CLOSED HIS SALOON-BANK.

D'ELISA SHUTS OUT HIS ITALIAN COMPATRIOTS AND QUITS.

Said that His Bank Paid Depositors Only at the Convenience of the Banker, and It Wasn't Convenient Yesterday to Pay—Police Protect Him on His Way to Jail.

The Italian colonies in Brooklyn and Jersey City received a severe shock yesterday when it was announced that the banking firm of Gaetano D'Elisa & Co., with offices at 102 Brunswick street, Jersey City, and 37 Main street, Brooklyn, had gone under. The failure was sudden and entirely unexpected by the majority of D'Elisa's depositors, who seem to have had the utmost confidence in him. There were a few of the larger depositors in the bank, however, who expected the crash, and went to the Jersey City office and demanded the money to their credit. D'Elisa immediately closed the doors and the failure was announced.

Intense excitement prevailed in the Italian colony in Jersey City when the news of the failure spread around, and there was a repetition of the scene in Brooklyn when the facts became known there. A number of Italians went over to Jersey City from Brooklyn with the intention of making a stiletto cushion out of D'Elisa's person. When they reached Jersey City they found plenty of willing allies among the banker's victims there. The police, however, had taken a hand in the affair, and on the complaint of a number of more conservative Italians, who preferred to let the law deal with the banker, had arrested D'Elisa, and when the hot-headed ones and their stilettos arrived in town he was safe behind the bars.

D'Elisa's success as a banker for his countrymen was remarkable, because he secured depositors in much the same way as did Michael Mastropetro, his predecessor in the Jersey City colony. Mastropetro swindled everybody who deposited money with him, and there was a riot when he failed four years ago. Very few persons ever got any of their money back after the Mastropetro failure, while many of them lost the savings of a lifetime.

D'Elisa was a saloon keeper when he started in the banking business. He had the largest saloon in the colony and began by taking deposits from his customers. The banking business was at first a side issue to the saloon business. In a few months things had been reversed and the saloon business became the side issue. The man put out a sign bearing his name, with the word "banker" beneath it, but inside the Brunswick street place the only sign of a bank was a safe and a desk in the rear. The business of the bank seems to have grown rapidly, for in a short time a branch office was opened at 37 Main street, Brooklyn. This office was in charge of a friend of D'Elisa's whose name is not known at present. He was the company of the firm and has fled. The police are looking for him.

Like Mastropetro, D'Elisa was President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board of Directors of his bank. Nobody else, except the Brooklyn partner, had anything to do with it.

In his rôle of saloon keeper the man was very hospitable. He gave unlimited credit to the Italians who frequented his place, and the result was that he soon had a monopoly of the saloon business of the colony. Then the frequenters of the saloon began to deposit their money with D'Elisa. He issued bank books to them and every deposit was recorded in them. The man's books were kept in rather slipshod fashion and the depositors knew that; but they had no reason to doubt him, and as long as he paid them what they asked for when they asked for it they trusted him.

It has been learned since the failure that very little of the money deposited with D'Elisa ever passed out of his hands again. The money drawn out was in very small sums, and a number of Italians told the police yesterday that whenever they attempted to draw out a large amount D'Elisa warned them not to do so. In a number of cases he absolutely refused to let depositors draw out their money, telling them that he was hard pressed and couldn't afford to go into his capital at the time. Despite this, it was a long time before any one suspected him.

The man who started the excitement which ended with the banker closing his doors was Carmenia De Sale, an Italian who lives in Court street, Brooklyn. In small sums he deposited $100 through the Brooklyn office of the bank. When he tried to draw it out on Wednesday he found that he couldn't get it. Becoming alarmed, he crossed over to Jersey City and called on D'Elisa. He told the banker that he wanted his money at once, and the banker replied, so De Sale alleges, that he couldn't have it just then. It was a rule of the bank, D'Elisa said, that depositors might draw out their money only at the convenience of the banker. It wasn't convenient just then, he said, for him to give De Sale his money.

De Sale became suspicious and pulled a stiletto out of his waistband. Standing in a menacing attitude, he once more made a demand for his money, and once more it was refused. So, instead of using the dagger on D'Elisa, he put it back in his belt and went home to Brooklyn, where he proceeded to circulate stories about D'Elisa and his bank. The result was that a number of the heaviest depositors went over to Jersey City yesterday morning, resolved to get their money or make trouble. Among them were Giovanni De Prinza of 275 Atlantic avenue, Brooklyn, whose bank book shows deposits amounting to $1,647; Geronimo Constate of 37 Main street, Brooklyn, who had $458 in the bank; De Sale, who was still looking for his $100, and several others. They had an interview with D'Elisa, during which the banker told them that he couldn't give them their money then, owing to the stringency of the money market and the excitement over the silver question. He gave other excuses, too, but they were not accepted.

When he saw there was going to be trouble, he turned all hands out of the place and shut the doors, first making an announcement that the bank had failed and that he could not pay out any money. Then there was a lot of trouble. The news spread around the colony, and dozens of depositors came up and pounded on the closed doors. They could get no answer, but still they stood around. It was decided to have D'Elisa arrested, and De Prinza and Constate went to Police Headquarters and reported the matter. Detectives Pearson and McNally were sent to arrest D'Elisa and they did so, but they didn't dare take him through the streets to court without protection. Only after calling a squad of police did they venture to take the banker to the Court House. He was arraigned before Justice Potts. A hundred Italians followed D'Elisa, leering and swearing at the banker, and it was with difficulty that they were kept quiet when they got into the court room.

D'Elisa refused to make any statement when arraigned before the Justice, but Lawyer Alexander Simpson, who appeared for him, asked for an adjournment until he could get a chance to look into his client's affairs. Justice Potts set the hearing down for this morning.

After D'Elisa was locked up one of the depositors told the police a strange story of how he got money from his patrons. D'Elisa invariably offered them four per cent. on all deposits, he said, and if this proved insufficient he would increase his offer, in a number of cases being given nine per cent. When depositors tried to get their interest, however, D'Elisa invariably told them that he had added it to the principal, and that was all the satisfaction they could ever get.

It is estimated that D'Elisa's liabilities amount to between $4,000 and $5,000. What his assets are nobody knows. The specific charge on which he is locked up is embezzlement.

HIS WIFE AND HIS BICYCLE.

Mrs. Dessoir Thinks if Her Husband Can Keep a Wheel He Can Pay Alimony.

Madeline Dessoir applied to Justice Andrews in the Supreme Court yesterday for alimony and counsel fees pending the trial of a suit for separation she has brought against her husband, Frederick D. Dessoir, an employee in the Post Office. She says that her husband has treated her cruelly and has on several occasions struck her. She says also that he has recently inherited $12,000 from his grandfather, is extravagant, and has purchased an expensive bicycle, for which he neglects her. She says that any person who can afford to keep a bicycle is able to pay his wife alimony.

Julius Lehmann, counsel for Dessoir, told Justice Andrews that three months after the alleged cruelty the couple celebrated their tin wedding and that they lived together for some time afterward. Mrs. Dessoir, counsel said, was induced to institute the action against her husband by a boarder named Ellis. The Supreme Court, Mr. Lehmann said, should not be burdened with suits that could be disposed of by a Police Magistrate.

Justice Andrews denied the application, telling the plaintiff she could take action before a Magistrate.

Can Talk Forty-eight Consecutive Hours on Free Silver.

Henry Gramlich of 334 East Forty-eighth street offers to bet $150 that he can talk for forty-eight hours without stopping on the silver question. His antagonist must be a gold man. Gramlich says he won $100 on July 18 by talking for forty-four hours on free silver against Frank Miller, a goldbug.

LIVE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

The announcement that John D. Rockefeller had given 276 acres of land valued at $600,000 to the city of Cleveland for park purposes was misunderstood by his acquaintances here at first as an indication that he had given away his country place, just outside of Cleveland, where his family have spent several weeks every summer. This country place would be admirably suited for a public park, and the amount of land around it corresponds to the amount named in his donation to Cleveland. It proves not to have been his country place, but another piece of real estate that Mr. Rockefeller gave to Cleveland. His country place is on Euclid Ridge, about three-quarters of a mile east of Lake View Cemetery, where ex-President Garfield was buried. It was the first country place laid out near Cleveland, but in recent years many wealthy men of that city have followed Mr. Rockefeller's example, and there are now many beautiful country places within a short distance of the city. There are some features of Mr. Rockefeller's place, however, that have not been duplicated. His house is of wood, large, square, and painted white, with green blinds to relieve the monotony. It stands on a hill, and is surrounded by heavily wooded grounds that are cut up by many roads. Mr. Rockefeller's daughters are responsible for many of these roads, and as each has been laid out they have given it a high-sounding name. It is well known in Cleveland that Mr. Rockefeller is as strong a Prohibitionist as he is a Baptist. In the laying out of his woods a clear, cold spring was discovered, and Mr. Rockefeller is prouder of it than of any other feature of his place. He invariably invites his visitors to walk down to this spring and try its pure water, though in some cases they might prefer a more sustaining drink. Cleveland people say that the Rockefellers are so proud of their spring that its waters play a star part on the refreshment list whenever the Rockefellers give an afternoon reception. Although Mr. Rockefeller has lived much of his life in Cleveland, and as a wealthy man he has frequently been importuned to give the city a music hall or a park, he has not seen fit to make any considerable donation to it until now.

The architects who have been constructing roof gardens and new dining rooms in big hotels might have profited much by the experience of a well-known hotel in New York a few years ago. The restaurant of this hotel was for many years a strong rival of Delmonico's. It was a favorite place for little suppers after the theatre, and its prosperity led its proprietor to redecorate it and make a few changes in its arrangement. He was going to bring it up to date. The old patrons were assured that when it was reopened it would be one of the most attractive dining rooms in the city, and in many respects this assurance was made good. The decorations were in excellent taste, and the service was up to the hotel's high standard. For about two weeks the place was crowded every night with people who had long patronized it, and who were curious to see what changes had been wrought. Then, to the proprietor's dismay the attendance began to fall off, and people who had formerly gone there regularly went elsewhere. It was a long time before the proprietor found the cause for the failure. He knew that something must be wrong, and he felt confident that no reasonable complaint could be made against his service. He finally called on Mrs. Paran Stevens and asked her why his restaurant was no longer popular. She explained it very readily. The lighting of it was at fault. He had put in powerful electric lights that were not properly shaded, and the room was as light as day. The effect was harsh, however, and it gave a ghastly appearance to every woman. To appear to advantage under these lights a woman must "make up" her face with as much care as if she were an actress. Otherwise, no matter how beautiful her complexion, her face would look haggard, and there would be deep black circles under her eyes. It didn't take the women long to find out this defect in the lighting, and without giving any specific reason for wanting to go elsewhere, they didn't hesitate to let their escorts know that they preferred some other restaurant. The proprietor promptly toned down his lights, but he never fully recovered from the injury that they had worked. Several of the new roof gardens are suffering in the same way from too much illumination.

One of the interested spectators of the scene on the American roof garden in which a young woman known as Hope Booth disclosed her Hogarthian lines on Tuesday night in a pose as an artist's model was William Curtis Gibson, the art manager of *Puck*, who happened to be present by chance. Some acquaintance of Mr. Gibson who saw him there, and who knew that the woman was to be examined in the Jefferson Market Police Court on the charge of "offending public decency," gave him several uneasy hours yesterday afternoon. Mr. Gibson is a student of art and an authority on the history of the old Volunteer Fire Department, and especially of "Honey Bee No. 5" Company, with which he ran. The manager of the roof garden, through his attorney, advertised in a newspaper yesterday asking witnesses of Miss Booth's performance who saw nothing objectionable in it to appear at the Jefferson Market Police Court. Mr. Gibson was hard at work yesterday afternoon when a young man asked to see him. Mr. Gibson came out of his office to see his visitor and was surprised to have a subpœna served on him calling for his presence as a witness in the case against the roof garden people, at the Jefferson Market Police Court, at one.

"Where did this come from?" he asked.

"Mr. Hamilton's lawyer told me to give it to you," said the young man.

"But I am busy. I can't get away."

"Sorry, sir, but if you don't come in response to the subpœna they will send for you."

"Great Scott!" ejaculated Mr. Gibson, "this is a nice mess. How did they know I was there?"

"Don't know," said the young man. "I've done my duty. Good-day, sir," and off he went.

The subpœna was correct in all its details, and with some comments on roof gardens that wouldn't look well in print, Mr. Gibson dropped his work and trotted over to the police court.

"Where's Lawyer Blank?" he asked of a court attendant, and when he had cornered him Mr. Gibson began an excited protest against the subpœna that the lawyer had difficulty in interrupting.

"Hold on a minute," shouted the lawyer when he got an opportunity to be heard; "let me see that subpœna."

As he examined it a broad smile spread over his face.

"It's no laughing matter," said Mr. Gibson angrily.

"Yes, it is," answered the lawyer; "that isn't my subpœna. It's a fake."

Mr. Gibson looked relieved. As he walked out of the court room he murmured softly to himself:

"And at my age, too! I should have known better."

"There is no more cruel hoax being worked now," said a lawyer, "than that of the bogus legacy, and it is frequently successful because it appeals to a weakness that is very common. People are very likely to express the wish that some rich relative might die and leave them a fortune, and others are very ready to believe a statement that their wish has come true. There are many people in poor circumstances who are distantly related to people with money from whom they never expect to get a cent. They are easy victims, however, to the plausible solicitor, who tells them that this relative has died intestate, and that they are entitled to a share of his estate. They advance the money necessary to begin proceedings to collect their legacy, and that is the last that they hear of it. Many years ago two large estates were left abroad that have since reverted to the Governments in which they were left. Any rights that the hundreds of heirs in this country might have had in these estates have lapsed, and all actions brought by them are useless. Notwithstanding the fact that these alleged legacies have been shown time and again to have no existence, these dupes still have faith. I frequently receive letters from poor people who say that they have learned of the death of a wealthy relative abroad, and that they believe they are entitled to a share of the estate. One or two of these letters seemed to be plausible, and I investigated. In every case I found that the alleged fortune was either a myth or else it had been properly distributed by will."

"Was" and "done" are having an unusually hard time of it in the concert halls and on the roof gardens this summer. There are no other words in the English language so consistently and persistently abused by sketch artists as "was" and "done." A sketch team frequently introduce a dialogue with the query, "Was you to the" ball, theatre, wedding, or whatever it may happen to be, and it is a noticeable fact that under no provocation can one of these "artists" be induced to say "were." The audience wouldn't recognize them if they did. In the same fashion "done" is invariably used wherever a true appreciation of English demands "did." "I done myself," says the sketch artist. A theatrical manager who believes in good English whenever it may be used without spoiling a joke says that he has labored with many different sketch teams to teach them the difference between "was" and "were" and "done" and "did."

"They will listen to reason on any other point," he says, "but they insist on clinging to 'was' and 'done' as if their salaries depended on it. I have never seen a sketch team that didn't, and I guess I know all of them in the business."

NOT HIS BABY, CROSS SAYS.

THE AGED MILLIONAIRE TURNS ON MRS. ROBERTS.

She Is Accused of Palming Off Her Sister's Child as Her Own and Using It to Extort $50,000 Hush Money—She and Her Husband Ride in the Prison Van.

Mrs. Frankie Roberts was appointed last week guardian ad litem for the 13-year-old boy, Marvin Townsend, supposed to be her son, in a suit begun in the Supreme Court in Brooklyn against former Park Commissioner Marvin Cross, the aged millionaire lumber merchant, and alleged father of the boy, to compel him to furnish money for his maintenance and education. When the proceedings were instituted, Mr. Cross admitted that he had been paying hush money to the woman ever since the birth of the boy for the purpose of keeping the scandal from the public, and that finally he had given her a large sum of money when she had signed an agreement to make no further demands. When she renewed her demands he refused to submit to further exactions, and then Mrs. Roberts started the litigation.

There was an entirely new turn in the case yesterday, when Mrs. Roberts and her husband, George Roberts, were arraigned before Police Justice Walsh in the Butler Street Court on a charge of conspiracy. Former District Attorney Ridgway, who appeared for Mr. Cross, presented a batch of affidavits intended to show that Mrs. Roberts was not the mother of the boy, but only his aunt, she being a sister of the boy's father. The boy, it was alleged, was born on Feb. 10, 1883, and his mother, Orvette Louise Townsend, died eleven days later. The child was, the affidavits said, then adopted by the aunt, and palmed off by her on Mr. Cross as his illegitimate child. The father died two years later. The present Mrs. Roberts was only 17 years old when the alleged conspiracy was started, and about a year had elapsed since she had become acquainted with Mr. Cross.

Gen. Horatio C. King, counsel for the accused, expressed much surprise at the new developments in the case and intimated that at the proper time proof would be forthcoming to upset the affidavits. He waived examination, and Roberts and his wife were held to await the action of the Grand Jury. Justice Walsh fixed the bail in each case at $500. Mr. Ridgway did not think the bail sufficient.

"This," he said, "is the most infamous and outrageous fraud that was ever perpetrated upon a respectable man. I have no confidence that these people will ever appear again when the facts have been disclosed."

Mr. Ridgway says that after the scandal was ventilated some of the boy's relatives, who know the facts, communicated with him and promised to furnish absolute proof of the conspiracy to fleece Mr. Cross. Mr. Ridgway has ascertained that Dr. Benjamin Briggs of Willoughby street was present at the birth of the child, and will be able to prove who the mother really was.

Roberts and his wife had no bondsman on hand yesterday, and had to take a ride to the jail in the prison van. They were allowed to take seats outside with the driver, and during the trip to the jail Mrs. Roberts wore a thick black veil. They gave bail later and were released. It is said that Mr. Cross, during the last thirteen years has paid altogether not less than $50,000 to Mrs. Roberts to keep the matter quiet, and that until the latest developments had believed that she was the boy's mother. His acquaintance with the girl was made in his office, and, as he declared, he visited her in private only on one occasion. Ever afterward, and also during the period of paying hush money, he took pains never to see the woman alone, their meetings occurring either in the street or at the office of his lawyer.

Mrs. Roberts until recently lived in a brownstone house at 11 South Oxford street, Brooklyn. At present she and her husband live in Mount Vernon, where they were arrested on Wednesday night. Mr. Roberts says he is the manager of a theatre at Mount Vernon, and also claims to be interested in a Brooklyn theatre.

A CHILD WIFE DESERTED.

The Romance of a California Girl Ends in a Police Court.

Mrs. Belle Joyce, 15 years old, of Los Angeles, Cal., was committed to the care of the Gerry Society by Magistrate Simms in the Yorkville Police Court yesterday morning. On the advice of a policeman she appealed to the Magistrate to help her find her runaway husband, George Joyce, an actor, 23 years old, to whom she was married in Los Angeles three weeks ago. Mrs. Joyce, who was before her marriage Belle Humphries, met young Joyce in June at a watering place on the Pacific coast. While in bathing she got beyond her depth, and Joyce rescued her. Then they got married. After the wedding the bridegroom borrowed $200 from his mother-in-law. On Monday last the newly wedded couple reached this city. They put up at a hotel in East Forty-second street, and Joyce, who had $30 remaining of the $200, bought a silk hat and a suit of clothes. That night he took his wife for a ride on the elevated railroad, returning to the hotel shortly before midnight. When they reached the door of their room he said:

"My dear, we are nearly broke, and there's nothing else for me to do except to touch my grandfather. I haven't enough money to pay for both our fares to Buffalo, where he lives, so I want you to be a good girl and stay here a day or two until I return."

Mrs. Joyce consented. He put seventy-five cents in her hand, which, he said, would be all she would need while he was away, and left her. On Wednesday she searched her husband's trunk. She found a bundle of love letters from a dozen or more women. There were over thirty letters in all, and to a number of them was signed, "Your loving wife, Belle Joyce." One of them was dated December, 1895, from the address 241 East Twenty-fifth street. It began, "My dear little man."

When Magistrate Simms heard Mrs. Joyce's story he said he wished he had Joyce where he could punish him.

"The best thing you can do," said he, "is to send word to your parents and ask them to send you the money to get home."

"But I haven't anywhere to stay," said the young girl. "I'm afraid to be in this big city all alone."

Magistrate Simms committed her to the care of the Gerry society.

Last night a young man walked into the East Thirty-fifth street police station and told the Sergeant that he wanted his wife, Della Joyce. He said that he went to Connecticut a few days ago to attend to some business, and while there was robbed of $40 at the house at which he was stopping.

He had no money to send his wife a message, but when he complained to the person who kept the house at Bridgeport the money was refunded to him. He said that he came back to New York at once, went to the house where he had left his wife, and was told that she had been taken to the station house.

Sergeant Bell sent the man to the Gerry society rooms, but he was not permitted to see his wife, who will be taken to Yorkville Police Court this morning for examination.

A German Forger Caught on the Steamer Spree.

Georg Grothausen, formerly a bookkeeper for the firm of Brendel & Lowig, dealers in lamp fixtures in Berlin, was arrested by Deputy United States Marshal Bernhard yesterday morning as he was leaving the steamship Spree, which had just arrived from Bremen. He is accused of having forged drafts and receipts to a considerable amount.

He confessed his guilt when arraigned before United States Commissioner Lyman, and was committed to the custody of the Marshal pending the arrival of extradition papers.

Salaryless Excise Agents Going to Law.

It is said that of all the men who passed the non-competitive civil service examination for special excise agents in this city only one succeeded in passing the competitive examination well enough to get up high enough on the eligible list to have a chance of appointment at present. He is Wm. L. Turner, a lieutenant of Fred Gibbs. Those who passed the non-competitive examination and have been working without salary since May 1 are going to law, insisting that they were lawfully appointed.

Japanese Financiers in Wall Street.

Wall street has been visited in the last two days by a party of Japanese financiers who are making a tour of the world. They are S. Hayahawa, private secretary to the Japanese Minister of Finance; K. Sonoda, President of the Yokohama Specie Bank, limited, and T. Yamawoto, chief cashier of the Bank of Japan. They visited the Clearing House and the Mutual Life building yesterday, and on Wednesday they went through the Sub-Treasury with Deputy Assistant Treasurer Muhleman.

ONLY ONE FAMILY TO A HOUSE.

Court Asked to Enforce Riverside Drive Covenants on a Sociable Family.

A motion of Alexander Walker and Judson Lawson to enjoin Henry T. McNulty from arranging his house on the northwest corner of West End avenue and 104th street to accommodate more than one family was denied yesterday by Justice Russell of the Supreme Court. The plaintiffs, who own considerable property in the neighborhood, formerly owned the property involved. They sold it, with several adjoining lots, to Increase M. Grenel on April 12, 1892, with the covenant that only private houses were to be built upon the lots, and that they were to be occupied by only one family each. The covenant was to run against the land for ten years.

Grenel built houses on the lots, and sold this one to McNulty in April, 1895. McNulty has recently been converting a hall room on the fourth floor into a kitchen and making other arrangements by which he could have another family occupy the third and fourth floors. He says that he is away a great part of the time, and that his wife is alone in the large house, which he values at $60,000, and that largely for company for his wife he decided to have some agreeable family occupy the third and fourth floors. He says that no outward change in the house is contemplated, and that the house will maintain all its characteristics of a first-class private dwelling. To enjoin him from such contemplated use of the house, he declares, would prevent him from having the enjoyments of his home and company for his wife.

It is alleged by the plaintiffs that the territory bounded by 102d and 106th streets and the Hudson River to 100 feet east of West End avenue is occupied exclusively by private dwellings under such restrictions as specified. But McNulty says that the covenant has not been enforced in other cases. He says that Anne Boland uses the houses 604 West 103d street and 779 West End avenue as boarding houses, and that a boarder was recently taken in the house 775 West End avenue, occupied in whole or in part by Dr. Roland B. Gray. Grenel's house also is occupied not only by his family, but by his married daughter, son-in-law, and their child.

In refusing the injunction, Justice Russell says:

"It would be straining the enforcement of restrictive covenants of this kind for the Court to adjudge before trial that the defendant could not alter the inside of his house, even if such alterations might make the structure convenient for the occupation of one family and part of another. Up to this time there has been no effort to use the premises otherwise than as contemplated in the title deeds. When such prohibited use occurs the courts may enforce the covenant, but not till then. No injury except of a shadowy character comes to the plaintiffs' rights, whatever they may be, before the building becomes stamped with a sentimental odium, if such it be, of being used as an apartment house in a region devoted to a supposed more genteel manner of living."

BRITAIN AND THE RAINES LAW.

An English Subject Under Arrest Is Unable to Furnish Bail.

An excise case that may result in an international complication arose in the Tenderloin precinct on Wednesday, when John Holly-Brown was placed under arrest on a charge of violating the Raines liquor tax law. Mr. Brown was arrested for exposing for sale liquor that he does not own and had no control over. He is an importer of cigars, doing business at 1,149 Broadway, and is a British subject. He is now locked up in the Tombs.

Mr. Brown leased the store two years ago at a rental of $3,800 a year. In the rear of the store, Brown's landlord, Benjamin Singer, has a café. The cigar store is separated from the café by a hard wood partition. By the terms of the lease one window facing on Broadway is excluded from Brown's use. In this window several importers of wines and liquors exhibit samples of their goods, the window privilege being made a separate lease. Brown simply runs the cigar store. When Singer's café is closed the partition doors leading to the cigar store are locked and bolted.

At 2 o'clock Wednesday morning Brown was seated in the Broadway store when Policeman Cooper of the West Thirtieth street station entered the store and arrested him. Later Brown was arraigned before Magistrate Deuel in the Jefferson Market Police Court. He was represented by Lawyer Norman W. Kerngood of 203 Broadway. Lawyer Kerngood showed that the window in the Broadway store contained liquor belonging to wholesale dealers, and that neither Brown nor Singer had permission to touch any of it.

Magistrate Deuel was of the opinion that the case ought to be decided by the Grand Jury, and held Brown in $1,000 bail.

15 YEARS OF LAW OVER A HOUSE.

Widow Bram Finally Appeals to Recorder Goff to Eject the Possessors.

Lawyer H. A. Frost asked Recorder Goff in the General Sessions yesterday for an order to eject Anna Goldsmith and "John Doe," a Chinaman, as squatters from the tenement at 1,367 First avenue, which was formerly 1,329 First avenue. Lawyer Frost said that the rightful owner, Babetta Bram, a widow, is almost starving. Frost said that Herman A. Koenig squatted on the property in 1881. He refused to vacate, and Mrs. Bram took the case to the courts. It was several years before she got a decision in her favor from the Court of Appeals. Then Koenig moved off and left the house in the possession of Mrs. Goldsmith, with the privilege to Mrs. Bram of going to law all over again. Mrs. Goldsmith has rented part of the property, Frost said, to a Chinese laundryman, "John Doe," and is collecting the rent regularly.

Recorder Goff took the papers and said he would give his decision to-day.

At the house last night it was said that Mrs. Goldsmith is only the janitress, and that Carl Wallach of 222 East Seventy-ninth street is the owner. Mr. Wallach said that he bought the house fifteen years ago from Mrs. Bram's husband. After that the Brams separated, and the husband kept all the money that had been paid for the property. Wallach says that Mrs. Bram has always been defeated in the courts in her efforts to regain the property.

A HINDOO BISHOP HERE.

He Will Preach in St. Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday.

The Paulist Fathers have as a guest at their monastery at Sixtieth street and Columbus avenue Bishop Augustine E. Niedlycott, a Hindoo, from the diocese of Tricoma, India. The Bishop is an old friend of the Rev. Father Younan, one of the Paulist Fathers who was a Jesuit missionary in India. Bishop Niedlycott arrived in this city only a few days ago, and yesterday he called on Archbishop Corrigan. The two were schoolmates in Rome. Dr. McGlynn was also a classmate of the Bishop's.

Bishop Niedlycott speaks English fluently, and Archbishop Corrigan has invited him to deliver the sermon at St. Patrick's Cathedral at the 11 o'clock mass on Sunday.

FRENCH MEDALS FOR GOOD WORKS

Miss Catherine T. Smith and the Rev. Theodore Wucher Receive Them.

Miss Catherine T. Smith, sister of the Rev. William Smith of the Church of St. Vincent de Paul on Twenty-third street, has been presented with a gold medal by the French Government in recognition of her services in establishing and conducting the Jeanne d'Arc Home for Friendless Immigrant French Girls at 251 West Twenty-fourth street.

The Rev. Theodore Wucher, pastor of the church, has been similarly rewarded by France for the encouragement and support he has given to the institution.

The medals were brought here by the French cruiser which is now in the harbor.

Madame Kellar, Superior of the Sacred Heart Convent, Transferred.

Mme. Margaret J. Kellar, who has been Superior of the Convent of the Ladies of the Order of the Sacred Heart in West Seventeenth street, has been transferred to the Convent of the Sacred Heart at Eden Hall, near Philadelphia, exchanging place with Mme. Frances Elder of that institution, who comes here. Nearly all the noted women of this city who have become converts to the Roman Catholic faith in recent years were instructed in their new faith by Mme. Kellar.

Mme. Elder is a sister of Archbishop Elder of Cincinnati, and Mme. Kellar is a sister-in-law of the Rev. J. F. X. O'Conor of St. Francis Xavier's Church.

Jennie Yeamans's Divorce Suit.

Jennie Yeamans, the actress, has obtained a report from Referee John E. Ward finding that she is entitled to an absolute divorce from Charles B. Dillingham. They were married on March 12, 1892. The actress accused her husband of intimacy with Mary Bord in Milwaukee last February. Mr. Dillingham has been connected with the Charles Frohman company. On a motion made before Justice Andrews of the Supreme Court yesterday for confirmation of the report decision was reserved.

THE FORESTS ALL ABLAZE.

LIVES LOST AND MILLIONS OF PROPERTY DESTROYED.

Biggest Fires the Northwest Has Seen in Many Years—Washington and British Columbia Covered with Flame or Smoke—Throwing Water on Women in Peril.

SPOKANE, Wash., July 23.—A strong wind has been blowing from the east, clearing the atmosphere here of smoke, but in the mountains to the north the breeze has fanned the forest fires into raging walls of flame, which are sweeping across the mountains and down into the valleys with terrible rapidity. When the air was still the fires were confined to the mountains and did not creep down into the valleys, but now those who sought safety there are compelled to flee for their lives.

In British Columbia, on the north fork of the Salmon River, nearly all the cabins and shaft houses have been burned, together with large quantities of provisions and tools. Rossland, B. C., is in danger. All the citizens are out in the hills trying to prevent the fire from reaching their homes. Cabins within four miles of the town have been burned.

Meagre reports have come of fires on the Colville Indian reservation. Only a few people have come down, and it is feared that many have met their death. A party came to Kettle River from Turtle Creek, and three members went back to get some bedding they had forgotten. They have not returned, and as the fire has swept over the place it is feared they have been lost.

The United States Forestry Commission is here to inspect the forests, but the visitors find they cannot go out on account of the fires. They estimate the damage at many millions of dollars.

VANCOUVER, B. C., July 23.—Along the Northern Railway, between Whatcom and Goshen, bush fires have burned many farm buildings and a quantity of fencing and railroad ties. At Vancouver last night there were two fires caused by sparks from the bush fires, a house and steamer being burned. Unless rain comes soon large tracts of timber along the Fraser River will be destroyed. Dense smoke has settled down over the seaport towns, and it is with the greatest difficulty that navigation can be carried on. The fires are more extensive and destructive than in any season during the past ten years.

VICTORIA, B. C., July 23.—The southern half of Vancouver Island has not seen clear atmosphere for several days, owing to bush fires everywhere raging, causing immense damage to property and making travel on country roads extremely dangerous. The worst reports of damage reached this city from Alberni last night. That city is surrounded by a fire which has taken entire possession of "Mineral Hill," a wealthy section. The flames have destroyed all buildings at the Duke of York Mine, China Creek, and are now within two or three miles of town, having burned numerous camps, bridges, &c.

There were many narrow escapes from death. Women and children had to be kept under the piping of hydraulic mines and drenched with water to prevent them from being scorched. The damage to property thus far is estimated at over $500,000, and the loss on burned timber will reach well into the millions.

SEATTLE, July 23.—Forest fires last night destroyed the logging camp of W. M. Clothier & Son at Central Station, on the Bellingham Bay and British Columbia Railway. The loss is estimated at $20,000. The entire country north of here is in flames. Four freight cars and considerable side track of the Bellingham Bay and British Columbia road were destroyed at Everson.

The flames are gradually working toward Whatcom.

"AS YOU LIKE IT" AT GLEN COVE.

Given in the Open Air for the Benefit of St. Paul's Church.

GLEN COVE, L. I., July 23.—On the grounds of Bank President C. B. Grumans a summer-night festival under the auspices of St. Paul's Episcopal Church was held this evening, and Glen Cove society turned out to attend it.

The drawing feature was Shakespeare's "As You Like It" in the open air. Miss Alberta Gallatin was *Rosalind*. The rest of the cast was as follows: *Orlando*, Thomas L. Coleman; *Jaques*, William Harris; *Oliver*, Frank L. Sylvester; *Touchstone*, Frank Currier; *Adam*, Verner Clarges; *Duke Frederick*, Percy Sage; *The Banished Duke*, Louis Grisel; *Silvius*, Charles Charlers; *William*, C. L. Vincent; *Amiens*, A. Hobart Smock; *Charles, the Wrestler*, Wells Hamilton; *Corin*, Walter Williams; *Jaques De Bois*, James Smith; *Le Beau*, Charles North; *Celia*, Annie Lockhart; *Phebe*, Jessie Yarrington; *Audrey*, Elsie Wright.

More than $400 was raised for church work. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Phillips Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Munger, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Adams, J. R. Maxwell, Dr. and Mrs. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Ladew, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Busby, Mr. and Mrs. O. Wissner, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Luyster, Gen. Thomas Pearsall, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dana, and Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Tappan.

Jersey City and Hoboken Directory.

Boyd's Jersey City and Hoboken Directory for 1896-7, just out, contains more than 5,000 names in addition to the number in the last former edition. Besides the information as to names, occupations, and addresses, there is in the first part of the book a street and avenue guide for the two cities. The book also contains a full business directory of the two cities and an appendix of general information concerning national and local officials from Grover Cleveland to the clerk of the Hoboken Fire Department.

A Court Martial for Lieut. Colwell.

Lieut. John C. Colwell of the ram Katahdin was the subject of a general court martial begun aboard the cruiser Newark at the Navy Yard yesterday. It is alleged that Lieut. Colwell had some trouble with a servant on the ship during the cruise of the ram on Long Island Sound and assaulted him. A civil suit, it is said, is also pending against the officer.

Conductor Golden Killed Himself.

Coroner Dobbs held an inquest yesterday in the case of John Golden, the Manhattan Elevated Railroad conductor who met his death on July 10 at the 135th street station of the Sixth avenue line by jumping in front of a train. Mrs. Hanor, who was shot by Golden at the station, was not present. The jury decided that Golden committed suicide.

A New Board of Health Building.

A new three-story brick building, to be used as a stable and a laboratory by the Board of Health, is to be erected by the city on the south side of Seventeenth street, east of Avenue C. The plans for the building were filed yesterday with the Building Department. The cost is estimated at $45,000.

Drowned in a Cesspool.

ORANGE, N. J., July 23.—A. B. Slocum, a plumber, fished out of a cesspool with a rake in the rear of the home of Darcy A. Boulton, at 491 Central avenue, East Orange, to-day the body of Mr. Boulton's four-year-old son Freddie. The boy had fallen into the cesspool while the plumber was in the cellar.

Single Tax Speakers Jailed.

WILMINGTON, Del., July 23.—Samuel Melville and W. H Kevan, single tax speakers, were arrested at Dover last night for speaking on the streets without a permit. They were fined $10 and costs, in default of which they were sent to jail for thirty days. This makes five speakers now under arrest.

The Weather.

The storm which was over the lake regions passed northeastward out of the St. Lawrence Valley early yesterday morning, carrying with it all the disagreeable conditions. It was cooler in all the central States and lake regions, and it should be at least 8 or 10 degrees cooler here this morning, with a continuance of fair weather.

There were several heavy thunder showers in and around this city in the early hours of the morning; but the day was fair; humidity was 82 per cent. in the morning and fell gradually; total rainfall .78 of an inch; highest official temperature 75°, lowest 70°; wind northwest, average velocity 16 miles an hour; barometer, corrected to read to sea level, at 8 A. M. 29.88, 3 P. M. 29.90.

The thermometer at the United States Weather Bureau recorded the temperature yesterday as follows:

	1895.	1896.		1895.	1896.
9 A. M.	73°	76°	6 P. M.	73°	77°
12 M.	71°	76°	9 P. M.	70°	73°
3 P. M.	76°	81°	12 Mid.	67°	69°

WASHINGTON FORECAST FOR FRIDAY.

For New England, fair; northwesterly winds; increasing cloudiness and showers Saturday.

For eastern New York, fair; northwesterly winds becoming variable.

For District of Columbia, eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia, fair, followed by increasing cloudiness and probably showers at night; winds shifting to southeasterly.

For western Pennsylvania and western New York, increasing cloudiness and showers; fresh to brisk easterly winds.

GREATER NEW YORK CHARTER.

Mr. De Witt Tells What the Commission Has Accomplished.

LONG BEACH, L. I., July 23.—William C. De Witt of the Greater New York Commission, and David M. Dean, counsel to the Commission, are here elaborating the provisional charter of the Greater New York. Mr. De Witt promises that by Sunday the first four chapters of the proposed constitution will be given to the public.

Mr. De Witt said: "I want it distinctly understood that this is merely a tentative form of the charter. It is open to criticism, change, or objection. It may be altered by the sub-committee of seven on draft, or by the whole committee of fifteen when it meets in September. The object at present is simply to get something on paper; something that may be considered, that will furnish a basis for discussion, if nothing more. This is thoroughly understood by the members of the committee.

Mr. George M. Pinney, the Staten Island member of the Commission, visited Mr. De Witt last night. Mr. Pinney was questioned in regard to an article published yesterday, which said that the new charter contemplated the abolition of the Boards of Supervisors