The Sun.

VOL. XLIX.--NO. 178. NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1882. PRICE TWO CENTS.

CONKLING'S NAME SENT IN.

NOMINATED AS ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT.

The Selection Unexpected by the Senate—Doubt Whether the Ex-Senator will Accept—President Arthur's Reasons for the Choice—A Bitter Invective from Hoar.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Roscoe Conkling was nominated for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court to-day. Two members of the Senate knew that the name of their late associate would be sent in this morning. To all but these the nomination was a great surprise. It has been the opinion of Senators for a day or two that Senator Edmunds had been offered the place and had accepted it. The nomination, as well as that of ex-Senator Sargent for Minister to Berlin, was referred to the appropriate committees in executive session. There exist serious doubts about the acceptance of the appointment by Mr. Conkling, for it is now understood that he had not been consulted by the President about the matter. It was at first supposed that the nomination would not have been made unless assurances had been received from Mr. Conkling that he would accept, but there is the word of David Davis for it that the President determined to nominate Mr. Conkling without having first advised him of his intention.

When Justice Hunt was retired on a pension it is learned that the President's first wish was to nominate Mr. Conkling to fill the vacancy. He did not do so, because he was of the impression that Mr. Conkling did not want to occupy public place again for some time, and that he could not afford to give up a practice which is already large, and which promises greatly to increase. The President thereupon put aside his personal inclination, and for a time gave serious consideration to the name of Judge Blatchford; but there arose a number of political complications which compelled the President to abandon that idea. Then he looked with such favor upon the nomination of Senator Edmunds that he last week had about determined to send the name of the Vermont Senator in. He spoke of his purpose to two or three Senators, and found that it was favorably regarded. Mr. Edmunds himself, while not at all desirous of going on the bench, was understood to intimate that he should accept the place if it was tendered to him. It became known to some of the leading lawyers of New York that the President was seriously thinking of appointing Mr. Edmunds to the vacant place on the Supreme bench, and at once the President felt a pressure for an appointment from New York State. He felt himself under them was great pertinency in the suggestion that New York ought to have one representative upon the Supreme bench. The Supreme Court had taken a recess to meet again next week, and the President had been urged to nominate for the vacancy, so that the new Justice could take his seat as soon as possible after the court reconvenes. The bench was assured that the nomination would be made this week. Yesterday the President determined to nominate Roscoe Conkling. Senator David Davis was informed of the choice. He gave it his cordial approval. He was led to believe that Mr. Conkling's name would be sent in this morning, without any communication being made to Mr. Conkling. Whether Mr. Conkling was informed by telegraph this morning and wired an acceptance back to the White House before the nomination was sent to the Senate is not known, although Senator Davis believes that such is not the fact.

It is reported to-night that Mr. Conkling has already forwarded his declination of the office. This report, however, is one of the vague and unfathered sort that are born of mere conjecture. It is believed that Mr. Conkling's acceptance would have great political significance. Senators, however, regard it as improbable that he would now accept the nomination, when he has chosen before to decline the greater one that President Grant tendered him of the Chief Justiceship. Besides, Mr. Conkling has never had any ambition for appointive office. He declined the Chief Justiceship under Grant, but the offer of Cabinet office, made with some urgency, and also the offer of the mission to the Court of St. James's, Mr. Conkling is known to have entertained a strong repugnance to accepting preferment in any other way except through the action of his City or the church their Legislature. This, as well as his known purpose to remain in private life, for a time at least, and to make money in his profession, cause Senators to believe that if he accepts, such acceptance will be due to purely political reasons and reasons of a nature personal to the President. It is the general belief that the President has made this nomination that he may have Mr. Conkling near him in Washington. He desires the advice and suggestions of Mr. Conkling. There is no member of his Cabinet with whom the President is on terms of close personal intimacy, unless it be Judge Folger. The mutual confidence that exists between the President and Mr. Conkling is said to be of a character unknown to Mr. Arthur has great respect for Mr. Conkling's views on general questions of statecraft, with which his own experience has not permitted him to familiarize himself. But, aside from all this, it is beginning to be felt by some of the closest friends of the President that a great party embarrassment is impending. There no longer exists much doubt that Mr. Blaine intends to do one of two things, capture the party or split it. What is commonly known as a big fight is impending. It is already being hinted that the Administration has ammunition enough for Mr. Blaine if he cares to compel the use of it. It is a delicate question how best to make use of this ammunition. Mr. Blaine, on the other hand, has recently been saying some bitter things to people whom he must know will carry them to the President. He openly boasts that he has a package of dynamite for the Stalwarts. Republicans are looking forward to the Garfield memorial services with anxiety. They recognize in it Blaine's opportunity, and they believe that he will make use of the opportunity. They believe that Blaine will use all the arts of rhetoric to convey in captivating phrase the expectations of the Garfield Administration which were so suddenly shattered. They know Blaine's power of the art of innuendo, and the fear is great and now acknowledged that after this action there will be no more illusion about Mr. Blaine's intentions. Those fears may be groundless, but they exist, and there is but one feeling to-night about this nomination, and that is that the President desires to have Mr. Conkling near him as an adviser.

If Mr. Conkling accepts and makes the personal sacrifice, it will be to serve his friend the President, and at the President's urgent desire. No one believes that Mr. Conkling would for a moment contemplate going upon the bench as an Associate Justice for life.

The excitement which the nomination caused was supplemented this evening when it was learned that Senator Hoar had made a speech in executive session of extreme vindictiveness. Senators say that they never heard a speech of such bitter personal hostility. It had been moved that the nomination be confirmed immediately. Mr. Hoar objected, and then said that the nomination was an outrage. He regarded Conkling as utterly unfit for a place on the bench. He said that Conkling recognized only two classes—his friends and his foes—and that a personal enemy could never obtain justice from such a vindictive hater as Conkling. It would be a travesty of justice to seat such a man on the Supreme bench. Hoar then referred to what he styled Conkling's imperious bulldozing disposition on the floor of the Senate, and said that he was responsible for the warfare of last spring, and that he made war because he could not have his own way. Hoar intimated, so Senators say, that Conkling was responsible indirectly for the assassination of Garfield. He said that Conkling had been relegated to private life to the great joy of all the people, and that the people would not tolerate any attempt to restore him to public life. Some Senators say that Hoar made graver insinuations respecting Conkling's personal integrity than have ever been heard before. Hoar called attention to the fact that Stanley Matthews, an ex-Senator, was not confirmed until the Judiciary Committee had reported on the nomination, and he insisted that Conkling's nomination be also referred.

Don Cameron objected to any action on Sargent's name to-day, and it went over. Sargent is the leading stock of the town. He has secured what he was to be once any of the Interior, and now he is good off with a mission.

UTICA, Feb. 24.—Ex-Senator Conkling and his wife drove out to her brother's, Gen. Seymour, this afternoon. It is assumed that it is to consult about taking up residence in Washington. The impression here is that Mr. Conkling's ultimate intention is that Mrs. Conkling should decline to say anything upon the question.

A Lecturer's Gloomy Announcement.

Mr. George Kennan, who has travelled in Siberia, lectured before the American Geographical Society at its meeting last night on Siberia. The Rev. Dr. Hale, and the last [illegible] of Siberia, [illegible] Mr. Kennan's lecture was [illegible] and extremely interesting.

AN INVESTIGATION ORDERED.

The Connections of Our Diplomacy with Guano Contracts to be Examined.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—In the House to-day Mr. Belmont of New York offered a resolution directing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to inquire into and report to the House respecting the abstraction from the files of the State Department of certain letters and documents referred to in the letter of the Secretary of State, Feb. 17, 1882; also respecting the making of any contract in Paris or elsewhere by and between any foreign corporation or company and any American citizen concerning any concession made by Peru to any French or foreign company, wherein allusion was made to the diplomatic action of the United States, and granting the committee power to send for persons and papers and to report at any time.

Mr. Kasson of Iowa offered as a substitute the following resolution:

WHEREAS, It is alleged in connection with the Chili Peruvian correspondence, recently and officially published on the call of the two Houses of Congress that one or more Ministers Plenipotentiary of the United States were either personally interested or improperly connected with a business transaction in which the interventions of this Government was requested or expected; and

WHEREAS, It is alleged that certain papers in relation to the same subject have been improperly lost or removed from the files of the State Department, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Affairs be instructed to inquire into said allegations, and ascertain the facts relating thereto, and report the same, with such recommendations as they may deem proper, and they shall have power to send for persons and papers.

Mr. Belmont accepted the substitute upon Mr. Kasson's statement that it was intended to cover all the ground, and it was thereupon adopted without objection.

In the Senate Mr. Bayard of Delaware offered the following:

WHEREAS, Publication has been widely made by the public press of the United States of certain alleged contracts or concessions between certain companies and corporations of individuals claiming to be citizens of Peru, and bearing date in Paris, in which the mediation by the Government of the United States between the Governments of Peru, Bolivia and Chili is declared to be a condition for the continuance and continuance of the said contracts; therefore, be it resolved, that the Committee on Foreign Relations be and hereby is instructed to inquire whether any promise or stipulation of such character has been made by any agent or officer of the Government of the United States, has been in any way countenanced, or intimated in connection with the same, and whether any one of such contracts or concessions is connected with the Government of the United States, and whether any one of such contracts or concessions is connected, directly or indirectly, with any such alleged contracts in which the mediation aforesaid of the United States was invoked by a foreign Government, and that said committee have power to send for persons and papers and make report of their proceedings in the premises to the Senate at the earliest possible day.

Mr. Edmunds said he had drafted a resolution covering all the branches of that most extraordinary publication which referred, but none had been made, and in view of the impolicy of any action which would commit the Senate to inquiries about delicate foreign matters in advance of a careful investigation by a committee, he now made the suggestion that he would have no objection to the Senate adopting, if he had offered it, namely, that the subject be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. He intimated that the proposition prepared by himself would be considered by the committee.

Mr. Bayard acquiesced in the reference, with the remark that nothing had transpired to bring the matter carefully before the country was satisfactory to him.

The resolution accordingly went to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

WALL STREET EASIER.

Bears Turning Bulls and All Hands Helping to Hold Up the Market.

The stock market yesterday was a steady and marked reaction from the general and rapid decline of Thursday. The operators who engineered the bear movement which began last Monday morning had, according to all indications, carried it as far as they dared for the time being. It was a common remark yesterday that the bears had been obliged to turn bulls in self-protection. The operators who, during the last few days, have hammered most vigorously and effectively at certain stocks, are long of other stocks which have suffered, and which it is for their interest to protect.

It is cited that the most conspicuous instance of this is Mr. Gould, whose attack upon Louisville and Nashville led the bear raid. However much he may wish to depress certain stocks, it is not reasonable to suppose that he would wish to depress the market entirely "pieces long as he has much more at stake in the Southwestern and the elevated railroads, so say nothing of Western Union and Wabash.

So far as the brokers are concerned, beyond a courteous expression of sympathy and perhaps a few tears, they are not suffering. They care how much their customers lose, but they don't like to see each other go to the wall. So they, too, were willing to call a halt.

According to Stock Exchange reports Mr. Gould was a buyer of stocks yesterday to a large amount, but doubtless a good proportion of his purchases, as were those for other people, were against short sales. There was the usual volume of talk about good investment buying which is generally heard after a considerable decline. It was also asserted by brokers who claim to have traced and studied the transactions that Mr. Wm. H. Vanderbilt was in the market as a purchaser.

Richmond and Danville and its appendage, West Point Terminal, were more depressed, but less active than on the previous day. The latter dropped from 43½ to 42½ on sales of 1,300 shares. The day's transactions aggregated about 520,000 shares, which, it is safe to estimate, is 150,000 less than the actual business of Thursday. The list of active stocks, with the few exceptions noted, advanced pretty steadily all day, and the closing prices were from 1 to 5 per cent. better than those of Thursday.

The large operators and the brokers generally expressed the opinion that for the present prices would be sustained on about the present level, and yesterday more than one sanguine talked of a general and decided advance.

One result of the continued depression has been to tone down the brokers' ideas of the offices they will occupy next year. The views of many upon this subject are not as ambitious as they were a few days ago, and some are debating as to whether they cannot get along by simply renting desk room.

YOUNG STICKNEY ACQUITTED.

The Harvard College Man who Shot and Killed M. P. Campan in Colorado.

DENVER, Feb. 24.—The long trial of Charles W. Stickney, the Harvard man, charged with the murder of M. P. Campan, was ended to-day in a full acquittal. Campan misled Stickney's wife, and then traduced the character of both, until the young man, driven to desperation, hunted down his enemy, and killed him. The accidental killing of a lady by a stray bullet was the saddest feature of the affair. The defence was insanity, and the striking features of the trial have been outlined in THE SUN. The arguments were finished, and the case was given to the jury last evening. They remained out all night, and came in this morning for further instructions. The verdict was finally given soon after noon.

The sympathies of the community are strongly with Stickney, and the announcement of the acquittal was received with cheers by the great crowd in the court room. The prisoner listened to the news quietly, and received the congratulations of hundreds with great emotion. He says he has made no plans for the future, but his friends are ready to do anything in the world for him, so great is the personal magnetism of the man.

Hoar will come from Harvard College and other points in the East are jubilant to-night, and they will try to induce Stickney to go home with them.

The Coopers' Strike Made General.

At a meeting of Coopers' International Union No. 4, at 66 Essex street, last night, it was decided that the strike now on Monday last in the barrel factory of Mr. D. E. Connolly, 87 Margin street, should be declared general among all coopers working on hose work throughout the Manhattan district, which embraces New York, Brooklyn, and adjacent cities and towns. The strike is for seven cents for repairing old barrels and three cents for new barrels. A resolution was adopted allowing the men to work at day work, but not to trim their barrels at less price than the end of the strike at Connolly's cooperage. It was not generally intended to have a general strike. The strikers say that they were compelled by the injustice of the Metropolitan Flour Mill in Cherry street that he would not let the men who claimed to have been taken back. They say he said that he would not employ men working in the shop that supplied the Cherry street mill work of Connolly, which is what they did.

The strike is made in progress at the following named factories: Edward Connolly's Washington and Jackson streets, Wm. Cook's Washington and Jackson streets, with a branch at Wallabout, Cook's Washington street, and O'Leila's Greenwich street.

Murderous Efforts that Failed.

Schuyler Van Ness, a perfumer residing at 307 Broome street, quarrelled with his wife last night and stabbed her in the left side with a table fork. He then went down stairs and barricaded himself in the front room of his apartments with a bureau. When the police forced the door in the morning he was found in bed, and he was taken to the station house, unfeelingly protested.

ARRESTED BUT NOT THIRD.

What Came of a Charge of Attempted Blackmail Before Justice Patterson.

From a closed carriage drawn by a span of handsome bays yesterday afternoon, in front of the private entrance of the Jefferson Market Police Court, an elegantly-dressed lady was assisted to the street by the gentleman who had been with her in the carriage, and with him entered the court house. She was shown into Justice Patterson's private room. A few moments later Detectives McNaught and Cosgrove came into the court room by way of the adjoining prison. In their custody was a well-dressed man of middle age, whom they placed in the prisoners' line. Justice Patterson, after disposing of the few arrests made in the precincts during the morning, left the bench and entered the private room, where he was for some time closeted with the lady, her escort, and Detective McNaught. Finally the prisoner was sent for and was taken within the room. When the door was again opened and he was leaving the room Justice Patterson said to the prisoner:

"You can thank the leniency of this lady for your discharge. You have promised not to go near or molest her again. See that you remember it."

No information relative to the case could be obtained in the court.

The lady was Miss E. B. Voorhis, who resides in West Twenty-third street, and the prisoner was Edwin Ryer, who gives as his residence 217 East Twenty-first street, and who was arrested yesterday morning on a charge of blackmail on Miss Voorhis's complaint. It is said, however, that his true name is Hanlon.

Several days ago Ryer called upon Miss Voorhis at her residence. According to her statement, made to Justice Patterson, he told her that he was a private detective, and had been following her about for weeks. He claimed to be in the employ of a person whom he said was an enemy of Miss Voorhis, and to whom, unless she made it an object to him to do otherwise, he would carry a very bad report. If she did make it worth his while, he would say nothing but what was good. Miss Voorhis told him that she would have nothing to do with him, and he went away. He again called upon her the next day, and a similar conversation took place. The lady then consulted with her friends. She told Ryer to call at her house next yesterday morning. In the mean time Inspector Byrnes was notified, and Detective McNaught was sent to Miss Voorhis's house, where he was secreted in a closet. Promptly at 11 o'clock Ryer appeared, and was ushered into the room adjoining the closet which contained McNaught. He opened his interview with Miss Voorhis, and demanded money. The detective, who had heard the whole conversation, then came from his hiding place and arrested him.

Ryer was taken to the Police Central Office and thence to Jefferson Market Police Court. It is said that what transpired in Justice Patterson's private room was, to say the least, unusual. Miss Voorhis, it is alleged, was told that in such cases a conviction was very difficult to obtain, and that if the prisoner was held over for trial the publicity would be sure to attend the affair. The complainant, who had never been in a police court before, and dreaded notoriety, then expressed willingness to withdraw her complaint. Ryer was sent for, and discharged with a reprimand.

INDIGNANT BICYCLERS.

Deciding to Prosecute the Man who Got Their Money and Failed to Hire a Hall.

An "indignation meeting" of bicycle riders was held according to announcement at the riding hall, 214 East Thirty-fourth street, last evening. The occasion of the meeting was the disappearance on Monday last of James Revell with money which had been intrusted to him for the purpose of hiring a hall for the accommodation of the "first annual ball of the wheelmen of New York." On Monday evening many persons who went to Standard Hall, at 1,476 Broadway, where it had been announced the ball was to take place, were turned away, the preliminary of engaging and paying for the hall having been neglected. The caterer who came with the supper was obliged to retrace his steps, and more than 100 carriages wheeled about and took their occupants home without landing them. The mortification of the bicyclers, of course, was extreme.

Mr. Randolph Hurry, President of the Manhattan Bicycle Club, presided at the meeting last evening. About forty wheelmen were present. Mr. Hurry, in opening the meeting said that the affair was a fiasco, that they were there for, and that there was no use in his dwelling upon the unfortunate and painful matter.

Mr. Ford said he believed that Mr. Revell was addicted to playing pelley, that his intentions had been honest, but that the money intrusted to him had gone pelley away dollar by dollar.

Two letters from Mr. Revell, postmarked in this city, were read. In one of these Mr. Revell said: "This is a lesson to me," and in the other he proposed to pay back the money that had been intrusted to him at the rate of $1 a week. Mr. Revell wrote that $57 was all that he had received.

Mr. Smallbach of Brooklyn said that the Brooklyn wheelmen were ready to retain ex-Judge Daly as counsel for the purpose of prosecuting Revell. Mr. Elliott Sherman said that he had collected $125, and that he ought to be prosecuted. After some further discussion Mr. Mason, Mr. J. H. Olmstead, and Mr. F. G. Brown were appointed a committee to see that measures to prosecute should be undertaken.

The meeting then decided to hold the ball on the evening of April 13, and adjourned.

THE NIHILIST TRIALS.

Conducted with Secrecy, Severity, and Disregard to Ordinary Legal Usages.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—A despatch from St. Petersburg says: "No political trial in Russia has been conducted with such secrecy, severity, and disregard to the ordinary usages of legal procedure as the one in progress now. The President of the court insisted that the prisoners should be tried separately, or in groups, according to their crimes. They are forbidden to speak or write to each other while together in the dock. At first no communication between the prisoners and their counsel was forbidden. Even the Public Prosecutor protested against this decision, which was ultimately withdrawn. To-day Madam Torentieva, on being asked to acknowledge her connection with the robbery of the Treasury at Gherson, refused to give any information, and declared that the Court might accuse her of anything it pleased. Each prisoner is examined separately. The evidence against many of them appears to be very slender. Merkloff testified against several of his fellow prisoners, apparently with the object of escaping a sentence of death.

Failure of the Anglo-French Treaty.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—*The Daily News* says: "As a failure of the treaty negotiations with France meant the bringing of English goods under a general tariff, placing England on the favored nation basis is a considerable concession as compared with the commercial treaty, which will be concluded to the 1st of May. The most favored nation clause will, however, imply a considerable increase in the taxation of important British industries.

A despatch from Paris says: "The bill introduced in the Chamber of Deputies by M. Tirard, Minister of Commerce, bears neither of the two options by which France retains her power to modify the system to be adopted in regard to English articles imported into France if English tariffs are raised."

A New Bill to Protect Nihilists.

PARIS, Feb. 24.—In the Chamber of Deputies yesterday M. de Freycinet, President of the Council, replying to a question by M. Bugnes in regard to the expulsion of M. Lavaroff, who was ordered to leave France in accordance with the Nihilist fight here, said the law of last year gave the Government discretionary power, and it was authorized to refuse demands for the expulsion of foreigners engaged in disturbing the security of friendly Governments. He said he would shortly introduce a bill modifying the law of 1880.

Fire Caused by an Infernal Machine.

BERLIN, Feb. 24.—A fire occurred on Tuesday night at the Berlin terminus of the Stettin Railway. It was caused by the explosion of an infernal machine contained in a box which had been insured as contain ing valuable glass goods. The sender of the box has been arrested.

The box contained apparatus which was wound up to explode in twelve hours.

Accused of Pan-Slavist Intrigues.

VIENNA, Feb. 24.—The Ruthenian pastor Barkovski of Munkacs has been arrested for Pan-Slavist intrigues. The evidence in the case proves Rakotzki to be connected with the Court conspirator Dobrzansky, who was recently arrested at London.

A Farmer's Son Shot.

LAYTON, Kan., Feb. 24.—A farmer's son was taken down and shot to the outside of the house and died soon after midnight last night.

Against Those who Aim to Destroy Religion.

Pope Leo XIII. has addressed a letter to the Bishops of Italy, which is applicable to the Episcopacy throughout the world, directing attention to the success of the machinations of the third, who aim at the destruction of the Christian religion. The Pope exhorts the laity to follow the example of the Pontiffs, who, however, had had doubts and fears, and to aid the clergy to the benefit of the Church and society.

CARRYING OUT THEIR DEAL.

REPUBLICANS DISPENSING PETTY PATRONAGE IN ALBANY.

Tammany Clerks and Pages Under Stalwart Clerk Johnson—Important Tax Bills in Senate and House—A New Banking Act.

ALBANY, Feb. 24.—Tammany's share of petty spoils has nearly all been doled out, and there is some prospect that both Houses may be able to settle down to legitimate legislative work by next week. Ed Johnson, the Stalwart Clerk of the Assembly, appointed six Tammany clerks and eight Tammany pages to-day. The clerks are ex-Assemblyman Michael J. Dougherty, Charles Swan, Thomas McGrath, Thomas Gartland, Thomas Duncan, and Michael McKenna. Four of them are members of the Tammany General Committee. The two last named are librarian and assistant librarian respectively. Republican Assemblymen Raines and Potter, who have been conspicuous in the deal in Johnson's behalf, each get a man on his list. This insures a solid Cornell delegation from the Clerk's office to the next Tammany Republican Convention.

Speaker Patterson again showed his lack of political sagacity to-day in appointing postmasters, assistant doorkeepers, &c. Eight of the thirteen persons appointed are said to be from Troy or Rensselaer County, and the members who usually have the chance to name men for the places are extremely angry. There are mutterings in the Republican camp, too, over Johnson's wholesale distribution of patronage to Tammany at the expense of Republican members. The young Republicans, who have thus far only spoken out against the deal in secret caucus, threaten to denounce it in open session of the House next week, but there are indications that the New York city machine will exert too strong a pressure to be resisted by the young members. Thus far the young Republican element has no leader of the pluck and fighting capacity of Skinner. There is some promise in Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, but he is one of the youngest members of the Assembly, is inexperienced, and hesitates to go to the front. The drift of events may force him there if he maintains his independence.

There were short sessions of both Houses today, and no speechmaking. In the Senate Mr. Boyd offered a resolution, which was adopted, calling upon the State Engineer and Surveyor for information as to the cost, financial condition, &c., of the Fourth avenue horse railroad, with a view to a reduction of fares to five cents, if in the power of the Legislature.

Mr. Grady introduced a bill for the assessment and collection of taxes on corporations in New York city. It provides that the amounts of the respective assessments of capital stock entered on the assessment rolls for the years 1880 and 1881 shall be assessed, and the several corporations and joint stock companies whose names appear upon the assessment rolls and tax books shall be levied upon and collected, as of the year 1880, levied by chapter 542 of the Laws of 1880, which shall have been paid prior to the passage of this act, shall be credited by the Comptroller to any such corporation. Section 3 provides that the Commissioner of Taxes and Assessments shall ascertain within a month what proportion of State taxes shall be levied upon said corporations by the Receiver of Taxes of said city. He also shall, with marshals, proceed to collect the taxes for the year 1881, with interest at 6 per cent. from January, 1881.

The bill is accompanied by a petition signed by Mayor Grace, Comptroller Campbell, and Corporation Counsel Whitney.

Mr. Mackin introduced a banking act which provides as follows:

The department may investigate the affairs of private banks and bankers or corporations. Any inhabitant of a county wherein such examinations are taking place is liable to be summoned to appear in such proceedings, and in case of refusal may be attached. Any banker, or banker who shall act as herein specified shall be appointed receiver of a bank whose affairs he has been examining. Knowingly taking more than a legal rate of interest shall be adjudged a forfeiture of the debt or interest which the note or bill in question carries, and, in case excessive interest has been paid, twice the amount paid shall be forfeited to the People. Issuing corporate names by persons not duly authorized is forbidden.

In the Assembly the recent charges of cruelty to Sing Sing prisoners brought out two resolutions for an investigation—one by Mr. Brooks, and another by Mr. Keyes, the latter was adopted. It recited the charges that prisoners were overworked, were worked on Sunday, that undue favoritism was shown to notorious criminals, &c., and called for an investigation by the State Prisons Committee.

Gen. Murphy offered the following, which was laid upon the table for future consideration:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be advised to insert in the General Appropriation bill the sum of $5,000,000 as an amount to be appropriated for the purpose of completing the Erie Canal, for which contracts can be made with the State for the completion of said new canal within two years upon proper plans and specifications to be approved by the State Engineer and Commissioners, the sum of money so appropriated, or part thereof, to be drawn from the Treasury of the State only upon the fulfilment of contracts so to be made.

Among other bills were the following:

By Mr. J. J. Costello—Fixing wages of New York city laborers at $2 per day.

By Mr. Murphy—Authorizing and requiring the assessment and taxation of the shares of certain banking associations, namely, the Mechanics' Bank, the Commissioners of Taxes of New York, within one month after the passage of the act, to prepare a record of the stockholders of the banks and banking associations, and of the City of New York and of the shares of stock owned by each stockholder, and to enter in the record an assessment as of personal property of the value of the shares so owned by them in such city, and the assessment Commissioners shall allow all the deductions and assessments allowed by law in assessing the value of other taxable property owned by individuals in the city of the state. On such record being prepared it shall be open for examination and correction for two months, at the expiration of which time the Commissioners of Taxes and Assessments shall be to be prepared as corrected. The roll, properly certified, shall be delivered to the Board of Aldermen, who shall meet within ten days in the City Hall for the purpose of reviewing the same, and they are authorized to raise on the same a tax of 2½ 100 per cent.

Death of Mrs. Eliza O'Brien.

Mrs. Eliza O'Brien, widow of the late William O'Brien, died on Thursday evening at her home, 13 Madison square, north, in the 87th year of her age. She was the head of a family which for years has been conspicuous in religious and financial circles. Mrs. O'Brien was a Miss West of Philadelphia, and a member of the Guion family. Mr. O'Brien, who died several years ago, was one of the Irish refugees of 1798. He was one of the first insurance brokers of New York, and became prominent in its interest, especially in the marine branch of the business. Both Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien were active and identified with the Catholic church in this city, and up to the time of her death Mrs. O'Brien was a liberal contributor to the charities of that church, as well as to other benevolent objects.

The sons of her large family, as well as several of her grandchildren from their youth have been engaged in the banking business. Martin were active in the zone, William and John, left bank positions to establish the banking house of W. & J. O'Brien, one of the oldest firms in Wall street, while both firms are among the oldest members of the Stock Exchange. Two other sons, Robert and Joseph, formed the banking house of O'Brien Brothers, which was dissolved some years ago by the retirement of the former. The latter still remains active in the Stock Exchange. Of her grandchildren, Mr. William Lummis is conspicuous in the management of the Rock Island and has filled important positions in the Banking Department of the state.

The funeral services of Mrs. O'Brien will take place in St. John's church in Twelfth street at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning.

Reverses in the Business World.

Abel Easton, late manager of the Manhattan Baths at the Windsor Hotel, made an assignment yesterday to Thomas C. Durnins, giving preferences for $13,216.57, to Theodore K. Noyes, $7,918.57; Frank W. Allen, $5,000. Mr. Easton had a Turkish bath establishment at the corner of Bowery and Broome street for a number of years, and was one of the trustees in the incorporation of the Manhattan Bath, formed in Nov. 12, 1881. A few days ago he confessed judgment for $7,000 to Mr. Noyes, whom he has preferred, and who is said to be his father-in-law, and Mr. Allen.

Reports from Louisville, Ky., state that the liabilities of the Nonconnah Bushman Distilling Company are $1,000,000, and the nominal asset, $1,130,000, one of the principal items being the value of the stock in the distillery market, which prevented the company from obtaining accommodations which the business required.

Benjamin Brandt, who made the tie vitae of much favorite cologne of E. J. Fressing & Co., the largest in the West, has been closed by the Sheriff. The latter occupies a little one and one-half story frame, rented over $100 a year. They have an office in New York, and for the sale of their goods. Their liabilities are reported at $7,000, and nominal assets $10,000.

The Man who Defaced Andre's Monument.

Mr. Cyrus W. Field last evening said that the damage to the Andre monument was not so great as it had been represented. In fact, if the information brought by those who had just come from Tappan was correct the damage was very inconsiderable. Mr. Field said that an attempt had been made in the adjacent village to buffle the monument being better than the granite of the monument itself. It was itself crushed, and portions of it hung in shreds, and the stone was broken off. When this was carried off yesterday it was found that the inscriptions were perfectly untouched. The stone was shown to Mr. Field at his house last evening.

"I think it is a pity," said Mr. Field, laughing, "and I could mention his name if I chose, but I won't just at present. I think that the man has been punished for this time, and I feel certainly will be in jail in the next twelve hours.

"When asked what he thought the man's motive was in defacing the monument, and whether he had a personal grudge against Mr. Field, Mr. Field hesitated a little and said he preferred not to express any opinion on these points for the present."

Resigning an Office to Enter Wall Street.

Isaac D. Balch tendered his resignation as Deputy Collector of Customs to Collector Robertson yesterday, to take effect on March 1, when he will become a stock broker. He was appointed in the Custom House in October, 1880, and was special Deputy Collector of Customs when Gen. Merritt was Collector.

A MEETING WITHOUT A CHAIRMAN.

The German Liquor Dealers of Newark Taken to Task by Emil P. Spahn.

The New Jersey Legislature recently voted down a bill providing that liquor dealers should no longer be indictable as keepers of disorderly houses for selling on Sunday. Assemblyman Fiedler, who introduced the bill, had the vote reconsidered, and, as the measure is yet pending, German citizens of Newark decided to consider it at a mass meeting in Library Hall last evening. The Essex County members of the Legislature were invited to attend. Eight of the ten Assemblymen occupied a front seat. The absent members were Assemblymen Parsons and McGowan. It was expected the hall would be crowded. At 8 o'clock it was less than one-half full. Half an hour later Emil P. Spahn said:

"I am ashamed to say I am a member of the Committee of Arrangements. It may be frankly told that this Liberal movement is not worth a cent. The gentleman who was to preside over this meeting is not here. The priests are to be allowed to have things as they choose. It may be well to put the blame where it belongs—on the Germans, who are too lazy to participate in a meeting held in their own interest and don't support the men who are working for them. This meeting will be held without a Chairman. I introduce the first speaker, Mr. Joseph Atkinson." Mr. Atkinson then spoke.

The gentleman who had been selected for Chairman, but who did not attend, was Isador Lehman, President of the German National Bank. The chair was not occupied.

A petition to the Legislature had been prepared beforehand. It purported to come from a large assemblage of citizens of Essex County, and said it expressed "the belief of an overwhelming majority of the people of the community, as shown at the charter election in 1879." It asked for the passage of Mr. Fiedler's bill because, "the law as it is "makes what intelligent public opinion considers a minor offence an infamous crime." The petition was adopted. Dr. Thomas Dunn English also spoke.

Senator Stainsby was called upon by Mr. Spahn to speak, but he declined. Mr. Spahn said, angrily, that it was to be regretted that men will not come on the platform and speak. When they wanted the votes of liberal citizens they were ready to place them, but in a meeting like this they hadn't the courage to give their views. A man on the stage tried to check Mr. Spahn. Others cried for music. Amid the excitement the meeting broke up.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

A Statute which Judge Arnoux Declared Unjust and Reluctantly Enforced.

William B. Parker brought a suit in the Superior Court against Richard C. Speer, in which, the complaint being for a tort, if the plaintiff had succeeded, he would have had the right to enforce the collection of his recovery by issuing an execution against the person of the defendant. The plaintiff was beaten, and judgment was given against him for costs, and failing to pay them the defendant's attorney caused him to be imprisoned.

Judge Arnoux yesterday held that the defendant's attorney had the right to imprison the plaintiff to collect his costs, but thus expressed himself upon the law:

We are proud of our legislation abolishing imprisonment for debt, and our statutes on that subject mark an epoch in the history of the liberty of the citizen. It is difficult to imagine a more outrageous case of unjust exception to that law than the case at bar. Here a plaintiff seeking redress for a wrong—a wrong it may be that entitles him to exemplary damages—is in turn beaten; how or why the papers do not disclose. The defendant consents to relieve him from all costs, and then the plaintiff is imprisoned for costs. This can not be done, but "I will imprison this plaintiff if he does not pay me my costs." The plaintiff and defendant are strangers, have never contracted with each other, have never wronged each other, but yet this attorney, in defiance of the wishes of all other parties concerned, can issue this process. Nothing of the kind can be done in Turkey or Russia. But there been expressly held that the attorney has no lien upon the body of the judgment debtor for his costs, and I trust that this anomaly will be rectified here. The Legislature, in my opinion, ought immediately to amend the code, so that no execution against the body should be issued for costs only.

The arguments against this have not, to my mind, even the merit of specciousness. They are simply the veritable of old proverbs that those who take the sword should perish by the sword. But the judiciary have no power to make the law. They must administer it as they find it, and trust to an enlightened public sentiment to repeal, or modify oppressive laws. I am with great reluctance constrained to deny the motion.

Senator Boyd Foresees a New Party.

The Fifth Assembly District Anti-Monopoly League held a meeting last evening at 217 Spring street, at which Senator John G. Boyd presided and Michael T. Sharkey was secretary. Senator Boyd said: "Heretofore we have been following leaders who have used the public sentiment of party fealty to promote private ends. The two old parties have proclaimed principles in their platforms, but neither has maintained them. It is time for a new party to spring up that shall enforce the principles of Jefferson. The new party will arise out of the anti-monopoly movement. Both of the old parties have outlived their usefulness."

Hughes, Thomas McGrath, Henry Aberle, and the officers of the meeting were made a committee to prepare a plan for perfecting the organization during the ensuing year.

They Cannot Pay the Rent.

Mr. Russell Sage has for several years past leased the second floor of 78 and so Broadway, in the rear of which he has his office, while he has sublet the front half to Jay Gould and his principal brokerage firm, W. E. Connor & Co. in which Mr. Gould is a special partner and his silent partner. This year Mr. Sage has paid a rental of $4,000 for the floor, but for the coming year the owners demand $12,500, which is considerably more than Mr. Sage thinks he can afford to pay. He has notified the firm that he cannot allow them to move on May 1 into the Charter Oak Insurance Company's building, 71 Broadway, in which are the offices of the Manhattan Railway Company, and which was recently condemned by the Building Department.

Westchester County Raising Funds.

The Supervisors of Westchester County yesterday adopted a resolution authorizing the County Treasurer to issue bonds to the amount of $200,000, of which amount $10,000 is to be applied to the maintenance in an asylum at Binghamton of those patients who were removed from an asylum at Poughkeepsie by the Superintendent of the Poor. The remaining bonds are for the purpose of paying the share of Westchester of building and repairing bridges over the Bronx River. The Board also authorized Supervisor Hoag of Westchester County to raise $25,000 by the issue of bonds to defray the expenses of building a new bridge over the Hill at Yonkers.

The Captain's Body in a Brandy Cask.

Coroner Merkle yesterday granted a permit for the removal to Dorchester, N. B., of the body of Capt. James I. Smith, of the ship J. I. Smith, who fell from the rigging of his ship during the voyage from Liverpool, on Jan. 16, and was killed. The sailors, by order of Mr. Bishop, the first mate, opened a cask of brandy and put the body of the Captain in it for preservation.

Rose Eytinge Suing for a Divorce.

Mrs. Rose E. Butler, the actress, whose stage name is Rose Eytinge, has brought suit for an absolute divorce from her husband, George H. Butler, a nephew of Gen. Benjamin F. Butler. The couple were married on the 4th of October, 1869. The plaintiff charges defendant with adultery. Judge Donohue yesterday directed a reference to William H. Rafferty to take testimony in the case.

NEW JERSEY.

A proposition was made in the Paterson Board of Education last night to reduce the salaries of the most of the public school teachers about ten per cent.

The trial of Mr. Gaudney, proprietor of the Theatre Comique in Hoboken, for violent cruelty, after having suffered from diphtheria, but it was rumored in the neighborhood that death ensued upon the administration of a medicine compounded at a Newark street drug store. It was insisted at the drug store that the medicine was accurately made up.

LONG ISLAND.

The residence of Abram Hamilton on the Jericho turnpike, between Hempstead and Westbury, L. I., was robbed of jewelry, money, and clothing