COURT SITS ON THE FROG.

JUSTICE DUFFY TRIES THE PEACE-MAKER'S ARTS IN THE COLD.

Persuading Henry Bergh and Jacob Sharp to Shake Hands Before an Admiring Crowd at Twenty-third Street and Fourth Av.

Mr. Henry Bergh, wearing a time-worn tile that looked like an opera hat, but wasn't, and a pair of trousers whose marvellous pattern rivalled the pattern of the trousers of the Hon. William Maxwell Evarts, wrapped a light cream-colored overcoat about his slim figure at noon yesterday, and, descending the steps of the office of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, on Fourth avenue, walked due north to Twenty-third street. Beside Mr. Bergh, attired in modest black, and with neatly polished boots, walked Police Justice Patrick Gavan Duffy. Two brass-buttoned officers of Mr. Bergh's society walked respectfully in the rear. As they approached the corner of Twenty-third street the practised judicial eye of Justice Duffy detected in the person of a short man, bundled up in winter wraps, who stood recklessly in the middle of the street gazing at the car tracks and cobble stone, the rotund President of the Twenty-third Street Railroad Company, Mr. Jacob Sharp. He had agreed to meet them there and talk over the grooved frogs, which he says he introduced at the car crossing in the middle of the street at great expense and solely on public grounds. Mr. Bergh and Justice Duffy crossed to the middle of the street without delay and shook hands with Mr. Sharp. Then all three entered upon a discussion about the construction of car tracks that in no time at all attracted a vast amount of public attention.

Mr. Bergh's object in meeting Mr. Sharp was to convince him that horses which go through Twenty-third street and step on the steel frog often get the toe corks of their shoes jammed in the frog, and are thrown to the ground, wrench their limbs, and cause themselves agony and suffering. Mr. Sharp's object in meeting Mr. Bergh and his Honor was to establish the fact that they don't. His Honor's object in coming there was to sustain his favorite star role of peace maker and secure an amicable adjustment of matters.

Mr. Bergh's officers dug out the dirt from the groove of the frog with a chisel and hammer, and showed that the groove was two inches deep and one and seven-eighths inches wide. Then the officers took a horseshoe, planted the toe cork in the groove, and turned the shoe completely over. This illustrated, they said, how the shoes of four different horses had recently acted in the frog and had to be cut away from the hoofs before the horses could get up or cease straining the imprisoned leg. His Honor was about to look into the matter when vehicles of all sorts began to rattle into the middle of the streets from four directions simultaneously. There were cars, trucks, carriages, express wagons, milk wagons, beer wagons, drays, T carts, butcher carts, and peddlers' hand carts in a steady stream backward and forward and crosswise, without any let up. Never before in ten years, probably, had so many things come together at that corner. Mr. Sharp looked secretly pleased, Mr. Bergh looked openly incensed, and his Honor looked to see which way to dodge. A crowd of spectators swarmed to the spot and complicated things by trying to find out what his Honor and his Honor's companions were trying to find out.

Mr. Jacob Sharp, dancing out of the way of one of his own cross-town cars, rammed his hands into his overcoat pocket, gazed at the frog, and grunted incredulously: "I don't see for the life of me, 'pon my word, s'help me bob, how any horse can get caught that way. No, sir; incomprehensible."

Mr. Bergh gave his Honor an additional personal illustration by putting the toe of his boot in the groove, and remarking that it was mighty easy to understand.

His Honor inserted the toe of his own left boot and said:

"Yes, Mr. Sharp, that's bad. If my horse caught his toe-cork there, I should certainly sue your company, and a jury would give me damages. Now, it's to the interest of your company to avoid such possibilities."

Mr. Bergh said that Mr. Sharp could cut away the inner shoulder frog and remove the difficulty at once.

"How would this idea of mine do?" inquired his Honor, persuasively. Then he explained that Mr. Sharp might put down the bevelled frogs that the car companies used when his Honor was a boy.

Mr. Sharp said it was a nice idea, but kept on talking in favor of the new frog just the same.

"Let us make concession on both sides, now," said his Honor, softly. "This ought to be settled easily, gentlemen."

Mr. Sharp can chisel off that outer shoulder," suggested Mr. Bergh, as he suppressed a shiver with an effort.

"I can't do anything with it without the consent of the Harlem Railroad."

"They have no objection, I'm sure," returned Mr. Bergh, turning to Superintendent Skitt, who had joined the group.

"Not as long as you don't throw our freight cars off the track," said Mr. Skitt.

"Now, you hear that," remarked his Honor in a pleased tone. "The way seems clear."

Mr. Sharp studied the cobblestones obstinately. At length he looked up and said, with sudden inspiration but noticeable indefiniteness: "I tell you what. I'll get a new track cast and put it down—as soon as the frost lets us. Couldn't do it now, you know."

"Build a little fire around and that'll thaw out the frost," suggested Mr. Bergh.

"Oh, yes, and stop all the cars running, to be sure," grunted Mr. Sharp.

"Now remember, let us concede something. Concession is a great mediator," again interpolated his Honor, genially.

"Well," said Mr. Sharp, finally, "I'll think it over and see what I can do."

"Ah, now, that's right," said his Honor, extending the hand of the Court in a cordial way. "I knew we'd settle it. I thank you, I thank you."

Mr. Sharp shook his Honor's hand, Mr. Bergh shook Mr. Sharp's, and his Honor shook Mr. Bergh's, and Superintendent Skitt and Mr. Sharp shook their heads as well as their hands.

Mr. Bergh's officers gathered up their chisel and hammer and horseshoe. The crowd dispersed, and the crush of vehicles which had greatly retarded the interesting negotiations subsided, there being nothing left for them to run down.

BROOKLYN RAPID TRANSIT.

Money Subscribed to Finish a Part of the Present Incomplete Structure.

Fifty of the bondholders of the Brooklyn Elevated Railway and members of the Citizens' Rapid Transit Committee of Brooklyn met yesterday afternoon in the St. Nicholas Hotel to devise plans for pushing the present fragmentary structure to completion. Hugo Rothschild, who occupied the chair, proposed as a preliminary step that $400,000 be subscribed by present bondholders and intrusted to six trustees to complete and equip the road from Fulton Ferry as far as Bedford avenue station. These trustees were also authorized to reorganize the company, with a capital of $5,000,000, whenever it became necessary to do so.

Justice Semler of the Citizens' Committee said that if the road was not completed, the citizens would tear it down, and give the privileges it enjoyed to other capitalists. Other speakers said that Brooklyn citizens wanted rapid transit at once, and urged the completion of the road. Fifty thousand dollars was subscribed toward a construction fund, and a committee was appointed to devise a plan that would meet the approval of all the stockholders and the public, and insure the investment of the capital necessary to put the road into working operation along its entire route. The committee are Messrs. Uhlman, Mandel, Lewisohn, Hardenberg, and Rothschild. They will report to the stockholders on Wednesday afternoon next, at the St. Nicholas.

Many communications for and against the granting of a franchise to the Kings County Elevated Railway Company are received by Mayor Low. He said yesterday: "Gen. Gilmore, President of the company, and Justice Shea, its counsel, have told me that movements were on foot to place the financial situation of the company before me in a way that would demonstrate their good faith and ability to the community."

An impression prevails that the company will obtain the sanction of the Mayor and the Commissioner of City Works.

EXTENDING RAPID TRANSIT.

Commissioner Viele Presents a Plan for a Cable Road.

At the meeting of the Rapid Transit Commissioners yesterday, Park Commissioner Egbert L. Viele unrolled a map of New York and traced on it a new route. The plan he proposed was to run surface cars propelled by cable from the northern terminus of Lexington avenue, on the surface of the street, across Gramercy Park, down Irving place, through private property to Lafayette place, to Great Jones street, through private property two blocks to Crosby street, through Crosby and Elm to THE SUN office, down Frankfort street to William, and thence to Wall, and through Beaver street to the Battery. From Great Jones street to Wall street the road to be elevated.

Mr. E. S. Bailey, 71 Pine street, wrote that it would be a good thing if the Legislature would grant a charter to construct an electric surface railroad on Broadway, to run up the Boulevard or Tenth avenue. Cross-town cars are in demand, he said, on Thirty-fourth, Forty-second, and Eighteenth or Nineteenth streets.

Henry Bergh wrote that he was astonished at the number of human beings joined around by 8,000 horses in this city, and that horses are evidently not adequate to the strain.

Fixing the Size of the New Aqueduct.

The Aqueduct Commission decided that the internal diameter of the new aqueduct shall be 14 feet, and that its northern terminus shall be at the Croton dam. On Wednesday next the Commission will hear arguments as to the construction of the Quaker Bridge dam and reservoir and the dam at Muscoot Mountain.

MR. CONKLING STIRS THEM UP.

Banging the Table till the Testimony in Marie agt. Garrison Danced.

Seven lawyers met again in the United Bank building yesterday to dispute before Referee Theodore W. Dwight over $5,000,000 for which Peter Marié and others have for the last five years been suing Commodore Garrison. Ex-Senator Roscoe Conkling came in late, hung his soft hat, as usual, on the pinnacle of the eight-foot bookcase, gave it a gentle pat, bowed all around, and began to read a letter. They were trying to examine Gen. Clinton B. Fisk. When the breeze of objections and exceptions had risen to a northeast gale Mr. Conkling dashed his letter on the table.

"This is the greatest satire on a trial in a court of record that I ever saw," he said. Then he raised his voice to the Senatorial pitch and brought down his clenched fist on the table so that the stacks of testimony bounced.

"I say it before your Honor and before God! There is nothing but endless iteration and reiteration. I can't see why this is permitted to go on. What else can it be for but to wear out the nerve and endurance of counsel and empty the pockets of the litigants? There isn't a counsel on the other side, notably the senior counsel (ex-Judge Comstock, who was not present), who would tolerate such a thing if he were on the judicial bench. No Court on earth would tolerate such conduct."

Mr. Clinton—Well, you have come in late, and are catching up. You've created more excitement in five minutes than we have in an hour.

Mr. Conkling—You've been in a comatose condition, and now you want to put us in a moribund condition.

The Referee—Order, gentlemen, order.

Mr. Clinton (to Mr. Conkling)—If you keep on getting excited, you will fly to pieces pretty quick.

Mr. Conkling (to Mr. Clinton)—You'll need a hypodermic injection of something lively to keep you awake.

The Referee—Order, order, gentlemen.

Dreariness was finally restored.

ASKING AGAIN FOR CLERK HIRE.

The Commissioners of Accounts Announce the Discovery of a Fraud of $670.

Commissioners of Accounts Hill and Martin sent to the Board of Apportionment yesterday the following communication:

"We respectfully ask that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment transfer to the credit of salaries of Commissioners a sum sufficient to enable us to finish important investigations now being made and stopped by the failure of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to make an appropriation for clerk hire and contingencies for the year 1884 in the budget passed Monday, Dec. 31.

"The examinations we allude to have developed and are developing important results. On Monday, while the ex-office Commissioner of Accounts, President of the Board of Taxes and Assessments, Mr. Thomas B. Asten, was by his vote crippling this office, a fraud of $670 was discovered in one of the bureaus being examined, and other important facts, not proper to make public now, have been discovered very recently. The examinations commenced and partly finished are as follows:

"Accounts and records of the Department of Public Parks, the Clerk of Arrears and Assessments, the Tax Receiver's Office, the Attorney for the Collection of Arrears of Personal Taxes, and of the Contract Department of Public Works, and the regular examinations required by law of the offices of the Comptroller and City Chamberlain.

"The thorough methods now employed in examining the affairs of the Finance Department, including a registration of the coupons paid, as well as the registered interest, requires more force than formerly did this work. By the transfer given us in November we were enabled to engage a clerical force sufficient to show some service of great benefit to the taxpayers of this city, but the work has been practically stopped, and we would respectfully ask that to meet our present wants the sum of $6,336.56 be transferred to the credit of the Commissioners of Accounts for clerk hire and contingencies from the following unexpended balances, viz.: $3,128.60 unexpended balances (Commissioners, expenses of); $235.70 unexpended balances (Commissioners of Accounts, salaries of); $420.22 (Commissioners of Accounts, salaries of 1881); $452.55 (Commissioners of Accounts, salaries of 1882); total, $3,336.56. The law makes it obligatory on the Commissioners of Accounts to do specific duty, and it is impossible for two men to perform this duty without clerical help. Therefore the Commissioners of Accounts, to obey the law, may be obliged to employ the assistance necessary."

The communication was referred to the Comptroller.

Mayor Edson said that the fraud of $670 discovered was an addition to the fraud which John B. Carroll was alleged to have committed in the Bureau of Arrears in the Finance Department, and for which he has been indicted.

TYPOTHETÆ'S PURPOSES.

One of Them is to Have a Grand Dinner on Franklin's Birthday.

Mr. Douglass Taylor, one of the Executive Committee of the Typothetæ, the society of employing printers recently reorganized, said yesterday: "The society has about fifty members, including three-fourths of the largest employers in book and job printing, representing $10,000,000 capital and employing between 3,000 and 4,000 men. We all employ Union men and pay Union rates, and even more. We are in favor of paying the best wages for good work. But we also employ many non-union men.

"We are not organized for any aggressive measures against the Printers' Union. The subject of strikes has not come up in our meetings. Our organization may become protective if necessary. I have no doubt we should resist any attempt to compel us to discharge old and faithful printers whom we have long employed. I do not understand that such an attempt will be made.

"Our chief purpose at present is to get a reunion of the old Typothetæ, with as many additions of the same sort of members as we can get, and have a dinner at the Metropolitan Hotel on the anniversary of Franklin's birth, Jan. 17. It is expected to have a great gathering of old printers, and to have a dinner and speeches.

"Some of us think the Printers' Union has driven a good deal of work away from New York, and helped our worst competitors, the rat offices, to keep up. But no action has been taken by our organization. We feel the want of some permanent arrangement for the employment of men. We have experienced great difficulty in making long contracts, owing to the possibility of strikes that interfere with the progress of work."

FIRE ON THE BRITANNIC.

Twenty-six Feet of Water Pumped into the Hold of an Ocean Steamer.

While the stevedores were at work on the orlop deck of the White Star line steamer Britannic about 10 o'clock yesterday morning they noticed smoke coming from the lower hold, where 180 bales of cotton had been stowed. Chief Officer Mason at once strung the ship's hose along the deck, while Chief Engineer Sewell had the pumps started. Superintendent Pennal sent out a fire alarm, and then run the dock hose on to the ship. In four minutes from the time the fire was noticed Engine 24 of Morton street was running a hose over the ship's side, and a few minutes later the harbor fire tugs Zophiar Mills and Havemeyer were alongside and were adding their streams to the others. At 11 o'clock two or three bales of cotton floated around in the water that was within four and a half feet of the main deck, and the firemen were coiling away their hose.

The compartment is about 70 feet long. It extends aft to the collision bulkhead, which is about 18 feet forward of the stern post. The water was 26 feet deep. In addition to the cotton there were 225 barrels of rosin, several sperm oil. All the cargo was broken out last evening after the water was pumped out. The cause of the fire is unknown. It was probably spontaneous from moisture or oil in the cotton. There were no lights in that part of the hold. The damage to the cotton will be about $10 a bale, or not to exceed $2,000 in all. It is fully insured. The steamer was advertised to sail at 10 o'clock to-day. She will get away to-morrow without fail, and possibly to-night.

For Hitting the Wrong Man.

When the Clerk in the Court of Special Sessions yesterday called the case of Edward C. Williams against Walter Smith, a heavily bearded man stepped forward and said he was Capt. Williams of the steamship Congo. Walter Smith was a colored boy, who laid down a bootblack's box when he was led to the Court.

"I was going to the Custom House on New Year's morning," said Capt. Williams, "when a brick thrown by the prisoner at another bootblack struck my right index finger, causing a compound fracture. I was compelled to send my ship home in charge of another officer."

Smith pleaded that he did not intend to hit the Captain. He was sentenced to jail for two months.

Protection for Chinese Sunday Scholars.

The committee appointed by the teachers in the Chinese Sunday schools called on Superintendent Walling yesterday to ask him to direct policemen to protect from molestation the Chinese who pass them on the way to and from Sunday school. The committee intimated that policemen in general were not over ready to protect Chinamen. The Superintendent told them they were mistaken in this, and that the members of the force would hereafter keep an especial eye on Sunday school-going Chinamen.

Runaway in Union Square.

The horse attached to the coupé of Thomas McDonnell of 568 Lexington avenue ran away near Union square yesterday, and McDonnell, who was driving, was thrown from the box at Fourteenth street and Broadway. He was not hurt. Edward Holladay of 40 Carmine street fell while trying to stop the horse and broke his leg. Another citizen stopped the horse by taking advantage of its stumbling.

Killed in Broadway.

George J. Brecht, 15 years old, employed by C. B. Harms & Co., music dealers, was run over by one of Clausen & Co.'s beer wagons at Broadway and Thirtieth street yesterday and killed. Frederick Haupt, the driver, was arrested. He said he shouted to the boy, who turned around and stood still, as if bewildered. Haupt was paroled to await the action of the Coroner.

Little Boards of Trade.

A Board of Trade has been organized in East New York to draw capital to the place.

A Board of Trade has been organized by the citizens of Port Jefferson. Sidney S. Norton is its President.

Musical Instruments.

HORACE WATERS & CO., 124 5th av., near 18th st.—Pianos and organs, new and second hand; largest stock and lowest prices; rents, $2 and $3; installments, $5 and $10 per month.

MASON & HAMLIN ORGAN AND PIANO CO., 46 EAST 14TH ST. Best and cheapest organs; 100 styles; $22 up; rented; all rent allowed in purchase. Catalogues mailed free.

FISCHER PIANOS—Renowned for tone and durability. 417 West 28th st., and 867 Broadway, 18th st.

$50—TEN-STOP organs; new pianos; low rents. GORDON'S, 13 East 14th st.

Lost and Found.

LOST—Horse blanket marked C. G.; finder will be suitably rewarded. C. GLEESON, 205 Monroe st.

Miscellaneous.

SKATES GROUND by steam power, 10c. J. F. MARSTERS, 55 Court st., Brooklyn. Open evenings.

Wanted—Females.

A.—UP-TOWN ADVERTISERS May leave their favors for THE SUN at the only authorized up-town advertisement offices.
1,708 Broadway, corner 31st st., till 9 P. M.
808 West 23d st., corner 6th av., till 8 P. M.
760 3d av., entrance on 47th st., till 8 P. M.
92 East 14th st., corner Union square, till 9 P. M.
208 East 125th st., near 3d av., till 7 P. M.
No extra charge.

A NUMBER of operators on ladies' undergarments, to work on premises or at home; samples and references required from outdoor hands. SIEGEL BROTHERS, 163 and 165 South 5th av.

ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS.—First-class designers for branching; also good rose and budmakers and learners. GRADLER & CO., 14 Bond st.

ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS.—Learners wanted. Apply at 118 Mercer st.

BLANK BOOK sewer; also boy on half bound. 47 John st.

FEATHERS.—Small girls who understand pasting fancy feathers. Apply at 55 East 6th st.

GIRL for general housework; family of 3; wages $6. MRS. LICHTENSTEIN, 353 East 58th st.

GOOD job blank book sewer wanted. J. H. ENGLISH, 24 College place.

OPERATORS on white work; steam power; steady work. 408 Smith st., Brooklyn.

PAPER BOXES.—Experienced hands on flower and feather boxes; steady work. GEO. WIEMERS, No. 147 Wooster st.

WANTED—Several first-class collar and cuff ironers; also small girls. Apply at Washington Steam Laundry, 52 and 54 Grove st.

WANTED—Girls to label bottles; must be experienced. Apply at 77 West 36 st.

Wanted—Males.

ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS.—Wanted, a young man to pack flowers in boxes; none but experienced need apply. GORLDT & LINDHEIM, 587 Broadway.

AGENTS and families—5 pounds pure tea, $1, worth $2; 5 pounds pure coffee, 85c.; 5 pounds pepper or mustard, 50c. HEKNESSEY'S, 263 Pearl and 40 Fulton st.

A SMART BOY wanted, about 15 years old, to learn a trade. Address C. L. B., Sun up-town office, No. 1,238 Broadway.

A TWO-THIRD PRINTER—Apply at once; steady work. PEASE & SAMMIS, 60 Broad st.

BOOKBINDERS.—A competent man to take charge of sheet room. H. S. ARCHER, 57 Park st.

COMPOSITORS wanted. Apply to J. J. LITTLE & CO., 10-20 Astor place.

CORE BOY in brass foundry. M. S. CLARK, 124 Baxter st.

GOOD job blank book finisher wanted. J. H. ENGLISH, 24 College place.

GERMAN bartenders, invalid attendant, colored waiters, cooks, waiters wanted. 753 Broadway.

JOB COMPOSITOR.—Wanted, a young man; wages, $10 a week; also boy to kick Gordon press; wages, $6. Apply at 49 Beaver st.

JAPANNING.—Boy who understands dipping. 100 Centre st., top floor.

MEN WANTED to take rooms; 25c., 35c. daily. Carleton House; William st., corner Frankfort st.

PAPER BOXES.—Young man experienced in making oval boxes. SEARS & POTTER, 520 E. 48th st.

PROOFREADER wanted. JOHN POLHEMUS, 40 Ann st.

PAPER RULER.—A young man to faint line; steady work. 112 Grand st.

SADDLERY HARDWARE pattern maker; permanent. CRANE & CO., McWhorter and Oliver sts., Newark, N. J.

SMALLBOY to make cores. E. A. WILLIAMS & SON'S brass foundry, 107 Plymouth st., Jersey City.

STOUT errand boy, about 16 years of age. Apply at dry goods store, 225 8th av.

UMBRELLAS.—Wanted, a first-class finisher at BAMBERGER & OPPENHEIMER'S, 392 B'way.

WANTED—Experienced loose printer to take full charge of a tapestry carpet printing room; must be thoroughly competent to fill the position; and be able to give first-class reference; none other need apply. Address at once CARPET, P. O. drawer D D, Philadelphia.

WANTED—First-class japanner on tin work to take charge of a shop. Address, with references, MATTHAI, INGRAM & CO., Baltimore, Md.

WANTED—A bright, intelligent boy to do errands and make himself otherwise generally useful. Apply at printing office, 20 Vesey st.

WANTED—Third hand on bread; also young man to assist with cake. Apply at 403 10th av.

WANTED—A good wire worker and wire weaver. Apply at 102 North 2d st., Brooklyn, E. D.

WANTED—Boy to feed ruling machine; also one to run errands. Apply at 89 Liberty st.

WANTED—A young man to open oysters and clams, and wait on table. 729 10th av.

WANTED—Rubbers, carvers, sawyers, and cutters at 94 Morgan st., Jersey City.

WANTED—Lithographing press feeder. 61 Beekman st.

WANTED—Two tin roofers. 59 Grand st.

Situations Wanted.

A YOUNG MAN, residing in North Carolina, desires a situation as travelling salesman for a shoe, clothing, or dry goods house; good references given. Address SALESMAN, box 177, Sun office.

A LADY will give a child a good home and a mother's care at 1,903 3d av., near 103d st.

JOB COMPOSITOR wishes a steady situation. Address, for two days, STEADY, box 142, Sun office.

Savings Banks.

DRY DOCK SAVINGS INSTITUTION, 341 AND 343 BOWERY.

The Trustees have declared a dividend for the six months ending December 31, 1883, on all deposits entitled thereto under the By-Laws, at the rate of four per cent. per annum on sums of $1,000 and under, and on the excess of $1,000 and not exceeding $3,000, at the rate of three per cent. per annum, payable on and after January 21, 1884. ANDREW MILLS, Secretary.

CHARLES CURTISS, President.

EXCELSIOR SAVINGS BANK, 430 6TH AV., BETWEEN 26TH AND 27TH STS.

THIRTIETH DIVIDEND.

On and after Monday, Jan. 21, 1884, there will be paid, or credited depositors entitled thereto, a semi-annual interest dividend at the rate of FOUR PER CENT. PER ANNUM on sums of $5 and upward to $3,000. Deposits made on or before Jan. 10 will draw interest from Jan. 1.

GEORGE F. BAKER, President.

H. K. THURBER, of H. K. & F. B. Thurber & Co., First Vice-President.

R. M. HAZARD, of Caswell, Hazard & Co., Second Vice-President.

HENRY KONIG, Jr., Secretary.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION, 181 Warren st., New York, Jan. 1, 1884.

Interest has been declared for the six months ending Dec. 31, 1883, upon all accounts entitled thereto, not exceeding Three Thousand Dollars, at the rate of FOUR per cent. per annum, payable on and after Jan. 21, 1884.

JOHN CASTREE, President.

C. D. HEATON, Secretary.

SEVENTY-FIRST SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND.—EAST RIVER SAVINGS INSTITUTION, No. 3 Chambers st., New York, Dec. 31, 1883.

Interest has been declared for the six months ending Dec. 31, 1883, upon all accounts entitled thereto, not exceeding three thousand dollars, as follows: Upon sums of two thousand dollars and under at the rate of FOUR PER CENT. per annum, and upon sums in excess of two thousand dollars at the rate of THREE PER CENT. upon such excess, payable after Jan. 10, 1884.

W. H. SLOCUM, President.

CHARLES A. WHITNEY, Secretary.

Public Notices.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.—Letters for Europe need not be specially directed for despatch by any particular steamer if it is desired to secure speedy delivery at destination, as all transatlantic mails are forwarded by the fastest vessels available.

Foreign mails for the week ending Jan. 5 will close at this office as follows:

SATURDAY.—At 1 A. M. for Brazil and the La Plata Countries, per steamship Jennie, via Rio de Janeiro; at 7:30 A. M. for Europe, per steamship Britannic, via Queenstown (letters for Germany, &c., must be directed "per Britannic"); at 7:30 A. M. for Scotland direct, per steamship Belgravia, via Glasgow (letters must be directed "per Belgravia"); at 7:30 A. M. for Belgium direct, per steamship Westernland, via Antwerp; at 1 P. M. for the Windward Islands, per steamship Nurse; at 11 A. M. for Europe, per steamship Habsburg, via Southampton and Bremen; at 1:30 P. M. for Cuba and Porto Rico, per steamship Niagara, via Havana.

Mails for China and Japan, per steamship City of Rio de Janeiro (via San Francisco), close here Jan. 5 at 7 P. M. Mails for Australia, New Zealand, Sandwich and Fiji Islands, per steamship Zealandia (via San Francisco), close here Jan. 11 at 7 P. M.

The schedule of closing of Trans-Pacific mails is arranged on the presumption of their uninterrupted overland transit to San Francisco. Mails from the East arriving on time at San Francisco on the day of sailing of steamers are despatched thence the same day.

HENRY PEARSON, Postmaster.

Post Office, New York, N. Y., Dec. 28, 1883.

Billiards.

A.—A.—A.—THE UNITED STATES STANDARD BILLIARD TABLE COMPANY, the most extensive manufacturers of artistic billiard and pool tables in the world. Sole owners of the new and wonderful "Imperial Cushion." Warerooms 738 Broadway.

AMERICAN standard billiard and pool tables, new and second hand, at great bargains and easy terms. R. M. GRIFFITH & CO., 846 Broadway, corner 20th st.

THE COLLENDER Billiard and Pool Tables are the most accurate and durable. Billiard materials of every description. Send for catalogue and price list. THE H. W. COLLENDER CO., 708 Broadway.

Board and Rooms.

A NICELY FURNISHED front parlor for 2 or more gentlemen. 108 East Broadway.

FIRST-CLASS boarders can be accommodated with good board, pleasant rooms; table boarders taken. 52 Clinton place.

GENTLEMEN.—Large rooms, furnished; double & beds stoves, $1.50; fire, $2 and $2.50; home comforts. No. 180 Hudson st.

Real Estate.

$350—NEW YORK CITY LOTS; $50 cash, balance $10 monthly; excellent locality; healthy; Croton, gas in vicinity; fare, 1c. to Battery. POTTER BROTHERS, 32 Liberty st.

To Let.

502 AND 504 W. 49TH ST.—Brown stone, single flats; apartments to let, with all the improvements, from $14 up. Inquire of JANITOR, on premises.

Amusements.

STAR THEATRE. Mr. LESTER WALLACK ..... Proprietor and Manager. LAST WEEKS OF THE ENGAGEMENT OF MR. EDWIN BOOTH. MATINEE TO-DAY AT 2, MR. BOOTH AS MACBETH. TO-NIGHT, W. E. SHERIDAN AS INGOMAR. NEXT WEEK, Monday and Tuesday evenings, Mr. Booth as RICHELIEU.* Wednesday and Thursday evenings, as BERTUCCIO, in the FOOL'S REVENGE.* Friday evening and matinee Saturday, as KING LEAR.* RESERVED SEATS NOW ON SALE. BROOKS & DICKSON, Directors. HORACE McVICKER, Manager.

HAVERLY'S COMEDY THEATRE, OPERA. Broadway, between 29th and 28th sts. Mr. MAURICE GRAU'S FRENCH OPERA CO. Mlle. AIMEE, Mlle. FOUQUET, Mlle. ANGELE. TO-DAY TWO PERFORMANCES. MATINEE AT 2 P. M. BOCCACCIO. This evening (Saturday), Jan. 5, joint appearance of Mlles. Aimee, Fouquet, Angele, and last performance of "La Jolie Parfumeuse," in which AIMEE sings "Pretty as a Picture." Next week, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, LA VIE PARISIENNE. Thursday, Jan. 10, LA PRINCESSE DES CANARIES. Friday, Jan. 11, HEART AND HAND.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC. GERSTER. GRAND GERSTER MATINEE THIS DAY (SATURDAY), Jan. 5, at 2 o'clock. FAUST. Margherita ..... Mme. Etelka Gerster. POPULAR PRICES. MONDAY, Jan. 7 ..... PATTI. ADELINA PATTI as SEMIRAMIDE. WEDNESDAY, Jan. 9, ELISIR D'AMORE. Adina ..... Mme. Etelka Gerster. FRIDAY, Jan. 11, LES HUGUENOTS, with Mme. Adelina Patti and Mme. Etelka Gerster.

5TH AV. THEATRE. B'way and 28th st. Proprietor and Manager ..... Mr. JOHN STETSON. FAREWELL MATINEE TODAY AT 2. POSITIVELY THE LAST PERFORMANCE THIS EVENING AT 8. The laughable satirical Comedy, THE GLASS OF FASHION. MONDAY EVENING, Jan. 7, MRS. LANGTRY in a new play, entitled "PERIL." Seats, 50c., $1, and $1.50; can now be secured. General admission, 50c.; gallery, 25c.

NEW PARK THEATRE. Reserved seats. BROADWAY AND 35TH ST. 50c., 75c., and $1. John A. Stevens ..... Prop't; F. B. Murtha ..... Manager. LAST MATINEE. LAST NIGHT. "One of the best presentations and biggest hits of the season."—Daily News.

PASSION'S SLAVE	GRAND MATINEE TODAY.	PASSION'S SLAVE
PASSION'S SLAVE		PASSION'S SLAVE
PASSION'S SLAVE		PASSION'S SLAVE

Next week, Miss ANNIE PIXLEY.

14TH ST. THEATRE. CROWDED EVENINGS AT 8. SATURDAY MATINEE TODAY AT 2. Rice's Opera Bouffe Company in the great success, ORPHEUS AND EURYDICE. Prices, $1.50, $1, 50c. Excellent reserved seat, 75c.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE. Reserved seats (orchestra circle and balcony), 50c. Last two performances. Matinee at 2, Evening at 8, THE TOURISTS. Next week—Lawrence Barrett, Francesca da Rimini.

MR. AND MRS. McKEE RANKIN'S THIRD AVENUE THEATRE (30th st. and 3d st.). SALSBURY'S TRUE BLUE. "A GEM OF THE A GREAT COMIC HIT. Regular Sat. Matinee. Next week, "The Planter's Wife."

MADISON SQUARE THEATRE. Evenings at 8:20. Saturday Matinee at 2. THE RAJAH. FOURCAUT. FARCE-COMEDY. Original Cast. Novel Scenery.

WALLACK'S. Broadway and 30th st. SPLENDID REVIVAL of Boucicault's chef d'œuvre, OLD HEADS AND YOUNG HEARTS. Every evening at 8 and Saturday matinee at 1:30.

DALY'S THEATRE. Every night at 8 o'clock. MATINEE TO-DAY AT 2. SEVEN-TWENTY-EIGHT. "Laughter literally incessant."—Herald.

CONJURING BY GOLDBERG. MAGICAL ENTERTAINMENT. For private parties. Children's gatherings a specialty. Address GOLDBERG, care Brentano, Union square.

THALIA THEATRE. GEISTINGER. To day, Matinee—THE BEGGAR STUDENT. To-night—AFRIKANISE. Opera, by Suppe.

CARTER'S Dancing Academy, 44 West 14th st. Private and class lessons at all hours.

Lectures.

CHICKERING HALL. SUNDAY EVENING, JAN. 6. Miss HELEN H. GARDENER. Will deliver for the first time in New York her lecture entitled MEN, WOMEN, AND GODS.

COL. ROBERT G. INGERSOLL will come to New York for the express purpose of introducing Miss GARDENER to the audience, and will preside during the lecture. Her treatment of Colonel Ingersoll's theme that have made Col. Ingersoll famous is pronounced to be most interesting and characteristic of an educated and liberal-minded woman.

ADMISSION, 75c. RESERVED SEATS, $1. On sale at the hall, and at Brentano's, 5 Union square, at 9 o'clock Friday morning. Lecture at 8 o'clock.

SOCIETY for Ethical Culture.—Prof. Felix Adler will lecture before the society at Chickering Hall, corner 18th st. and 5th av., on Sunday, Jan. 6. Doors opened at 10:30; closed at 11 o'clock. All interested are invited. Subject, "Isaiah, the Prophet."

Religious Notices.

LIGHT ST. BAPTIST MISSION, rendezvoused.—Opening services under auspices of Baptist City Mission at 2:30. Addresses by President R. G. Cornell, Rev. Dr. W. W. Everts, Rev. Frank Fletcher, B. F. Judson, James Pyle, and others. Cordial welcome to all.

MANHATTAN TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION, Cooper Union, large hall, to-morrow (Sunday), 3 o'clock; doors open 2:15. The Rev. S. Thomas Williams in his great lecture, "A Cry in the Land." Miss Nellie Conroy of Florence Mission will help us. Miss Belle Cole, Mrs. Agnes, Mr. A. E. Stoddard, Prof. Fisher, and choir in musical programme. Mabel Stephenson, child elocutionist, in recitation. J. G. GIBBS, President.

MRS. VAN COTT preaches every night and Sunday at three hours in the revival meetings being held at the Forsyth M. E. Church, New York city.

Meetings.

THE MEMBERS of the N. Y. J. B. Beneficial Society are ordered to attend their quarterly meeting Jan. 5, 1884, at 8 o'clock P. M. sharp, at Military Hall, Bowery, as business of interest to every member of the trade will be brought before the meeting; delinquents expelled. By order PATRICK RALFE, President. JOHN PERRIN, Recording Secretary.

Business Chances.

AN old-established corner bakery for sale, with fixtures. 288 Jay st., Brooklyn, N. Y.

FOR SALE—A small grocery store on the corner of 2 Ninth and South 3d sts., Brooklyn, E. D.; satisfactory reasons will be given for selling.

FOR SALE, cheap, a good oyster saloon, doing a business of $125 a week; good reasons for selling. Apply at 148 Av. C.

Holiday Goods.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS. BRUSHES, MIRRORS, &c., in cases at lowest prices. JOHN R. HOPPEL, 315 Pearl st.

40TH SEMI-ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE TRAVELERS INSURANCE CO.

Hartford, Conn., Jan. 1, 1884.

Paid-up Cash Capital, $600,000.

ASSETS.

Real estate	$706,353 00
Cash on hand and in bank	399,044 79
Loans on bond and mortgage, real estate	2,904,631 48
Interest on loans, accrued but not due	69,698 58
Loans on collateral security	322,061 07
Deferred Life Premiums	77,005 01
Premiums due and unreported on Life Policies	55,562 93
United States Government bonds	299,500 00
State, county, and municipal bonds	773,986 00
Railroad stocks and bonds	1,367,520 00
Bank stocks	812,414 00
Miscellaneous stocks and bonds	118,100 00
Total assets	$7,455,977 85

LIABILITIES.

Reserve, four per cent., Life Department	$4,511,250 33
Reserve for reinsurance, Accident Dep't	701,501 04
Claims adjusted and not due, and all other liabilities	354,726 00
Total liabilities	$5,567,487 37
Surplus as regards policy holders	$1,888,490 58

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1883.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

Number of Life Policies written in 1883	2,100
Whole number of Life Policies in force	14,279
Gain in Life Policies in force	935
Amount of Life Insurance in force	$25,005,604 00
Gain in amount in force in 1883	$2,109,271 00
Paid Policy Holders in Life Dep't	$2,067,039 59

ACCIDENT DEPARTMENT.

Number of Accident Policies written in 1883	116,139
Gain in Policies over 1882	13,018
Gain in Premiums over 1882	$245,275 80
Whole number Accident Policies written	962,591
Number Accident Claims paid in 1883	17,020
Amount Accident Claims paid in 1883	$864,255 21
Whole number Accident Claims paid	101,781
Whole amount Accident Claims paid	$6,310,637 56
Total Losses paid, both Departments	$8,978,277 15

JAS. G. BATTERSON, President.
RODNEY DENNIS, Secretary.
JOHN E. MORRIS, Assistant Secretary.
GEORGE ELLIS, Act