WASHINGTON'S TRIUMVIRATE

HOW THE BEST GOVERNED CITY IN THE COUNTRY IS RULED.

Three Men Have Almost Absolute Control Over the Entire System of Municipal Management—Many and Serious Defects in the System—Partiality Shown in Enforcing the Laws, and Especially in Conducting All the Public Improvements.

WASHINGTON, May 11.—It has long been the boast of many Congressmen, public officials, and private citizens that Washington is the best governed city in the United States, and that its municipal management is inferior to very few cities of the world. It is true in the main that under the present system of Government Washington has much to feel proud of in the way of public improvements and their care and maintenance. Congress is the real dictator of the District of Columbia, as it is of the Territories, but the three Commissioners appointed by the President, "with the advice and consent of the Senate," have actual control of the entire system of municipal management, and so triumvirate of history, either in war or peace, was ever clothed with more absolute authority. These three Commissioners—one a Republican, one a Democrat, and one an engineer officer of the army supposed to be without political affiliations, but generally a member of that party to which the President who appoints him belongs—are to Washington what the Mayor and Common Council are to the ordinary American city. Over the ten square miles of area of which the District of Columbia is composed these three men have almost entire and undisputed control, and now that the city is becoming the resort of fashion and wealth, its boundaries being extended to the utmost limit and all the airs of a great city being assumed, their power is very great indeed. Under such a state of things it would be strange if there were not much complaint that the three Commissioners are influenced in their official acts by Congressmen and public officials to whom they must look for appropriations and endorsements, to say nothing of the pressure of social claims and personal interests.

The charge that Congressmen as a rule are neglectful of the interests of Washington because they are not financially and socially concerned in its welfare is true in part, and this disinclination to scrutinize closely the operations of the District Government only adds to the power and freedom of interference enjoyed by the three Commissioners. During the past few years, however, several men who have been long in public life as members of the Senate or House, or as officials of the executive departments, have discovered that Washington is a good place to invest money, and they have gone into real estate and other enterprises with a vim and enthusiasm that are very astonishing to the old inhabitants who sat silent and inactive for many years, apparently quite willing to see the capital remain a mudhole and utterly incapable of comprehending its great possibilities. To the fact that many Congressmen now have money invested in Washington property is due largely the healthy boom which the city has enjoyed for the past five years, which does not yet show any signs of dying out.

There can be no denial of the claim that in many respects Washington is far ahead of other American cities in the matter of modern improvements and modern ways of government. Well paved streets, good sewerage, many open parks, an abundant water supply, and partial and growing rapid transit facilities are the chief possessions upon which the claim of the best governed city is made. There are, notwithstanding, many defects in the system, and some of a very serious character, which are susceptible of severe criticism. For many of these defects Congress is directly responsible, through failure to make necessary appropriations, or otherwise failing to uphold and support the Commissioners. In other instances, and by far the larger number, the triumvirate are responsible, their shortcomings being due generally to their inability to cope with the power of strong and wealthy corporations and influential weal by citizens.

No one who has lived long in Washington can deny that in the matter of improvements certain parts of the city in which men of public position, and large wealth reside, or are in some way interested, the march of improvement is much more rapid than where none but humble private citizens dwell. A community that exists in part upon the bounty of the Government is, in a sense perhaps, necessarily subservient to the officials of that Government, and so it is in Washington. Uncle Sam pays one-half of the expense of maintaining the city, and the citizens pay the other half. Hence the community is more or less in the nature of Uncle Sam's poor relations. Owing chiefly to this condition of things, the three Commissioners of the District of Columbia—the soldier, the Democrat, and the army officer without politics—are as guilty of yielding to Congressional influence, political and social pressure, and other shortcomings which would not be tolerated for a moment in an ordinary American community where the taxpayers elect their officials, and where by their ballots they govern themselves.

Although the streets of Washington are exceedingly fine, being broad and well paved, all sorts of abuses are allowed to exist. The contractor who sweeps the streets is utterly regardless of the rights of the residents, and sends his big revolving brooms over the smooth asphalt, raising dust high in the air at seemingly any hour of the day or night he sees fit. On some streets the dust is sent rolling through the air at 7 o'clock in the evening, when householders are sitting on the lawns and the pedestrians are taking their evening walks. On others the sweepers crash and clang along in the small hours of the morning when the people are asleep. The city generally awakes when the sweepers come. The contractor has a contract by which he is supposed to sweep some streets daily, others semi-weekly, and still others tri-weekly. His powers of calculation must be very poor, for the dwellers on the last-mentioned streets are fortunate if they hear or see the sweepers once in a fortnight. The Commissioners fail to see also that there is anything reprehensible in permitting the thousands of dump carts that carry dirt from new excavations to go rumbling through the finest and most thickly populated streets in the city, leaving behind them for the distance of a mile or more a tract of red clay that breeds clouds of dust in dry weather and sticky mud when it rains.

An instance of the carelessness of the Commissioners to public criticism is found in the fact that a street railway company that is preparing to put in operation a cable system has strung its new rails along the gutters of the city for a distance of ten or fifteen miles to remain until needed some time within the present year. The rails are laid in the street gutter against the curb where they effectually prevent the flow of the surface water of the streets and afford a means of catching and holding all the accumulated dirt which cannot be carried off by the water or taken up by the street sweepers. No lights are placed on these obstructions at night, and the only resource of the unlucky pedestrian who falls over them is a suit for damages against the city in the wonderful circumlocution courts of the District of Columbia.

The laxity with which the city regulations are enforced in some cases is well understood by outsiders, and often take advantage of. A case in point was noticed this week during the sittings of the convention of the medical fraternity. An enterprising book publisher, who had a series of medical works that he desired to bring to the attention of the doctors, had large pasteboard signs prepared and fastened them to the trees from one end to the other of one of the finest residence streets in the city. The advertiser was considerate enough not to nail the placards to the trees. He simply tied them with wire.

In the matter of street lighting Washington is away behind the times. There seems to be an antipathy to the use of electricity, which grows largely, it is thought, out of the domination of the Washington Gas Company, one of the most arbitrary and selfish corporations that ever fastened its clutches upon a community. Notwithstanding that the people of the city have for many years groaned under the hardships of this monopoly, that supplies poor gas at a very high price, President Cleveland appointed as one of the three Commissioners of the District, when he came into office, the year's attorney of the gas company, who is himself a large holder of the stock. In the light of this fact it is not so strange that there are only one or two streets in the entire city of Washington, with its large population, that are lighted by electricity. In fact, there are nights when the most thickly populated portion of the city is not lighted at all. The lighting system is conducted under an old-time regulation that provides for gas when the moon shines. That, on those nights when the moon is shining in the almanac, but behind the clouds in the sky, the citizens of the best-governed city in the world who are foolish enough to be out after sundown are permitted to grope their way over the pavements in the dark. And such pavements! No wonder that three-fourths of the inhabitants of Washington prefer to walk in the streets on the smooth asphalt, and incur the danger of being run down by vehicles, than to stumble along over the uneven brick sidewalks that remain a relic of old fogyism.

A fair illustration of the manner in which the law is administered to influential public officials and humble and private citizens in Washington is afforded by the arrests that are made for illegal driving. Among the Quixotic regulations of the District which prohibit docks from crowing before daylight, and water to be used after 7 A. M., is a commendable one which compels all drivers on Fifteenth street, between Pennsylvania and New York avenues, which is a very narrow and busy street, to keep to the right. Policemen are stationed at the corners, and daily they bring up in the police court scores of heedless citizens who are compelled to leave cash with the Judge as penalties for their derelictions. When a public official is caught violating the regulations, which is frequent, he is simply requested with a smile not to be too bold in breaking the law, and is allowed to go in peace.

The Commissioners attempted for a time to enforce a regulation prohibiting householders from using for outdoor purposes the Potomac water, for which they pay a large price, between the hours of 7 A. M. and 7 P. M. As this order shut out the very hours during which any one would, in the ordinary course of things, care to use water, it was openly violated until the Commissioners were compelled to modify it. While the order was in operation, however, many public officials and influential citizens violated it in plain view of the officers of the law engaged in arresting more humble residents.

The partiality which is shown by the Commissioners for certain localities of the city is illustrated in the matter of sewer digging and alley paving. Under the District laws a sewer can be laid or an alley paved on the petition of a majority of the lot owners, the District paying one-half of the expense. In certain sections of the city, where all sides of the squares have for years been built up, there are no pavements in the alleys, and petition after petition has found its way to the pigeonhole of the Commissioners' office unacted upon. Yet out in the west end this work is done without any request whatever from the property owners, and in many cases against their protest, as often they do not care to be taxed for improvements that are of no benefit to them. In numerous instances sewers and alleys are laid in squares upon which there are not a dozen houses, while those with scores are allowed to go without.

Two laws that were passed by the last Congress furnish good samples of the class of legislation that Congress is led to enact by the influence of speculators and those citizens of the District who remain here for the purpose of revenue only.

One of these laws prohibited pool selling on horse races within the District of Columbia. This law seemed simple and meritorious enough to many Congressmen who voted for it. An examination brought out the fact, however, that it was framed for the express purpose of closing up all the pool rooms except that at one particular race course situated outside the District lines. President Harrison vetoed the bill. A law was subsequently passed, however, which closed all the pool rooms, and now the entire gambling fraternity of Washington dominate at Jackson City, a little hamlet across the Potomac, at the end of the Long Bridge, in Virginia. Here can be seen daily the most motley gathering of gamblers and crooks to be found within the borders of the United States. At night a battered army, almost as large but much less imposing than the famous one that crossed in the opening days of the war, can be seen wending its way across the bridge in the opposite direction from that taken by the troops on their march.

Another law enacted by the Fifty-first Congress prohibited the selling of liquor within one mile of the Soldiers' Home in the suburbs. The attorney for the district construed that restriction to include a radius of one mile from the centre of the home grounds. All the little grog shops and rookeries that had grown up and existed on the love of the old veterans for liquor and their habit of spending in the dives on pension pay day all they received from the Government were, therefore, promptly closed, and when the crippled soldiers now want a drink they must walk at least a mile to get it. As many of them are unable to do this, they go without or wait until they are on leave, and then drink at one time all their money will buy. Soon after all the gin mills had been closed a syndicate of real estate speculators sprang up and began the improvement of the section from which the saloons are banished. This property is now being put on the market, and the real influence that secured the passage of the law becomes known.

The Fifty-first Congress also appropriated a large sum of money for the purchase of property along the picturesque Rock Creek for a national park, and saddled one-half of the expense upon the District of Columbia. A commission was appointed to appraise the property and carry out the work of converting it into a park. The appraisement has been made, and each property holder refuses to sell, basing his objection on the ground that the appraised value is far below the price offered by private investors. There the matter rests. The Commission cannot enforce the appraisement, and the work of creating a park will probably have to be suspended until the Congress meets and takes some action that will compel the owners of property to relinquish it. In the mean time the holders of the lots are cutting down some of the most valuable trees in the tract, without which the property will be practically valueless for park purposes. The Commissioners in this case, as in others, only say "What can we do?"

TROY WANTS TO KNOW

Who Its Politicians Are Who Have Been Protecting Burglars.

Detective Robert Pinkerton received a lot of telegrams from Troy yesterday demanding the names of the politicians who it is alleged protected the burglars who robbed A. J. Norton's jewelry store in Gloversville last year. In a statement which was printed in THE SUN yesterday Mr. Pinkerton said that the burglary was planned by an alleged reformed safe breaker of Troy, and that certain Troy politicians, whose names were known, had a hand in it. He predicted that at an early date there would be a sensation within the walls of Troy that would shake it to its foundation.

He said yesterday, when a SUN reporter called on him, that he wasn't ready to spring the sensation because it wasn't quite ripe for publication. There were men working on the case in Troy and any facts printed might hinder them. He spoke of the inquiries from Troy and said that he was sorry he could not at present satisfy the inquirers.

J. B. Bowden, who was until a week ago Chairman of the Jewellers' Security Alliance, said that he did not know the names of the politicians. He did know that the burglars had been favored with protection at the hands of men in Troy, and he knew, too, he said, that stealing from jewelry stores had become very unpopular since the Alliance was started. At the time it was started, he said, there were three gangs of burglars who operated exclusively on jewelers' safes. Usually they robbed the out-of-town dealers, who could not afford to spend a large amount of money to run them down. The Alliance was a cooperative organization, and its motto was to follow a thief until he was caught and punished, no matter how much it cost. The cost was paid by all the members of the association. Ten men who were members of the gangs have been captured and convicted, Mr. Bowden said, and the cost of catching them had run up into the thousands. It had cost several thousand dollars to run down the burglars who visited Mr. Norton's store. At the same time, however, the detectives have recovered the greater part of the $20,000 worth of jewelry which was stolen.

Not Ready to Hear Ameer Ben Ali.

Coroner Schultze postponed again yesterday the inquest in the case of Carrie Brown who was murdered in the East River Hotel on April 24. Lawyer House on behalf of Ameer Ben Ali, otherwise Frenchy No. 1, protested against the delay and said that his client ought to be released at once.

Frenchy has an entire new suit of clothes, provided by his lawyers, and he is anxious to appear in court and show them.

Assistant District Attorney H. W. Unger said that photographs and plans showing the hotel and the scenes of the murder are preparing and that the District Attorney, who is working with Inspector Byrnes, was not ready.

Coroner Schultze appointed to-morrow at 10½ A. M. for the inquest.

Justice Duffy's Endorsement.

James Murphy was drunk when he reached his home, 2,835 Third avenue, on Sunday night. He beat his 7-year-old daughter, struck his mother in the face, and chased his father out of the house. Policeman Ferguson collared Murphy and was tripped up. When officer and prisoner reached the station house Ferguson's coat was ruined. In the Morrisania Court yesterday Justice Duffy sent Murphy to the Island for six months, and wrote on the back of the warrant: "An 18-carat loafer and a terror," and affixed his initials, "P. G. D."

Charges a Cabinet Minister with Bribe Taking.

OTTAWA, Ont., May 11.—The impeachment of Sir Hector Langevin and the Hon. Thomas McGreevy by Tate, in Parliament to-day, for prostituting their positions, the former as a member of the Cabinet and Minister of Public Works and the latter as a member of the House of Commons, for the purpose of furnishing secret departmental information to contractors for money consideration, caused a great sensation in political circles. The indictment conveyed a volume of evidence, specifying clearly each charge and challenging denial.

Police Captain Farrier Bruised.

Police Captain Frederick T. Farrier of Jersey City drove down Newark avenue in a light wagon about 11 o'clock last night in company with Frank Duffy. At the Newark avenue crossing of the Pennsylvania Railroad the horse was frightened by a locomotive running on the elevated tracks and shied.

One of the wheels of the wagon was caught in a frog and twisted off. Capt. Farrier and Duffy were thrown out, but escaped with slight bruises.

MR. BLAINE PROSTRATED BY OVERWORK.

Indigestion and Vertigo Confine Him to His Bed at His Daughter's House.

Secretary Blaine, who came to town to see his daughter off for Europe, and to attend the Carnegie Music Festival, has been ill at the house of his son-in-law, Walter Damrosch, 72 West Seventieth street, since Friday. He attended the concert on Wednesday evening, and appeared to be in the best of health. The following evening he dined with Mr. Carnegie.

"Soon after breakfast on Friday morning," said Mrs. Damrosch yesterday, "Mr. Blaine had an attack of indigestion followed by a spell of dizziness. He attributed the attack to the sudden warm weather, and as a matter of precaution we decided to call in Dr. Frederick C. Dennis. Drs. Dennis and Janeway, whom the former called into consultation, decided that what Mr. Blaine needed was a few days of absolute rest, and Mr. Blaine suggested that it would be well to take it in bed. He has been in bed since, and has been ailing, but his indigestion has disappeared. I think that he will return to Washington to-morrow afternoon."

On Sunday night the physicians issued this bulletin of Mr. Blaine's condition:

"Drs. Janeway and Dennis say that Mr. Blaine is prostrated by overwork, and that he has had an acute attack of indigestion, accompanied by vertigo, and that they have insisted upon absolute quiet and rest."

Dr. Dennis wrote this note last night for a SUN reporter after making a call at the house during the afternoon:

"Mr. Blaine has passed a very comfortable day, and has enjoyed his meals. His great anxiety is to return to Washington, but owing to the heat and long distance to the ferry it is not thought advisable for him to start immediately."

THE MILLERS IN THE CITY.

They Owned the Casino Last Night and Saw the Sights Afterward.

The members of the Produce Exchange began last night their three days' undertaking of showing the members of the National Millers' Association what New York could furnish in the way of enjoyment.

The Western men of the Millers' Association saw the town during the afternoon, and in the evening had a jubilee at the Casino. The Produce Exchange men bought every seat in the theatre, and filled the play house with as merry an audience as ever gathered there. No outsider was admitted.

The millers presented Lillian Russell with a handsome floral gift. The auditorium was profusely decorated with flags. Sheafs of wheat were bunched in front of the proscenium boxes. Souvenir programmes were presented to the millers.

When the performance ended the foyer on the ground floor was filled with tables and a collation was served behind closed doors. Nearly 1,000 persons partook of the supper.

At the tables sat Congressman Warwick of Ohio, who succeeded Major McKinley, State Senator D. R. Sparks of Illinois, President A. R. James of the Millers' Association, Editor W. E. Edgar, George Bain, ex-President of the Merchants' Exchange of St. Louis; P. R. McGill, H. R. Sanderson, William Sanderson, and S. H. Seaman. Speeches were made by Congressman John R. Fellows and others, and later the merrymakers started out to see what the big town looked like in the dead of night.

THEODORE C. TEALE DEAD.

It is Reported that He was About to Get a Custom House Cartage Contract.

Theodore C. Teale, a well-known politician of Greene county, died yesterday of pneumonia at the Grand Union Hotel, after a month's illness.

He was born in Palenville, and had always lived there. Under Collector Arthur, he had a place in the Custom House, and for many years he was Chairman of the Republican Committee of Greene county. He was once Chairman of the Republican State Committee. Last fall he ran for Congress in the Fourteenth district.

His campaign at Albany on behalf of Levi P. Morton, when Mr. Morton was a candidate for the Senate, did a good deal to break him down. President Arthur and President Grant had both visited his house, the Winchelsea, a summer hotel in the Catskills.

Mr. Teale's brother-in-law, O. F. Payne, also of Palenville, said last evening that the contract for the carting at the Custom House was to have been assumed by Mr. Teale on behalf of two of his friends, the Hon. Frank Walters and the Hon. Jacob Jacobs, both of Cairo.

Mr. Teale, Mr. Payne said, had the contract in his possession at the time of his death, but it had not been signed.

Mr. Teale leaves a wife, who was with him during his illness. The body was embalmed, and will be taken to Palenville this morning.

JAMES CAVANAGH SHOOTS HIMSELF.

The Bullet Split in Two and His Life is Saved by an Unusual Operation.

An elderly well-dressed man attempted to commit suicide on board a Greenpoint ferryboat at about 11 o'clock yesterday morning. The boat had just touched her slip on the Long Island shore when he drew a revolver from his pocket and fired a bullet into his right temple. He was taken to the Eastern District Hospital, where Dr. Silas C. Blaisdell found that the bullet had split in two. One-half had lodged in the exterior plate of the skull and the other had penetrated the brain, severing the middle meningeal artery.

For the second time in the medical history of this city, Dr. Blaisdell says, the difficult operation of cutting away the skull bone until the membrane covering the brain was reached was successfully performed. The bullet, which had penetrated the brain to the depth of three-eighths of an inch, was then removed, the artery tied, and the membrane replaced. The patient, who had recovered consciousness, refused to tell who he was. Later he was identified as James Cavanagh, a well-to-do real estate broker of 325 East Thirtieth street, this city. His wife and son visited him during the afternoon. He says he has no recollection whatever of attempting self-destruction.

POOL ROOM KEEPERS IN A DILEMMA.

Their Commission Scheme Does Not Look as Plausible as it Did.

Some time ago the keepers of the city pool rooms announced that they would begin business again on May 15, the opening day of the Brooklyn Jockey Club meeting.

They would do only a strict commission business, and would place all the money intrusted to them at the race course through their agents, sending despatches over special wires to be leased from the Western Union Telegraph Company.

This way to get around the Ives law was devised by such clever heads as Col. Fellows, Abe Hummel, and Daniel G. Rollins. Great preparations had been made to begin operations on Friday next, but President Philip Dwyer of the Brooklyn Jockey Club has stepped in and will not permit the Western Union Company to place its instruments on his track if they will handle any such despatches as the pool room keepers outlined. The Western Union company in turn flatly refuses to help the pool room keepers out of their dilemma, and it is doubtful whether the sixty odd bookmakers who prefer to stay in town will make the endeavor to bluff their way through the forest of difficulties that surround them on all sides.

CAPT. GLASIER KILLS HIS MAN.

Fatal Ending of a Saloon Quarrel in Elizabethport Last Night.

ELIZABETHPORT, May 11.—Herman Glasier, the Captain of the coal barge Casper Williams of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, had an altercation to-night in William Fullerton's saloon, 37 Pine street, with Thomas Wilson, an employee of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, and who lives at 77 Pine street. Glasier drew a 38-calibre revolver and opened fire on Wilson. The first shot struck the side of the wall, and the next one hit Wilson in the breast, the bullet penetrating his heart.

He exclaimed "I am killed," and fell to the floor. A physician was summoned, but before he reached the saloon Wilson was dead.

He had lived only ten minutes.

The slayer disappeared after the affray, but later was captured by the police. He is about 40 years old.

Wilson was married and he leaves a wife and four children. Glasier does not seem at all sorry for his act. He alleges the shooting was done in self-defence. His vessel lies anchored at the Central Railroad coal wharves.

Please Omit Flowers.

The P. M. L. General Committee was to meet last night and elect new officers. The effort was made yesterday to learn where this meeting was to be held. One gentleman, who is more or less prominent in the League, said: "How can there be any meeting when there are no delegates? The by-laws provided that meetings of the district organizations should be held the third week in April for the election of delegates to the General Committee. There are no district organizations, and consequently no such meeting were held. This being the case, there are no delegates."

The Finest Bread

Is made with Royal Baking Powder. Always light, sweet, pure and wholesome.

FLIPPING A CENT FOR $25,000.

The Big Stake Won from Millionaire Jonathan Bourne in Boston.

BOSTON, May 11.—There was a story of gambling extraordinary in the trial of the case of Annie B. Everett agt. John Stetson. Mrs. Everett is suing to recover $48,000, which is three times the amount she alleges was won at the gaming table from Jonathan Bourne, the New Bedford millionaire.

Mr. Stetson is President of the Carleton Club, in which the alleged gambling was done. The defence was reached to-day, and this explanation of the loss of the money was given.

It was admitted that there was gambling, but, according to the defence, it was done in Bourne's room at the Adam's House. Fifteen thousand dollars were won from the millionaire in flipping coppers at $1,000 a flip.

After losing the $15,000 Millionaire Bourne hauled $10,000 in big bills from an inside pocket and insisted upon staking that sum against the $15,000 which had already been won from him. Mr. Westcott, who had been flipping in such great luck, demurred at first, but finally covered the $10,000 with the $15,000 which he had already won. Then the copper was flipped, and the big stake won by Mr. Westcott, who had called the turn of the copper. It is probably the biggest sum which ever figured in a penny tossing contest. The case is not yet finished.

TRACY'S SCHOOLMASTERS.

A Chinese Board of Civil Service Examiners in the Navy Yard.

The Civil Service Board of Examiners appointed by Secretary Tracy under the new regulations governing appointment to certain places in the navy yard held its first meeting for business at Brooklyn yesterday. Capt. F. M. Bunce presided, and all the other members of the Board were present.

They were Chief Engineer David Smith, Commander Charles O'Neil, Commander F. E. Chadwick, Naval Constructor Francis F. Bowles, and Lieut. William B. Caperton, who is the recorder.

The meeting was held in building 7. There were seventeen candidates on hand, for the applicants for the places of master shipwright, master ship fitter, and master joiner had been notified to attend. They stood waiting in a line in the corridor of the building where the Board sat.

With the party in the corridor were the present incumbents of places enumerated, namely, Ira Lillie, master shipwright; Thomas Rourke, master ship fitter; Pierre Parselles, master ship fitter, and Andrew Childs, master joiner. The presence of Quartermaster Arthur J. Boyle among the candidates created more than ordinary comment.

Boyle had at one time considerable influence in the yard, but lately his place has been gradually shorn of much of its importance. It is said he incurred the enmity of Israel F. Fischer. Boyle is now looking for Master Ship Fitter Rourke's place.

The Commission decided to examine the applicants one by one, and Master Shipwright Ira Lillie was first called in. The same form of examination was adopted with each. The candidate took a seat in front of the members of the Board, and was subjected to an oral examination.

Then a number of carefully prepared questions, which were typewritten, were presented to him, and he was allowed to prepare his answers in another room. The examination will last several days, and when the members of the Board have passed upon the work of the candidates the report will be sent to Washington. It is probable that the men who hold the principal places in the navy yard will be examined first.

CONDUCTOR M'GILL DISAPPEARS.

He is Supposed to Have $1,000 of the Staten Island Railroad's Money.

James E. McGill, a conductor on the Amboy division of the Staten Island Rapid Transit Railroad, disappeared yesterday morning, and it is alleged that he took with him between $1,000 and $1,500 of the company's funds.

It was his duty on his early morning trip to collect the daily receipts at the various stations along the route. The money was carefully sealed in a package by the agent at each station.

It was the custom of McGill to turn all the money over to a clerk of the Treasurer's office at St. George. Yesterday McGill's collections consisted of Saturday's and Sunday's receipts.

When his train arrived at St. George at 8 o'clock yesterday morning, he asked for a few hours' leave of absence, saying that he wanted to purchase a new uniform. His request was granted.

He succeeded in keeping out of the way of the clerk of the Treasurer's office, who was waiting as usual to receive the money from him. It was some time before the railroad officials realized that McGill had disappeared. He was traced to Erastina and was last seen there.

Superintendent Frank S. Gannon went before Justice Acker at New Brighton and procured a warrant for the arrest of McGill on a charge of embezzlement. It is thought McGill boarded an outgoing train at some place near Bergen Point, N. J.

McGill, who is about 40 years of age, has a wife and three children in Tottenville. He was employed for many years on the Erie road.

LIFE OFFICE IN MUNICIPALITIES.

President Eliot Prescribes a Cure for the Ills of City Government.

President Eliot of Harvard was the guest of President Anderson of the Reform Club at dinner last night. He made a speech on "Municipal Administration," in which he said:

"The direction which the attempts at reform of late years have taken is the increasing of the responsibility of the Mayor by freeing him from the control of municipal elective bodies and giving him larger rights of appointing and dismissing his subordinates. This method will succeed only so far as it procures for the city independent and highly trained expert service. This cannot be obtained when the appointments and removals are made by short term officers. The doctrine of rotation in office, when applied to modern municipal functions, is simply silly. Before municipal government can be set right in the United States municipal service must be made a life career for intelligent and self-respecting young Americans."

Farewell Reception to Prof. Adler.

The annual meeting of the Society for Ethical Culture, at 109 West Fifty-fourth street, last night, was made the occasion of a farewell reception to Prof. Felix Adler, the leader of the society. Prof. Adler was made leader of the society for life. These trustees were elected to hold office for the next three years: William Stone, Albert M. Kohn, James Kleber, Joseph Liebman, and Adolph Openhym.

Prof. Adler will spend July and August teaching in the new summer school of applied ethics at Plymouth, Mass. He will sail for England in the latter part of August. The trustees of the society will give him a farewell dinner at the Liederkranz club house this month.

Where Yesterday's Fires Were.

A. M.—12:00, 859 Third avenue, Thomas Madden's liquor store, awning, damage $6; 12:23, 44 Greenwich avenue, Ada Russell's, curtain fire, damage $5; 2:15, 2,506 Eighth avenue, Ferdinand Fish's, damage $10; 5:10, Macomb's Dam road, A. B. Upshaw's, cellar fire, damage slight; 10:00, 113 Norfolk street, Abraham Feurst's, damage $500; 10:55, 216 Bowery, L. A. Eadig's fancy goods store, damage $25.

P. M.—2:50, cotton waste in H. R. R. tunnel, no damage; 2:30, cambiant Annie Harjes, foot of east 111th street, damage $50; 5:00, 216 Madison street, Simon Mendelson's, lamp upset, damage trifling; 7:18, 265 Sixth avenue, unoccupied room, damage $1 0; 8:00, 502 Eleventh avenue, Lizzie Taylor's, curtain fire, damage $5; 8:00, 443 West Thirty-ninth street, Joseph Sterns's, cellar fire, no damage; 8:00, Seventh avenue and 115th street, Mary Woods's, damage $50; 9:00, 84 Essex street, Israel Epstein, damage trifling; 9:45, Schwarzchild & Salzberger's rendering works, Forty-fifth street and East River, $18,000; 10:21, 5 Washington street, Patrick Sexton, damage $10; 10:26, 237 West Thirty-eighth street, George Ueff, damage $75.

A CHEAP HOUSE FOR HIRSCH.

But the Friedman Brothers Think They were Swindled and Want it Back.

Herman Hirsch, who keeps a saloon at 75 Murray street, and another at 1,336 Third avenue, bought the house 420 East Eleventh street for $600, he to come into possession when the present owner, Moritz J. Friedman, should be dead. The house is stated to be worth $20,000, with a $10,000 mortgage on it in favor of Mrs. Caroline M. Wilder; and Mr. Friedman is now 50 years old. Mr. Hirsch bought the house of Jacob and Benj. Z. Friedman, sons of Mr. Friedman, who, by their deceased mother's will, were to own it, each a half, after their father's death. In other words, these two young men sold out their reversionary interests in the house together for $600 to Mr. Hirsch.

Jacob Friedman, the elder brother, was about 21 years of age when, two years ago, the sale was made. He says his interest was worth $2,500, and his brother's as much, and that Mr. Hirsch took unfair advantage of their youth and inexperience by getting them both to sell out to him for $600. They want to break the sale, if possible, and get the property back, and for that purpose brought two suits in the Supreme Court against Mr. Hirsch to have the sale declared null and void and the deed of conveyance cancelled. The suits came on for trial yesterday before Judge Patterson.

Jacob Friedman testified that he was under the influence of liquor when he sold out his $2,500 worth of interest in the property to Mr. Hirsch for $300. Decision was reserved.

A DISGRACE TO MANKIND.

Recorder McDonough's Opinion of William Halle, Druggist.

Recorder McDonough of Hoboken was boiling over with indignation yesterday when William Halle was arraigned before him and the story was told of his having enticed three little girls from New York. Halle said he was a druggist, but refused to give his address. Mamie Lawlor, aged 15, and the eldest of the three, testified that Halle met her and her companions in Thirty-fifth street and Tenth avenue. He invited them to take a sail across the river, and gave them money to pay their ferriage over the Fourteenth street ferry, arranging to meet them on the Hoboken side. Halle went on the same boat with them, but did not talk to them until they reached Hoboken. Then he directed them to the Elysian Fields and followed them. They had reached a secluded place, when Detective Darin appeared and Halle fled. The witness said Halle gave her sister 50 cents.

Looking pityingly at the trembling prisoner, Recorder McDonough said:

"You are a disgrace to mankind. If it were within my power I would send you to prison, but unfortunately there is not sufficient evidence to warrant me in holding you. Get out!" Halle lost no time in going to New York.

DIDN'T WANT HER BABY.

She Only Wanted to Get $3 Out of Her Friend, Mrs. Aminio.

Mrs. Marie Antonia Aminio, the Italian woman who recently was accused by Josie Minicio of having abducted her baby on Feb. 14, when it was but one day old, was arraigned before Justice Blauveit in Newark yesterday. The defendant testified that she did not steal the baby, but had simply taken it in accordance with a promise made by its mother before it was born, that she was to have the child to bring up as her own. Amenio Distano swore that the promise was made by Josie in his presence, and added that the trouble arose after the girl's father learned of it. She then demanded $3 for the child, but Marie refused to pay her or give up the little one.

The child's mother admitted the truth of the testimony, and said she wanted to get rid of the baby and return to Italy. She wanted the $3 and thought the best way to get it was to frighten Mrs. Aminio by having her arrested for abduction. It was finally decided by Justice Blauvelt that the child was better off in the care of Mrs. Aminio than in that of its unnatural mother, and the matter was so arranged. The latter will return to Italy at once.

A WEARY LIFE.

Peter Hendrickson Kills Himself Because He Was Worn Out With Illness.

For ten years Peter B. Hendrickson, formerly a clerk, sat in his home, 264 Henry street, awaiting death from consumption. Last evening at 6 o'clock his sister Emma, who had taken care of his wants, left his room in the basement to see some neighbors outside. Ten minutes later she returned. Her brother was in his chair, dead. Beside him lay a 38-calibre revolver. Blood flowed from a bullet wound in his abdomen.

Hendrickson was 54 years old. He had written two messages on pieces of pasteboard before shooting himself and left them on a table. One recommended his sister to a friend, who would help her. The other read:

"TO CORONER AND FRIENDS: I can't stand my suffering longer. Yours, &c.,
"P. B. HENDRICKSON."

On the other side was written:

"I commit suicide because I cannot stand this terrible cough. P. B. HENDRICKSON."

Election at the Stock Exchange.

Watson B. Dickerman was on all three of the tickets for President of the Stock Exchange at yesterday's election, and was elected, of course. Secretary George W. Ely, Treasurer Dewitt C. Hays, and Chairman James Mitchell were also on all the tickets. The differences were all over the Board of Governors. There were 670 ballots cast, and the ticket elected was as follows:

President, W. B. Dickerman; Secretary, G. W. Ely; Treasurer, D. C. Hays; Chairman, James Mitchell; Trustee Gratuity Fund, William Alexander Smith; Governors, for four years, F. L. Eames, I. B. Dumont, T. B. Williams, James Weeks, W. H. Beekman, P. W. Harding, G. Minot Heine, W. McDonald, C. L. Hudson, William Carpender. The last three were elected in place of J. T. Adams, D. D. Parmly, and H. C. Kritchmar, whose names were on the regular ticket. Governors for three years, H. G. Campbell and F. M. Turlot, the latter elected over W. H. Gilder. Nominating Committee for '92, H. C. Oakley, Theodore Wilson, E. H. Wales, L. C. Clark, and Walter Browne, the latter defeating R. P. Doremus.

Fight Between Italian and American Laborers.

WHEELING, May 11.—There was a riot this morning at Pipe Creek between Italian and American laborers employed by Alexander Graham, the Belmont contractor. One man was killed, two others fatally wounded, and six or ten others more or less injured.

The scene of the riot is twelve miles from Bellaire. It is reported that the trouble began by an Italian striking an American over the head with an iron bar.

Sixty-Seven Liquor Dealers Indicted.

Eighty-seven indictments were returned by the Suffolk county Grand Jury at the adjournment of court in Riverhead yesterday. Sixty-seven of these were against liquor dealers for violation of the Excise laws. It is said an indictment containing fifty counts was returned against James Horton, who keeps a saloon in North Babylon, near Austin Corbin's county seat. Mr. Corbin was opposed to a saloon close to his grounds and tried to buy the place. The owner refused to sell.

Exeter Students Haul Down Their Flag.

EXETER, N. H., May 11.—This morning a flag was again seen on the spire of Phillips-Exeter Academy. On one side was '91 and on the other '93. Principal Fish gave the school just one hour to remove the flag, or twenty students, whose names he is holding as hostages for misconduct committed a few nights since, would be expelled. The flag was removed within the stipulated time.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

WINDING UP THE CANDIDATES.

Work of Horses in Brooklyn's Big Race—Arrivals at Gravesend—Gossip.

The Gravesend race course yesterday presented a most animated appearance, there being fully 500 race horses quartered there. Many of them have been under special preparation in Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia, California, and the tracks in this vicinity for months, getting ready for the legitimate racing season of 1891, which will be inaugurated at Gravesend on Friday, when the Brooklyn Handicap, the richest event of its kind on this side of the water, will be decided.

The coming season bids fair to open most brilliantly, as there is an abundance of racing material, while the public who patronize the legitimate race tracks are more than anxious to see the thoroughbreds contest for rich stakes and purses. Naturally the Brooklyn Handicap absorbs almost the entire attention of the racing community, and the pages of THE SUN are eagerly scanned from day to day to note the progress of the horses engaged. Many of the thoroughbreds that will start on Friday for the $20,000 prize will have their final trial to-day.

From early dawn yesterday the horse watchers at Gravesend and Morris Park were untiring in their vigil. They were there to note the movement of every candidate for the Brooklyn, and, although nothing sensational took place, there are many interesting events to be recorded. Prince Royal, dubbed by many of the racing "Jack McAuliffe," was closely scrutinized to learn whether Saturday morning's trial with Eon had left any bad effects. The chestnut bounced along like a rubber ball, and it is evident that he will stand a lot of killing. With probably 118 pounds in the saddle, he was sent a mile and a quarter in 2:14¼; the mile in 1:46⅘. He wanted to go faster, but Mr. Dwyer was satisfied.

The Prince is confidently expected to make some of the other candidates very tired if there is a good dry track for Friday's contest. The general opinion is that he cannot beat Tenny, and even Mr. Philip Dwyer, who has wagered $1,000 with Matty Corbett that the Prince will beat Tenny, is probably of the opinion that his money is as good as lost. Big Eon, who will be the second bow to P. J. Dwyer & Son's string, was out early and was sent over the Handicap distance in 2:16. Eon's forte is mud, and it is admitted that if the track is heavy or sloppy he will be very much in the hunt. With but 108 pounds up, he will make things interesting on a heavy track. Loantaka, a very speedy horse, but one that has always borne the reputation of being more of a sprinter than a stayer, and who is well thought of by his owner, D. W. McCoun, was among the early birds yesterday morning, and with a good-sized boy up ran a mile and a quarter in 2:14⅘. Judge Morrow, who is being backed to beat the other four-year-olds in the race, came out in company with Ed Corrigan's Riley. They galloped a mile and a half at a strong pace, Morrow leading, with the Western giant about a hundred yards behind. Riley's action has improved, and in his move yesterday he excited the admiration of all who