The Sun.

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LAWS THAT ARE NOT LEGAL

A DEBATE ON LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT AND SPECIAL LEGISLATION.

Erastus Brooks Says Many Bills Recently Passed are Unconstitutional—The Senate Will Discuss the Woman's Suffrage Bill.

ALBANY, Feb. 6.—Two-thirds to three-fourths of the time of this Legislature, according to so good an authority as Mr. Erastus Brooks, is taken up with special legislation in violation of the Constitution of the State. Mr. Brooks took occasion, when the Assembly had spent two hours this morning in wrangling over a batch of New York city and Brooklyn bills, to make a timely protest against this vicious practice of passing special laws. As a specimen of bad legislative work, he pointed to the two bills sent back with vetoes by the Governor last night. The vetoed bills were both special acts, in violation of the Constitution. Another instance cited by Mr. Brooks, in which the Assembly had exercised powers forbidden by the Constitution, was the passage of the bill increasing the pay of New York city firemen and policemen. Their pay could not be increased during their term of office.

Mr. Brooks's protest apparently had no effect. The bill which called it forth was one introduced by Higgins of New York, providing that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment in New York city should pay $50,000 to the blind poor of New York out of the excise moneys, instead of the $20,000 they had voted for that purpose. Mr. Brooks said the local authorities ought to be better informed on this matter than the Legislature, and that the Assembly should have nothing to do with it.

Mr. Roosevelt approved all that Mr. Brooks said in favor of local self-government. This Legislature had passed strictly unconstitutional bills. It was time to cry halt.

Mr. Hewn thought it should be left entirely to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Mr. Roosevelt made an effort to kill the bill by moving to strike out the enacting clause, but was not adroit enough in his parliamentary work, and the bill was ordered to a third reading. After other business had intervened he tried to get through a resolution recommitting the bill to the committee, with instructions to strike out the enacting clause. This was voted down by 52 to 43.

Another bill over which there was a lively tussle between the Brooklyn men was one by Mr. Hodges for improving Bedford avenue and other streets of that city. It provided for the issue of $300,000 in city bonds. The bill was approved by Mayor Low, and was supported by the Republican members from Kings. Mr. Burns made a vigorous speech against the bill, saying that Mr. Low wanted to get control of this work to help along his own re-election. Mr. Henry supported the bill, as one satisfactory to both Republicans and Democrats.

Mr. Benedict and Mr. Earl thought this a good opportunity to enforce the doctrine of local self-government demanded by them, and why Brooklyn's Board of Estimate and Apportionment couldn't authorize the expenditure of this money. They intimated that this was an effort to saddle the responsibility for the work upon the Legislature. On Mr. McCarren's motion the bill was recommitted to the Ways and Committee. The Republicans rallied to the young Mayor's side of the controversy, but couldn't save the bill.

The bill changing the name of the Marine Court to the City Court of New York was ordered to third reading in response to a demand for information concerning it. Col. Murphy said that the Chief Justice of the Marine Court was received in Europe a few years ago as Chief Justice of the High Court of Admiralty of America, and the suggestion of a change of name tonight have come from his anxious colleagues on the bench.

The Senate passed the bill creating a Court of Claims to take the place of Canal Appraisers and the Board of Audit. Mr. Pitts moved to reduce the salaries of members of the court, three in number, from $5,000 to $4,000. It was lost by a partisan vote, Senator Daly being the only Democrat voting in its favor.

Mr. Daly, from the Committee on Grievances, reported for consideration the Women Suffrage bill, and it will be made a special order for Monday night.

Mr. Pitts introduced a bill to prohibit medical societies, of whatever school, from adopting any rules that shall prevent any of their members from consulting with physicians of other schools. The subject was discussed before the State Medical Society that met here to-day. Mr. Pitts asked unanimous consent that his bill be immediately put on its third reading, but objections were made, and it was referred to the Committee on Health.

Mr. Boyd introduced a bill to incorporate the Staten Island and New Jersey Ferry Company.

Mr. Treanor reintroduced his bill of last year, to lay out a public park of about 200 acres in the Twenty-fourth ward. The proposed park is to be located on the Van Cortlandt estate, about midway between North and East Rivers. It is petitioned for by Augustus Schell, John E. Devlin, W. W. Miles, George W. McLean, Waldo Hutchings, and others.

Mr. Boyd introduced a bill for the appointment by the Governor of a commission to investigate the State prison system of the State and devise some plan by which the industries of the prison may be carried on so as to interfere as little as possible with outside labor. Pending the report of the commission the bill prohibits the making of any further contracts for prison labor. The same Senator introduced a resolution directing the Committee on Cities to report within ten days on the propriety of legislation making the County Clerk of New York a salaried officer, and requiring him to pay over all the fees to the county treasury.

TO BE BURIED APART.

The Long Argument that Led Mrs. Parker to Agree to Die with her Husband.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 6.—The few additional developments concerning the Parker tragedy confirm the first reports. It is said that a letter was found on the woman's person which told of the plan arranged by her husband and of her acquiescence after his arguments that proved all powerful with her during a two hours' conference that they had in his cell on Sunday, the day before the deed. He convinced her that his case was hopeless; that he was certain to go to the penitentiary for a long term of years, and would in all probability never come out alive; that death was the only door through which he could escape, and that it was her duty to go with him.

Mrs. O'Neil, the woman's mother, is said to have secured this letter, and while she does not deny having it, she refuses to allow it to be printed, thinking probably that it would implicate her daughter in the crime and prevent her interment in consecrated ground. Mrs. O'Neil claims the body of her daughter, and will have it buried to-morrow. She refuses to accept the remains of the man or to listen to the propositions of his relatives and friends to bury the husband and wife together. She opposed her daughter's marriage, and her opposition to the man was shown by her indifference toward him afterward, but since the killing her feeling has changed to hatred, and she is determined to separate them in death. The funerals will take place to-morrow.

CAPT. EADS AND HIS JETTIES.

Money Withheld from him Because the Channel is Not of Required Depth.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—The December installment of the $100,000 per annum which has been paid to Capt. Eads to maintain the jetties at the mouth of the Mississippi River has been withheld by the advice of the Attorney-General because the depth of the channel in the pass just above the jetties is less than 26 feet, the required depth.

Capt. Eads asserts that he fulfils his contract when he maintains a channel of the required depth through the jetties.

The Attorney-General, however, says the contract bound Eads to maintain the channel between the South Pass of the river and the Gulf of Mexico, which he understands to mean through the entire length of the pass as well as through the jetties.

The matter was laid before the Senate this morning.

Sergeant Vredenburgh's Blue-blooded Fowls.

Thieves broke into the premises of Sergeant Vredenburgh of the steamboat squad, at 229 East 117th street, night before last, and stole five valuable fowls of the bluest blood. One, a bantam, has been exhibited around the country as a specimen of pure breeding. The Sergeant values his lost fowls so highly that he has offered a reward of $100 to inspector Byrnes's detectives, and the force generally, for their recovery.

The wife of Policeman Halladay of the Fifty-seventh street squad, who lives at 304 East Forty-ninth street, kept chickens. The fowls, twenty-eight in number, were considered a nuisance by the neighbors, who complained to the Health Department. The Health Board revoked Mrs. Halladay's permit to keep fowls, but did not send an inspector to put the revocation in force. The neighbors poisoned the fowls.

FOUR SAVAGE BATTLES.

A Cocking Main in New Jersey Attended by Forty Philadelphians.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 6.—A cocking main took place this morning at 3 o'clock within a few miles of Burlington, N. J., and was witnessed by about forty Philadelphians and a sprinkling of sports from Newark and New York. There was very little betting. The fight was between four pairs of birds, although more battles had originally been contemplated. The match was held under the direction of two prominent citizens of Burlington county, and the cocks were cared for by native handlers. The party from Philadelphia took a late night train on Monday, and got off at Edgewater Park, the first station east of the town of Burlington, where carriages were in waiting to convey them to their destination, an abandoned barn, about two miles distant. While the birds were being prepared the time was occupied in a poker game, which was a very large one, each player buying from four to five hundred dollars' worth of chips at a time, and in one instance there was nearly $3,000 on the table.

Finally the players dropped their cards, and two men, each carrying a cock, jumped into the pit. The birds were black-breasted reds. One of them weighed 4 pounds 9 ounces, and the other 4 pounds 5 ounces. They were exhibited to the spectators and then "warmed up" by being permitted to peck at each other's heads. The fight began at 2:50 o'clock and lasted just five minutes. At the very first fly the heavier bird drove a gaff into the other's thigh, where it remained fastened. They were separated and put to the scratch a second time, when the small cock received a blow in the head which made him crazy. He cackled loudly, and ran about the pit without aim or object. This, according to the rules, was a defeat, and the victor and vanquished were removed. Another pair of black-breasted reds were then brought out. One weighed 5 pounds, and the other 4 pounds 10 ounces. They were very evenly matched, and fought for nine minutes. They flew low, and fought fast and viciously. The battle was made up of five rounds. In the third round the heavy bird drove a gaff through his opponent's wing and disabled him.

The third battle was between a dark red with light neck feathers and a black-breasted red. Each bird weighed 4 pounds 10 ounces. They fought savagely for nine minutes, and came to the scratch six times. The black-breasted red got a brain stroke in the last round. He flew out of the pit crazy, and so lost the fight.

The fourth and last pair of birds, both dark reds, made the most vicious fight of the evening. The cocks weighed 5 pounds each. The battle lasted ten minutes, and at the finish the victor was almost dying when his opponent dropped dead with a broken wing and a thrust through the brain.

CELEBRATING ITS BIRTHDAY.

The Union League Club's Festival—Letters from John Bright and Whittier.

The twentieth anniversary of the organization of the Union League Club was celebrated in the club house last night. First came speaking in the club theatre. William M. Evarts presided, and near him sat among the guests: Dr. Tiffany, Dr. Armitage, ex-Mayor Grace, Joseph Seligman, Collector Robertson, Dr. Dix, and Robert Collyer. Dr. Tiffany made a prayer, Richard W. Stoddard read a poem, and Mr. Evarts delivered the oration. Mr. Evarts reviewed the history of the club and the work of its ten Presidents, of whom Jackson S. Schultz, he said, represented the "Fortiter in re" and Joseph H. Choate the "Suaviter in modo." The immediate and direct purpose of the founders of the club had been to invade and influence public opinion of this metropolis, and all association, interest, feeling, and intercourse which could be reached through the metropolis among its signal public acts he recalled its Thanksgiving dinner given to 200,000 soldiers in November, 1864. It performed its duty in the days of the reorganization of the Union, and in the defeat of the pot-bellied tyrants of the Tweed Ring. It worked for civil service reform when all the world was laughing at it. It had been greeted with the opprobrious epithet "Sunday School Teachers." Yet the present success of civil service reform was due to the efforts of the club.

John Bright's letter on the æsthetic side was about the only topic not touched by Mr. Evarts's address, and called attention to the services of the club in establishing the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Mr. Luther R. Marsh and Mr. Wm. E. Dodge, Jr., also spoke.

The club had sent an invitation to John Bright to be its guest in a visit to America. A letter from Mr. Bright to Mr. Evarts was read. After mentioning engagements which kept him at home, Mr. Bright says:

"I never felt more like a man, and my once strong appetite for travel has subsided, and I cannot but feel that the friendly welcome promised me on your side of the Atlantic would force me into a publicity from which I shrink. I write with difficulty, but you will understand how hard it is to make a fitting when an unfavorable reply to such letters as you and your friends have addressed to me. You will forgive me if I cannot come. I can never forget your great kindness and the honor you have conferred upon me.

The poet Whittier sent to Mr. Acton a letter in which he said:

"Under the direction of "the Power that makes for righteousness," the League has yet a work to do in the reform of old abuses, the purification of the civil service of the country, the removal of unnecessary burdens of taxation, the discountenancing of sectional policies and divisions, and the promotion of the best interests of the South as well as the North through a wise and liberal system of education which shall reach all sections and all classes. Above all, let it aid in establishing a higher standard of political morality, and in awakening a deeper sense of the duties and responsibilities of American citizenship.

After the speaking, which lasted until after 11 P. M. the company enjoyed the hospitalities of the club, and lingered in the picture gallery.

CORNELIUS VANDERBILT'S PALACE.

Workmen Taking Out Some of the Timbers and Putting Others In.

More workmen than usual have been busy in the last few days at the new residence of Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, at Fifth avenue and Fifty-seventh street. It was said that certain timbers of the house were being removed on account of their offensive odor, and replaced by new ones. These timbers, it was said, had been soaked in creosote to protect them against decay. Mr. George B. Post, the architect, said yesterday:

"Some timbers, in different parts of the house, where they were most likely to suffer from dry rot, were treated with heavy oils, not with creosote. I don't think there was any creosote left in them at all. They became somewhat offensive, I suppose, and advantage was taken of Mr. Vanderbilt's absence from town to remove them and put in others. Mr. Vanderbilt has not removed from the house, and really the matter is scarcely worth talking about."

Another architect said: "Farmers frequently treat with creosote that part of their fence posts which is to go under ground, and the preservative quality of the creosote is admitted. I should not expect to see it used on the interior timbers of a dwelling, and should expect the heat to make timbers so treated very offensive."

Mr. Vanderbilt has occupied his superb residence but a few weeks, and workmen have been steadily at work until now in putting the finishing touches to the exterior and interior decorations. During the past week elaborate bronze lattices of intricate design have been set in each of the basement windows, and painters have been busy in the greenhouse on Fifty-seventh street. Mr. Vanderbilt and his family are out of town.

To Tax New Jersey Railroads.

TRENTON, Feb. 6.—The Senate adopted to-day by a vote of 11 to 10 the proposed constitutional amendment prohibiting the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors in New Jersey. If the amendment is adopted by the Assembly, and if it is adopted again next year by both Houses, it will be submitted to the people. The Assembly passed by a vote of 35 to 23 a bill introduced by Mr. Cater, providing that the real estate of every corporation or joint stock company, domestic or foreign, held, owned, or used by any corporation or joint stock company, organized or existing, for purposes of business, shall be taxed for all purposes at the same rate and in the same manner as the real estate of individuals. Cemeteries are excepted, and it is provided that in no case shall any deduction be made from any taxable property for any indebtedness or obligation, unless the indebtedness be one secured by mortgage which covers land and buildings thereon.

The intention of this bill is to do away with the special charters under which the railroads at present pay the greater portion of their tax directly to the State. Jersey City complains that she has to bear the burden of a large amount of exempt railroad property for the benefit of the rest of the State. The more important railroads lay claim to irrepealable contracts with the State, which would render the proposed law unconstitutional.

In the Assembly Chamber to-night the Citizens' Committees of Newark and Jersey City held a meeting to advocate the passage of a new charter for cities of the first class, which includes only these two cities. Little interest was manifested. Nine-tenths of the Legislature were in witnessing a performance in the Opera House, and the other tenth didn't care particularly about Jersey City and Newark.

Poor Time Made in an Ice Boat Race.

NEW HAMBURGH, Feb. 6.—In the 20-mile ice yacht race for the championship of America Mr. E. Harrison Janford's Avalanche of the Poughkeepsie Club won in 57 minutes.

A WEDDING AT THE CAPITAL.

Marriage of a Daughter of Ex-Senator Blaine to Col. John J. Coppinger.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Miss Alice Stanwood Blaine, the eldest daughter of ex-Senator Blaine, was married to-day at her father's residence to Brevet-Col. John J. Coppinger of the United States Army. Society here has for some time been anticipating this event, which was expected to be a very brilliant wedding. It was, of course, a notable occasion, socially, although not nearly so many invitations were issued as had been expected, on account of the death, a few weeks since, of Mrs. Blaine's sister, for whom the family is in mourning. The invitations were therefore restricted to the more intimate friends of the family. These included a considerable number of gentlemen with whom Mr. Blaine has held close social or political relations. Among the guests were the President, several members of the Cabinet, and Justices of the Supreme Court, together with the ladies of their families, a number of Senators and members of the House, a few members of the diplomatic corps, Gen. Sherman, and a few army and navy friends of the bridegroom.

The engagement between Miss Blaine and Col. Coppinger has existed over a year. In the summer of 1881 Miss Blaine visited the West with a party of friends, and while spending a few days at Fort Leavenworth she first met Col. Coppinger, who was Major of the Tenth Infantry, in command at that fort. Although the soldier is some twenty years older than the young lady, a romantic attachment sprang up between them. After that first meeting Col. Coppinger visited the East on several occasions, and cultivated the further acquaintance of Miss Blaine and her family in Washington and at their old home in Maine. In a few months the acquaintance ripened into an engagement which, in spite of the diverse religious beliefs of the couple, received the hearty approval of the young lady's friends. Col. Coppinger is a devout Catholic, and the ceremony to-day was performed by the Rev. Dr. Chappelle of St. Matthew's Catholic Church.

The parlors of Mr. Blaine's new residence were beautifully decorated with flowers. This was the second occasion on which the friends of the ex-Senator have had an opportunity in considerable numbers to visit the house, which was really erected as a mansion of state. The first occasion was on last Sunday evening, when Mr. and Mrs. Blaine entertained many friends at their new home. To-day's ceremony was impressive and interesting, and at its conclusion the guests partook of a wedding breakfast. The bride was the recipient of many beautiful presents.

Col. Coppinger is Inspector-General of the Department of the Missouri, on the staff of Gen. Pope. He was at one time an officer in the Papal army, where his abilities as a soldier secured him several promotions. He adhered to the fortunes of the Pope until the downfall of the temporal power of his Holiness rendered his further services unnecessary. He then joined the United States army, and has for many years been stationed on the Western frontier.

BURIED WITH $2,090.

The Result of Disinterring August Diefenthal from a Pauper's Grave.

August Dieffenthal arrived in this country from Germany three months ago with the intention of joining his brother, a farmer in California. He spent a week in this city, and on the day fixed for his departure he died of heart disease in a lodging house in Greenwich street. The Public Administrator took possession of his effects, consisting of two trunks, but found nothing in them except articles of rough clothing. The body was taken to the Weehawken Cemetery, where, after lying in a vault for a few days, it was buried in a pauper's grave. When the brother in California was notified of what had happened he wrote to the Public Administrator that August had with him a large sum of money. Another search of the trunks was made, but without revealing any trace of the treasure.

The brother then employed a lawyer in this city to investigate the matter. Yesterday the latter visited the cemetery, and caused the remains to be disinterred. Three undershirts were found on the dead body. In the under one, on the inside, was discovered a secret pocket, which contained $2,090 in current notes. The money was taken by the lawyer, and the body was deposited in the dead house.

A question has been raised as to whether the money should go to the next of kin, delivered to the Surrogate of Hudson county, N. J., in which the cemetery is situated, and it is thought that complications may arise in regard to it.

TENANT AUSTIN'S RENT.

Claiming a Rebate for Damages by Falling Plaster in the Saratoga.

W. R. Austin, Vice-President of the Fairman Wheel and Axle Company, lives on the second floor of the Saratoga Flats at Broadway and Fifty-second street. On the morning of Sunday, Jan. 21, before daylight, several square yards of plastering fell from the ceiling of Mr. Austin's parlor. One piece crushed in the piano lid, and another doubled up the back of a heavy arm chair. Mr. Austin sent his piano to be repaired, and when rent day came requested that the cost of the repairs be deducted from his rent. He says this was not done, and that a suit was brought against him for his month's rent of $115, which is still pending. Twenty other families reside in the flat. Mr. Austin said last evening:

"My wife and two children are obliged to remain in this flat. We are Iowa people, right from the farm, and praying out West that such a piece of plastering which would crush that chair in that fashion would crush our heads. There are cracks in the ceiling of our dining room. Of course I could not do less than notify the Building Bureau."

Inspector Esterbrook of the Building Bureau received a report yesterday from Engineer Shannon that the plastering in the flats was cracking and bulging, and threatening to fall.

THE GARDEN DOORS STILL CLOSED

Mr. Vanderbilt's License Fee Not Yet Paid—Spurious Sparring Match Tickets.

The doors of the Madison Square Garden were shut when a crowd began to collect last night. The heavy weights Duncan C. Ross and John McMahon were to have had a wrestling match in the Garden. They were there on time, and said that it was a shame to keep the people waiting so. W. E. Harding came running up, and said:

"The match cannot go on. The Garden has not paid its license fee. I have been down to see the District Attorney, Corporation Counsel, and Commissioner French. They said it would be necessary to have a license. Then I telegraphed to Mr. Van Ardale at the Grand Central Depot, and he said he would see that the license fee was paid to-day. But the match is postponed indefinitely."

Then the citizens went home grumbling.

Harding said that the Mace and Slade exhibition would surely come off on Thursday evening. But counterfeit tickets have been printed since last week's postponement. Tickets bought last week will not be received to-morrow night. On Friday, however, they will be redeemed at the Box Office, after an examination as to their genuineness. The old complimentary tickets will not be received.

The President's Little Mishap.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—While the President and his daughter were on their way to the wedding of Miss Brewster to-night their carriage was run into by a carriage in the rear, and the pole of the latter broke through a panel, but did not strike either of the occupants. On their return from the church, however, the wheels of the President's carriage became locked with those of several others, and, finding that his already damaged vehicle could not be extricated without long delay, the President abandoned it, and walked home with his daughter through the rain.

Marriage of Miss Mary W. Brewster.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Miss Mary Walker Brewster, daughter of the Attorney-General, was married to-night at the Epiphany Episcopal Church to Mr. Robert J. W. Keene of Philadelphia. There were ten bridesmaids, ten ushers, and a best man accompanied the groom. The guests included President Arthur and many other persons of high position in the official and social life of Washington. A wedding reception was held soon afterward at the residence of the bride's parents. A large part of the diplomatic corps and many army and navy officers were present.

Killing his Wife and Telling the Neighbors.

WORCESTER, Feb. 6.—James Livingston of Berlin killed his wife with a hatchet last night, and then notified the neighbors. He said that both had been drinking, and the killing was the result of a quarrel over something which happened several weeks ago. Livingston is 60 years old, and his wife was 48.

Preparing a Berth for Gen. Grant.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—The House Committee on Military Affairs have agreed upon the terms of the bill to place Gen. Grant upon the retired list of the army with the rank of General. A minority report in opposition will be signed by two or three members.

BANQUET OF THE CAPTAINS.

A MEMORABLE REUNION IN DELMONICO'S PARLORS.

How the Police Captains Entertained their Guests—Wine, Wit, and Wisdom—Old Memories Revived—The Guests at an Unseen Table—The City Unusually Quiet.

Forty police Inspectors and Captains gave a banquet at Delmonico's last evening. It was called a police Captains' banquet. The Inspectors and Captains were hosts, the invited guests far outnumbering them. The tables were adorned with candelabra and flowers. The hall was festooned with flags. A large American flag was nailed to the wall above the central table. It bore the following inscription:

THE CITIZENS OF NEW YORK
TO
THEIR BRAVE POLICE.
1863. JULY. 1871.
FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH!

The flag told its own story of the appreciation by the citizens of New York of the services of the police in the great draft riot of 1863 and the Orange riot of 1871.

Among the guests of the police Captains were ex-Superintendent Kelso, ex-Mayor Hall and son, Charity Commissioners Brennan, Jacob Hess, and Porter, ex-Aldermen Morris, Bennett, Gillespie, Waite, and Sauer, Coroners Levy and Martin, Assistant District Attorney O'Byrne and Fellows, ex-Sheriff Bernard Reilly, Police Justices Smith, Ford, Power, Patterson, Kilbreth, Morgan, Gardner, and White, Park Commissioner Crimmins, Excise Commissioner Mitchell, Corporation Counsel Andrews, Sheriff Davidson, Dock Commissioner John R. Voorhees, Aldermen John Reilly and Kirk, Commissioner Hubert O. Thompson, Civil Justice Julius Cæsar Lyeurgus Langbein, ex-Coroner Richard Croker, the Hon. Hamilton Fish, Jr., the Hon. Abe Hummel, Surrogate Rollins, Fire Commissioner Perley, Martin B. Brown, Gen. Ferrero, E. B. Farrell, Dr. Charles Phelps, the Hon. Samuel Carpenter of the Pennsylvania Railroad, John A. Hardenbergh, Bob O'Brien and John J. McCord, Thos. Costigan, ex-Congressman John B. Haskin, ex-Agitator W. Bourke Corkran, Ed. Gilmore of the Black Venus Combination, Edward Cahill, Col. Frederick A. Conkling, John Dumont of Wall street, and Police Superintendents Pat Campbell of Brooklyn and Charles Donovan of Hoboken.

Recorder Smyth presided. He was flanked by Mayor Edson, Police Commissioners Matthews, French, and Mason, Judges Cowing and Gildersleeve, Marshal Joel B. Erhardt, Leonard W. Jerome, Isaac Bell, Elihu Root, and Wm. H. Appleton.

Mr. George Gould, son of Mr. Jay Gould, was present. Connor, John Dumont, and the Hon. John Kelly of the Eighth Ward were the special guests of Inspector Byrnes. Capt. Gunner's special guests were Surrogate Rollins, Judge Cowing, Jacob Hess, John D. Crimmins, J. L. Perley, Frank McCabe, Joseph Kaptzky, and Isaac Fromme.

The entertainment was under the personal supervision of Mr. Charles Delmonico. It was the perfection of æsthetic taste and cookery. The music was selected with special reference to the quality of the wine, thus:

Wine.	*Music.*
Chablis	The Grand Duchesse
Sherry	Patience
Pommery	The Queen's Lace Handkerchief
Claret	The Blue Danube
Tonard	My Buck Billy Goat
Liqueurs	Orpheus in Hell

The bill of fare included everything in season and quail out of season, but no one was arrested, because none of the Police Captains seemed to see the quail. There was an exquisite spirit of fraternization among the guests. The Nineteenth ward fraternized with the Eighth ward, and Broome street rubbed against Fifth avenue. Mr. George Gould poured out wine for Mr. John Kelly of Hudson.

The police Captains were very attentive to their guests. Inspectors Dilks and Thorne were frequently greeted by friends of thirty years' standing. Inspectors Murray and Byrnes, though younger, were the centre of groups who had heard of or recognized their skill as detectives. The old timers among the Captains were warmly greeted. Capt. Mount, with the exception of a curled gray moustache, looked as youthful as when he cleared Broadway for the Prince of Wales twenty years ago. Capts. Charles W. Caffrey, Jeremiah Petty, Anthony J. Allaire, Theron Copland, Ira S. Garland, George Washburn, Thomas Killilea, Henry V. Steers, George Gastlin, Peter Yule, James M. Leary, William Bergholz, Henry Heiden, Edward Tynan, and John Gunner recalled memories of a bygone age in Knickerbocker history, when crime was rampant and the police Captain did his duty with his life in his hands. Thorne's face brought reminiscences of the Dead Rabbit and draft riots. Petty and Bedden were conspicuous in the great Orange riot of 1871. Capt. Williams loomed above the other Captains like a colossus of Rhodes. Whatever his reputation as an officer, he was the most genial of hosts. Capt. Charles McDonnell of the Eighth Precinct, better known as the "Lightning" Captain, sat at the foot of a table, surrounded with friends. His arrest of the three negroes who were afterward executed for the murder of a Hebrew peddler in Westchester county has given him a world-wide reputation. Capt. Rakins of the Fifth, Capt. Cherry of the Eleventh, Capt. Brogan of the Fifteenth, Capt. McElwain of the Sixteenth, Capt. McCullagh of the Seventeenth, Capt. Clinchy of the Eighteenth, Capt. Ryan of the Twenty-first, Capt. Robbins of the Twenty-third, Capt. Siebert of the Thirtieth, Capt. Murphy of the Thirty-first, Capt. Sanders of the Thirty-fourth, and Capt. Davis of the Twelfth have become famous for their public services.

There was a shadowy table at the banquet away above the "flies." Ex-Mayor Havemeyer presided at the central table, flanked by ex-Mayor Wood, ex-Commissioners Charlick and Matsell, and Henry Smith, Recorder Hackett, Judge George G. Barnard, William M. Tweed, Joseph Dowling, and others. The lower tables were surrounded by ex-Superintendents Kennedy and Jourdan, the genial Frank Speight, the eccentric John Williamson, old John Cameron, the suave Edward Welsh, Capts. Thomas H. Kennedy, Lowrey, William H. Decamp, Johannes Slot, Charles Climan, John J. Helm, Charles Turnbull, and Jacob Sieburing. The good-humored tongue of Inspector James Leonard was busy at this shadowy table. Near him sat Inspectors Dan Carpenter and John H. McDermott. They were the predecessors of the men who now sat at the tables. There were scores of guests at their tables. Among them were Judge Shandley, Gen. Hilyer, Terence Farley, big Judge Connolly, Morgan Jones, Matthew T. Brennan, John Morrissey, Mike Walsh, John H. McCunn, Sheriff Hart, Police Justice Kelley, John Claney, James M. Sweeny, Richard B. Connolly, Daniel Delavan, Samuel B. Garvin, Michael Healy, Alexander Frear, Col. James Fisk, Jr., Capt. William L. Wiley, and scores of others. A dozen or more reporters were seated at the shadowy tables. Among them were Fitz James O'Brien, Theodore Winthrop, Charles Seymour, Edward Wilkins, George Arnold, Henry Clapp, N. G. Shepherd, Thomas M. Newbould, Michael J. Kelly, David David, Samuel McKeever, Daniel J. Kirwan, and others. These tables were replete with wit and merriment, drowned by the wit and merriment of a new generation.

It was half past 10 when Recorder Smyth called the company to order. After passing an encomium upon the Police Department, he gave way to a Secretary, who read letters from President Arthur, Gov. Cleveland, Gen. Hancock, Gen. Grant, and others, regretting their inability to be present. The toasts were responded to as follows:

"City of New York," Hon. A. Oakey Hall; "Judiciary," Judge Gildersleeve; "Police Department," Hon. Joel W. Mason; "Press," Hon. Horace Russell; "Our Guests," Hon. John E. Fellows.

At 1 o'clock the hilarity was unbounded. In thirty-three precincts sergeants were acting as Captains, and the midnight reliefs were sent out as regularly as though the Captains themselves were at their posts. No particularly serious case of clubbing was reported, and the city was as quiet as it would have been if Police Superintendent Kennedy had been alive and in office, with the Hon. Thomas Acton as President of the Board of Police Commissioners. All this was undoubtedly due to the skill and foresight of Superintendent Walling, who presided at one of the tables during the banquet. His health was given at a late hour, and drunk amid great applause.

Paying Taxes on Kentucky Whiskey.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 6.—It is estimated that a quarter of a million of gallons of whiskey went out of bond in this district under taxes to-day. There has been no excitement about the Collector's office, the whiskey men having made preparations to meet the emergency caused by the failure of Congress to pass the Bonded Period Extension bill. A large amount of taxes has been paid, and the Collector will regauge the stocks unpaid preparatory to the payment of taxes thereon.

CHICAGO, Feb. 6.—The total amount of whiskey in bond here is well gauged at 70,000 barrels. Of this there is only a very small proportion on which the duty fell due to-day. The banks here have loaned no money worth mentioning on whiskey.

Distinguished, but Very Poor.

MONTREAL, Feb. 6.—Charles Du Tale de Larochelle, a French emigre of noble family, one of whose brothers is a Cardinal in the Papal army, died here to-day in absolute want. He left nothing, and must be buried by the authorities.

FIVE SHOTS AT LIEUT. HART.

Fired by a Young Woman who Called Him Out of the Twenty-second's Armory.

Word was brought to First Lieut. George E. B. Hart of Company K, Twenty-second Regiment, in the armory on Fourteenth street, a little after 8 last evening, that a lady wished to see him in the street. He went to the entrance, and, looking out, saw a woman in dark clothes waiting under a lamp in the freezing rain that was falling. He went out, and they walked a few yards down the street. Suddenly pistol shots were heard, and he retreated. The woman ran after him over the slippery sidewalk, firing as she ran. She fired five shots out of a 32-calibre revolver. None of them hit Lieut. Hart. Policeman Klinger disarmed the woman and arrested her.

By this time all the officers who had been in the armory when the message was brought to the Lieutenant were on the street. They gathered around the woman and tried to question her as to her motive in attempting to kill Lieut. Hart, but she would tell them nothing. She asked to be taken out of the cold and rain, and she was conducted to the Thirtieth street police station. She is a pretty girl of 19, was neatly and comfortably dressed, and her manner was perfectly self-possessed. Her face is dark, and she said that she was a Cuban. Her name she said was Lotta Rains. She said that she had known Mr. Hart since her childhood. She went from Cuba to England when she was four years old, and some years later came to this country. Here she again met him and was introduced to members of his regiment, to one of whom she became greatly attached. She says that the Lieutenant begged her to discard this suitor, and she did so. She lived at 109 West Twenty-ninth street. He broke off the acquaintance, and she got a pistol last night to shoot herself. Then she decided to shoot him too, but shot at him so often that she was disarmed before she had time to shoot at herself.

The girl says she is an engraver and singer. Lieut. Hart visited the station house and said that he would not appear against her.

BLASTING WITH A VENGEANCE.

Dwelling House Knocked Askew by Enormous Missiles of Rock.

The blasting for the opening of 175th street, between Tenth avenue and Kingsbridge road, has been for the last few months a source of complaint from the people who reside in that neighborhood. The house of Matthew McKeon, on the south side of the street, was recently deprived of its shutters by flying rocks. On Monday morning a battery blast, which is said to have been improperly covered, exploded with a thunderous report. Rocks flew in all directions. The chimney of Mr. McKeon's house was demolished. The two-story frame house occupied by James and John Bragan was split almost in half. An opening twenty feet wide was made in the front. The three-story brick house of Patrick Redding, which is next to Mr. McKeon's house, was cracked in many places. One window frame in the second story was knocked into a room in which Mrs. Redding was sitting with her child. The window frame fell against the chair, knocking off an arm. A piece of rock weighing more than 200 pounds crashed against the house of Hugh Harrison, plaintiff, making a hole two feet square in its side, and scattering crockery and glassware through the open door of a cupboard out upon the floor. The female occupants of the houses ran screaming into the street.

Mr. Harrison caused the arrest of Foreman Patrick Lynch, a blaster named Sullivan. They were taken before Justice Morgan, at the Yorkville Police Court, who discharged them because of insufficient evidence.

SHAKEN BY BLASTS.

Damage to Dwelling House About Madison Avenue and Fifty-first Street.

D. J. Whitney, who lives at 78 East Fifty-third street, wrote to Superintendent Walling yesterday complaining in the strongest terms of the danger to life and property caused by the blasting which is continually going on at Fifty-first street and Madison avenue. A reporter who made inquiries in the neighborhood found Mr. Whitney's complaint corroborated on all sides. Dr. R. S. Bacon of the Columbia grammar school in Fifty-first street said that if the school building had not been solidly constructed it would have been shaken down by the shocks caused by the blasting. As it was, windows had been broken, plaster shaken down, and much damage done.

The ceilings in the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum in Madison avenue, between Fifty-first and Fifty-second streets, were found to have been cracked by the blasting. In Mr. Whitney's house the ceiling of the drawing room was recently shaken down, although the house is two blocks from the blasts. Similar damage has been done to other houses in the neighborhood of Fifty-first street and Madison avenue. So long as the blasting is covered by logs, as required by law, the blasting cannot be interfered with by the police until some damage is done to life or limb.

Justice Watson Backs his Man.

Justice William Watson of East New York was held yesterday for the Grand Jury by Justice Schellen of the same village on the charge of aiding and abetting a prize fight. It is alleged that the fight occurred in the Justice's court room on June 23, between Hardy, an Englishman, and a negro who is in Justice Watson's employ. The fight lasted an hour, and in the struggle blood was spattered upon the walls of the room. Justice Watson, who is a friend of the negro, but as the fight was decided to be a draw, the bet was declared off. The Englishman and the negro were both before Justice Schellen yesterday. They pleaded guilty, and the former swore that he had fought at the instigation of the Justice. Justice Watson said that there was no prize fight, but only an impromptu tussle. He admitted putting up the $50. He waived examination and was held to await the action of the Grand Jury.

Upsetting the Other Bill of Peace.

When the new Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Elevated Railway Company brought suit in the Common Pleas to test the validity of the amended tripartite lease and the merger agreement of the elevated railroad companies it also obtained a preliminary injunction to restrain the prosecution of similar suits which Metropolitan stockholders had brought upon the refusal of the old Board to bring them. Judge Van Hoesen refused yesterday to continue the injunction. He says that if the suitors who were first in the field desire to discontinue the suits they can do so, but they ought not to be compelled to. Even if they do not object to being enjoined, it may happen that there are other parties to be consulted. All the questions are before the Supreme Court, where these suits were brought, and should be left there.

Swindled with False News.

Herman Wulff, a plasterer, disappeared from his home, at 334 Seventeenth street, Brooklyn, on Jan 28. Last Saturday a man who represented himself as a private detective told Mrs. Wulff that her husband's body was in the Morgue in this city. He got $6 from Mrs. Wulff and $4 from another member of the family. The body proved to be that of another man, who must have been five inches taller than Mr. Wulff.

Ellen Hennessey's Reliance of the De Pau Heirs.

Ellen Hennessy, who attempted several years ago to secure a dower right in the estate of the late Francis H. De Pau, whose will she contested, claiming to be his widow, has, according to an instrument recorded yesterday, released the estate from all claims in consideration of $500 paid to her by the legal heirs. In a warranty deed she signed the instrument, "Nellie De Pau, formerly Hennessy."

A Salvation Army Recruit's Pistol.

Henry Studiford, a waiter, is a new recruit in the Salvation Army. When the army left its headquarters, at Christopher and Bedford streets, last night for a campaign in the rain the usual crowd gathered and annoyed the soldiers. Studiford drew a pistol in self-defence. He was arrested.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

The President has recognized August Feigel as Cons