hardigeon was the vocalist. Her selections were Gounod's "Ave Maria," a sweet and pleasing voice of no great extension or volume, and she sings more cautiously and tentatively than is compatible with great power over her audience. This was the fault of her first selection, the Mozart "Dove sono." Still, though that is a reflective and meditative song, and constraint may be in keeping with its sentiment, but certainly not with that outburst of passionate joy and exultation expressed by Robert Franz's *Es ist Gewissen* or of the humorous Scottish ballad, "Bonnie Dundee." Her vocalization, with the Boffard, the Emmons, the Latest Convertible—Surprising Success of the Fall, Barnes, Restoring Order in Peru—New Matters Mentioned in the Chinese Expulsion Case—Good News for New York Breaking the Deadlock in Albany—Election of a Democratic Speaker of the Assembly and Organization of the Legislature—Chinese Exclusion—Anecdotes of the Romance of the War—The Alleged Fraud on Indian Northwestern Contractors—The Story of Two Generations—Reflections of Hon. Wm. Walter Phelps—Interesting Remarks Blaine—Republicans Defeated 22 Democrats—A Hanging in Texas—A Democratic Protest Against Contraband Results in Washington—The Brooklyn Bridge Prize Fighters—A Bold Robbery—The Attempt and Idea Wilkes Booth to Escape—The Lustrous King of Finance—American Newspapers—A Bitterly Cold Day—New Books—A New Life of Martin Luther—A Fruit Farm in California—Poems Worth Reading—Sunset Cox's Morning Sketches—Concluded Column of the Telegraph—Latest Telegraphic News—Summaries—Notes on Science and Industries—Ladies' Department—Many Interesting Editorials Articles and Agricultural Matter—Financial Intelligence and Markets.

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THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY.

Its Extensive Field of Labor—The Great Need of a Proper Library.

The science of medical jurisprudence is now a subject of increasing interest, and public attention has recently been called to some remarkable phases of it. The foregoing remark is fully elaborated in the comprehensive inaugural address just made before the Medico-Legal Society by its President, Mr. Clark Bell. Mr. Bell also showed that the society had always taken a deep interest in matters of legislation upon questions connected with the science. The most noticeable and urgent subjects which have recently engaged its attention are: 1. In regard to experts, expert testimony, and the proper regulation and conduct of the defense of insanity in criminal trials. 2. Proposed modifications and reforms in the law regarding the office of Coroner, and suitable provisions for preliminary proceedings in criminal cases in lieu of those now conducted by Coroners. 3. The question of health in our public schools, and the proper medical supervision over all public schools by competent medical men.

Many other themes of interest to the Medico-Legal Society, as well as to the public at large, are ably discussed in President Bell's address.

At the close of his address Mr. Bell made a strong appeal for the establishment of a library of medical jurisprudence in this city. He said:

The Medico-Legal Society of New York has voluntarily assumed the labor of organizing and maintaining a complete library of all works upon medical jurisprudence, especially in the English, French, and German tongues. This work, inaugurated in 1872, was creditably commenced, and it only remains to call the attention of members of the professions of law and medicine throughout the United States to the merits of this enterprise to insure its early completion. The Society has thus library only one collection in this country of any note. The library of the Surgeon-General at Washington, under the intelligent and enterprising management, and thanks to the faithful work of Dr. J. S. Billings, is now by far the best, and aside from that of this society, the only notable one in this country. It has been accumulated mainly since the year 1872. The enormous value of such a collection to both professions, accessible for use, cannot be well overestimated. Contributions of valuable miscellaneous concerning the library can be made through any member of the Library Committee to R. S. Guernsey, Chairman of the Library Committee, 150 Broadway, or to Clark Bell, 128 Broadway, New York.

Prison Labor and Contract System.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Now that a thorough investigation of the above system, through Senator Titus of Erie's resolution, is promised to the public, who are or ought to be the most interested in the matter, it may not be amiss to canvass the arguments and reasons given for its establishment and continuance, and see if they have borne the promised fruit. The two principal arguments in its favor were the saving to the state in the support of those who had violated its laws, and its tendency to force them and make them useful members of society when their term of imprisonment had expired.

To those who only look at the surface of things it may appear satisfactory if the Superintendent of state Prisons reports a saving of $100,000 per annum, but when we come to consider that there are employed at one branch of trade shoemaking in this state about 30,000 men, and that their wages, their purchasing power, has been reduced in consequence from 25 to 50 per cent, the loss to the trade in the consumption of the state more than counterbalances the petty saving reported, and of which we are not yet altogether sure. In shoemaking alone the loss to the State's trade is $12,000,000 per annum, without counting the loss in the fitting branch, which has diminished in an equal ratio. Rather than the state has been the ruin of employers and employees in this branch, what manufacturer can expect to compete with a system that produces a pair of shoes for a little over six dollars, when the manufacturer who paid his men living wages would have to pay over 45? The result is low wages and scanty employment to the honest mechanic, and a premium on idleness and petty larceny, and another victim to modern civilization and venal legislation swells the ranks of those who work inside of bolts and bars to enrich favored contractors.

Now as to its reforming tendencies. If the first argument had