TEARS IN A COURT MARTIAL.

PAYMASTER WASSON TELLS HOW HE WAS LED INTO CRIME.

The First Losses at the Gaming Table—Playing to Win Back the Money, but Losing More—Moist Eyes Among the Judges.

SAN ANTONIO, June 12.—The court martial for the trial of Major James R. Wasson heard the accused paymaster's statement this morning. Major Wasson was pale, but stood erect and spoke with a firm voice. He began by saying that he was charged with the gravest offence that could be laid against him as disbursing agent of the Government. He acknowledged himself guilty of wrongdoings which justify the charges—"of acts upon which," he said, "I can only look with horror." This was his recital of the beginning of his offences:

Early in last January, for the first time during my stay in Galveston, I joined a party of gentlemen in a social game of cards, having no idea that it would prove more serious than such games as are played among gentlemen, where amusement and pastime are the object. However, during the evening, the stakes were increased, and having lost more than I expected or intended, I was weak enough to remain, hoping that my fortune would turn. But the play went steadily adverse to me, and at the close I was a loser to the amount of several hundred dollars. I yielded to the delusive idea that I had had unusually bad luck, and was led to play again, thinking such ill fortune would not always betide me. The result was I found myself a loser to the amount, altogether, of nearly $2,000—a larger sum than I had immediate command of. I was to leave the city soon, and the idea of leaving this debt unpaid was exceedingly repugnant to me, and it was here that I made my first fatal error. I was to have by the end of the month a sum of money of my own larger than would suffice for the payment of my debt. I therefore resolved to draw from my public funds enough to pay these obligations with, as I felt certain of being able to replace the amount before it would be required, and deluded myself into thinking that if so returned no harm would result. But being perfectly innocent of any intention to actually wrong the Government by the use of the money for a few days, thinking, moreover, it would be less evil to do this than to let this debt of honor, as I deemed it, stand over, and thus bring me under reproach in the minds of the gentlemen with whom I had participated, I made my first step in wrong doing. On my return to Galveston I found, to my horror, that the full sum I was expecting to have there was not forthcoming, and that all my available cash would not make good the sum withdrawn. The last day of the month was at hand, when my accounts must balance or my improper use of the money be discovered.

I then committed my second act of folly, by depositing with the funds I had brought back from my payment all my own available cash, and taking credit on my January account with the quartermaster for certain collections which really I did not deposit till a few days later. I gained time to renew my efforts to make up the remaining deficiency. Stung by my losses and the predicament I found myself in, I played again, and again lost. So, to make this part of the history no longer than necessary, by the end of February I was behind $2,500. But up to that time, and until I had to start on my next pay trip, I was endeavoring all the while to raise the money personally. To gain time I drew the check for $2,500 on the Assistant Treasurer at New York and deposited it to my official credit in Galveston, but not dropping into my New York balance till the next week—to such expedients had I been driven by my folly.

When he started on his pay trip in March the sum had grown to $3,000. The quarterly inspection was to take place on his return, and the department inspector accompanied him back. Still the expected money gave him confidence, but it had not come. Of this crisis he said that the inspector was to go over his accounts next day, and he resorted to the petty trick, for which he "utterly loathed and despised" himself; but he got a breathing time, and "was led to make again the hazardous attempt to recoup my losses at cards. Again my fatal luck followed me, so that when I had to start away near the end of April I had, instead of reducing my shortage, actually added to it, the amount was nearly $5,500. My situation was now desperate. My brain reeled."

Then he resolved upon the crowning act of folly. By a ruse he made the inspector and his messenger believe he had all his money in his safe (though it was left behind in his office), and then started the story that he had been robbed, intending to get $5,000 or $6,000 from his bondsmen and make them believe other friends had raised the $18,000 he had left in his office. No sooner had he gone too far to retreat than he saw that in an examination of his accounts would betray the very irregularities he sought to hide.

The Court was visibly affected by the story of his first missteps. Moisture was in every eye, and one member of the court of high rank had recourse to his handkerchief to dry his tears. But there was a strong reaction, when he came to explain the motives that led to the hoax about the robbery. His finely worked up sentences fell flat and cold then. It was with relief that his conclusion was heard, wherein he asked the Court not to forget "that that sense of honor which has been sustained and cultivated for a lifetime is not destroyed in a single day."

The Judge Advocate said he would make no formal reply. He reminded the Court that the restoration of the stolen money was not solely the crime of the offender. The court was cleared for deliberation. The finding will not be made known until the proceedings have been reviewed.

THE CHICAGO LARD FAILURES.

A Receiver of McGeoch's Firm Appointed—Liabilities Over $1,000,000.

CHICAGO, June 18.—The opening of the Board of Trade, the open board and the bucket shops, this forenoon was attended by no great excitement, but there was a strong undercurrent of curiosity as to prices. Lard opened at $9.80, advanced to $10, and closed this evening at $9.85 for July. Peter McGeoch returned from his home in Wisconsin, but could not be ensnared by the reporters. John R. Bensley was appointed receiver of McGeoch's firm. He filed a bond for $500,000, and entered at once upon the duty of settling up affairs. There are over 300 accounts to write up, varying from 20,000 tierces of lard to 5,000 bushels of wheat. A member of the firm this evening estimated the liabilities at from $1,000,000 to $1,500,000.

Phil Armour to-day disbursed $400,000 in purchasing from the banks 100,000 tierces of lard hypothecated by McGeoch, paying $9.65. He now owns all the product in the market. He says that the orders from jobbers this forenoon exceeded all those of the previous sixty days. It became apparent that the friends of McGeoch forced his suspension as the quickest and easiest way out of his troubles. It is a remarkable fact that McGeoch's checks on the Bank of Montreal were paid up to full morning, there being a $250,000 balance lost on Saturday, and that the institution stood by him bravely, and has lost nothing thereby.

It is rumored that Fowler Bros. to-day endeavored to buy in all the brand of lard which they were charged with unfairly offering the banks five cents over the market price, but Armour had secured it.

The stranded house of Tabor & Wilson paid up all differences and resumed and entered an attachment suit for $50,000 against McGeoch's firm. Henry Botsford also sued the latter for $5,000 on a promissory note given on Saturday.

McGeoch's Escape from Poisoning.

DENVER, June 18.—A rumor was yesterday in circulation that an attempt had been made to poison Mme. Modjeska at the Opera House on Saturday night. The rumor originated in the blunder of a property man at the theatre. When Mr. Barrett was here some two or three months ago a preparation of phosphorus was used to give the face of the ghost in the play of "Hamlet" a luminous appearance. On Saturday night, in the play of "Romeo and Juliet," the property man gave Mme. Modjeska the phial, mistaking it for one containing the imitation sparkling potion. As soon as the cork was removed the liquid ignited, and this, of course, prevented serious results. No one for a moment suspected that it was anything more than a blunder, until the matter was reported to Mme. Modjeska's husband, Count Bozenta, who seemed very incredulous, and said that several attempts had been made upon her life.

Gen. Charles Ewing Dangerously Sick.

WASHINGTON, June 18.—Gen. Charles Ewing is lying dangerously ill with pneumonia at his home in this city, and his death is hourly expected. Gen. Ewing is a brother of Gen. Thomas Ewing of Ohio, and a relative by marriage of Gen. Sherman. He was born in Ohio and studied law, but on the breaking out of the war entered the regular army as Captain in the Thirteenth Infantry, having previously received military instruction from Gen. Sherman, with whom he lived in St. Louis. He served through the war on Sherman's staff was brevetted Major in 1863 for services at the siege of Vicksburg, brevetted Lieutenant-Colonel in 1864 for services in the Atlanta campaign, and again in 1866 was brevetted Colonel for gallant and meritorious services during the war. He resigned in 1867, and since then has practised law in this city.

New Jersey Railroads Merged.

LONG BRANCH, June 18.—H. K. Nichols, chief roadmaster of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, has issued an order, to take effect to-day, with reference to the management of the newly leased Central Railroad of New Jersey. W. H. Uhlig is made roadmaster of the eastern line of the Central Railroad, with his office at Elizabeth, N. J. The New York and Long Branch Railroad is merged with the New Jersey Southern Railway, and W. W. Clark is made roadmaster, his office to be at Red Bank, N. J. G. W. Twitchell is reappointed roadmaster of the Lehigh and Susquehanna division, his office to be at Mauch Chunk. The Bound Brook division is merged with the Philadelphia division, and M. P. Bourne is made roadmaster. W. H. De Chant is made roadmaster of the Tuscagora division.

Halstones as Large as Hickory Nuts.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., June 18.—The storm in Muncy Valley yesterday evening was the most violent that ever visited that region. It lasted over an hour. Rain fell in torrents, accompanied by hailstones as large as hickory nuts. Bridges over small streams were washed away, fruit trees torn up, barns unroofed, and a large amount of grain destroyed. The track of the Reading road was badly washed for considerable distance, but travel has been resumed. The storm passed into Northumberland county, where considerable damage was done to hedges, grain, and fruit. Some narrow escapes from death were made by persons who were out in the storm.

JOHN DEVOY CONVICTED.

Mr. Belmont Joins with the Jury in Requesting the Clemency of the Court.

Judge Cowing charged the jury yesterday at the resumption of the trial of John Devoy, charged with libelling August Belmont. Judge Cowing instructed the jury to divest the case of the question of nationality which had been introduced into it. The prosecution was bound to prove that the defendant wrote and published, or caused to be written and published, the article that was claimed to be libellous, and that the publication was malicious. The publication had been conceded. If the act was intentional and wrongful, malice might be inferred. The defence was that the article complained of was true, and was prompted by good motives. Did the history of the litigation upon which the article was based justify the conclusions that it contained? The evidence of some of the foremost bankers of the city had been introduced to show that the course of Belmont & Co. in reference to the O'Mahony remittances was eminently proper. It was conceded that the article was written and published when Mr. Belmont's son was a candidate for Congress. According to the testimony it was published with the purpose of preventing his renomination or redection. Did the occasion or the motive justify the publication? What was to be gained? The payment or repayment of certain moneys by Mr. Belmont. The prosecution claimed that if this motive could be admitted as a justification for the publication of libellous matter, in every case where money was due the printing press might be brought in as a new compulsory power. Every reasonable doubt arising from the evidence was the prisoner's property, and if any such doubt arose he should be acquitted.

The jury were in consultation for an hour, standing eleven to one for conviction at the outset. When they returned the foreman announced, in answer to Clerk Moser's question:

"We find the prisoner, John Devoy, guilty, with a recommendation to the extreme clemency of the Court."

Devoy's face flushed as he rose and stood beside Col. Spencer, his counsel. Col. Spencer said that Devoy was ready to receive sentence. Mr. Belmont whispered in Mr. Bangs's ear, and Mr. Bangs said: "Mr. Belmont desires me to say that he has had no other object in this prosecution than to submit to a jury of his fellow citizens the question as to whether he was guilty or not guilty of the infamous crime charged against him. Having obtained a verdict from a highly respectable jury, upon perfectly clear evidence, having thoroughly vindicated himself by the proof and the verdict, having established a character beyond question or reproach, he does not desire that the defendant should now receive any further punishment than is involved in the conviction of the publication of a most atrocious falsehood; and so far as it is proper for Mr. Belmont to join in the recommendation of the jury, he joins in and seconds it."

"As I look upon the verdict," Col. Spencer said, "in recommending the defendant to the extreme clemency of this Court, the jury give utterance to the opinion that, while he is technically guilty, John Devoy acted with a pure and good motive."

Mr. Devoy, retorted Mr. Bangs, "is found guilty of the offence charged in the indictment, the publication of a malicious libel, without justification."

"I think that I understand," Judge Cowing said. "For my part, I coincide in the verdict, and do not see how any other could have been found. As to the sentence, I must take until to-morrow to decide. After all, Mr. Belmont is not the plaintiff. The people are the plaintiffs. I shall consider whether, as a warning to others, some restriction ought not to be put upon the tongue and the press with reference to the exercise of that right, which I hold upon as the most valuable possession of a citizen. Attacks upon it, if wrongful, should be punished tenfold more severely than attacks upon property. Mr. Devoy may go upon his old bail until to-morrow morning, when I shall have reached a conclusion."

FOR SHORTER HOURS OF LABOR.

The New League Adopt an Address and Agree to Go to Church in a Body.

The Short Hour League met in the hall at 263 Bowery last evening. The Brass Workers' Union, the Cigarmakers' Union No. 144, the Typographical Union No. 6, the Excelsior Labor Club, the Onward Association, the Bookbinders' Union, the Amalgamated Trades and Labor Union, and the Glasscutters' Labor Union were represented.

Joseph J. Finnerty, the Chairman, explained the object of the organization, and called upon the unions represented to cooperate in securing shorter hours of labor.

A committee appointed to draw up an address to those interested in the movement presented an address which made a Saturday half holiday the main object of the movement. The address was amended to read as follows:

The Short Hour League is organized for the purpose of securing shorter hours of labor for the working people.

The Short Hour League now recommends that on and after July 1, 1883, all business establishments shut down their places of business at 12 o'clock on Saturday of each week during the coming summer months.

We also recommend a working week of twenty-five hours.

We urge the workingmen of every trade and branch of trade to try to get the action of their trade in favor of this measure, and if this cannot be done all at once we urge them to secure at least partial action in favor of it, and if they cannot secure cooperation in their trade, we urge each workingman, as far as lies in his power, to act on his own behalf and duty to obtain, at least for himself, a reduction of the hours of labor.

The amended address was adopted, and a committee was appointed to secure its universal circulation.

A circular letter, which had been sent to a number of clergymen calling for their cooperation and asking them to make the objects of the Short Hour League a subject of discussion in their pulpits, was read and apparently approved, but the proposal to circulate it more generally produced a discussion.

Patrick Deedy thought that the cooperation of clergymen could not be got, and that it would be worth little if obtained. Clergymen, he said, in place of preaching the love of God, preached the almighty dollar. Getting salaries of $20,000 or $30,000 a year, as some did, they cared nothing for the poor man, and would be too much afraid of losing their places to advocate the cause of the toiling classes. Similar sentiments were expressed by others.

The Rev. W. Walton of the Willoughby Avenue Congregational Chapel of Brooklyn, one of the clergymen to whom the circular had been sent, and who had publicly approved of its object, now took the floor and said that he could not be included in the rich clergymen mentioned by Mr. Deedy. He had walked barefooted six days in the week, in order to wear shoes on Sunday. For five years he supported a family of nine children on $200 a year. He was a workingman himself, a machinist by trade, and though he became a clergyman, he had, as a workingman, advocated a movement similar to this. He was, therefore, in favor of the objects of the Short Hour League, and he hoped that, if the movement was successful, the members would utilize their extra time in going to church. He would preach in behalf of the League in his church next Sunday.

Robert Blissert spoke in a complimentary way of Mr. Walton in particular, but said that clergymen in general invariably take the side of the rich against the poor.

The League resolved to attend Mr. Walton's church next Sunday. A business meeting will be held at 263 Bowery before church.

A committee was finally appointed to mail the ministerial circular to the clergymen to whom it had not yet been sent. A letter from five firms representing the Shoe Manufacturers' Union, granting the Saturday half holiday, was read and received with applause.

954 School Girls Out of 1,015 Successful.

Ten hundred and fifteen girls were examined for admission to the Normal College this year. Nine hundred and sixty four passed the examination successfully. This is 95 per cent nearly, and a very large and unusual percentage. President Hunter thinks it shows that the course of study at the schools is not too rigorous. In the City College examinations this year 82 per cent. of the boys examined passed. Last year 714 girls out of 1004, or about 74 per cent., passed the Normal College examinations. The degree of proficiency of each candidate who passed is not made public. Prof. Hunter said it was very high. Only twelve scholars from private schools were admitted.

Receipts Since the Opening of the Bridge.

No call has yet been issued for a meeting of the new bridge trustees, and it is expected that the next meeting will be held in the new headquarters for the bridge officers in the former dwelling on Sands street next door to the old Methodist church. The basement will be used as a headquarters for the bridge police, and the upper part of the building by the engineers, trustees, and other officers.

Over 70,000 foot passengers passed over the bridge on Sunday. The total receipts for foot passengers and vehicles from the day of the opening of the bridge until last Friday were $19,742.38. $11,649.50 being for the former and $8,092.92 for the latter.

Price of Seats in the Metal Exchange.

The members of the New York Metal Exchange decided yesterday to create and sell forty new seats at $250 per seat, provided the applications therefor be made on or before July 1, fifty seats at $350 per seat before July 15, and fifty seats at $500 a seat if the applications are made before Sept. 1. After the latter date the initiation fee will be $1,000. Each member elected is entitled to one share of the stock of the concern. Applications were filed yesterday for forty-one of the new seats.

The Bank Clerks' Life Insurance League.

The certificate of incorporation of the Bank Clerks' League to do life insurance business on the cooperative or assessment plan was filed yesterday. The incorporators are Henry C. Gibbs, Thomas L. James, O. P. Baldwin, J. T. Baldwin, E. H. Pullen, William A. Kemp, James B. Lott, George Montague, Charles H. Leland, Samuel L. Thurlott, S. S. Lawrence, Edward V. Low, E. A. Quintard, F. F. Olcott, and W. D. Searles.

Don't Die in the House.

"Rough on Rats." Clears out rats, mice, roaches, bedbugs, flies, ants, moles, chipmunks, gophers. 15c.—Adv.

BATTALION DRILL IN THE RAIN.

The Seventy-firsts Only Uniforms Put to Soak—The Chaplain Run Away With.

PEEKSKILL, June 18.—A drizzling rain struck the State camp this morning when the reveille was sounding. The band played "Wait till the Clouds Roll By" as the men turned out for their early morning cup of coffee and slice of bread." They have but one suit of clothes each, and wry faces were made as orders were sent out from Col. Vose's tent for battalion drill. For an hour the men marched up and down in the dripping grass, while streams of water trickled down the backs of their necks. For two hours Company I were put through rifle practice, and made very good scores, although the sight new canvas targets arranged for 150, 200, 300, and 500 yards' shooting were worked with difficulty.

The sermon of the Rev. Dr. M. D. C. Crawford in St. Paul's Methodist Church on Sunday continues to be talked about, and expressions are heard on all sides that his remarks concerning the possible relations of the young women of Peekskill with the citizen soldiers were uncalled for. It is learned to-day that prominent citizens of Peekskill are of the same opinion. Very few passes to visit Peekskill were applied for in the camp to-day and still fewer were granted by Col. Vose. To each man with a pass Col. Vose gave orders to remain not more than half an hour. Surgeon Allen said he believed the sermon would have a bad effect because the young women of Peekskill will now be anxious to see the monsters and they will be sent to run away from home if necessary to visit the camp.

Col. Vose and Gen. Wylie walked through the camp at 3 A. M. yesterday, and they said afterward that it was like a deserted camp, the stillness was so perfect. Nevertheless, the men have a habit of filching the milk pitchers from the mess tent at dinner time and carrying them under their coats to their tents. "Pretty soon," said an officer yesterday, "when milk pitchers get scarce at the mess tent, we shall go through the tents and make a haul of milk pitchers. It is not known what the men want pitchers for.

Chaplain Martyn's horse ran away with him on Sunday, and carried him from the bottom of the hill up the steep military road, to and across the plateau and to the stables, where the chaplain descended safely.

It is announced that Gov. Cleveland is to visit the camp on Thursday of next week, when the Seventy-firsts will be in camp.

Trains leaving Grand Central Depot at 7 A. M., 11 A. M., and 2½ P. M. are to stop hereafter at Roa Hook, half a mile from camp, and trains for New York are to stop at Roa Hook at 8:35 A. M., 2:20 P. M., and 6:07 P. M.

SAVED FROM THE GALLOWS.

The Governor Commutes the Death Sentence of a Wife Murderer.

ALBANY, June 18.—The Governor to-day commuted to imprisonment for life the sentence of Joshua Gifford of Oswego county, who was sentenced to be hanged at Oswego on next Friday for the murder of his wife. The Governor says in his memorandum of reasons for commuting the sentence:

Joshua Gifford was convicted on May 4, 1883, of murder in the first degree and sentenced to be hanged on June 22, 1883. The offence was the killing of his wife on Jan. 1, 1883, by repeated blows upon her head with a poker and a stick of stove wood. A commutation of his sentence to life imprisonment is now asked by a very great number of the best citizens of the locality where the trial was held, including many public officials. The judge who tried the case, the District Attorney who prosecuted, and the jury who found the verdict, all recommends that the death sentence be commuted, and unhesitatingly declares that in his opinion such a course would be in the interest of justice. The testimony taken was very voluminous, more than four weeks being consumed upon the trial. I have made quite a thorough examination of the evidence. The convict is 77 years of age, and up to the time of his arrest had maintained a good character. A number of years previous to his crime he married the woman whom he killed. It appeared upon the trial that they had not lived happily together; that they had quite frequently quarrelled, and had once separated.

The killing of his wife by the convict was conceded, and the jury had only to determine whether, if the accused was responsible and was not justified, what was the grade of the homicide. There could be but little difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that there was no justification for the act, and that the prisoner was entirely responsible to the law. But to constitute his act murder in the first degree, of which he was convicted, it was necessary under the statute that it should have been committed from a deliberate and premeditated design to effect the death of the person killed or of any human being, and that deliberation and premeditation, which are indispensable elements of this crime, could only have been inferred from certain facts which were proved. Upon a careful consideration of such facts they appear to be entirely consistent with the theory that the homicide was committed intentionally, but without deliberation or premeditation. This defines murder in the second degree, which is punishable by imprisonment in a State prison during life.

The verdict of a jury in such a case should not be lightly questioned or impeached. But when relief from the rigor of the law is invoked, no doubt in the mind of the executive as to the existence of any element necessary to the crime, as found by the jury, may well be put in the scale, with the other circumstances, in favor of clemency. Such a doubt in this case, of which I cannot rid myself, the advanced age of the convict, his previous good character, his earlier standing in the community, the almost universal sentiment of his neighbors in favor of his commutation, and the expressed opinion of the learned Judge who heard the evidence and pronounced the sentence, that the punishment of death should not be inflicted, have induced me to commute the sentence in this case from death to imprisonment in a State prison during the natural life of the convict.

FLAVORING HIS BEER.

Ragpicker Pullcostez's Experiments with the Contents of a Bottle he Picked Up.

Nicholas Pullcostez, an Italian ragpicker, came home to 10 York street at 2 P. M. on June 17 with a bag full of paper and rags, and called to his wife Teresa to assist him in sorting the contents. At the bottom of the bag he found an eight-ounce bottle labelled "West Side Pharmacy, Fourteenth street and Seventh avenue." The bottle contained about two ounces of a dark fluid. Neither Pullcostez nor his wife could read English. Pullcostez uncorked the bottle and tasted the fluid. Then he smacked his lips and said:

"Teresa, it tastes nice and sweet. I think it is very fine liquor. Get the can and bring a pint of beer and we'll mix it."

Pullcostez was very jubilant, and instructed his wife to summon his daughter, who lived opposite, to what he called her attention. When she came Pullcostez partly filled three glasses with beer. He poured a quarter of the contents of the bottle into his glass of beer, and put some into his wife's glass, but his daughter refused to take any. Pullcostez and his wife drank off their mixtures, emptied the bottle into his second glass of beer and pronounced the mixture excellent.

An hour later the three were violently ill, and at 7 P. M. he died. Mrs. Pullcostez's life was saved by vigorous measures. An inquest was held yesterday by Coroner Martin, and Deputy Coroner Jenkins certified that the bottle probably contained a mixture of aconite and chloroform, which had been prescribed as a liniment. The jury found a verdict of accidental poisoning.

A Census of Italian School Children.

Vicenzo Cristalli and Antonio Martinez, truant inspectors for Italian children, are now taking the census of Italian children old enough to go to school. In a dilapidated tenement at 23 Roosevelt street yesterday afternoon they entered a small room, where they found six men and a woman. A man and his wife and their daughter lived in the room and kept five boarders. The daughter was 13 years old. Her parents said the inspectors must not take her name, as she was married. The inspectors said that it is said are glad to have their daughters marry at a very early age. The inspector found a twelve year-old wife at 18 Roosevelt street yesterday.

All the afternoon Mr. Martinez took down the names of children who should be at school as fast as Mr. Cristalli could learn them. In the Fourth ward seventy eligible school children were discovered. Many Italian children are attending the Leonard street Italian school, the Pell street public school, the St. James school, and the Five Points Mission. Last year 100 more Italian children attended school in this city than in 1881, and the number of students will be increased this year.

Them Others Put Their Hats On.

David Maher, accused of assault, awaited trial in the Special Sessions yesterday and saw several Hebrew witnesses put on their hats to swear. When his turn came Maher, with great solemnity, put his St. Patrick's hat on his head.

Clerk Monheimer looked at Maher and then at the complaint. The Court looked at Maher and then at the hat and then inquired if he were a Hebrew.

"Hebrew, sir! I am an Irishman," said Maher simply.

"Are you an Irish Jew?"

Maher got excited. "And what are you meaning by that?" he asked. "Is it Maher would be a heathen? It's a good Catholic I am, and I leave it to Father Rooney, and he knows it.

"Then why do you put your hat on in court?" asked Clerk Monheimer.

"Didn't I see them others doing it?"

The Court coughed, and upon examination dismissed the charge of assault.

Policeman Smith Out on Bail.

Policeman John W. Smith, who shot saloon-keeper Regan a week ago Sunday, and was committed for trial by Coroner Levy, was bailed yesterday after being in Sheriff Robert J. Brown's contractor and builder, of 130 West Forty-fifth street, became his bondsman. Smith's counsel waived examination.

Court Calendars This Day.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.—Nos. 46, 19, 22, 30, 33, 37, 41, 43, 45, 48, 49, 68, 72, 82, 85, 97, 101, 141, 142, 157, 158, 159, 160, 216, 219, 243, 244, 248, 250. SPECIAL TERM.—Nos. 934, 1080, 1057, 1061, 1064, 1081, 928, 982, 1018, 139, 781, 875, 887, 882, 896, 976, 1020. Part I.—Nos. 1514, 1515, 1516, 676, 2007, 2, 2869, 1869, 101, 233, 2822, 2357, 2703, 1891, 2888, 2782, 2862, 2579, 1881, 1881, 1048, 1052, 1053, 1080, 1520. Part II.—Clear. Nos. 2148, 3042, 1911, 3078, 2877, 2874, 3020, 1883, 1893, 0589, 2917, 2270, 1448, 2145, 3326, 3047, 3110, 4380, 3863, 3104, 3100, 3105, 3106, 3064. Part III.—Adjourned for term.

SURROGATE'S COURT—Ella B. Beckett, 10 A. M.; Jamies Stokes, 11 A. M.

SUPREME COURT—SPECIAL TERM.—No calendar. Part I. Case on, probably all day. Nos. 1292, 1287, 1273, 1486, 1268, 1465, 1466, 966, 1245, 907, 744, 898, 871, 977, 979, 790, 997, 411. Part II.—Clear. Nos. 986, 416, 955, 956, 840, 604, 320, 992. Part III.—Case on, probably all day. Nos. 1419, 1426, 1429, 1432, 1437, 1438, 1440.

COMMON PLEAS—SPECIAL TERM.—No. 8. EQUITY TERM.—No. adjourn. Part II.—Clear. Nos. 2811, 2839, 2794, 2593, 2490, 2801, 2836, 2841, 2842, 2843, 2844, 2872, 2887, 2892, 2895, 2911, 2927, 2870, 2886, 2892, 2912, 2917, 2918, 2920, 2921, 2918, 2904, 2420, 2753, 2774.

MARINE COURT.—Part I.—Adjourned. Nos. 3836, 3837, 3838, 3839, 3840, 3841, 3843, 3844, 3845, 3846, 3847, 3848, 3853, 3854, 3856, 3858, 3859, 3860, 3861, 3862. Part II.—Nos. 3843, 3844, 3851, 3852, 3861, 3862, 3863, 3864, 3865, 3866, 3867, 3868, 3869, 3870, 3871, 3872, 3873, 3874, 3875, 3876, 3877, 3878, 3879, 3880, 3881, 3882, 3883, 3884, 3885, 3886, 3887, 3888, 3889, 3890, 3891, 3892, 3893, 3894, 3895, 3896, 3897, 3898, 3899, 3900, 3901, 3902. Part III.—Nos. 3910, 3895, 3893, 10208, 3040, 3473, 3547, 3832, 3890, 7844.

GOSSIP ABOUT THE TROTTERS.

Frank Work's Opinion of Jay-Eye-See—The Coming Meeting.

The rain yesterday afternoon served one good purpose. It gave the horses that have undergone unflinching training for the great trotting meeting, which is to begin in Gentlemen's Driving Park to-morrow, needed rest, and enabled owners, handlers, and drivers of the horses to join in a social chat over the merits of their horses and the prospects of the coming contests.

The horses did their morning work in a way that foreshadowed that the meeting will result in surprises for the trotting world.

Mr. David Bonner, President of the association, said: "Given a good day and track, I think you will see the best five-year-old time ever made, and also the fastest time in a three-minute class."

John Murphy remarked that there was the fastest lot of horses present that ever met for a New York meeting.

Murphy drove Big Fellow a quarter in the morning in 33½ seconds. Big Fellow was to trot in the 2:25 class, but, in order to accommodate other owners having horses in Murphy's stable, Douglass is to be substituted for Big Fellow.

The horse that attracts most attention at the Park is the five-year-old Jay-Eye-See. He made a record of 2:19 as a four-year-old, and is credited with a 2:16¾ trial heat at Cleveland.

Although but 15¼ hands high, he looks very powerful and large. Mr. Frank Work gave him a critical examination. Standing behind the horse, he said, "Boys, he reminds me of Gabe Case."

In Barry's roadside inn Mr. Work expressed his belief that if the horse met with no accident, and was not overstrained, he would yet eclipse all previous trotting performances.

A veteran who held his glasses on the trotter while he made a mile without apparent effort in 2:20, during his exercise, said, "He can trot a mile over this track now, as sure as you live, in 2:13."

The horse stood in his box yesterday afternoon with his coat shining like the color of highly polished dark rosewood. In the fall and winter he is coal black. He has intelligent and kindly eyes, like Maud S., and is as gentle as the chaplain descended safely.

It is announced that Gov. Cleveland is to visit the camp on Thursday of next week, when the Seventy-firsts will be in camp.

Trains leaving Grand Central Depot at 7 A. M., 11 A. M., and 2½ P. M. are to stop hereafter at Roa Hook, half a mile from camp, and trains for New York are to stop at Roa Hook at 8:35 A. M., 2:20 P. M., and 6:07 P. M.

AQUATIC SPORTS.

Rowing Regatta on the Charles River and Yacht Racing off Nahant.

BOSTON, June 18.—In the rowing regatta on the Charles River to-day, under the auspices of the Union Boat Club, the junior single sculls, working boats, two miles, was won by J. F. Fogerty of East Boston in 19:15. The senior singles was mainly contested by J. P. Buckley of Portland and Joseph Laing of Montreal. There was a very tight race between these two, but Laing disregarded the rules in turning the buoy, and lost second place, although he finished only 2½ seconds behind Buckley, whose time was 15:08½. There was no time taken in the Harvard eight-oared race between freshmen and sophomores, which was won by a hard some one over a mile and seven-eighths course. On the last half of the course the boats lapped all the way, the seniors pulling 34 strokes to the minute and the freshmen 36, which the latter increased to 42 at the finish. The seniors came in three-quarters of a length ahead.

The double scull race, two miles, was won by Buckley of Portland and McMillan of Boston, in 14:57. The pair-oared shell race was a procession, being won by Weldon and Freeman of Newark, N. J., who led all the way. Time, 15:17½. Two heats were rowed in the junior single shell race over a two-mile course. The race was won by McConnell. Best time, 16:17½. Coughlin of Bath, Me., was second. In the race for four-oared shells, three miles, the Midleses of Boston, after a very close contest, beat the Bradfords in 19:57¼. All the prizes were silver plate.

The Princess of the Dorchester Yacht Club off Nahant had a large number of entries. In the race for the first class, twenty miles, the Maggie, owned by George H. Warren, took the cup in 2:51:42 actual time and 2:17:50 corrected time. The race for the second class, twenty miles, was won by the Shadow, owned by Dr. John Bryant, in 3:04:33 actual time and 2:16:37 corrected time. In the race for the third class, ten miles, the Seabird, owned by G. S. Forbush, won in 2:06:29 actual time and 1:32:03 corrected time.

Mitchell Thinks Slade a Humbug.

From the Boston Herald.

BUFFALO, N. Y., June 16.—St. James Hall was crowded tonight at the first appearance in Buffalo of Charles Mitchell and his trainer, Billy Madden. The wind-up was particularly interesting, Mitchell displaying marvellous skill. At the conclusion Mitchell was asked about his coming fight with Slade. He said that if there is any money backing out it would be Slade's part. As far as he was concerned there would be an honest meeting. The next deposit of $1,500 a side will be forwarded to Harry Hill in a few days, although the time is not up until July 31. Mitchell said he would begin training in Kansas City in about a fortnight. The fight is to come off in that vicinity on Sept. 11. Mitchell and Madden are to give sparring exhibitions in the West. They wish it understood that they will pay no attention to challenges until after the fight with Slade.

"What do you think of Slade?" asked the reporter.

"I have come to the conclusion that he is a speculator, or is being used as the tool of speculators. He comes with a great flourish of trumpets, and the whole tone of the crowd about him shows that he is a humbug. There are a dozen men ready to fight him. I am confident that I can knock him out."

Sporting Notes.

R. K. Fox has offered two gold medals to be competed for by oarsmen of the Brooklyn police force, the contestants to row in 17 foot working boats, distance three miles.

H. M. Dufur of Marlboro, Mass., champion wrestler of America, offers to accept any challenge that is accompanied by a deposit of $100, to be placed in the hands of R. K. Fox, or will wrestle John McMahon, collar and elbow, for $1,000 a side.

Jem Mace writes from England June 6 to Harry Hill: "We are getting on finely. Slade has, by hard work, got a lot of flesh off, and has much improved in science. In fact, he doesn't look like the same man. Slade has met and put on the gloves with all the best talent here, among them Al. Greenfield and Jack Burke, who fought a draw with Mitchell and came off with colors flying. I am going to give a belt for a competition and bring over the winner. I shall bring Burke over any way, for he wants to prove whether he or Mitchell is the champion of England. Burke has improved much, and I shall give him a good trial and then teach him some of my points, if he proves himself a good one, and I will then back him. We shall leave England for America either on June 30 or July 7, so that Slade can finish his training, for he will gain six or seven pounds on the voyage."

Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" is a most powerful restorative tonic, also combining the most valuable nervine properties, especially adapted to the wants of debilitated ladies suffering from weak back, inward fever, congestion, inflammation, or ulceration, or from nervousness or neuralgic pains. By druggists.—Adv.

EDWIN BOOTH'S ARRIVAL.

Gratified by his Reception in Germany and Going Back in 1884.

Edwin Booth and his daughter Edwina arrived yesterday by the steamer Gallia, and went to the house of Mr. Calvert Vaux, where they will remain until they go to Newport next week. Mr. Booth's friends had intended to give him a public reception, but the project was abandoned on account of the illness of Mr. Vaux's son.

Mr. Booth is in excellent health. He attributes it to the fact that he played no one-night engagements in Germany, but remained for several weeks in every city he visited.

"So you enjoyed your trip?" he was asked.

"Very much. Not only because I did not have to undergo the hardships of continuous travel, but because I had such success."

"You found appreciative audiences everywhere?"

"Everywhere. They have in Germany an admirable translation of Shakespeare. Indeed, Schlegel and Tieck may be said to have made Shakespeare a German poet. He is read and understood there as much as Goethe and Schiller. Consequently the kind reception of my performances was all the more gratifying."

"Was any special part better received than others?"

"*Hamlet*, I think. But I attribute this to the popularity of the play. It appeals to the German mind, which busies itself with psychological investigations."

"Did you play in all your parts?"

"Not in *Richelieu*. The play is considered weak in Germany. Haase, the celebrated actor, had a translation of this drama made, and appeared in it, but it received a terrible overhauling from the critics."

"Was your German support satisfactory?"

"In every way. We had the kindliest intercourse throughout my engagement."

"Will you play in Germany again?"

"I expect to go there again in the fall of 1884."

"Has your method of travelling in Germany changed your plans for your coming season here?"

"It has. I shall not wear myself out again by quick travelling. I will act only in the large cities, playing long engagements."

"Shall you ever attempt managing a theatre again?"

"I don't think [good humoredly] that my friends will let me, after my last experience. The country is not ready for a Shakespearean stock company. In Germany the companies are subsidized. Here, of course, no subsidies can be or ought to be expected, and the distances between large towns are so great that profits are absorbed by travelling expenses."

AMUSEMENTS.

Tony Pastor's "Fun in a Balloon."

A very fair audience gathered last night to see the farcical piece called "Fun in a Balloon," played by the Edwards and Jackson company. The balloon comes on for about three minutes in the second act. There is a large sized wash basket attached to it, and in the basket two men. As in the case of the old lady in the nursery rhyme,

How they got there I cannot well tell you,
But under his arm each carried a—pistol.

The pistols go off. The "balloon" splits into flat segments like the head of a flour barrel, and these sail away through the air. The basket remains perched on the clouds like Noah's ark on Mount Ararat, and the two performers fall into the arms of their quite visible attendants.

The piece is not nearly so good as "Vim," but, like more fashionable audiences, Tony Pastor's become cynical during the summer and applied so frequently for "something new" stuff. There is one thing, however, to be said for the affair—like its predecessor, it is clean.

Toppling their Jockeys into the Mud.

The first race at Brighton Beach yesterday was run through rain and mud. It was for all ages, one mile. Pope Leo sold at $100; George Hakes, $40; Flower of Meath, $40; Laramintа, $80; field, $70. Pope Leo won; Flower of Meath, second; George Hakes, third. Time, 1:46¾. Mutuals paid $14.60.

For the second race, one mile and an eighth, Cromwell sold at $200; Skylark, $180; field, $120. Cromwell won; Little Katie, second; Skylark, third. Time, 2:02¾. Mutuals paid $13.

For the third race, the Brooklyn handicap for all ages, one and a quarter miles, Hasska sold at $500; Bonnie, $400; Charlie Kempland, $115; Little Dan, $80; field, $145. Monk won; Keno, second; Hasska, third. Time, 2:16. Mutuals paid $48.15 for the winner and $27.85 for second horse,