HIS DEATH UNEXPLAINED.

NO ONE TO ACCOUNT FOR A BLOW THAT KILLED WILLIAM KRAUSS.

The Stories of Two Companions who Shared his Apartment on the Night when he Died —A Puzzle to the Police—The Autopsy.

William Krauss, who was found dead at 178 Suffolk street on Christmas morning, died from an injury to his left temple, seemingly the result of a blow. Deputy Coroner Donlin, who made the autopsy, reported that there was intercranial hemorrhage caused by this injury. All the other organs were in a healthy condition except the stomach, which showed evidences of alcoholic gastritis. Whether Krauss was murdered or got his injuries accidentally is puzzling the police and Coroner Levy, who has charge of the case. Mary Sullivan, his mistress, and Albert Buchholz, who lived with him, were with him on the night of his death. When the police searched Buchholz in the Eldridge street station on Tuesday they found in his pocket Krauss's watch and razor. When questioned as to how he came by them he said that Mary Sullivan had given them to him. Mary Sullivan says that she did not give them to him, and that he carried them off without her knowledge.

Buchholz and Mary Sullivan were arraigned yesterday before Justice Patterson at Essex Market. Policeman Sullivan made an affidavit which set forth that there was cause to suspect that they were instrumental in causing Krauss's death. Justice Patterson committed them to jail to await the action of Coroner Levy's jury.

Mary Sullivan is 24 years old, and of quiet deportment. She told this story to the reporter last evening: "My name is either Mary Sullivan or Mary Happ. I think that it is Happ. I married a man under the name of Sullivan, but was afterward told that his name was Happ. He so ill treated me that I was compelled to leave him. About fourteen months ago I became acquainted with Krauss, and went to live with him as his housekeeper. Six months ago we took two rooms on the top floor of 178 Suffolk street. In the early part of November Buchholz told Krauss that he would give him $3 a month if he would let him sleep there. Krauss agreed, and after that the two men slept in the bed in the front room, while I slept in the back room on a lounge. Lately Krauss had been working at his trade as a carriage trimmer at Bayside, L. I., and he came home only once a week. Buchholz still stopped in the rooms, but I did not stay there while Krauss was away. Krauss came home on Saturday night. He spent most of the time in a liquor store in Suffolk street. He was a frequent drinker and spent most of his money in that way. I went out on Monday, but returned at dusk. Krauss was not home, and I went to look for him in the neighboring liquor saloons. He was not in any of them. Krauss came home into the house two boys were assisting Krauss along the street. He was under the influence of liquor. I gave the boys the last five cents I had to carry him up stairs. He said that he did not feel well, and kept asking for water, which I gave him. At 8 o'clock Buchholz came in and gave me ten cents to buy brandy with. I went out after the brandy, leaving Buchholz and Krauss together. Krauss seemed all right then. When I came back with the brandy Buchholz drank half, and told me to give some to Krauss. Krauss said he would drink it if I mixed it with water. Then he groaned, and at his request I put my hand on his head. It felt wet, but as it was dark, I did not notice anything wrong. Later I saw that the moisture was blood. Buchholz went to bed. When I looked at Krauss again I found that he was dead. I did not tell Buchholz. The next morning Buchholz went to the liquor saloon across the street. At 8 o'clock I told him that Krauss was dead."

"Was there any jealousy between the men?"

"Yes; Krauss was very jealous of Buchholz on my account. Not long ago they quarrelled. Buchholz said at that time: 'Krauss, you need not worry; I don't want to have anything to do with her.'"

Buchholz is 38 years old, and was born in Germany. He is a scissors grinder. He said yesterday that he had been intimate with Krauss for sixteen years. He insisted that he was not in the room with him when Mary Sullivan went out for the brandy, and denied that he had injured Krauss in any way. He said he first heard that Krauss was dead at 8 o'clock on Tuesday morning, and shortly afterward he went to the Eldridge street police station and notified the police. "Krauss and I were great friends," he said, "and he was not jealous of me. His woman was jealous. He was the habit of quarrelling. On Sunday night he kicked me."

The police have not found the two boys who are said to have helped Krauss home, and have not discovered where he was on Monday. In Krauss's trunk was a policy for $160 on the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

SHOOTING A BURGLAR.

The Fortunate Result of Policeman McLaughlin's Desire for a Piece of Pie.

Police Superintendent Campbell of Brooklyn sent out to all the precincts yesterday an official notice thanking Patrolmen Michael McLaughlin and John C. Woolsack of the Myrtle avenue station and Adolph S. Wasserman, a special officer of the American District Telegraph Company, for the arrest of the two burglars who were surprised in Mark Schriefer's grocery, 331 De Kalb avenue. One of the prisoners, who gave the name of William Johnson of Chicago, was identified soon after he was brought to the station as William H. Dicks, who hitherto has borne a good reputation in Brooklyn. A few years ago he had three small retail stores in the Twenty-third ward, and was an active Republican politician. Having failed in business he became a conductor, but lately has been peddling diamonds and jewelry. There was hardly a day when he was not seen near the City Hall and Court House. He has a dark beard and side whiskers. He lives at 205 Oxford street. He has been separated from his wife for some time. Nothing is known of Roberts, the other prisoner, who was shot by Wasserman. He is suffering from the wound in the left shoulder, but no serious result is anticipated.

The presence of the burglars was discovered by McLaughlin, who was in the habit of going to the grocery on his way home from his post for a piece of pie. This time he was surprised to find the door open and the light turned down lower than usual. Wasserman happened to be passing at the time, and McLaughlin asked him to remain at the door while he went in to examine the store. As soon as McLaughlin entered the store two men stood up behind the counter, and one of them said:

"That is all right, officer; we belong here."

"We will see about that," said McLaughlin, going to the back of the counter. One of the burglars, who subsequently proved to be Dicks, jumped into the show window, and, placing his back against the plate glass, crashed through and reached the street. McLaughlin rushed after him through the opening in the window and pursued him for a block or so, when he ran into the arms of Patrolman Woolsack. The other burglar, a small, wiry fellow, also attempted to escape by the window. Officer Wasserman, who was in the store, but in front of the counter, seeing in the dim light that he had a revolver, raised his hand, drew his own weapon and fired two shots at the burglar in rapid succession. The burglar was close by the window at the time the shots were fired.

Only one of the bullets took effect, but it disabled the burglar, and he surrendered. His own revolver, a British bulldog, fully loaded, was found behind the counter, where it had dropped from his hand. At the station he said he was John Roberts of Monroe, a carpenter. In his pockets were found a bunch of skeleton keys, a screw driver, a bit, an iron wrench, and four iron screws. Similar tools were found on Dicks, but a lockpick, a jimmy, several skeleton keys, and a small bit were picked up in the street where he had dropped them during his flight. A large steel sectional jimmy, a collapsible, a large brace, and other tools were found near the safe in the store. The burglars had been at work on the safe, which contained $250 in money and certified checks aggregating $500.

When before Superintendent Campbell yesterday Dicks denied all participation in the burglary. He was not in the store at all, and was on his way home when the policeman grabbed him. McLaughlin says he never lost sight of him from the time he jumped through the window until he ran into the arms of Woodsack. Justice Massey committed Dicks for examination. The other prisoner is guarded in the hospital.

Engineer Pinneo Killed.

PERTH AMBOY, Dec. 26.—The locomotive of the Long Branch local freight train, due in this city at 6½ o'clock, jumped the track at the new junction of the Philadelphia and Reading and the Pennsylvania Railroads at 6:50 A. M. yesterday. Engineer Frederick Pinneo of Elizabeth was caught beneath the engine, and instantly killed. A brakeman, who was in the cab, received severe injuries. The fireman, C. H. Traphagen, was thrown into the snow without serious injury. The locomotive and three freight cars are a wreck. The frog at the junction had become clogged with ice.

The Emma Bond Case.

HILLSBOROUGH, Ill., Dec. 26.—The Bond case trial did not open until nearly noon to-day. Minnie Peters, the sister of Lee Peters, one of the defendants, testified that her brother Lee owned but one pair of red striped stockings. The prosecution then subjected her to a long cross examination. The result was that the witness, in a number of instances, gave quite different testimony from that elicited at the preliminary trial, and contradicted herself and other members of the family.

Shot with a Toy Pistol.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 26.—Eddie Bohner, aged 8 years, while standing on the steps of his father's residence to-day, was shot in the head with a toy pistol and mortally wounded. The person who fired the shot is unknown.

AMUSEMENTS.

Second Rehearsal of the Oratorio Society.

Following closely on the heels of the production of the "Messiah" by the Brooklyn Philharmonic comes the Oratorio Society's performance of the same work. To one who attended both performances it was interesting to note the differences in the results aimed at and the methods used by the two conductors, Thomas in Brooklyn and Dr. Damrosch in New York, and the temptation to draw comparisons is almost irresistible. But as each performance had its own excellences and its own defects, the fairer way is to resist this temptation and to judge each simply upon its own merits.

The rehearsal of the "Messiah" in Brooklyn was fully treated of in our issue of Saturday last; it remains only to speak of that of yesterday in the Academy of Music in this city.

Dr. Damrosch ignores entirely the Franz additions to the score, and adheres generally to that filled out by Mozart, adding the organ, however, although yesterday, in one instance, the bass aria, "The Trumpet Shall Sound," he even abandoned Mozart and returned to the original Handel score. This proved to be an unlucky choice; for the cornet player who undertook the important trumpet solo which accompanies this number made sad work of the introduction, "quacking" and "breaking" in a manner strongly provocative of laughter. Mozart shortened this introduction, and the use of his arrangement would have avoided some of the most dangerous and unfortunate passages. Such accidents always seem like a just judgment on conductors and players. If they will play on a cornet, the high notes of which come with difficulty, music originally written for a trumpet, the high notes of which come with ease, they deserve no better fate than a series of misfortunes.

Of the four soloists who sang yesterday three are new to oratorio audiences. These soloists were Mrs. E. J. Grant, soprano; Mr. Ch. H. Thompson, tenor; Mr. Max Heinrich, bass; and Mme. Trebelli, contralto, this latter lady appearing by the permission of Mr. Abbey. It is, perhaps, not too much to say that, as an oratorio singer, Mme. Trebelli was a disappointment. Her aria, "O Thou that tellest," "He shall feed His flock," and "He was despised," though otherwise well rendered, were all spoilt by her faulty habit of ending *piano* phrases with one or two strongly emitted chest notes, which undoubtedly forced applause from the unthinking part of her audience, but which grated harshly upon the feelings of the more musical; and her singing of the recitatives was very unsatisfactory—more like the reading of a clever school girl than the work of a trained artist. Mrs. Grant has a useful soprano voice, fairly well under control; but her singing yesterday was cold and unfeeling, and her rendering of the great test number, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," was painfully bad. In justice it must be added that her execution in "Rejoice greatly" was even and clean. Mr. Thompson has a pleasant tenor voice, which he uses with considerable skill, and he phrases in a musicianly way; in fact, his singing would have been altogether pleasant if he and the orchestra could not have agreed about the pitch. He was a trifle flat from beginning to end, except in passages which took him above F; all notes above that were in tune. Mr. Heinrich is too well known to need much notice here. His singing of recitatives is admirable; almost his only fault are his lisping enunciation, and a foreigner is certainly excusable if he mispronounces an occasional vowel or consonant.

The singing of the chorus was uneven; it was good only in spots. The general impression left by it was that the rehearsals of the oratorio had been rushed through in a hurry, trusting too much to that general knowledge of the "Messiah" which every oratorio chorus singer is supposed to have, and spending real work only on one or two effects peculiar to Dr. Damrosch. Its members and their conductor deserve credit for one thing; a *piano* can be, and is given by them. Some of their best singing yesterday was done in passages of special delicacy. The fugues were generally unsatisfactory; the various responsive voices entered uncertainly, and the running passages of imitation were sometimes hurried and sometimes dragged, until it occasionally seemed as though Dr. Damrosch might as well sit down and leave his singers to their own sweet wills.

The playing of the orchestra was shamefully careless, and it grew worse and worse toward the end, as though the players were tired of their job and only cared to get it over anyhow. Any one who has mingled much with German orchestra players knows well that they look upon taking part in the "Messiah" as a species of penance which they are periodically compelled to pass through. It might not, however, be out of place to remind these gentlemen that when they are engaged and paid to perform a work before an audience which has paid to hear it, they have no right to permit their private distastes to lead them to murder the composition by carelessness and inattention.

The places for the introduction of the organ were chosen with unusual judgment and good taste; but the gentleman who presides at the instrument would do well to assure himself of the correct harmonies, and to adhere to them. In "Rejoice greatly" he spoilt one passage completely; and in "Why do the nations?" he produced a series of cacophonous noises which were highly unmusical and unpleasant.

There is no doubt but that both chorus and orchestra will do better at the concert to-night than they did at the rehearsal yesterday. Many of the faults noticed were simply the result of a lack of interest and care, which is very common at rehearsals, even at public ones. But yesterday's improvement upon yesterday's work can be made with advantage.

In conclusion, it should be said that, in many places, Dr. Damrosch's conception of the work, and his occasional introductions of unwritten and original effects, are musically and thoroughly in harmony with the spirit of the composition.

The audience at the rehearsal was large, and generous with its applause.

POOL UNDER THE NEW RULES.

Winners of the First Games of the Preliminary Tournament.

A quick, strong stroke and the sharp crack of a broken pyramid of billiard balls opened the preliminary tournament of the first pool games under the standard rules in Madison square Hall last evening. The striker was the comparatively old player Leonard of Philadelphia. His opponent was the novice Zimmerman of New York. Zimmerman won the first inning, but at the close of the sixth Leonard had scored four to Zimmerman's two. Zimmerman then won six off the reel, Leonard added two more to his score before Zimmerman won the game by 15 to 6.

The scattering of the pyramid at the first shot makes the game much faster than the old style of gingerly scaling one ball on the table, the lower end with just force enough to return it to the cluster from the cushion.

The second game of the series was played between Messrs. Van Daskirk and Guilmant of staten Island. Van Daskirk won the first innings, and then lost his grip. Jemison forged ahead, and winning handily.

William Sexton and many expert pool play-writers were there. They expressed a decided preference for the new game. There are nine players in the preliminary tournament, Zimmerman being added to the names given in a few days. Thirty-six games, first 11 out of 21, will be played two each afternoon and two in the evening. The three leading men will be given places in the main tournament, which will open Jan. 7.

A New Society of Naturalists.

A new scientific society—The Society of Naturalists of the Eastern United States—is to hold its meeting at Columbia College School of Mines, Dec. 27 and 28, at 10 o'clock A. M. This is its first meeting, and all persons interested are cordially invited to be present. Its roll of original members numbers over 100, including most of the best names among the working naturalists of the country. Prof. S. F. Baird of the Smithsonian Institution, Prof. J. D. Dana, Major J. W. Powell, Prof. A. S. Packard, Jr., Alpheus Hyatt, J. S. Newberry, J. T. Rothrock, B. G. Wilder, G. Brown Goode, and many others. Its object is to secure cooperation among the professional investigators, to encourage workers, to devise, &c., in improving methods rather than results of work, and especially to improve the natural history museums and the methods of teaching.

This society will do what the American Association for the Advancement of Science has been unable to do, viz., bring the workers together in a large organization in which there is discussion of subjects which would be uninteresting to a majority of members of the American Association. Especially will the society devote its attention to the improvement of science in educational work and the betterment of the methods of instruction and to all other topics which will tend to render science more effective in the education of men.

The headquarters of the society will be at the Grand Union Hotel, where the secretary, Dr. C. E. Minot, may be found.

Partridges Take a Tumble.

Crates and barrels filled with partridges were displayed in the butcher stores along Washington street yesterday. The birds were pinned and in good condition. An uptown dealer swung his cart in front of a poultry store, jumped into the slush with a great splash, and called out:

"How are partridges selling?"

"Eighty cents a pair."

A dozen pairs were thrown into the cart.

"Is not eighty cents cheap for a pair of partridges?" the reporter asked.

"Yes. Up to-day we have not sold any for less than $1 a pair. You see the market is very full of them, and that is the reason why we sell them so low."

Some of the uptown retail butchers are selling partridges from $1.25 a pair up. In some restaurants a half a partridge is served for fifty cents.

Boucicault and Clara Morris in Galveston.

GALVESTON, Dec. 26.—Dion Boucicault began an engagement in this city on Tuesday night. Yesterday he refused to appear at the matinee, although a good house was present, claiming that the stage scenery was inadequate to fitly represent the play. Last night he repeated the "Shaughraun" to a small house. A famous incidents for the past week have suffered here in consequence of the coming engagement of Clara Morris, who opens a three nights' engagement on Thursday.

The Benefit Performance at Wallack's.

An extra performance will be given at Wallack's this afternoon for the benefit of the sufferers by the Standard Theatre fire. The programme is very attractive, and embraces nearly every form of theatrical amusement. Members of most of the leading theatres in town will take part.

A POLICEMAN AS A BURGLAR.

Convicted of a Bank Robbery After Serving a Term for Burglary.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—Henry Moneis was placed on trial to-day in the old Court House, before Judge Allison, on a charge of burglary. In 1871 he was a policeman under Mayor Fox. In 1875 he was arrested in this city on a charge of drunkenness. When he was searched a number of silver spoons engraved with initials were found concealed in his bosom. The spoons connected him with a burglary at Barren Hill, Montgomery county. Three robbers in masks had entered a dwelling there occupied by an elderly woman and a woman servant. They plundered the house and terrorized the women with revolvers. At the trial in Montgomery county Moneis was convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary in this city for ten years. The Commutation act reduced his term a little more than two years, and it expired in August last. While he was in jail it was discovered that he was one of the men wanted for the robbery of the Kensington Bank on the night of Feb. 3, 1871. Maurice Murphy and John Holmes, the bank watchmen, visited him in the penitentiary and declared him to be the most active of the thieves. To-day he was put on trial. Watchman Holmes died a few years ago. Watchman Murphy was the only witness on either side. He said:

The bank was robbed on the night of Feb. 3, 1871, and Henry Moneis was the burglar. I knew him well. He was a policeman, and the bank was on his beat. I saw him pass the institution many, many times. On the afternoon of the robbery he called on the cashier about some trivial matter. He was dressed in civilian's clothes, and I learned afterward that his visit was merely an excuse to afford him a good look at the interior of the bank. At about 7 o'clock that evening he came to the door of the bank and rapped. He was dressed in his uniform, and, I believe, was on duty. John Redgraves was with him. John Holmes and myself were in the bank. Moneis called me outside, and pointed to two men who, he said, he had been shadowing, as he suspected they were preparing to rob the bank. While I stood peering through the darkness looking at the two men, who were across the street, Moneis and Redgraves slipped into the bank, closed the door behind them, and shut me out. They went up to where Holmes was standing and knocked him down and bound and gagged him. I had a key to the back door, and when I unlocked it Moneis rushed at me and knocked me down. He beat me until I was senseless, and afterward handcuffed my hands behind my back. Then they carried Holmes out me to the back of the bank, and he gave me the alarm. The robbers then broke open and rained the safe doors. When it was all over they took chairs and sat down by the stove. I did not dare to cry out, for fear my wife would be killed. Redgraves he had better go, as the rolling mill watchman would soon be around. I wanted to frighten them off. At about 3 o'clock in the morning the rolling mill watchman came along and began rapping on the doors of the house where the rolling mill hands lived, to wake them for work. Redgraves and Moneis heard the noise and fled. Then I got over to where Holmes had been bound and gagged, and, with my hands bound in handcuffs behind me, managed to undo the rope that was tied around his arms. Then he took the gag out of his mouth, and we gave the alarm to the neighbors opposite. This was at 5 o'clock in the morning. I went to the rolling mill, and some of the hands cut the handcuffs from my wrists."

"Is this man in the dock the Moneis of whom you speak?" asked Assistant District Attorney Weyde.

"I am quite sure it is," replied the witness hesitatingly, "but he has changed a great deal. He had no beard then."

The witness left the stand and walked round and round the prisoner, examining him critically.

"Don't you know me, Moneis?" he asked in a low voice.

The prisoner simply shook his head in the negative.

"Look here," continued the witness, "you know that you were in that robbery. Yes," looking at him critically, "I recognize you. I identify him positively," he said, as he returned to the stand.

"That is the Commonwealth's case," Mr. Warwick said.

The jury, without leaving the box, returned a verdict of guilty. The Judge said that before imposing sentence he would make inquiries as to the character of the burglary in Montgomery county.

Redgraves died in Europe. "Coats" Donoghue, the third man, has not been seen in this city since the burglary. More than $100,000 in bonds and cash were taken from the bank.

IN A RECEIVING VAULT.

The Body of the Discarded Lover Held to Await the Wishes of his Friends.

The funeral of L. Richard von Sternberg, who committed suicide by taking morphine at 1,396 Second avenue, on Christmas eve, took place yesterday from the Presbyterian Hospital. The services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Louis Smith of the 119th street Lutheran Church. The pall bearers were John Niederstein, Adolph Hesse, Charles and Gustav Stahl, and Mr. Dorbel. These gentlemen were his most intimate friends. The plate upon the casket was inscribed:

L. Richard von Sternberg, died Dec. 25, 1883, aged 26 years.

The portrait of the young lady, Maria Marx of Herdorff Castle on the Rhine, whose final letter breaking her marriage engagement with Von Sternberg was the occasion of his suicide, is in the possession of Mr. Niederstein. It is that of a beautiful and intellectual young woman, richly dressed. He also showed an album bearing the inscription:

To my friend, Mr. Ludwig von John Niederstein, from his thankful friend, L. Richard Von Sternberg.

The remains were taken to the receiving vaults of the Lutheran Cemetery, Middle Village, L. I., to await instructions from his friends in Germany. Mr. Niederstein communicated with the German Consul in this city yesterday, who will notify the German Consul at Cologne, who in turn will communicate with Von Sternberg's guardian, Prof. Andresen.

THE RIVERDALE DISASTER.

Special Agent Hinds Exonerates the Inspector who Examined the Boilers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The Secretary of the Treasury has received a long report from Special Agent Hinds concerning the explosion of the boilers of the steamer Riverdale on the Hudson in August last. Mr. Hinds says:

I have endeavored to present the material points of the evidence as fairly and impartially as I am able. The testimony as a whole, while not entirely free from inconsistencies and contradictions, has led me to the following conclusions in respect to the charges of inefficiency and gross negligence made against Alexander Caldwell, Assistant Inspector of Boilers:

First—That he is a thoroughly competent and efficient officer.

Second—That in making his preliminary examination of the Riverdale boilers in April, and considering that the best of his inspection in June, he was acting in accordance with the long established usage of the office.

* * * * * * * *

Third—That the explosion of the Riverdale was evident had been in the nature of a revelation to them as to the probabilities of danger in this part of a boiler, and it will doubtless suggest greater precautions in the future. With the experience thus derived, all inspectors and experts will be wiser than they were before.

A Crew Badly Frost Bitten.

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 26.—On Saturday afternoon last the bark Mohawk sailed from New York, bound for Gibiotta with a cargo of oil. She had on board a crew of twenty men. Capt. Grossland commanding. The piercing cold weather of Saturday night and Sunday morning had a terrible effect on the crew. None of them were so badly frostbitten that the bark came to anchor eight miles from the New Haven lighthouse, and a tug was dispatched to the city yesterday to commissate the intelligence of the disabled crew. To-day nine of the crew were taken from the bark and brought to this city on a tug, all suffering from the effects of frost on their hands and feet frozen badly. The crew was shipped from New York and are mostly Japanese. Two of them will probably have to have their feet amputated. One of the crew who was shot early on Sunday morning lost his hold, or was struck by the sail, and fell to the deck the third five hours afterward. He was a Japanese, 18 years of age, named Simila Ajeta.

Capt. Grossland had his vessel, the Mohawk, altered from a ship to a bark while she was loading with oil at Hunter's Point. The new mizzen topmast was set up to see how it would fit, and was permitted to remain, because of the expense of taking it down and up again. As he could not run under the bridge when it was set up, he decided to run out to sea through Hell Gate and the Sound. The sound is dreaded by all ship captains on account of its narrowness, low temperature and frequent easterly winds, but they often take the chances rather than to run under the bridge.

Every seaman who left the vessel thought of it during the frost in the Sound. When the vessels put to sea by Sandy Hook they stand more to the southward and avoid the cold.

The Mohawk is loaded with case oil, and is bound for Gaicutta. Ten of the crew were sent on by the night boat to New Haven, where they will join the vessel.

The Adirondack Forests.

ALBANY, Dec. 26.—The Committee on the Adirondack Forests will report against the purchase of the woodlands in bulk. The committee consists of Senators Koch, Lynde, and F. Lansing. The Chamber of Commerce will have a hearing to-morrow, and soon afterward testimony will be taken relative to certain claims against the State of Michigan. Senators Lynde and Lansing are opposed to any proposition to purchase the forest lands. All valuable timber near the rivers and lakes has been cut away, and what remains is a dense forest, absolutely unmarketable because too far away from any stream. The trees are all on hillsides some distance from the waterways. These senators say that the agitation of the question of purchase by the State has already increased the price by an enormous sum, and if any effort is made to carry out the project the price will become $100 an acre.

Another Cantilever Bridge Over the Niagara.

LOCKPORT, Dec. 26.—A bill to authorize the construction of another new cantilever bridge over the Niagara River at or near Lewiston is in the hands of Representative Stevens of Attica, this district, and will be pushed through Congress at the earliest possible moment. A similar bill will also be introduced at the forthcoming session of the Canadian Parliament. It is understood that the Grand Trunk Railway is at the bottom of the scheme, their object being to secure direct communication with the Rome, Watertown, and Ogdensburg Railroad. Engineers of both the Canadian and Grand Trunk have been negotiating for some time. Congressman Stevens desires, by this bridge, to secure through connections across the river for the new Attica, Lockport and Youngstown Railroad, of which he is President.

To regulate the stomach, liver, and bowels, and promote digestion, take one of Carter's Little Liver Pills every night. 25 cents.—Adv.

MORE FOOD DISTRIBUTED.

Scores of Women Sent Away with Basket Loads from the City Hall Yesterday.

The Rev. Henry Kimball gave away two cheeses cut in pound chunks, two barrels of crackers, a barrel of turnips, a barrel of hominy done up in brown paper pound packages, and five bags of Indian meal from the steps of the City Hall yesterday. One hundred and twenty women, 70 little girls, and a colored man came to get their baskets filled. Mr. Martin J. Keese put his entire force of men at the preacher's disposal, and then dived into the barrels, head, shoulders, and arms at once, and helped distribute the food himself. Five hundred people looked on. Not more than a dozen or twenty of the women had the shrunken arms and bony hands, the hollow cheeks and waxen complexions that denote actual suffering from hunger. On the contrary, very many were plump. But their clothing was in all cases very ragged or shabby. A score came without hats, and at least fifty drew the ends of faded and ragged shawls together over their breasts to keep warm and to hide the gaping rents in their dresses. Others had tattered crocheted nubias that served no purpose except a striving toward presentableness. The children did not look half so badly. They had bright eyes, stout little bodies, and decent clothing in nearly every instance. There were adults whose misfortunes appeared to have been due to drink.

The Mayor had to pick his way through the crowd to get to his office. At 4 o'clock Mr. Kimball drew the basket carriers up in three lines along the bottom steps of the main entrance to the building. Nearly all the baskets were sound and good looking. One woman had a tin pail, one had a bag, and two or three made sacks of their aprons.

"Thank the Lord," said Mr. Kimball, "there's enough for all. Now, don't let the devil break this thing up. He'd like to, and the way he'd do it would be to have you all rush forward and cause the police to interfere. Be kind to me now, and do as I say. Now, last Saturday I asked you to bring your addresses—your names and where you live. Now don't be scared. If you haven't done it, do it next time. We want to go and see your homes; see what's the matter with them, why the pot doesn't boil, and why there's nothing in it. We want to see if we can't start things going in them."

More than half a hundred pieces of paper were handed up. Then the food came, and the struggle began. No octopus ever had so many arms as were kept constantly stretched to the edges of the barrels. The words "Thank you" were not heard once. Still, there were some grateful smiles and curtsies. One woman who, after waiting five minutes, got a bit of cheese, two turnips, and a pound or so of tea crackers, drew a long breath and said:

"Well, I'm sure that was well aimed." Half a dozen women kept apart from the crowd and waylaid the men as they passed out of the Hall with the food. Finding they could get no one except in the regular way, they abused the entire arrangements in tones that all around them could hear, but they would not take their places in the lines. When Mr. Kimball told a woman she had two sorts of grub, cheese and turnips, and could not get any more, she took the cheese out, poked the basket in the way again, and got a load of crackers. One little girl got a good supply, and in a minute reappeared with a different and an empty basket.

TALKING ABOUT SNOW PLOUGHS.

The Aldermen Discuss the Bills Inflicted by these Machines.

The Board of Aldermen yesterday requested Mayor Edson to have the city ordinance regulating the use of snow ploughs by street railroad companies strictly enforced. This ordinance requires the companies, before they can get a permit to use the ploughs, to agree to reduce the snow which they throw up on streets adjacent to their tracks to such a level as will make the approach to the curbstone convenient for vehicles, and render the whole roadway safe for travel. This work must be done within twenty-four hours after the fall of snow. If the companies neglect to do the work within that time, the Police Commissioners, under the Mayor's direction, must have it done, and charge the expense to the companies.

Alderman Smith offered a resolution repealing the entire ordinance relating to snow ploughs.

Alderman Grant thought that snow ploughs should be used in some streets, but could be dispensed with in others. Alderman Fitzpatrick could not understand why the railroad companies could not use horses and carts to remove the snow from the streets. Alderman Smith said the ploughs had piled up the snow on Twenty third street and Seventh avenue so high that horses could not be conveniently reached. Alderman Seaman said that a fire hydrant in front of his property had been covered up by snow thrown from these ploughs.

The resolution was referred.

Report that District Attorney Olney will Make Changes in his Staff.

District Attorney Olney, when he went into office a fortnight ago, said he would make no changes in his office unless there was urgent reason for doing so. It was announced yesterday that there would be changes on Jan. 1 among Mr. Olney's assistants. Assistant District Attorneys O'Byrne and Requier and Deputy Assistant District Attorney Brady, it was said, had received intimations that their resignations would be accepted, and had determined to tender them to-day. Rumors of changes in the office were numerous. Ex-Senator Ecclesine and Edward L. Parris of the Young Men's Democratic Club, it was reported, would fill the vacancies to be created by the retirement of Messrs. O'Byrne and Requier, and Ex-Senator Fitzgerald was named as the successor of Mr. Brady. The salary of an Assistant District Attorney is $7,500 a year, and that of a Deputy Assistant District Attorney is $5,000. The attache of the District Attorney's office said yesterday that changes in the staff of the District Attorney would probably be announced to-day. Messrs. Requier and Brady are members of Tammany Hall, and Mr. O'Byrne is a County Democrat.

President McKenzie and Elizabeth's Debt.

It was published in Elizabeth on Monday that men conversant with the debt adjustment of that city had said that Alfred Clark, son of the late Edward Clark of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, had expressed dissatisfaction with the course taken by President McKenzie of that company, and, after repeated interviews with the fiscal agents of Elizabeth, had been convinced of the unwise position of the Singer Company. It was added that it was rumored he would endeavor to have a syndicate formed for the settlement of the entire debt, in order to aid in the prosecution of his pet scheme, and that he had succeeded in having Mr. McKenzie deposed from the Presidency at a recent meeting of the Board of Direct ors, the vacancy thereby filled by Mr. Meehan, the executor of his father's estate.

President George R. McKenzie said to a reporter yesterday that the report of his deposition was false. He thought it was got up by friends of the financial agent of Elizabeth to encourage the city in its belief that they could get a fifty per cent settlement. Mr. Meehan said there was not a word of truth in the report that Mr. McKenzie had been deposed, neither was there a shadow of probability that he would be.

"The Singer Company owes Elizabeth," President McKenzie added, "who are determined to make no appear to be the only obstacle to the settlement of the city's debt. I have had them repeated to me that we would take no settlement whatever they could get all the other creditors to take."

Talking Over the Aqueduct Schemes.

Mr. Weir, a builder, told the Aqueduct Commission yesterday that a wooden flume, 16 feet high and 8 feet square, could be built to bring water to the city while the aqueduct was being constructed, at a cost of $4 or $5 a foot. It would last for 10 to 15 years.

Ex-Judge William H. Arnoux made a long argument on the question of the storage of water. If it were desired to supply 120,000,000 gallons a day, it would be necessary to have in storage, in addition to the natural flow from the Croton dam, 1,296,000,000 gallons. If the Bronx extension were added the amount would be reduced to 2,200,000,000 gallons. If 150,000,000 gallons were the daily supply, 1,620,000,000 gallons would have to be stored and 2,250,000,000 if the Bronx extension were added. If the daily supply were 200,000,000 gallons, which is all the water that the Croton watershed can supply, there would be a deficit of 300,000,000 gallons up to May 1, and there would then be 32,000,000,000 gallons in storage. On Dec. 1 that would be consumed.

Mr. Arnoux believed that these figures showed that the new aqueduct should be built with a view to further extension, when necessary, to Poughkeepsie and to the Adirondacks. In his opinion, the 300 millions supply of water that the Quaker Bridge dam project would furnish would not be enough to warrant the larger cost.

Carpets and Furniture Burned.

A fire in Hardenbergh & Co.'s carpet warehouse, in Cranberry and Henry streets, Brooklyn, yesterday afternoon, spread with such rapidity that the twenty five male and female employees had to go to the roof to make their escape. Henry Wilt was scorched about the head and face owing to his anxiety to see that the women were all safe. Soon thereafter wing of the building, at 174 Hamilton street, where the salesrooms are, was also on fire.

The destruction of the stock and of nearly 200 loads of furniture stored in the Henry street building, and which was worth about $10,000, was complete. The two buildings, which belong to the Jonathan B. Stewart estate, were damaged to the extent of $10,000; insured for $21,000. Mr. Hardenbergh estimated his loss on stock at $50,000; insured for $35,000. The most of his furniture on storage was also insured. The fire broke out in the cellar under the stairway, on the Henry street side, but how it originated is not known.

Dragging an Innocent Woman to a Station.

Mrs. Mary A. McDonald told Commissioner French yesterday that on the night of Nov. 13 Policeman Roberts of the Thirtieth street squad broke into her room at 52 East Twentieth street and dragged her half clothed to the station where he falsely accused her of being drunk and disorderly. She was so manifestly sober that Sergeant Schmidtberger refused to hold her.

Policeman Roberts said that he acted under the instructions of Captain Charles Kelso, a civilian, who said Mrs. McDonald had no right on the premises, and was preventing the other inmates from sleeping because of the noise she and a drunken companion were making.

"I acquit you of intentional wrong doing," said Commissioner French to the policeman, "but it was a grievous error of judgment to act as you did, and you should have known better than to act at all on the representations of this Mr. Felice."

Wah Lee's Effective Pistol.

Wah Lee, the 14-year-old son of Sing Lee of 22 North Moore street, was pelted with snowballs and afterward tossed in a snowbank by three young men on Elizabeth street on Christmas night. He drew a pistol and pointed it at his persecutors, who fled. Policeman Lavin, who saw the weapon in his hand, arrested him. He was held in $100 bail for trial at the Tombs yesterday. Ex-Deputy Sheriff Tom Lee was his bondsman.

Two experienced physicians of the Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Ga., have located at 159 West 23d st., and will be pleased to see all who are afflicted with blood or skin diseases. Examination and consultation free.—Adv.

COCK FIGHTING IN ALBANY COUNTY.

Mechanicsville Scoring an Easy Victory Over Troy Birds.

TROY, Dec. 26.—The long-promised cocking main between birds owned and bred by James Dougrey of Mechanicsville and Henry Murray of this city, occurred at a well-known sporting resort in Albany county, this afternoon. The stakes were $500 a side on the main and $100 on each battle. Each side showed seventeen birds, of which nine fell in between 4.2 pounds and 5.13 pounds. An attaché of one of the State Departments was agreed upon for referee. An Albany Alderman handled for Dougrey, while a detective's brother-in-law was Murray's handler. Dougrey's birds were in the best condition, and scored an easy victory, winning the first, third, fourth, sixth, and seventh battles. After the third battle it was discovered that Murray had fought a five pound cock in the second battle, picking it out in mistake for a five pound twinks, but Dougrey had a slight call in the betting, and the odds in his favor increased after the third battle.

FIRST BATTLE.—Mechanicsville showed a gray dominick and Troy a brown red. Each weighed four pounds two ounces. The gray forced the fighting, battling so fiercely that, after a short time, it looked as though he would cut his foe to ribbons. The red was made a favorite; but the gray was a game fellow, and fought all the time, and by three severe blows in rapid succession blinded the red. The latter seized but showed no disposition to run away, and the gray's handler counted to ten times in vain. Finally blood began to choke the red, and he was unable to return the blows, and was counted out twenty to a minute and a half. The gray's fresh cocks fought hard enough to kill half a dozen birds.

SECOND BATTLE.—This battle was short, sharp, and unsatisfactory. Two gray heavy weights, each supposed to weigh 5 pounds 12 ounces, were presented, and even money was freely wagered. The birds fought roughly from the start, the Troy bird being the better cutter. After a dozen blows were exchanged the Troy bird trained his opponent. The latter was pounded, but no one accepted, although the fallen gray's handler shouted for some one to do so. The twenty was counted and the fight awarded to Troy. When, to the surprise of nearly everybody, the fallen bird jumped to his feet and seemed eager to continue the fray. Time, 3 minutes.

THIRD BATTLE.—Two birds of 5 pounds 2 ounces were matched, Troy showing a black red and Mechanicsville a red dominick. The contest was very short, and at the second blow the Troy cock was badly crippled. Its quietly recovered, however, and after two or three fibs dealt the black red a fatal blow in the brain. The bird was pounded, but no one accepted, and the fight was given to Mechanicsville. Time, 1½ minutes. The black red died before being taken from the pit.

FOURTH BATTLE.—Mechanicsville showed a black red, weighing 5 pounds and 1 ounce, against a gray dominick 2 ounces heavier. Even money was laid, but no takers were offered on M