SUICIDE RECORD BROKEN.

SIX PERSONS KILL THEMSELVES IN THIS CITY IN ONE DAY.

One Was an Octogenarian Who Had Lost His Wife and Children—How He Celebrated the 50th Anniversary of His Wedding—His Letter—Attempts at Self-Destruction.

Yesterday broke the local record for suicides, so far as this year is concerned at least. Between 10 o'clock in the morning and 4 o'clock in the afternoon no fewer than six persons committed suicide.

The favorite months for suicide, according to the records of the Coroners' office, are October and November. The month of May this year has proved a record breaker, for there have been twelve suicides reported within the last four days. In the corresponding time last year there were only seven.

In addition to those who took their lives yesterday, several persons tried to kill themselves and failed. The means used to end life were varied, and embraced asphyxiation by gas, shooting, carbolic acid, and hanging.

AN OCTOGENARIAN HANGS HIMSELF.

John A. Davenport grew weary of life at the age of 80, yesterday, and hanged himself in his room at 215 East Eighteenth street. His dead body was found by the servant, Agnes Roe, when she went into the room to make the bed. The octogenarian was hanging to a hook on the door by a rope. He had been dead several hours.

Davenport lost his son and daughter several years ago in one week, and his wife, Eunice, died two years ago. Several weeks ago he celebrated what would have been his golden wedding by shutting himself up all day in his room, where he gazed at the pictures of his wife and children. The pictures were on the mantel yesterday, and Davenport had a last look at them before he tied the fatal noose around his neck.

A letter in his pocket said that the furniture of the room did not belong to him, but that the pictures did.

"Bury me in a plain pine coffin, and do not search my pockets, for there is nothing in them," wrote Davenport in the letter.

The suicide's father was Judge Davenport of Worcester, Mass., who was on the bench for half a century. The suicide was at one time in the wholesale notion business in this city, but more recently was a real estate agent. He used to be fond of tracing his descent from William the Conqueror.

A SALESMAN SHOOTS HIMSELF.

Cornelius G. Crowley, a salesman, committed suicide by shooting himself in the head at his home at 1791 Fox street yesterday morning. He formerly sold dental instruments for John F. Hammond of 25 East 125th street, but had not been keeping up to his record of late on sales and was in arrears on his collections. He was discharged by Hammond on May 1.

The family was in the habit of leaving the basement door open for him to enter by when he came home late. The door was left open Monday night, and no one knows just what time he got home. His mother on going down stairs at 5:30 o'clock in the morning found him on the sofa with a bullet wound in his forehead. At first the police thought he had been murdered. Later they found the pistol under the sofa. A letter he had written said:

"*To the Coroner, or whom it may concern:*

"Very recently I lost my aunt, one of the finest women God ever made. Now my wife has suffered intensely from lung trouble, and my business has been steadily falling off. I have the blues naturally, and will quit. Yours, truly,

"GEO. CROWLEY."

A second letter, directed to the suicide's former employer, said:

"DEAR SIR: When you see this I shall be in another world. I owe you, up to date, $13.17. I borrowed $2 from Dr. T. C. Sweeney. After I am buried, go to my wife and present bill for above amount. Your satchel and goods are at my house, and my wife will give them to you. You will not lose one cent. Yours truly,

"C. G. CROWLEY."

The suicide was 45 years old. His wife is an invalid.

CAFÉ KEEPER SHOOTS HIMSELF.

When Theodore Schroth came to New York from Germany, a year and a half ago, he had $12,000 in cash, a legacy left to him by a well-to-do relative in the old country. The German was anxious to invest his money in such a way that it would make more, and, after inspecting about the city for a while, he opened a café at 27 St. Mark's place. That was about a year ago. The venture did not prove profitable, and Schroth found himself growing poorer every day.

While his wife was talking to two other women in the café yesterday Schroth went into a rear room and shot himself through the head with a 38-calibre revolver. Death was probably instantaneous. The report of the pistol made the women think that a fight was going on and they ran out of the café. His wife did not learn of his suicide until her return several hours afterward.

CARBOLIC ACID KILLS A CAB DRIVER.

William Wellington, a cab driver, who was known to the Tenderloin habitués as "Whitey," was found dead yesterday in his room at the Hotel Menlo, Twenty-eighth street and Sixth avenue. The surgeon of an ambulance which was summoned from the New York Hospital said he had poisoned himself with carbolic acid. He had had few customers of late, and complained on Monday night of being in hard luck.

A SHOP WINDOW DRESSER USES GAS.

William J. Burns, a window dresser in a Sixth avenue dry goods store, killed himself with gas some time Monday night in his lodgings at 228 East Eighteenth street.

ROOFER KILLS HIMSELF WITH POISON.

Phineas McArdle, a roofer, 31 years old, who lived with his mother at 113 West 134th street, poisoned himself with Paris green yesterday and died later in Manhattan Hospital as the result. He quit drinking last October, and did not touch liquor until last Friday. Since then he had been drinking heavily.

ATTEMPT AT THE VANDERBILT HOTEL.

A man who wrote "H. Miller of Yonkers" on the register of the Vanderbilt Hotel on Monday evening was found unconscious from gas in his room yesterday morning. He had carefully stopped every crevice and plugged every hole with cotton before turning on the gas. He was still unconscious at the Flower Hospital at last accounts.

In his pockets were found 41 cents and five pawn tickets. There were also two or three cards, with the address, "M. Ostbery, tobacco broker, 228 East Nineteenth street." Dr. Judson Smith, who lives there, formerly let a room to Broker Ostbery, but dispossessed him recently for not paying his rent. The police believe that Ostbery and Miller are two names for the same man.

DRIVER SEEKS DEATH BY BLEEDING.

Clayton W. Hunter, a milk wagon driver, attempted suicide yesterday by cutting his right wrist and forearm at his home at 243 East 121st street. His wife died two weeks ago. He will probably recover.

FRED PFAEFFLE'S DESPERATION.

A Brooklyn Beer Bottler, Dreading Arrest, Shoots Himself.

Frederick Pfaeffle, a beer bottler, aged 33 years, shot himself in the head with a shotgun at his home at Montauk and Vienna avenues, Brooklyn, last evening. He was removed to St. Mary's Hospital, and the doctors said last night that his recovery was almost impossible.

Pfaeffle had become involved in trouble with the Beer Bottlers' Association by using, as it is said, bottles without its authorization, and an agent of the association was in the house searching among the bottles in the cellar when Pfaeffle went upstairs to his bedroom and shot himself. He pulled the trigger of the gun with his toe.

Soon after his removal to the hospital two policemen from the Bergen street station called at the house with a warrant for his arrest. Pfaeffle has a wife and two children, and they were in the house when the shooting occurred.

John Forster Hangs Himself.

John Forster, about 40 years old, who lived in apartments at 207 Adams street, Hoboken, hanged himself to a hook in the ceiling of one of his rooms some time between last Sunday morning and yesterday afternoon, when he was found dead. He had been unable to get work.

His wife died over a year ago, leaving him with three children. Two of the children were placed in the care of relatives in this city. The other, a boy about 5 years old, lived with his father.

Did James Moran Drown Himself?

James Moran, 23 years old, of 198 Fifth street, Jersey City, who has been missing since April 21, was found drowned yesterday in the river near the abattoir at the foot of Sixth street, Jersey City. Moran had been out of work and sick, and he was very despondent at the time he left home.

Dead in a Hotel and Gas Turned On.

HOLYOKE, MASS., May 4.—Ex-Alderman Martin Burgin of New Haven was found dead at the Linwood Hotel this afternoon, having been suffocated by illuminating gas, which was turned on.

G. A. R. Encampment at Rochester May 18.

ALBANY, May 4.—State Department Commander James S. Graham of the G. A. R. to-day issued a general order directing attention to the fact that the annual encampment will be held in Rochester on May 18 and 19. Headquarters will be at Powers's Hotel. The encampment will be called to order at 10:30 o'clock on Tuesday, May 18. Ellen M. Putnam, superintendent of Woman's Relief Corps Home at Oxford, N. Y., announces that the home is ready for occupancy.

IDA CARR'S DISAPPOINTMENT.

She Takes Poison After Receiving a Letter From Her Betrothed.

Ida Carr, 19 years old, a very pretty blonde, who lived with her mother and William Curtis, her stepfather, at 138½ Broadway, in the Marion section of Jersey City, committed suicide yesterday afternoon by swallowing carbolic acid. The motive attributed was disappointment in love. Miss Carr was engaged to be married last month to William Binard of New Haven. There was no date fixed. Binard, who is a compositor, lost his employment and the marriage was postponed. Up to that time he had corresponded with her regularly, but recently he has written very seldom.

Yesterday afternoon she received a letter from him. After she read it she told her mother that she would go over to Gebhard's fireworks factory in West Bergen and seek employment, as she was tired of living at home in idleness. She left the house and returned in about an hour and a half. She told her mother that she had not been to Gebhard's, as she had changed her mind. She went to her room, put on a wrapper, and a short time afterward her mother heard her groaning.

She went upstairs and found Ida lying on the bed and a bottle which had contained the acid was beside her. Drs. Fletcher and McLain were summoned, but were unable to save her life.

The letter from Binard informed her that he had secured employment in this city and that he was doing well, but there was no word of love in it nor any reference to their engagement. Miss Carr was an active worker in the Summit Avenue Baptist Church and belonged to the Willing Workers for Christ, who have their headquarters in the old St. James Hotel. She was of a cheerful disposition, and even yesterday her mother did not notice any despondency.

TO SEND JEWS TO PALESTINE.

Delegates to Be Chosen Here for the August Convention in Munich.

A meeting was held last night at Liberty Hall, 255 East Houston street, at which the question of forming a colony for the Jews in Palestine was discussed. Ex-Coroner Ferdinand Levy presided. The speakers were Dr. Mayer Kopp-stein and Rabbi Klein.

"The object of this meeting is to choose several delegates, who will represent the Jewish race at the meeting which is to be held in Munich on Aug. 25. Delegates from all over the world will be present, and the plan of establishing a colony for the homeless and persecuted Jews of Europe will be finally launched. For many months the Jewish population in this country has been silently working on this plan. We hope to obtain the aid of all the churches and large societies in America. New York must take the first step.

"This great city has a larger population of Jews than any other city in the United States, and it is through the efforts of this city that the colony in Palestine will be established. The present idea is to form a home for the Jews in which they may live in peace and govern themselves without being subjected to the tyranny and despotism of a powerful government. We ask the help of this land of freedom and its generous people."

Owing to the late hour it was decided to elect the delegates at the next meeting, which will be held some time next week.

NEGRO SCHOOLS NOT WANTED.

Mr. Scrotron Says His People Won't Send Their Children to Them.

The school budget for the next fiscal year, as adopted by the Brooklyn Board of Education, calls for an appropriation of $3,298,829. Of this $2,942,329 is for the general fund and $356,500 for the special fund.

Provision is made for the appointment of three additional assistant superintendents, at a salary of $4,000 a year each. Horace Dresser was in favor of making only one additional assistant superintendent, and giving the place to a woman, but his view did not prevail.

The question of abolishing School 67, of which Charles A. Dorsey is principal, which has aroused much feeling among the negroes, was again taken up. Samuel R. Scottron, the only colored member of the board, strongly advocated the closing of the school as a grammar grade. He said that the average daily attendance was less than 200, and that they would not be justified in maintaining it any longer.

"The colored people," he said, "do not want colored schools. You might build a colored school equal to the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, and still the colored people would not send their children to it." No action was taken in the matter.

HIGHWAYMAN USED CHLOROFORM.

Mrs. Hannity Insisted on Leaving Bensonhurst After Being Held Up.

Mrs. John Hannity of Eighty-sixth street, near Twenty-fourth avenue, was attacked by a highwayman on Eighty-sixth street, near Bay Thirty-fifth street, Bensonhurst, late last evening, and an attempt was made to chloroform her. She was walking home, and as she reached the corner at 9:30 o'clock a man sprang from behind a tree. He put his hand over her mouth and ordered her to give the rings on her fingers to him. Mrs. Hannity struggled with him, and he tried to knock her down.

Seeing that she was strong, and that he could not master her, the man drew a handkerchief wet with chloroform from his pocket and tried to hold it at Mrs. Hannity's nose. In doing this he removed his hand from her mouth, thus allowing her to scream.

Engineer Egan and Foreman Dempsey of fire engine 53, which lies near the corner, ran out of their house and hurried to where Mrs. Hannity was. The highwayman ran away, dropping his handkerchief on the sidewalk.

Mrs. Hannity became hysterical. She was taken to the engine house and her husband was called. She insisted on going to Brooklyn when she recovered, saying she would not spend another night in Bensonhurst.

MIXED BIG CARGO FOR CAPE TOWN.

12,000 Tons of It, Including Jackasses and False Teeth, Going by the American.

The twin screw steamship American of the West India and Pacific Steamship Company's fleet, one of the largest cargo-carriers in the world, will sail from this port to-day laden probably with a greater variety of goods than has ever been shipped hence. Nearly 3,000 shippers are represented in a cargo of 12,000 tons, the value of which is estimated at $2,000,000. The American is bound for Cape Town, South Africa. Among the articles she carries are a quantity of glass eyes, artificial legs and arms, and false teeth.

Capt. Alexander, the American's English skipper, didn't want to say whether these eyes and legs and arms and teeth were exported to supply a demand that might be caused by hostilities in the Transvaal. Included in the cargo of the big ship are also eighty-four mules, thirty-one jackasses, a lot of mining machinery, ploughs, saddles, stationary engines, sewing machines, and pianos. Capt. Alexander thinks he will reach Cape Town in about twenty-eight days, during which he expects to consume about 3,200 tons of coal and make about eleven knots an hour.

BROOKLYN'S GAS CONTRACT.

It Has Been Approved at Last by the City Authorities.

Mayor Wurster and City Works Commissioner Willis of Brooklyn signed yesterday the five years' contract with the Union Gas Company, which was adopted, several weeks ago, by the Aldermen, and, all the other necessary formalities having been complied with, it is now in operation.

The five years' term began on Jan. 1 last and will terminate on Dec. 31, 1901. According to the provisions of the contract the price to the city for the first year will be $1 per 1,000 feet, and will be reduced 2½ cents each year until it reaches 90 cents. Private consumers will pay $1.20 for this year and five cents less each year until the $1 limit is reached. The company will now lose no time in extending its mains to the Flatbush, Flatlands, and Gravesend districts, which have been clamoring for gas for the past year.

ALDERMEN GO BY AIR POWER.

Mr. Noonan's Jest on the Wind-Jamming Powers of the Board.

A majority of the Aldermen, including President Jeroloman and Vice-President Windolph, were the guests last night of the officers of the American Air Motor Power Company, who treated them to a free ride on one of the two air-motor cars now running on the 125th street cable road.

"How long does it take to charge one of these cars?" asked Alderman Noonan of President Willard.

"About two minutes," replied Mr. Willard.

"I think you could save at least sixty seconds by having it done in the Aldermen's chamber," said Mr. Nooman.

At the power house the workings of the condensers were explained to the Aldermen, and afterward they were entertained at the Colonial Hotel.

Moonshiners Shot from Ambush.

PRESTONSBURG, Ky., May 4.—Ham Wallen, a moonshiner, living south of here on Beaver Creek, was killed from ambush yesterday. He was shot several times.

For Over-Indulgence

Take Horsford's Acid Phosphate.

It preserves and renews the vitality, strengthens the nerves, and stimulates the stomach to healthy action. —Adv.

BUTLER HARRIS'S SLAYER.

FRANK NEILSON, IN PRISON, SAYS HE KNOWS THE MURDERER.

He Says That He Stood at the Corner While "Low Dutch" Henry and "Kid" Miller Went to Rob the Borden House and Shot the Under Butler When They Were Seen.

TRENTON, N. J., May 4.—Frank Neilson, alias Nelson, alias Frank Laroy, who was sentenced to the New Jersey State prison April 29 for the burglary of a saloon in Hoboken, is said to know the facts of the murder of Ferdinand Harris, second, butler in the house of M. C. D. Borden, 25 West Fifty-sixth street, New York, who was shot on Tuesday, May 27, 1895. He has made a confession, giving the names of the murderers.

Laroy is an educated Swede, admits being an all-round crook, and confesses to having taken part in the attempt to burglarize the Borden house. Laroy also talks fluently about the murder of Lyman S. Weeks and declares that the hanging of Greenwood for that crime and the circumstance surrounding Greenwood's trial and conviction actuated him to tell what he knows of the Harris murder.

He says "Butch" Miller, who is now in the State prison here, murdered Lyman S. Weeks. Greenwood, he says, was innocent. In his confession, as made to a SUN reporter, in the presence of a keeper, he says:

"The police always knew that I was in some way mixed up with the murder of Harris. I may as well be honest about it and tell you the plain truth, and I'll do it because, while I am no fool, I can see clearly that unless I tell the truth I shall die in the electric chair, to which the New York police apparently have determined to send me.

"On the night of May 26, 1895, I met 'Low Dutch' Henry and Bindfadden. They had planned to rob the Borden house. They asked me to join them and we discussed the matter at considerable length. They had all the arrangements made and were thoroughly acquainted with the premises. The next day a severe thunder storm came up in the afternoon and we started toward the Borden house. On the way there Bindfadden or 'Shoestring,' as I called him, suggested that I enter the house first. 'Dutch' Henry said that that was what I was brought for. We wrangled about the matter for some time, and finally I got mad, and when they refused to enter with me I turned around to go away. They knew the plan of the house thoroughly, and I was not posted. I walked back to the corner and those fellows went on. Now, I want to tell you that Bindfadden is a man as tall as I am, 5 feet 10½ inches, while "Low Dutch" Henry is not more than 5 feet 5 inches and stoop shouldered.

"That night I heard that Harris was killed. I knew there was trouble in store, and I knew I was there. I also knew that it meant the electric chair for me if I was caught. I don't know just how the butler was killed, perhaps, but "Low Dutch" Henry is the man who fired the shot. The butler was killed because he saw them just a little too soon. I went on thinkin' the matter over, and I knew that "Low Dutch" Henry and Binfadden would stand together if we were all caught, and my chances looked slim. Alfred Brown was working in a bakery on Tenth street, and this is how he gets in with Borden butler's murder case. I determined that I would be the man to try to put as much space between me and the New York police as possible. I went up to see Brown and asked him to loan me $40. He said 'You had $60 yesterday. What did you do with it?' I said 'I got it yet, but I want forty more.' He said 'What do you want it for?' I told him that if he would look at the headlines of the morning papers he would see that there had been a murder at Borden's. I told him I was there. I also said I was in serious trouble and that I intended to skip.

"Brown gave me the $40, and without waiting any longer than I had to I took the steamer and went to England. I remained in England about a year. When I came back the excitement had died out. "Low Dutch" Henry and Bindfadden had skipped to Chicago. The police had investment of sufficient additional nerve to put it, but they couldn't connect me just as they wanted to. The police got onto what I had told Brown by frightening him, and they concluded that Brown was in some way mixed up with the killing.

"Ex-Detective Sergeant Adams visited me in the jail in Jersey, and when I learned that Brown had been pinched I told him to turn the man loose; that he was innocent of the job. I also gave him some very valuable information on the Harris murder. If he had turned out Brown and unfortunately had told him how I got "Low Dutch" Henry just where he is, and every little detail, so that he could capture the big reward offered by the Bordens.

"But he threw me down. Adams instead went to Brown, who was known to the Jersey authorities as "Kid" Miller, and gave him a story that I had implicated him (Brown) in the killing of Harris. I knew just how much Brown knew of the matter, and what he might say didn't worry me much; but I also remembered the fate of Greenwald, who was as innocent of the murder of Lyman S. Weeks as a baby, and I concluded, after thinking the matter over for several days, to give out the whole story.

"Now, there is another matter that I would like to talk about, and that is the robbery of St. Paul's church. Adams came to me and said that if I got out of this job in Jersey that I would be taken back to New York for the church robbery. I was there.

"When the church was robbed the men who went to do it got in there and came out with a clock. The clock was too heavy for them to carry and they left it, but they didn't throw it in any ash barrel. It was left behind a tombstone in the graveyard. That clock is worth $9,500.

"The Bible was taken because the man who did the job came back with the story that he had thrown the clock away. He was lauched at, and he returned and entered the vestry, bringing back the Bible as evidence of the burglary."

Capt. O'Brien of the Central Office says there is nothing in the story, and that the detective agency would have been it out before catching Binfaden and Low Dutch Henry if there was any truth in it.

Neilson, he says, is a notorious liar, and both Neilson and Miller are "night-work" men who never do day jobs. Mr. Borden, who offered $10,000 reward for the capture and conviction of the murderers, doesn't place much faith in the story.

HER HEART PIERCED.

A Little Girl Falls Downstairs with a Pair of Shears in Her Hand.

Little Louise Matilda Johnson, the four-year-old daughter of John Johnson, a ship carpenter of 1292 Washington street, Hoboken, was killed yesterday afternoon. She was a bright girl with blue eyes and light hair. Yesterday afternoon she got hold of a pair of shears while her mother had her attention attracted by something, and slipped out into the street.

Julius Uhle keeps a saloon on the ground floor of the tenement, with a cellar underneath, the steps leading to which are unprotected. Louise lost her balance and fell down the cellar steps. One of the blades of the shears pierced her heart and the other stuck in her throat. She was carried upstairs and Dr. Clausen was called in, but he pronounced her dead.

Bills Approved by the Mayor.

The Mayor has accepted the following bills:

Authorizing the issue of bonds necessary for the erection of new buildings for the College of the City of New York.

Exempting from the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Correction the Disciplinary Training School in Brooklyn.

Returning to Julia C. Patterson of Patterson, Putnam county, certain lands condemned for the use of the Croton watershed.

Authorizing the Board of Estimate to provide quarters for the City Court outside the City Hall after Jan. 1, 1898.

Legalizing the appointment of Isaac C. Tyson as park keeper and roundsman in order that he may receive his salary, which has been held up by Comptroller Fitch.

Providing for the licensing of stationary engineers.

Are You Tired

All run down in health, without vitality, with no appetite, cannot sleep? This condition is due to impoverished blood, which fails to supply proper nourishment to nerves and muscles. We are now changing to a warmer season. Nature is struggling to adjust the system to the change, and Nature cries for help. The

Weak, Nervous toning, strengthening, invigorating, blood-purifying, and enriching qualities of Hood's Sarsaparilla exactly meet your present need. The thousands of wonderful cures accomplished by Hood's Sarsaparilla, the like of which no other medicine and no combination of medicines can approach, proves its curative merit; proves that it has never been equalled as a remedy for That Tired Feeling, Humors and all blood diseases.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5.

Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Serges—

No matter what grade you see elsewhere, if desirable and adapted for high grade trade, you can be sure of finding it in our stock and priced to meet the wants of the economical.

We are particularly well organized and equipped to produce satisfactory suitings ranging from Twenty to Thirty dollars.

Burnham & Phillips

Custom tailoring only,

Temple Court Annex, 119 Nassau St.

CITY GAS-MAKING A FAILURE.

Report of the Committee That Investigated Philadelphia's Municipal Affairs.

HARRISBURG, Pa., May 4.—Chairman Andrews this afternoon presented the report of the Senate committee which has been investigating the municipal affairs of Philadelphia at intervals for two years. There was a special session to receive the report. It had been expected that there would be opposition to the printing of the report. There was none. That the report was far tamer than was expected by those who had followed its preparation is thought to be explained by the harmony negotiations now pending between the Republican factions.

The report contains 108 closely typewritten pages. The report first concerns itself with the franchise of the Mutual Automatic Telephone Company, which was obtained in the face of strong efforts by two other companies to obtain like concessions, although both of them were willing to pay large sums for the franchise, and the Mutual Automatic people paid nothing.

The committee found that proxies for voting the stock of the company had been signed by David Martin and Charles A. Porter, though both these men denied that they had anything to do with the company or its possessions. The committee recommends legislation to stop the giving away of franchises and to provide for more effective investigating machinery.

The report declares that there has been collusion between contractors and city officials not only in the awarding of contracts, but in the matter of inspecting work on the streets. It mentions no names, and only vaguely recommends stricter supervision of contractors.

Of Philadelphia's attempt to manufacture its own gas the report says:

"The manufacture and sale of illuminating gas is clearly not in and of itself a governmental function, but is a business usually carried on by private corporations which has enlisted in its prosecution the best engineering and technical skill and business ability, and the city has failed to achieve results which private management would be compelled to do for its own self-preservation and to secure adequate returns to its stockholders."

Although the quality supplied is deficient, the consumption steadily increases. Only two-thirds of the householders of the city take gas into their houses, and the committee shows that these gas consumers alone bear the burden of the public lighting, but of 1,000,000,000 cubic feet that are absolutely lost in the devious ways of municipal manipulation.

The committee recommends the immediate sale or lease of the city's gas works, or else investment of sufficient additional nerve to put the city's plant in a state of practical utility. The committee concludes that the city has been wofully swindled in the matter of electric lights. The names of Martin and Porter become prominent in this part of the report. The committee finds that Philadelphia almost alone among many are lights as New York, Boston, and Chicago combined.

The report is most severe upon the Police and Fire departments, stating that police patrolmen participate in the profits of houses of ill fame and unlicensed liquor saloons, shield the inmates, and relates instances where unoffending citizens have been dragged into police stations without lawful excuse, there to be brutally beaten; that inasmuch as all police trials are before a board of police officers, punishment is avoided by most flagrant offenders.

The report alleges great police interference in elections, and says that employees of city departments are assessed three days' pay a year, the amount so collected going straight to the personal bank accounts of the politicians making the assessments. No specific accusations are made and no names used.

THE NEW BEDFORD MILLS.

Assets of Nearly $600,000 in Excess of Liabilities in the Howland Corporations.

NEW BEDFORD, Mass., May 4.—A report of the condition of the Howland, New Bedford, and Rotch Mills was made at a meeting of the stockholders to-day. The situation as disclosed is by no means as bad as many were led to expect, the three corporations showing an aggregate excess of actual assets over liabilities of $589,240.36. There is an excess of assets (net) of $225,792.22 in the Howland corporation. President Rotch of the Howland corporation in presenting the report said:

"The corporation is insolvent, not so much because a fund of $1,185,463.56 is discovered to owe $1,199,671.34, as because of the injury to its credit. It cannot borrow. It cannot meet its current liabilities as they mature. This is, in law, insolvency. This condition of things is bad, but by no means hopeless. We discover that we are about 26 per cent. worse off than we knew. But to this arithmetical loss must be added the impairment of the credit of the corporation, and the difficulties consequent upon such impairment."

The stockholders voted to reduce the capital stock and subsequently increase the same, to the end that funds may be applied in diminution of the corporate debt; also that a subscription paper relating to such new stock be opened at an early date. It was voted that a committee be appointed to consider the reports of the examining experts, so as to recommend the proper amount of reduction of present stock and the most desirable amount of new capital.

LIFE INSURANCE CO. SUSPENDS.

The Mutual of Indianapolis Goes Into a Receiver's Hands—Extent of Its Business.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 4.—The Mutual Life Insurance Company was placed in the hands of a receiver at a late hour last night, the petition being filed by the President of the company in the belief that a recent law authorizing the company to do business is in contravention of the Constitution, which inhibits the granting of special charters. The officers became fearful that their business would be declared illegal, and it was determined to wind up the affairs of the company. The company has $80,000 in cash and bonds and mortgages, whose value aggregates $313,000. The total liabilities are reported at $253,826.

The company has been in business since 1882, and last year it collected in premiums $115,000. This afternoon a complaint was filed charging the officers with misapplication of funds and alleging that a promise was given yesterday to submit the books to an examination, but the officers asked for a receiver, and this stopped the investigation.

Bacon Paper Co.'s Assets and Liabilities.

BOSTON, May 4.—At a meeting to-day of the creditors of the Bacon Paper Company it was announced that the liabilities amounted to $430,000, with security of $300,000 collateral. The assets reckoned at their cost would amount to $1,000,000. The mill property of the company at Lowell constitutes the principal asset. The actual cash value of this is now only $200,000 or $300,000.

A Private Bank Closed in Missouri.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., May 4.—On recommendation of the State Bank Examiner, Secretary of State Leseur yesterday closed the Bank of Linn Creek pending the appointment of a receiver. It is a private bank and has a capital of $7,000.

$180,000 Assignment in Tobacco.

RICHMOND, Va., May 4.—Thomas D. Neal, Jr., leaf tobacco dealer and President of the Bohls Cigarette Machine Company, made an assignment to-day, with liabilities amounting to $180,000.

The Weather.

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

	1897.	1896.		1897.	1896.
9 A. M.	50°	65°	6 P. M.	53°	66°
12 M.	56°	69°	9 P. M.	53°	67°
3 P. M.	58°	73°	12 Mid.	53°	64°

WASHINGTON FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY.

For eastern New York, partly cloudy weather, with occasional showers in the morning; fair Wednesday afternoon; warmer; southerly winds, becoming variable.

"SUNLIGHT"

TRADE MARK.

No. 100.

THE "SUNLIGHT."

Unexcelled

in

Brilliancy, Color and Durability.

The "SUNLIGHT" makes a brilliant, mellow light, and gives all objects in their natural color, resting instead of straining the eye.

PRICE $2.00.

To meet the competition of the many inferior lights offered to the Public by unscrupulous dealers, we offer the

"German Incandescent Lamp."

Complete with Mantle and Shade

AT 75 CENTS

AT OUR STORES.

SUNLIGHT COMPANY,

545 Broadway. New York. 248 W. 23d St.

102 Broadway, Brooklyn.

LIQUOR DISPENSARY SCANDALS.

Charges Against Officials of a Serious Character—Gov. Ellerbe Aroused.

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 4.—The Board of Control of the dispensary liquor system has been sitting for two days investigating charges against officials.

At midnight to-night it is still in session. The understanding is that several officials will be arrested to-morrow. W. Jones, Colonel of the Palmetto Regiment, cashier of the Carolina National Bank, and ex-Democratic State Chairman, resigned to-night as Chairman of the Board of Control. He had insisted that Chief Clerk Scruggs of the dispensary should be retained. There are grave charges against Scruggs, who was appointed to his office by ex-Gov. Evans to watch certain of the Governor's enemies in the dispensary.

Scruggs's case is now being considered by the Attorney-General. He said to-day to-day that Attorney-General Jones had to stick by him or he would show him up. People here have confidence in Jones. The sensation of the day was the production of letters which brought Clark Howell, editor of the Atlanta *Constitution*, into the middle. One of these was written by editor Larry Gantt of the Piedmont *Headlight* to "Dear Clark," in which he says:

"I am anxious to control the State Board of Dispensary Commissioners so that I can help out my friends and also your friends, Blumenthal and Bickart of Atlanta, Ga., liquor dealers. In order to accomplish this we must down a man named Outzs, and keep our mutual friend, Seth Scruggs, in control. We can down Outzs if I can get Mr. Bickart to give me a statement of the transactions between himself and Outzs, and can show, as I believe is the case, that Outzs agreed to push his liquors if he (Bickart) would pay him 25 cents per case.

"I want you to see Mr. Bickart and get a statement from him of his proposition to Outzs, and how it was first received. I do not wish it for publication, but simply to bulldoze him out of the race against Scruggs. If I can keep Scruggs in it means that our friends will be taken care of, but if Outzs succeeds he will not order a pint from Blumenthal and Bickart, and he is opposed to Mr. Bickart because of his interference with the board. I also want you and your father, if Mr. Bickart gives this statement, to certify to his high character."

The whole town is stirred up to-night. Gov. Ellerbe says wrongdoers will go to the penitentiary.

HOWARD SCOTT TO DIE.

The Court of Appeals Affirms the Judgment of the Court of General Sessions.

ALBANY, May 4.—Judgment was affirmed by the Court of Appeals to-day in the murder case of the people vs. Howard A. Scott, appellant. This was an appeal from the judgment of the Court of General Sessions of New York rendered on Jan. 22, 1897, sentencing the appellant to the punishment of death on the conviction of murder in the first degree, he having killed his wife, Maggie Scott, by shooting her.

The Court also affirmed judgment in the case of the People vs. Giuseppi Constantino, appellant. This was an appeal from a conviction of murder in the first degree in Utica, for the killing of Pietro Donatello on Oct. 6, 1895.

The judgment of the lower court was reversed and a new trial ordered by the Court of Appeals to-day in the case of the people against Joseph Ledwon and Annie Ledwon, appellants. This was an appeal from the General Term of the Superior Court of Buffalo which affirmed a conviction of murder, second degree, in the case of Joseph Ledwon and of manslaughter, first degree, in the case of Annie Ledwon. On the morning of Sept. 11, 1890, the dead body of a Pole, George Borowicz, was found in the bathroom of his dwelling house in Buffalo, suspended by the neck from a cross piece over the door by means of a rope. Borowicz was the husband of Annie Ledwon, who after his death married Ledwon. They were arrested, tried, and convicted. Ledwon was sentenced to imprisonment for life and his wife for ten years.

DWIGHT W. ANDREWS MISSING.

He Was Formerly Chief Grain Inspector in Chicago, and Is Said to Have Fled.

CHICAGO, May 4.—Dwight W. Andrews, former Chief Grain Inspector, cannot be found. It is said by those who have been interested in the investigation of his affairs that he has left the State. He is likely to be indicted within twenty-four hours for embezzlement, forgery, and criminal manipulation of pay rolls. He has succeeded for three weeks in dodging summonses to appear before the House investigating committee. Finally, anticipating the disclosures of the Grand Jury room, he has left Chicago, it is said, and is now supposed to be in Minneapolis.

Andrews's bonds are a doubtful quantity. Ex-Mayor John Hopkins, who has been generally supposed to be the Inspector's sole bondsman since the death of J. W. Lanehart, denies he is on his bond, and says he does not even know Andrews when he sees him.

In the light of these developments in the case it is expected the Grand Jury will not conclude its labors in the investigation until it is learned who is responsible for this extraordinary state of affairs, and it is rumored that a legal search-light will be thrown on men who were in higher places than was Andrews under Altgeld.

"How use doth breed a habit in a man."—SHAKESPEARE.

Perhaps the use of ill-fitting glasses has become habitual with some simply because they have believed the trouble due to some facial peculiarity. Possibly it is; but the "Pivot Guard" is adjustable to almost any imaginable nasal formation, and the chances are that it would afford instant relief to them.

E. B. Meyrowitz

Manufacturing Optician,

104 East 23d St.,

one door east of Fourth Ave.

CITS AS TAMMANY ALLIES.

MAYOR STRONG THROWS OUT A SARDONIC SUGGESTION.

Predicts That with Three Tickets Up the Wigwam Would Win in the Greater New York—He Is for Early Nominations—Some of the Folks Are Not—District Bosses Confer.

It seems that, in his enthusiasm, Boss Reynolds of the Executive Committee of the Cits' Union did not stop to think that there was only a bare majority of that committee present at the meeting Monday night when he made the statement that the committee unanimously favored a proposition to put a municipal ticket in the field at the earliest possible date. There are members of the committee who were not present on that occasion who, while they were unwilling to talk about the matter for publication yesterday, said that Mr. Reynolds did not voice the unanimous opinion of that body.

An early nomination is opposed by the members of the Brookfield-Milholland-Swayne organization of anti-Platt Republicans who have been advised to enroll themselves with the Cits. Mr. Brookfield said yesterday of the proposition:

"In my opinion it is not wise. I do not care to say anything more about the matter at this time."

Mayor Strong, whose nomination is favored by many interested in the Citizens' Union, although he has repeatedly protested that he is not and will not be a candidate, was asked yesterday what he thought of the proposition. He replied that he believed that the Citizens' candidate for Mayor and other city offices should be put in the field much earlier than has been the custom.

"It is to be a most important election," said he, "and the campaign should be a thorough one. The candidates should be named and assist in conducting it. We name candidates for President in June. Why not nominate a candidate for Mayor, say in July. A Citizens' candidate should be selected as the result of a great popular uprising. He should be an independent or a non-partisan, if you will, and the issue should be similar to that of 1894. I do not think, though, that any independent ticket can be elected this year without the aid of one of the great political parties. If the Citizens' Union ticket should be indorsed by either the Republican party or Tammany Hall it ought to win. If both Republicans and Tammany run straight tickets and the Union keeps a ticket in the field the chances seem to favor Tammany.

The suggestion of Tammany's indorsement of the Cits' ticket seemed to tickle the Mayor, who smiled broadly as he made it.

President Edward Lauterbach of the Republican County Committee said of Boss Reynolds's proposition:

"I have very little interest in the antics of amateur politicians. The Citizens' Union have put their platform before the public. There is no reason why they should not follow it with their ticket. The Goo-Goos got into the field first with their platform and ticket in 1895. They got some votes for their candidates."

John B. Pine, Chairman of the Committee on Enrollment and District Organization of the Cits, had a conference last night at the Twenty-third street headquarters of the union with fifteen Assembly district leaders. Among those present were Joseph H. Steinhardt of the First district, Edward J. Mandel of the Twelfth, Joseph M. Price of the Nineteenth, J. K. Wernick of the Twenty-first, and Rowland Holt of the Twenty-ninth.

The district bosses were directed to appoint election district captains for the districts as they exist at present and not to wait for the new districting. There was a good deal of talk about a house to house canvass for enrollment, and one of the downtown leaders said:

"That won't do in my district. If I tried it I'd be taken for a 'second-story man' and fired through a window."

*DAVENPORT'S DISPLACEMEN