MUD HUTS ON LONG ISLAND.

50 ITALIAN MEN AND WOMEN PASSING THE WINTER IN THEM.

A Hole in the Top Lets Out the Smoke of a Fire Built on the Mud Floor—Every Man His Own Avenger—Last Sunday's Murder.

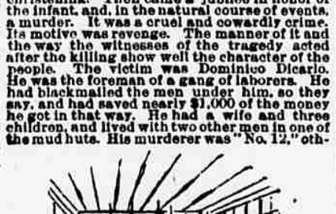
Where Kings county purchased a thousand-acre tract of land at St. Johnland in Suffolk county to make a new county farm and put up an insane asylum live now fifty human beings as barbarous probably as any fifty who live in America. They live in a state of anarchy as far as the abolition of all law and government is concerned, and they lie, cheat, steal, and fight to their hearts' content. Every man defends his own property without any assistance from the law. Every man avenges his own wrongs, and if he has to commit murder to do it he does it as a matter of course.

The colony did number 300 or more Italians until winter set in; then all but about fifty came to New York to stay until spring broke and work on the Kings county property could be begun again. The whole gang was taken to Kings Park, near St. Johnland, by the contractors who have charge of the work. There were no houses for them to live in and the Italians could get no lumber to build houses of. So they constructed mud huts, one hut usually to shelter men and women. The contractors put up two rough buildings for stables and storehouses. One hundred of the Italians slept in a 20x20 room on the second floor of one of these. The huts did for the others. These men worked in the daytime and many

PART OF SETTLEMENT.

of them prayed on each other or fought with each other at night. Unfortunate was the wayfarer who was seen walking along the street that runs near the colony. He was held up and made to disgorge all the money he had. Crimes of violence such as assault and murder were seldom committed on outsiders, however, though highway robbery was common enough.

All civilization has not been forgotten in the colony, for last Sunday morning there was a christening. Then came a jubilee in honor of the infant, and, in the natural course of events, a murder. It was a cruel and cowardly crime. Its motive was revenge. The manner of it and the way the witnesses of the tragedy acted after the killing show well the character of the people. The victim was Dominico Dicario. He was the foreman of a gang of laborers. He had blackmailed the men under him, so they say, and had saved nearly $1,000 of the money he got in that way. He had a wife and three children, and lived with two other men in one of the mud huts. His murderer was "No. 12," otherwise known as Frongesco Aribella. He was a murderer in Italy, it is said, before he came to America. He was a bad man in New York, and strangely enough was a half good citizen in the colony. He and Dicario had once had a falling out, and Dicario had laid his face open with a lamp, and then lunged at his abdomen with a knife fifteen inches long, but had inflicted only a cut on the leg. No. 12 said to him then, pointing to his two hurts, "You pay for this, first chance-a!" And Dicario and all the other men had laughed at him and called him a baby for not settling the matter on the spot. Dicario always carried two revolvers and a knife, so chances to get square were scarce.



STOREHOUSE.

On Sunday night, after the christening, Dicario went into one of the mud huts, where No. 12, with five other men, were playing cards. He had two bottles of beer. One of the men got up and gave him a seat. Immediately No. 12 jumped up and drawing his revolver and cursing in his mother tongue, aimed it at Dicario and fired as rapidly as he could cock the weapon and pull the trigger. He backed toward the door as he fired. Dicario toppled over with four bullet holes in him. Then No. 12 passed out of the door and disappeared in the darkness. He could be heard running

INTERIOR OF HUT, SHOWING BED.

through the mud and slush, but no one cared to follow him. He had only avenged a wrong, and that they thought he had a right to do. They made certain that Dicario was dead, and then they dragged his body out and left it lying in the mud and water only a little way from the door of the cabin where his wife and three children were. They went back to their own lodgings and slept as though nothing had happened. Joe, the storekeeper at the colony, who is grades above the other men in intelligence, thought it best to notify the authorities at Kings Park, and word was sent to Coroner Rodman Huntington. All Sunday night the body of Dicario lay out in the open air half buried in the deep mud, without even being covered by a blanket, and it continued to lie there all of Monday morning and until 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Then the Coroner came and empanelled a jury. The witnesses reluctantly admitted that No. 12 fired the fatal shots. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the facts, and that ended the matter. Nobody thought of hunting down the murderer, though it was pretty certain he had not gone more than ten miles away.

A GAME.

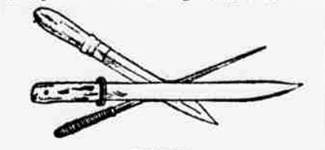
A SUN reporter visited the colony on Wednesday. The crime had almost been forgotten. Joe, the storekeeper, remembered the details and told them.

If it were not for the two rough buildings put up by the contractors for stables a stranger passing this colony would not see in it a place of habitation. The ground is partly cleared. That is to say, some of the trees have been cut down, but the stumps remain. The mud huts don't face the road. They look like mounds of earth from the road, with no semblance to dwelling places. They cover a plot of about two acres, and the mud in this plot is not less than a foot deep in any part in bad weather. It was deeper than that in many places when the reporter was there. There is mud even in front of the shanty doors, and the dwellers step out and sink half up to their knees. It is not easy to recognize these places as habitations, even when looking at them from in front. Some of them have doors made of two or three rough boards nailed together and hung with leather hinges. Others haven't even these, and the entrance is covered with a carpet that can be pushed aside. None of the huts is more than twelve feet long, and none is more than five feet wide. The interior is divided into two rooms by means of a wood partition. The filth of these places it is difficult to realize. The dirtiest room in the dirtiest house in the dirtiest part of New York is clean beside one of these rooms. The muddy earth serves as floor. Two miserable boxes in the front room serve as a bed, and vile rags as bedclothing. The rear room is the kitchen. In the centre on the ground, in the huts which the reporter visited, big wood fires burned. There was a hole in the top of each hut for the smoke to escape, but the atmosphere was in such a condition that the smoke stayed in the huts.

In one hut a man, his wife, and three children in filthy clothing squatted in the refuse on the ground about the fire. They were barefooted and bareheaded, their faces and limbs were grimy, and their hair tangled and di-

MAY RESULT IN MURDER.

shevelled. The smoke was suffocating. They had just finished a meal, and a pot in which a little of the stuff they had had to eat remained. It was a stew made of tomatoes, crabs, onions, bacon, and dough, with dirty water. They growled out responses to the interpreter who was with the reporter. There was no furniture of any kind in the place. A piece of carpet hung between the two rooms. In the front rooms were the two beds. They were nine boxes, stretching from end to end of the room, with a square hole in the centre of each just large enough for a man to squeeze through. They were less than three feet wide and less than two feet high. The man and his wife slept in one and the three children in the other, while two boarders slept on boards in the filth on the floor. How this family existed in the atmosphere was a mystery. In another hut six men sat about a fire. They were all barefooted and dirty looking. The floor of the hut was covered with filth. The atmosphere was vile, the bedclothing was dirty, and the place couldn't have presented a worse sight than it did. The



WEAPONS.

men were playing cards and squabbling among themselves. There was one place that contrasted strangely with these others. It was the hut of Joe, the storekeeper. There was a stove in it, a board floor, a door that fitted and an air of cleanliness. Joe opened his store to talk in after he had shown how the colony lived. It was a 12x12 corner of the barn, with one window and a misfit door. A string of garlic, a ham, and a strip of bacon hung from the ceiling. There were about a dozen cans of tomatoes and a few boxes of other edibles. It was over this store Joe said that the hundred men slept when work was brisk. They lay down in rows as close as they could crowd together, and the restlessness of one man affected all the others. Joe said that this murder of Dicario was the first actual murder that had taken place in the colony. The reporter's guide corrected this by saying that it was the first that had ever been reported.

"I'll bet if you dig around here," he whispered, "you'll find lots of bones."

Joe didn't agree with him. While Joe was talking, Dicario's brother, a lean man with a typical Italian face, came along and peered into the eyes of the strangers. Then he growled out something to Joe and disappeared. This man will have to kill No. 12 if he ever runs across his path, but Joe said the man wouldn't look for the murderer. The colony lives on a stew a day, and beer and cheese. There was a plenty of stories told of the crimes alleged to have been committed by these men, but they all have the secretive taint of the Italian character as to the concealment of crime. They cannot be made to tell on each other. The people of King's Park look on the matter with complaisance. A murderous battle in the colony does not interest them, and as for the murder Sunday night, it has not caused one half the talk that was occasioned by the latest wife beating.

COLUMBIA'S FUTURE SITE.

The Alumni Approve the Proposed Removal to Bloomingdale.

The alumni of Columbia College held a meeting at Delmonico's last night, and unanimously adopted resolutions favoring the proposed removal of the college to the Bloomingdale site at 116th street and the Boulevard. The meeting was large and enthusiastic, over 300 alumni being present. Prof. J. Howard Van Amringe, the President of the Alumni Association, called the meeting to order.

President Low being called upon, said in part:

"No question affecting Columbia more far-reaching in its consequences, not alone to Columbia, but to the city also, is likely to come up for discussion in either your day or mine.

"I believe Columbia's opportunity as an educational power in the land is second to that of no other among our sister colleges or universities. This opportunity, in my judgment, is to be found by keeping steadily to our natural pathway. By this course we can, if we will, become a university worthy of the metropolis of the Western world. By a different course we might become I do not know what. By moving off of Manhattan Island I should feel that we had thrown away our birthright, and that a birthright bright with a promise fairly dazzling to any one who contemplates its opportunities from the position which it is my good fortune to occupy. New York city in these days, when everything tends toward the cities, draws to itself that which is strongest and best in every department of life."

He then went on to outline the recent rapid growth of the college and the final drawing together of all the different schools and departments into a united university. "One consequence of these changes," he said, "has been to try the resources of the present block to their utmost capacity. We have leased two houses across the way on Forty-ninth street, and even with this addition we do not have facilities with which to do our present work to the best advantage."

Ex-Mayor Hewitt of the class of '42 offered resolutions favoring the change of site, and calling for the appointment of a Committee of Fifty, with power to add to its number from alumni and friends of the college, to coöperate with President Low, in case of favorable action by the trustees, in furthering the removal of the college to the proposed site.

Mr. Hewitt, in support of the resolution, rehearsed the many disadvantages of the present site, and the urgency of Columbia's still remaining in the city. He referred in terms of praise to Mr. John D. Rockefeller's gift of $1,000,000 to Chicago University, which was announced yesterday, and said he doubted not that Columbia could obtain the $2,000,000 necessary for the removal without the slightest difficulty.

A. B. Simonds, '73, and Dr. S. F. Morris, '63, opposed the proposed Bloomingdale site and recommended a removal to the annexed district across the Harlem, where land was cheaper and ample room could be obtained for a dormitory system.

Frederic R. Coudert, '50, closed the discussion in a speech in which he expressed himself as heartily in favor of the proposed change.

The resolutions were carried without opposition.

The Committee of Fifty provided for by the resolution was announced as follows: Abram S. Hewitt, Frederic R. Coudert, Joseph Larocque, Frank P. Church, George Waddington, Cornelius B. Mitchell, William Henry Willis, Charles Stedman Bull, John Vissher Wheeler, Julien T. Davies, George De Witt, Frederick de P. Foster, Charles A. Peabody, Jr., Henry C. Sturges, Frederick Bronson, Brander Matthews, B. Aymar Sands, George Sherman, James A. Renwick, William E. Verplanck, Wm. Barclay Parsons, W. Harris Roome, William S. Sloan, William M. V. Hoffman, Spencer Aldrich, Henry A. Bogert, John Armstrong Chandler, William Lummis, Henry Dudley, William G. Lathrop, Jr., John P. R. Mitchell, Henry T. Satterlee, Henry R. Beekman, William G. Low, Daniel Lord, Jr., Nicholas Fish, William A. Duer, David B. Ogden, Edmon Kelly, Clarence R. Conger, George C. Robbe, Alister Greene, Philip H. Dugro, Isaac N. Seligman, Charles F. Hoffman, Jr., S. Victor Constant, William T. Lawson, Herbert L. Satterlee, Lloyd Warren, Cortlandt Field Bishop.

The Press Club Dinner.

Over three hundred guests will attend the Press Club dinner at the Metropolitan Hotel this evening. Chauncey M. Depew, Col. Ingersoll, Speaker Bush, Mayor Grant, Gen. Horace Porter, and Col. Taylor of Boston are among those selected to respond to the toasts.

A FORGER AT FOURTEEN.

CHARLES SCHMIDT'S PENMANSHIP LEADS HIM ASTRAY.

He Told His Father that at School He had to Sign Checks with the Names of Prominent Business Men—Weeping in Jail.

Fourteen-year-old Charles Schmidt, who confessed that he forged a lot of checks, was arraigned yesterday morning in the police court in Newark and held over for examination. He is a lad of slight figure and pale face. He wears a military cap and a cape overcoat.

Schmidt had had practice in forging business men's names. He told his father, when the latter found blanks of several Newark banks in his pockets, that in school he was required to fill these blanks out, and sometimes names of conspicuous men were used. A SUN reporter saw the boy's teacher of bookkeeping and commercial training yesterday, and the latter denied that they ever used any blanks of established banks in the schoolroom. The boys made out checks on plain paper. Schmidt also studied civil government and science, but he made the greatest headway in penmanship.

When Chief of Police Hopper asked Charles to make out a check like the one for $22, which was passed off on Baker E. J. Beck of 900 Broad street, Newark, Schmidt imitated his previous handwriting to a dot, and the signatures resembled those of the men whose names he had used. Not only that, but he exhibited to Chief Hopper on the spot nine different styles of handwriting, such as he admitted having used in filling out the numerous checks that were found in his possession.

Two checks were brought to Mr. Beck to be cashed by boys whom Schmidt had put up to the job. A different boy called each time. The first check was for $22, drawn to the order of Begerow & Gerlach, and signed with the name of Leslie D. Ward, Vice-President of the Prudential Insurance Company. It was properly indorsed. Mr. Beck said yesterday that a boy a couple of years older than Schmidt brought it in on Feb. 24, and said that Begerow & Gerlach wanted him to cash it. Mr. Beck did so. He kept the check for a day or two before depositing it.

On Thursday another boy came into the bakery with a check for $63, which he said Begerow & Gerlach wanted Mr. Beck to cash. The latter suspected there was something wrong, and he said:

"No, they don't, either. There is something wrong about this. I'll go out and see about it."

This frightened the boy out of the store. Mr. Beck then took the $22 check to his bank and discovered it to be a forgery.

At Police Headquarters Schmidt was asked how much of the $22 he had left.

"What do you take me for? I have spent it," he replied with affected toughness.

"Where did you go?"

"Oh! over to New York."

"And what did you do with all the money?"

"Well, I hadn't had any breakfast, so the first thing I did was to get one over there. I paid $1.75 for it. The rest I spent some other way."

The young penman explained that he first got blanks from the Howard Savings Institution out of the rack near the door, and he went over to the Free Library and filled them out. Nearly all of the checks found in his possession were on paper of the German National Bank, Second National Bank, and Newark City Bank. Here are some of them: One signed T. B. Peddie, for $15, payable to Stroebel Bros.; A. C. Ward, M. D., $25, payable to Begerow & Gerlach; T. B. Peddie, $42, payable to William W. Kingston; Henry C. Strobel, $100, payable to Begerow & Gerlach; Dr. Becker, $35, payable to Dr. L. D. Ward.

Friends of the boy labored yesterday with Mr. Beck to get him to use his influence not to prosecute. So promising was the lad in his studies that they intended to send him to college. His father was not able to do so himself.

A SUN reporter was at Police Headquarters yesterday afternoon and Chief Hopper pointed out the lad in a cell across the court. His elbows rested on the window sill and he was crying.

"You've got yourself in a pretty hole!" called out Chief Hopper to the boy, and the latter sobbed the louder.

Detectives found the lad yesterday who passed the check for $22, and also the one who tried to get the one for $63 cashed. They were brought to Police Headquarters. They told a straight enough story, and they didn't seem to know that they had been doing wrong, so they were discharged. Schmidt's case will come up in court on Monday, and in the mean time he will remain behind the bars.

A story was told yesterday about a trick played by a small boy on another Newark store, but it is not known yet whether the culprit was Schmidt or not. The boy took a lot of change in, and asked the dealer if he wouldn't give a $5 bill in exchange. The boy wanted to send it off in an envelope to a cousin, and he began counting out the money.

"Certainly," said the storekeeper, as he took the handful of change.

"Hold on!" he said, as the boy was sealing up the envelope. "There's only $4.99 here."

"Oh! is that so?" asked the boy. "Well, I'll go and get the rest and leave the envelope here until I come back."

But the boy didn't come back and when the envelope was opened there was no bill inside.

It Wasn't a Hospital He Shipped In.

A new steward, a Portuguese, who had been shipped by J. Bailey, shipping agent at 84 South street, went yesterday morning on board the schooner E. A. Gaskell, lying off Ellis Island. No one knew him, and as his articles were still at Bailey's office, his name was not learned. He was drunk and silent, refusing to answer when spoken to. A few minutes after 11 o'clock he jumped overboard. He was hauled out, stripped of his clothing, and put into a bunk. He was unconscious all this time. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon the mate, Henry Hill, becoming alarmed at the man's prolonged unconsciousness, tried to resuscitate him, and failing, reported the case to the police of Jersey City.

They referred him to the police of New York. It was 7:45 when Hill got to the police boat Patrol. The man was lying upon a boat reached the schooner. His body is at the Morgue. The mate says that the Captain was in Philadelphia and that he did not know what to do for the man.

His Confession Used Against Him.

Mrs. Lily H. Anderson obtained a decree of absolute divorce in the Court of Common Pleas yesterday. The custody of her 17-year-old daughter, Ethel, was awarded to her. Her husband did not defend the suit. The Andersons were married in 1872 in Boston. Mrs. Anderson brought suit for absolute divorce in the Supreme Court, but she was not able to prove infidelity and the proceedings were discontinued. About a year ago Anderson asked his wife's lawyers to effect a reconciliation, but Mrs. Anderson would not relent. Mrs. Anderson said he desired to do justice to his wife and signed a confession of his guilt, which he said could not otherwise be proved. This confession was introduced in evidence, and several witnesses testified to Anderson's relations with a Mrs. Meade.

Staten Island's Charity Ball.

The seventeenth annual charity ball for the S. R. Smith Infirmary was held at the German Club Rooms at Stapleton, Staten Island, last night. The ballroom was handsomely decorated with old gold tapestry, and the ceiling was festooned with streamers of white and gold bunting. The stage was decorated with palms, ferns, blooming daises and other plants, behind which was seated the orchestra. The ball was opened at 10 o'clock with a minuet, which was led by George William Carter, Mrs. William L. Banes, Erastus Wiman, Mrs. James McNamee, Mr. R. Seidenberg, Alexander D. Shaw and Mrs. J. Frank Emmons. There were about 300 couple present.

Stuyvesant Club Ball.

The Stuyvesant Club gave its fourth annual reception at the Lenox Lyceum last evening. The grand march was led by President Wm. Burke and Mrs. Burke, and among those who followed were Mr. and Mrs. Richard Croker, Commissioner Gilroy and Mrs. Gilroy, Jacob Ruppert, George Ehret, Alderman and Mrs. S. H. Bailey, and many Judges and representatives of city departments. The profits from the sale of boxes alone were $5,000.

'Longshoremen Strike in New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 26.—The labor of receiving and discharging merchandise along the river front is at a standstill. The 'longshoremen are on a strike. The contention between the 'longshoremen and the stevedores is the method of payment. It is probable the stevedores will agree to the demands of the men.

Where Yesterday's Fires Were.

A. M.—6:50, 621 West Forty-second street, Higgins & Co., carpets, damage $4,000; 9:05, 2,204 Third avenue, William A. Robinson, photograph gallery, no damage; 10:45, 7 East Ninth street, Joseph Amebauch, no damage.

P. M.—12:25, 529 Broadway, D. S. Bradley, perfumery, damage $20; 3:00, 503 West 151st street, James B. Smythe, no damage; 4:00, 211 East Twenty-sixth street, Herman Jakert, no damage; 6:05, 146 West 131st street, Church of the Redeemer, damage slight; 6:45, 411 West Eighteenth street, Robert B. Lee, damage $50; 7:05, 150 Prince street, no damage; 8:15, 11 Ninth avenue, J. B. Van Wart, damage $25; 9:25, 23 South William street, Sabatino Thorow, damage $100.

A neglected cough is a dangerous menace to your health. A bottle of Piso's Cure for Consumption will cure. Try it. Druggists. 25c. a sale.

Practical Cooks

and Chefs of famous Restaurants and Hotels

Use Royal Baking Powder

A ROW AT A BANQUET.

Two Women Precipitate a Quarrel at the Social Bowling Club Banquet.

It is customary for bowling clubs to wind up their winter season with an annual banquet and reception. This custom is very popular with Brooklyn clubs, and their affairs are conducted in a dignified manner. The Social Bowling Club of Brooklyn, whose membership is composed of a number of well-known Brooklynites who reside in the vicinity of Bedford and Franklin avenues, has its headquarters at Avon Hall on Bedford avenue, but its membership repaired to Zoeliner Hall, located at Broadway and Willoughby avenues, on Thursday evening to hold its initial banquet and reception. There were some 400 persons in attendance. Everything went along smoothly until about 1 o'clock in the morning, when the guests assembled in the banquet hall. Here there was much merrymaking, and a large amount of wine was consumed. About 1¾ o'clock, after the cigars had been passed around, President W. H. Healey of the club arose and in a very dignified manner proposed a toast to the "Social Bowling Club." Mr. Healey had no sooner ceased speaking than a woman at the end of the table, who had indulged too freely in wine, arose, and in stentorian tones, slightly impeded with a "hic," suggested a toast to a rival organization, the "Elite Bowling Club." This created excitement among the guests. A polite request for her to be seated from Frederick Cubberly, the Captain of the club, was disregarded, and the peace-making Captain was emphatically informed that she had the floor and refused to sit down. The woman was further informed that unless she complied with the request she would be put out. This threat had no effect. In as indignant a tone as it was possible to assume in her muddled condition the woman, who was known as "Nannie," challenged the Captain to put her out. Affairs at this stage began to assume a serious aspect.

President Healey joined Capt. Cubberly in remonstrating with the woman, but it was of no avail. With a wineglass suspended in the air, the woman commenced singing the praises of her favorite organization, and the persistent persuasions of her friends were unsuccessful in keeping her quiet. One or two of her friends finally became equally noisy, and a general row followed. Plates and wine bottles were flung around in a reckless manner, and there was some profane language. Pandemonium reigned supreme. One of the men, in an attempt to eject the intoxicated female, had his head cut in several places by a broken glass. The efforts of the club officers were unsuccessful in ejecting the woman.

When the melée was at its height and several women had fainted from fright the police were called in. Policeman Albert Derhulz put in an appearance, but was compelled to get assistance. With the aid of Policeman Henry Hasbrook, the belligerent women were singled out and ejected. This was not accomplished before the garments of the women were badly damaged.

After "Nannie" and her companion, whose name is given as Mrs. Schroeber, were ejected, peace was restored. The affair occasioned no end of comment yesterday. Charles Richter, the proprietor of the hall, told a SUN reporter that the ejected women were unknown to him, excepting that one was a Mrs. Schroeber of Brooklyn. The members of the club were very reticent about the affair.

One of the policemen who quelled the disturbance said that the disturbers were regarded as persons of suspicious character. It was assumed that they were brought to the reception by one of the club members. The names of persons who had introduced the women could not be learned.

The officers of the club are: President, W. H. Healey; Vice-President, J. F. Elfers; Secretary, F. Schierenbeck; Treasurer, J. C. Kaiser; Captain, F. G. Cubberly. The policeman made no arrests. The ejected women left the hall bitterly berating the officers who had ousted them. A number of prominent Brooklyn people were present.

Some of Their Money Covered With Corn Cobs.

PALMER, Mass., Feb. 26.—Talma and Loman Brown, brothers, who have led a secluded life on a farm in the northern part of the town for many years, died on Thursday within a few minutes of each other, of the grip. Loman was 82 and Talma 88. So closely did they cling to their worldly goods that one of them died and the other was at the point of death before a disclosure was made where a part of their money could be found. From the directions given by the last dying man $517 was found in an attic covered with a pile of corn cobs. The estate is worth about $75,000, and will go to distant relatives unless a will has been left. These brothers were the same who were robbed a few years ago of a part of their money. One of the brothers married, but did not live with his wife long, as he preferred living with his brother.

Cold Weather Wanted in Maine.

BANGOR, Feb. 26.—The ice operators on the Penobscot, who were hoping a few weeks ago that the weather would continue mild so that there would be a short crop of ice on the Hudson, are now wishing for a cold wave about two weeks long to enable them to get a crop for themselves. The weather in Maine since Saturday last has been so warm that a good part of the snow has disappeared. The ice fields have softened under the noonday sun, and operations have been abandoned along the river. While the warm spell lasts harvesting may be done in the night time, for the ice is too soft to handle during the daytime. The houses at and below Bangor are not half full, and the only thing that can save the crop is the coldest kind of weather. Sleighing in the streets of Bangor is over for the present.

Gold or Silver or Both.

The Commonwealth Club held its monthly meeting last night at the Hotel Imperial. The banquet was followed by a discussion of the silver question, opened by an address by Louis R. Ehrich of Colorado Springs, deprecating free coinage. The Hon. George Frederick Williams and Louis Windmuller supported Mr. Ehrich's views, and the Hon. Irvin Dungan of Ohio spoke for free silver with a double standard. The Hon. Michael D. Harter advocated monometallism with gold as the standard. Mr. J. Howard Cowperthwait advocated the sale of the silver now in the Treasury, and contended that while gold was decreasing in quantity there was no scarcity, and that the supply was equal to the demand, owing to the prevailing check and clearance house methods of conducting business.

Preparations for St. Patrick's Day.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians met at Ledwith's Hall last night and made arrangements for their share in the doings for the celebration of St. Patrick's Day. William O'Neill was appointed Grand Marshal and Thomas H. Slevin and James Carroll will be his aides. The games of this order will be held at Sulzer's Park, beginning at 2 P. M.

A Convention of Irish societies of the city and county of New York also met last night at 229 East Forty-seventh street. Their games are to be held on St. Patrick's Day at Jones's Wood. These societies will appoint their officers of the parade on Friday.

False Tales to Frighten Travellers.

Some of the hotel keepers of the city are complaining that their business is injured, and that many travellers are prevented from coming here by exaggerated or false reports of the prevalence of typhus fever and smallpox in New York. There are vacant rooms in several of the hotels that are ordinarily well filled at this time of the year. As a matter of fact, the newly arrived immigrants infected with the typhus fever have been isolated ever since they were found here, and the few smallpox patients are also isolated. There is no reason why travellers should be scared by the false reports sent out from New York.

Room for a Multitude of Horrors.

From Truth.

It is proposed to fill up the Harlem River. Don't forget the Cox and the Dodge statues when the time comes to throw things in.

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.

FOOTBALL AND ORATORY.

The Walter Camp Dinner and the Speech of Left Guard Depew.

As Yale men once delighted to honor Bob Cook, the oarsman, so they now delight to honor Walter Camp, the football expert; and as they honored Cook not so very long ago with a dinner, so they honored Camp last night.

The dinner was given in the concert room of the Madison Square Garden. It was, from start to finish, a football dinner. Yale, as an institution of learning, was represented by the blue banners and the big Y's which hung on the white and gold walls, but on the tables all things were after football fashion.

The list of speakers was as follows: Quarter back, Henry E. Howland; half back, Walter Camp, who responded to ex-Judge Harland's personal remarks; left guard, Chauncey M. Depew, who spoke for Yale; centre, Eugene L. Richards, who represented kickers in the faculty; left tackle, J. H. Twitchell, who spoke for the kickers in the alumni; half back, Thos. L. McClung, orator for kickers in the present; left end, W. A. Stiles, spokesman for kickers in the past; right guard, Buchanan Winthrop, representative of kickers in the corporation; Rickinson W. Richards, representative of kickers in the new era; right end, Amos Parker Wilder, representative of the kickers on the grand stand; full back, Isaac H. Bromley, the last kick.

Besides Capt. McClung, the members of the present football team were present in full force. Last year's football team, from Heffelfinger down, was also represented. Bob Cook and other rowing men, as well as athletes in general, were among the 400 present, who, in fact, principally consisted of men who had made records at something or other.

Ex-Judge Howland, who presided, when he began the speechmaking alluded to the occasion as a soul stirring Camp meeting, and he ended by presenting a testimonial to Mr. Camp in the form of a loving cup of sterling silver, made by Tiffany & Co. The cup is a truncated football, supported on the backs of three players in characteristic positions. The figures are counterfeit presentments of McClung, Heffelfinger, and Bayne, who posed repeatedly in their football gear to Tiffany's artist. The truncated football, which forms the bowl of the cup on one side, is thus inscribed: "To Walter Camp of Yale, from Graduates of the University." Accompanying the cup was a volume bound in football leather, whose vellum pages contain the literature of the dinner.

Mr. Camp, in receiving the loving cup, made a generous recognition of those on whom his football mantle had fallen, alluding by name to each member of the present football team. Each name was followed by the cheers of the 400 Yale men present. Dr. Depew was introduced by Chairman Howland as the best-known man in the wide world. Mr. Depew said that in spite of being thus widely known the oracle of New York society had turned him down. He went on to make a characteristic speech, in the course of which he said:

"Muscularity is a rare incident, chivalry and manliness the constant factors in college athletics. It was the saying of an English political economist that it took three B's to make a Lord Chancellor, the highest prize at the English bar—belly, back, and brains. A fully developed and healthy body, harmoniously trained by an expert instructor, and growing stronger with the enlarging intellect, furnishes the combination which, in the rough competitions of life, enables a man to help himself and, better still, help others. A healthy mind, healthy digestion, and a healthy breathing apparatus not only stride masterfully toward the pearly gates of heaven, but draw many weaker vessels behind."

The other speakers spoke in the order already given as members of the men's football eleven.

THE TROTTER IN CONNECTICUT.

Preparing for an Extensive Circuit Next Season—Some Fast Horses.

DERBY, Conn., Feb. 26.—The Western Connecticut Trotting Circuit, having been enlarged by the addition of the Gentlemen's Driving Park Company of Hartford, at a meeting recently held fixed upon the following dates for the spring meetings:

The opening of the season will be in New Britain, May 24, 25, 26, 27. Waterbury will follow on May 30, 31, June 1 and 2; Hartford, June 7, 8, 9, and 10; Darby, June 15, 16, 17, and 18; Norwalk, June 22, 23, 24, and 25.

The last fall meetings at all these tracks were most excellent, and the promises from horsemen would indicate that the season will open well. Each association offers purses aggregating over $2,250.

New Haven wants to come into the circuit, but it will be by a private arrangement, if at all. Hubinger Brothers, the horsemen of that city who were the financial backers of the Elm City Park Company, have decided not to hold a spring meeting, and this has caused several lovers of horses to consider the formation of the New Haven Driving Association, which, if organized, may give a meeting three or four days in the week of July 4 on the Hubingers' track.

Hubinger Brothers are wintering sixty-seven head of stock, about half of them being on their farm at Orange and the remainder in the stables near the track in this city. They have been making some changes during the winter, disposing of two promising stallions for brood mares. New Haven Boy, sired by Young Rolfe, 2:21¼, has been sold, and Rio Grande to another. Both have been purchased by gentlemen who will develop what speed there is in them.

Charley Smart, one of the best trainers in New England, has removed from Meriden to New Haven to take charge of the Hubingers' stables.

Herman Fox is another horseman who is interested in trotters. He owns the roan pacer B. B., who in 1890 crowded Hal Pointer to the wire three heats in 2:09¾, 2:12¾, 2:13. Last year he was started at Jamestown, N. Y., and followed the circuit to Detroit. At Dunkirk he made 2:20¼ on a half-mile track. B. B. is in such fine condition that horsemen are prophesying great things from him this season. Libbie Whips, owned by Frank P. Clark, is also at Mr. Fox's stables. She was sired by Whips, 2:27, by Electioneer. Her dam was Armale, by Nutwood, 2:18¾. Mr. Fox will also train J. H. Dillon's three trotters, Fannie Pointer, 2:28¼; Polaway, and Ben Bolt. They will be taken to Charter Oak Park for training as soon as the weather settles.

High Prices for Brood Mares.

From Turf, Field and Farm.

That England tops America in the high prices obtained for brood mares is demonstrated by the following recorded sales: At the breaking-up sale of Lord Falmouth's stud in 1884, Spinaway sold for $27,500, Wheel of Fortune for $25,000, Jeanette for $21,000, Cantiniere for $20,500, Palmflower for $19,000, Dutch Oven for $16,000, Mavis (Galliard's dam) for $15,000, and Lady Golightly for $11,250, but other mares have sold for very high prices in that country. As far back as 1875 Marie Stuart sold for $21,000, and she had never produced a winner at that time, but was a superior race mare, having won the St. Leger of 1873. In 1876 Mr. Gee of Dewhurst Lodge gave $13,500 for the celebrated mare Formosa, winner of the Oaks and St. Leger of 1868. In 1887 Mr. Taylor gave at public auction $17,500 for Princess Louise Victoria, a nine-year-old mare by Hermit. D. Baird, in 1880, gave $20,000 at auction for Algeria, by Gladiator, and the Duke of Portland in the same year paid $15,000 for Miss Middlewick, by Scottish Chief. In 1872 the Cobham stud purchased Seclusion, famous as the dam of Hermit, for $12,500, and in 1875 Mandragora sold for $10,250.

BROOKLYN.

Mayor Boody has summoned the Rev. Dr. Storrs, Charles M. Pratt, Prof. Truman J. Backus, Joseph C. Hendrix, and others to a conference at his office next Tuesday to discuss the project to establish a large free public library.

Eighteen-year-old John Hanrehan of 219 Van Brunt street, left the Long Island College Hospital yesterday from a bullet wound in the left arm. The bullet was fired by fifty-year-old Frank Dauney. He didn't know the pistol was loaded.

RHEUMATISM THREE YEARS.

After suffering untold agonies three years from Rheumatism, and having had much treatment without relief, I decided to take Swift's Specific. Eight bottles

CURED ME ENTIRELY

and I wish other sufferers to know of the value of your great remedy for Rheumatism.

JOHN McDONALD, McDonald Mills, Ga.

Send for free Treatise on the Blood and Skin.

SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., Atlanta, Ga.

INQUIRY INTO THE COAL DEAL.

Frederick F. Chambers of the D., L. & W. the Only Railroad Man Present.

The committee of the New Jersey Assembly charged with the task of investigating the "combine" recently made by the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, the Lehigh Valley, the Central Railroad of New Jersey, and the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, held its first session yesterday afternoon in Taylor's Hotel, Jersey City. At 2 o'clock two members of the committee, Assemblymen George A. Heaney of Hudson and John H. Daly of Middlesex, were present. Allan L. McDermott, counsel to the committee, Thomas F. Noonan, Clerk of the Assembly, Sergeant-at-Arms "Bill" Harrigan, and several reporters were in attendance, but the railroad officials who had been subpœnaed were conspicuous by their absence. Frederick F. Chambers, Secretary of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, was the only railroad man who appeared. He was attended by ex-Gov. Bedle, the company's lawyer.

In the absence of Assemblyman Thomas Lane of Union, Chairman of the committee, Assemblyman Heaney presided. Ex-Judge McDermott suggested that the testimony of Sergeant-at-Arms Harrigan be taken as to the serving of the subpœnas. Mr. Harrigan testified that he served S. M. Williams, Comptroller of the Central Railroad of New Jersey. He saw Mr. Williams on a train at Roselle and handed him a copy of the subpœna. Samuel Knox, Secretary of the road, was found at the main office of the company in Liberty street, New York. The service of the subpœna there would not, of course, compel Mr. Knox's attendance. He must be found in the State.

"What did he say?" asked Mr. McDermott.

"He didn't say anything particular," answered Mr. Harrigan. "He just took the paper, laid it on his desk, and said that would be all right."

Mr. Harrigan added that he met Mr. Sam Sloan and told him that he had a subpœna for him. Mr. Sloan said it was all right and that ex-Gov. Bedle would attend to it.

Mr. Harrigan had subpœnas to serve on J. Rogers Maxwell, A. A. McLeod, and W. R. Taylor, but had been unable to find them. The committee decided to examine Mr. Chambers, secretary of the D., L. and W.

"Do you have charge of all the contracts and agreements made by your company?" asked Mr. McDermott.

"Yes, sir."

"Has there been to your knowledge any agreement or contract entered into by the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad Company, or by any of its officers or directors in behalf of the company, with the Lehigh Valley road, the New Jersey Central, and the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad concerning the management of the roads and the marketing of coal?"

"No, sir."

"Do you have charge of your stock books?"

"No, sir."

"Do you know whether within the last six months there have been any large transfers of your company's stock to officers of other companies?"

"I don't know, but I presume there have been because Mr. J. Rogers Maxwell and Mr. George F. Baker of the New Jersey Central have become directors of our company."

"The preamble under which this committee was appointed recites that an agreement has been entered into by the coal-carrying roads whereby the carrying is to be done under agreement. Have you any knowledge of that?"

"I have not."

"You have read of the alleged coal combination?"

"I have, in the newspapers. All that I know about it is what the newspapers say."

"Have you noticed that the stock of your road has advanced in price very heavily?"

"I have, but I don't know the reason for it."

"Do you know of any agreement between these roads and the owners of coal mines which