

PRAYER FOR THE CUBANS.

THE ASSEMBLY OPENED WITH A PATRIOTIC INVOCATION.

A Fight Over the Bill Transferring the Records of the Former Town of Westchester to the Legislature was the subject of a bill introduced by Mr. Thomsen.

ALBANY, Jan. 23.—The Rev. G. N. Kerner of Albany, who opened the Assembly with prayer this morning, prayed for the success of the Cuban revolution, and that the United States might supply with arms, if necessary, those in Cuba who were struggling for liberty.

He also prayed that the United States might insist upon upholding the Monroe doctrine.

The bill introduced by Assemblyman Carlisle (Rep., West Chester), for the transfer of the records of the former town of Westchester to the Legislature, was taken up by the Assembly to-day and advanced to a third reading.

Mr. Finn (Dem., N. Y.) endeavored to have inserted in it an amendment making it the duty of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of New York to appropriate such moneys as might be necessary to defray the expense incurred by the town upon the Legislature's office.

The fight which was recently waged in the Board of Estimate, owing to the determination of the Strong administration to cut down the appropriation allowed to the Democratic Register, was renewed in the Assembly.

Mr. O'Grady, the Republican leader, opposing the amendment, which he said was a renewed attempt to provide more money for the Register's office, after a similar proposition had been beaten in the Board of Estimate.

Mr. Finn pointed out that the amendment did not make an appropriation, and left it entirely within the discretion of the Board of Estimate to allow the Register \$10,000 or \$1,000 or \$100.

Mr. Carlisle admitted the truth of this, but said the amendment, if passed, would be construed by the Board of Estimate as an expression of opinion on the part of the Legislature that the Register should have more money.

It was a matter which might better be left entirely to the Board of Estimate, which had authority to make an additional appropriation or not, as it saw fit.

Mr. Waldo (Rep., Kings) objected that the Legislature should not interfere with the local authorities or attempt to make more money.

The amendment was defeated by a party vote, and the bill was advanced.

Mr. Finn offered a resolution requesting the Board of Estimate to postpone action in the cases of saloon keepers affected by the recent decision of the Court of Appeals, which makes necessary the re-issuance of licenses.

The resolution was adopted, and the Board of Estimate should have time to act on bills now before it for the relief of such saloon keepers, the postponement not to exceed sixty days.

Mr. Stanchfield and Mr. Trainer (Dem., N. Y.) joined Mr. Finn in urging the adoption of the resolution in justice to saloon keepers who had obtained original licenses, whose property was unexpectedly placed in jeopardy by the court's decision.

Mr. O'Grady said the resolution was virtually a demand upon sworn officers to neglect their duty under the law.

He made his objection to a party order, and the matter was taken up to entertain the resolution.

Mr. Stanchfield appealed from the decision, but it was sustained by a party vote.

Senator Burns (Rep., Westchester) moved his retail insurance bill to a third reading. It provides that the license of any foreign company to do business in this State shall be subject to the approval of the State Board of Insurance.

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He Says That High License Would Increase the Number of Saloons, and That the State Would Lose Money.

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Among those present were: Gallus Thomann, representing the New York State Brewers and Maltsters' Association; the Rev. F. C. Iglehart, of New York city, representing the Committee of Fifty; and representatives of the New York city and Buffalo liquor dealers.

Mr. Thomann, opposing the Haines bill, said that the abolition of excise boards would virtually mean the abandonment of all those local regulations and of that immediate and direct control and supervision which hitherto had the effect of restraining, without heroic measures, the excessive growth of the trade.

The change would also cripple the means of distributing saloons over a given area according to the needs and wishes of the population. It would tend to increase the number of liquor sellers, and the more stringent you would make the supposed restraint of higher license fees the greater would inevitably be the number of illicit sellers, as is shown in Pennsylvania, the abode of the "blind pig."

It would also annul obligations between dealers and manufacturers, and, by completely upsetting present relations, would result in a general lowering of prices upon both, to the injury of the whole population.

Mr. Thomann contradicted the Governor's statement made in his message that there were 41,363 liquor dealers in the State of New York during the fiscal year ending June, 1894.

He said that in 1894 there were only 20,000 saloons in operation during that period, for the very simple reason that the Federal Government requires the payment of the tax as a condition of sale, and that the saloon keeper has to pay for one and the same place. Out of a total of 11,000 saloons of all kinds issued in 1894, he said, only 20,000 were in operation.

Mr. Thomann said that recent experience has shown that the number of saloons is not economically reasonable limit every dollar added to the amount of the license adds to the temptation to keep the saloon open, and to increase consumption. Incontrovertible proof of this he said, is the fact that even in the case of the license, which has been increased in the State, the consumption of liquors has not decreased in any State having that system.

The local option clause of the bill, Mr. Thomann said, is a daily reminder of the fact that it is desired to keep the liquor question out of politics. It is difficult to conceive of anything more calculated to keep the liquor question out of politics than that clause which makes a vote on the subject compulsory everywhere at the first election. It is a device to keep the liquor question out of politics, and to prevent the power to renew the actuation from being in the hands of the people.

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DID ADDICKS PAY FOR THEM?

LAWYER OVER A TAX RECEIPT BUREAU'S FUNDS IN WILMINGTON, DEL.

WILMINGTON, Del., Jan. 23.—Several months ago there was opened in this city, ostensibly under the direction of J. Edward Addicks, who became known in this State last year when he was elected to the position of United States Senator to succeed Anthony Higgins and set up the cry of "Addicks or nobody," an office to provide the ways and means for the payment of the taxes of the colored voters of Wilmington. The office did what was supposed to be a flourishing business for several days, the agent in charge being Charles H. Kittinger, who is designated as Addicks's secretary. He is a young man with the impetuosity of a Western hustler, having spent several years in Tacoma. For a few days the local newspapers set forth the progress of the tax receipt industry, and finally the matter was lost sight of.

A few days ago, however, Joseph T. Brinkley, known as a worker among the colored men and himself a shrewd negro, brought suit against Kittinger for the recovery of money said to be due on account of obtaining tax receipts for voters of his race. The case was brought before a Justice of the peace of the city, and it is expected to receive \$75, but he had only received \$22.27, although he had received in all from Kittinger \$280. Brinkley conducted his business with Kittinger in the name of the latter, and he made the entries in his passbook. His record of the way he disposed of the money which went through his hands was as follows:

Money which men ran away with..... \$6.20  
Dumpees money paid to men for impers..... 24.75  
Brown..... 2.25  
Coke..... 1.75  
Coal..... 1.25  
Treating men..... 1.25  
More money..... 4.00  
Rent..... 1.00  
Sundry..... 1.00  
Money paid for taxes, and to Pries and Ben. Williams, however, he has not paid..... 21.52

Total..... \$81.22  
Kittinger admitted having paid Brinkley \$280, and said that in return he had received tax receipts, the presumption being that they were obtained in exchange for money. He said that, according to his calculation, the money had not been paid by Addicks, but by himself and William B. Clark, a business relation with the State Tax Company, who was the receiver of the money. He said that he would appeal to the higher court for a final decision. The inclusion of Brinkley and Clark in the entries, and there is a belief that the tax receipt bureau will not be opened again.

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