WOOD TESTIFIES FOR MAY.

SAYS HE'S SANE, AND DENIES GIVING HER HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS.

His Father Left Him $650,000 and He Gave His Wife a Third of It to Keep Peace, He Declares—May Kellard, the Defendant, Also Called to the Stand—The Testimony All In.

May Kellard, who is on trial in Part I., General Sessions, on a charge of uttering forged checks, wore a new hat yesterday when she was brought into the courtroom. William G. Wood, who was sent to an insane asylum after a commission brought out the fact that he had squandered thousands of dollars on Miss Kellard, was also in court, having been brought there to testify in the woman's behalf. Wood's wife was unable to appear, as she was confined to her home with nervous prostration.

Mrs. Mary D. Spencer, who discounted the notes for Miss Kellard, was in court with her counsel. She had testified on the previous day that she told May Kellard that Mrs. Wood had declined to take up any more of the notes to which her name had been forged, Mrs. Wood having tired of protecting her husband from going to jail after she had paid $20,000 to take up the forged notes.

Abner W. Thomas, counsel for Mrs. Wood, resumed testifying yesterday. He had been directed by the court to produce a copy of a letter which he had written to another lawyer saying that Mrs. Wood had become tired of taking up forged notes, and adding that she was willing to spend $2,500 to put a stop to the forgeries and have May Kellard prosecuted.

"You feel very bitter toward this defendant?" asked Mr. Haire, counsel for Miss Kellard.

"I do not," answered the witness.

"Then," said Mr. Haire, "you don't care whether she is convicted or not?"

"Well," replied the witness, "I don't think that it makes much difference. Mr. Wood is in an insane asylum, a wreck and ruin. A conviction wouldn't do much good now."

The sum referred to as having been offered as a reward for May Kellard's conviction, Mr. Thomas explained, was not offered as a reward, but for legitimate expenses, including counsel fees. The reason Mrs. Wood wanted May Kellard convicted was to stop her husband and May from issuing and passing notes bearing the forged signature of Mrs. Wood.

Wood was then called to the stand, but before he was sworn Assistant District Attorney Lloyd objected to him as a witness on the ground that he had been adjudged a lunatic. May Kellard's lawyer contended that Wood was under indictment and that a commission had simply decided that he was not competent to consult with his counsel. He had never been adjudged a lunatic by any court or Sheriff's jury. Judge McMahon decided that Wood might testify. Wood leaned back in the witness chair and stroked his gray mustache as he waited for the counsel to question him.

"How old are you?" asked Lawyer Haire.

"Sixty-one years," Wood replied.

Q.—Are you the husband of Virginia Wood? A.—I am.

Q.—When did you last reside at 259 Lenox avenue? A.—I think it was Oct. 5, 1896.

Q.—Why did you leave your home? A.—I couldn't remain there any longer—they cleared me out.

Q.—Who cleared you out? A.—My wife—Mrs. Wood.

"That's all," said the defendant's counsel, and then the Assistant District Attorney began to cross-examine the witness, as follows:

Q.—Where do you reside at the present time? A.—At Middletown, N. Y., in the asylum for insane.

Q.—How did you come to get there? A.—I was sent there by a commission.

Q.—How long ago? A.—About nine months.

Q.—You are now under restraint? A.—Yes, I am in the custody of a keeper.

Q.—How did you happen to be brought into court? A.—They took me out of the asylum on a writ of habeas corpus.

Q.—Is your understanding good or bad? A.—Fair.

Q.—Do you consider yourself insane? A.—Positively no.

Q.—When did your father die? A.—In 1887.

Q.—How much of a fortune did he leave to you? A.—Between six and seven hundred thousand dollars.

Q.—What did you do with the money? A.—Spent some of it and gave between two and three hundred thousand dollars to my wife. This included the house in which we resided at 259 Lenox avenue.

Q.—Did you deed over this property voluntarily? A.—No, sir.

Q.—Do you mean to say that you signed the deeds under compulsion? A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Did any one hold a club or a pistol over your head to compel you to sign these deeds? A.—No, but for the sake of peace in my household I signed the deeds.

Q.—Isn't it a fact that the property you transferred to your wife was equal to her dower? A.—I don't know.

Q.—When did you first meet May Kellard? A.—In 1887, at 102 East 116th street.

Q.—What sort of a place was that? A.—Real estate office.

Q.—Did you meet her frequently between 1887 and 1896? A.—I did.

"When was it that you introduced Miss Kellard to your wife?" asked Mr. Lloyd.

Miss Kellard at this point took out her handkerchief and began to cry. Previous to this she had been smiling at the witness.

Wood glanced at her when she commenced to cry, and then he declined to answer. "I think an answer to that might degrade and incriminate me," said Wood.

Q.—Were you with her when she had a $1,000 note discounted at Mrs. Spencer's office? A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—How many hundreds of thousands of dollars did you give Miss Kellard? A.—No hundreds of thousands.

"Was it $150,000?" asked Mr. Lloyd.

Wood declined to answer the question and was allowed to step down. He bowed to the defendant as he passed her, but she pretended not to notice it.

"May Kellard to the stand," said Mr. Haire, and as the defendant walked toward the witness chair the crowd of women in the courtroom stood up and craned their necks in an effort to get a good view of her. "Remove your gloves, and step to this table—write your name four times on a sheet of paper."

The defendant sat down at a table at the end of the jury box and proceeded to write her name. She had been writing it several times earlier in the day while seated beside her counsel. When she had completed the task she was directed to write the name "Virginia Wood." After doing this the slips containing the names were placed in evidence.

Mr. Lloyd asked the witness if Wood had given her a brownstone house in this city.

"No, he didn't," exclaimed the witness.

"Were you ever the mistress?"

"Never," said the witness dramatically, starting forward.

This closed the case as far as the taking of testimony was concerned. Counsel will sum up to-morrow.

BONNER MEDAL FOR FIREMEN.

The Rev. Mr. Johnson of Grace Chapel Gives $2,000 to That End.

The Rev. James Le Barron Johnson of Grace Chapel sent a check for $2,000 to the Fire Commissioners yesterday, with the request that it be used as a fund from which to present an annual medal for brave rescues at fires made by firemen. He asked that the medal be known as the Hugh Bonner medal, in recognition of Fire Chief Hugh Bonner's services in promoting the efficiency of the department, and that one side of the medal bear the head and bust of the Chief.

The Commissioners accepted the gift and sent a vote of thanks to the clergyman. President Sheffield said that the proposed medal would rank next to the Bennett medal, and remarked that such rewards stimulated the men to acts of heroism when lives are endangered.

A peculiar claim was made upon the Commissioners in a letter written by Max Cohen, who keeps a tailor shop at 238 Broome street. Cohen asked the Commissioners to send him a ton of coal as soon as possible, as firemen had taken that much coal from him a few days ago to throw into the chimney at 242 Broome street, which was afire. The matter was referred to the Chief of the department for a report.

President Sheffield explained that small coal was the best means of extinguishing chimney fires. The coal knocked the burning soot from the bricks and carried it into the cellar, and did not do the damage a stream of water would. Coal is not carried by the firemen as a fire extinguisher, but the men borrow it on the rare occasions when it is needed. Mr. Sheffield remarked that it must have been a pretty big fire in that Broome street chimney to require a ton of coal.

LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR DECKER.

Found Guilty of Murder in the Second Degree for Killing Farmer Gardiner.

KINGSTON, Nov. 24.—After a trial in the Supreme Court for murder in the first degree, which began on Nov. 15, Joseph Decker was found guilty of murder in the second degree in killing William Gardiner at Plattekill on June 19. Justice Chester sentenced Decker to imprisonment for life at Dannemora.

The defence was that Decker was insane, and not responsible. Decker's victim, a well-to-do farmer, was found dead in his cornfield, two loads of buckshot having been fired into his body. His horse and wagon were missing, and several valuable articles had been taken from his house. He had lived alone. Decker was found to have the horse and the valuables in his possession.

DR. WINTER ON THE STAND.

He Used Cocaine, He Says, Not from Habit, but to Alleviate Pain.

Dr. Frederick G. Winter, whose mental condition is being inquired into by Judge Hurd in the County Court in Brooklyn, was a witness in his own behalf yesterday, and his story of his illness, his incarceration, and his escape from the River Crest Sanitarium at Astoria, L. I., was told in a rational manner. Before Dr. Winter was called Dr. James W. Fleming and Dr. Myerle testified that they saw him in the sanitarium, and that he was then perfectly rational. Miss Vernon, a nurse, who had attended him at his home, 18 Patchen avenue, Brooklyn, said that Dr. Winter was dumfounded when Dr. Kindred called to take him away, and that Mrs. Suydam, Dr. Winter's mother-in-law, said she was surprised that Miss Vernon was not afraid to remain in a house with a crazy man.

Dr. Winter testified:

"I am a physician, and have practiced for fourteen years. I was a surgeon in the Eastern District Hospital, the Bushwick Hospital, and had an extensive surgical practice. I was also President of the Brooklyn Medical Society, and a member of the Kings County Medical Society, the German Hospital Society, and the Brooklyn Surgical Society."

Dr. Winter said that he began the use of morphine and cocaine to alleviate pain caused by an operation. "In September," he said, "I began to reduce the quantity of cocaine, with a desire to discontinue its use altogether. When Dr. Kindred called to take me to the sanitarium I asked him to let me see the commitment papers. He held them so I could only see Judge Aspinall's signature. I had had some experience in committing lunatics, and knew it was useless to resist, so I accompanied him quietly."

In speaking of his escape from the sanitarium on election night Dr. Winter said the only time he had an opportunity was at the evening dinner hour. "I was locked in my room while every attendant went to dinner. I unlocked the door, and taking my hat and umbrella, went out by the front door. I climbed the fence and hurried to the nearest car line, when I got a car which took me to Long Island City. From there I went to the Bushwick Hospital to see Miss Vernon, and got a young man whose arm I had amputated to take a note to her. I then called on Adam C. Miller and obtained $15, and I promised to send him a check next day. I then went to my home, and gained access by means of the coal chute. While I was gathering various articles, some clothing, and six revolvers, the latter I intended to pawn, the bell rang and I recognized my attendant. I locked the door, and escaped by the back way and took a car for Fulton ferry. I then walked across New York and obtained a room in a lodging house for 20 cents. The next morning I went to Taylor's Hotel, in Jersey City."

Judge Hurd asked Dr. Winters if he was saturated with cocaine at the time he was taken to the sanitarium. Dr. Winter smiled and said such was not the case.

The hearing will probably be ended to-morrow.

THANKSGIVING DAY PROGRAMME.

Parade of the Old Guard—Plenty of Free Dinners for the Deserving Poor.

The Weather Bureau says that to-day is going to be a mighty fine day, and that there is no reason in the world why everybody should not have a good time, even if turkeys have been selling at 25 cents a pound. It is to be an ideal day for every kind of sport except sleigh riding and skating, and when it comes to eating, if you didn't happen to have money enough to buy a Thanksgiving dinner ahead of time, and you will take the trouble to go for it now, there are a number of charitable people who are ready to supply you for nothing and a-plenty of others who are ready to supply you at little cost. The New York City Mission and Tract Society have 400 dinners to give away to deserving poor who live below Fourteenth street, and the other charitable institutions that regularly make a business of giving away Thanksgiving dinners are all at it again. There is a new competitor in the pay field this year. It is Mills Hotel No. 1. Mills Hotel No. 1 will provide a Thanksgiving dinner to-day for 15 cents.

But there are other things beside sporting and eating to-day. The Old Guard will meet and parade from the armory to the Battery. The reason for this is that the day is Evacuation Day as well as Thanksgiving Day. The parade will be a short one, but every one will have a chance to see it, and to see the Old Guard in full uniform is almost as good as a good dinner. The Old Guard will be escorted by regulars.

The Woman's Committee of the Hebrew Technical Institute will give a reception between 2 o'clock and 5 o'clock at the Institute.

The Washington Continental Guard, commanded by John G. Norman, will raise the Stars and Stripes over the Block House in Central Park, and the ceremonies will be witnessed by the Washington Light Infantry and the Colonial Dames. If that is not as good as a dinner, what can be, except a dinner?

There will be an opening at the auditorium of the Educational Alliance building by the Arthur M. Lee Literary Society.

If you are as religiously inclined as you should be, you can go to almost any church in the city. Most of them will be open and there will be special services in many of them. There will be an elaborate service at Dr. Burrell's church, the Marble Collegiate, in Fifth avenue. The Young Men's Christian Association's Harlem branch will have a special meeting, at which entertainment will be provided by Fred Emerson Brooks, the California poet-humorist, and Carl McCombs, a cornetist. Everybody will be admitted.

The Hebrew Orphan Asylum, Amsterdam avenue, between 136th and 138th streets, will celebrate the day with a special service and a parade.

BRIDGE TROLLEY PLANS BLOCKED.

Injunction Against Building the Loops, on the the Ground That They Will Be Dangerous.

Justice Andrews of the Supreme Court has enjoined the trustees of the Brooklyn Bridge from carrying out their plan to construct loops for the trolley cars to cross the entrance on this side on a level with the street, pending an action to determine the permanent right to such an injunction.

The substance of the long opinion is that under the act of 1897 the trustees should have made the method of turning the cars substantially conform to the report of the engineers of the trustees, and that the proposed loops will render it unsafe and cause delay to pedestrians in crossing. The opinion says that it may be that the discretion of the trustees cannot be reviewed by the Court, but in any event, he believes construction of the loops should be prevented until a higher court can pass upon his decision, or until the trial of the action. The Justice supplemented the information contained in the papers submitted to him by personally making two visits to the bridge entrance, a thing rarely, if ever, done before on a motion, and he says that it is obvious that such loops will be a danger to pedestrians. One of the counsel said it would be difficult to get the personal observations of the Justice before the Court of Appeals.

The engineers of the bridge reported, the opinion says, that an elevated loop should be constructed, and the trustees made a contract with the trolley companies, but modified the contract so as to provide for four loops on the level. The act providing for the construction of the bridge provided that travel must be rendered "certain and safe at all times." Under the proposed scheme four cars were to be run together around the loops every forty-five seconds, so that passengers would be delayed only five seconds at the most.

BURGLARY IN FOURTEENTH STREET.

A Store Robbed for the Second Time in Two Months—$8,000 Worth of Goods Stolen.

Marks & Benson Company's men's furnishing goods and clothing store at 138 East Fourteenth street was entered on Tuesday night by burglars for the second time in two months. Clothing, neckwear, and jewelry of an aggregate value of $2,375 were stolen. In September goods valued at $750 were stolen.

Electric lights illuminate the front of the building during the entire night, and an electric light in the rear burns all night. All parts of the st re can be seen from the street, including the office and safe at the end of the rear extension.

Harry Marks, a member of the firm, on reaching the store at 7:30 o clock yesterday morning, discovered a ladder hanging from the skylight of the rear extension. The burglars' entrance was gained by breaking the glass of the skylight, and they descended to one of the clothing tables by mea s of the ladder which had been suspended by painters by hooks from the window frame. The thieves evidently reached the roof by entering a blind alley at 139 East Thirteenth street and climbing by means of the ladder to the rear extension of Dennett's restaurant. Pulling the ladder after them, they evidently scrambled to the next roof, where they smashed the skylight with a jimmy, which was found with the ladder yesterday morning. The goods they stole were packed up in full view of the passers-by in the street.

Three Years for Killing a Man with a Poker.

TORONTO, Nov. 24.—Another homicide was sentenced in Canada to-day at Pembroke. John Ratzu struck Antoine Kurze a death blow with a poker in a hotel over a ten-year-old quarrel revived in April last. He was to-day sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

POLICE TO BE REVIEWED.

TO PARADE IN SECTIONS IN THE SEVENTH REGIMENT ARMORY.

Ex-Capt. Stephenson Wants His Case Reviewed—Leonard Street Merchants to Have the Death of a Prisoner Reviewed—The Cases of Two Ex-Policemen Reviewed.

In compliance with action taken by the Police Board yesterday, Chief McCullagh will assemble the force by sections in the Seventh Regiment armory during December for review by the Commissioners. The Commissioners want to see how the force looks now that it has been reorganized as far as it is in their power. Six or seven afternoons next month will be set apart for this purpose, and the men will be paraded before them.

Ex-Police Captain Stephenson, who was dismissed from the force for accepting bribes, as a result of the Lexow charges, applied to the Police Board yesterday in person and by counsel for restoration. The criminal charges against him have been dismissed on motion of the District Attorney. His counsel said that the judgment of the board which deprived him of his office rested on the same evidence which was thought incompetent by the District Attorney, the only difference being that the record of the Police Commissioners' trial was open to more effective attack than that of the criminal courts.

The board reminded him that the cases did not rest on the same ground. Stephenson was dismissed, though, on the same evidence, before the criminal trial was begun, and the verdict of the board had not been attacked. He could not claim restoration as a matter of right, though he might appeal to the discretion of the board. The matter was referred to the Committee on Rules and Discipline, which is to report the status of the case next week.

The board approved charges against Sergeants McDonald and Cosgrove of the Leonard street squad. They were in charge for the night when George Mertz was brought in suffering from a fractured skull, and allowed him to be in his cell unattended all night without sending for a doctor. Mertz had fallen from his truck in a fit, and was locked up on the supposition that he was drunk. When his family found out during the night where he was they hastened to the station house and told the Sergeant that he was dying, but nothing was done for him until morning, when it was too late. Mertz died in the Hudson Street Hospital.

Patrolman Lenz, who was attached to the Fire Marshal's office during the prosecution of the sensational firebug cases, and who fell under suspicion of serving their ends, was restored to duty and pay. He has been under suspension ever since. Still another old and almost forgotten case was raked up by the board in its effort to clean up for the incoming administration. It was the case of Patrolman Jeremiah S. Levy, now of Highbridge, who was tried by the old board more than three years ago on several serious charges, among them that of hiring a man to get evidence against disorderly houses. Mr. Moss said, in laying the papers before the board, that he had never seen them until this week.

"I have examined them very carefully," he said, "and reluctantly recommend that the charges be dismissed. The papers are drawn very badly, so badly that there is no other way. The testimony on one charge is amply sufficient to warrant the dismissal of the man, but unfortunately the charge is not specifically included in the complaint. It is now three years after, too late to amend the complaint."

The charges were dismissed.

Seven patrolmen were appointed to fill vacancies in the ranks were filled to-day. Fifty-five names remain on the eligible list, and vacancies will be filled as fast as they occur. The list expires with the year and the board.

Dr. Gustavus Henderson of East Ninety-ninth street is a candidate for appointment to the office of police surgeon, but he thought, a short cut to it yesterday by presenting a petition of fifteen policemen in the East 104th street station to have him appointed. He indorsed the paper himself with the statement "many more could have been gotten from other precincts, but did not have time." The document was filed.

Dr. M. W. Herriman of Long Island City aspires to the same job from the borough of Queens.

"Let's refer it to McGarry, or what's his name, the Mayor with the battle axe," said President Moss irreverently. Col. Smith lifted his eyebrows and said that Patrick Jerome Gleason was his friend, and Mr. Moss took it back promptly.

JUDGMENT AGAINST MRS. ROSS.

She Is Enjoined from Advancing Any Claim to the Property of the Late W. B. King.

When the action brought by William Deshon King and other heirs of the late William Henry King, the insane millionaire, to quiet any claim to the title to about $2,000,000 worth of real estate left by King in this city, to which Mrs. Eugenia Webster Ross declared she was solely entitled, came up yesterday, Mrs. Ross asked Justice Beekman to adjourn the case. She said that she wanted to take depositions, and that the yellow fever in the South had prevented her from getting her evidence together. The Justice refused to adjourn the case, and the plaintiffs gave formal evidence that they only were related to King. Justice Beekman gave them judgment on default, enjoining Mrs. Ross from advancing any claim to the property, with an extra alliance of $1,000 against Mrs. Ross.

Before the judgment was given, Mrs. Ross, through Dittenhoefer, Gerber & James, filed summonses and complaints in five actions to eject all persons claiming possession of a large part of this property. Mrs. Ross says that she has no intention of abandoning her claims, and that she will move to open her default before Justice Beekman. She is mainly interested in her ejectment suits, as there will have to be tried before a jury, and the action against her could only be tried by the Court without a jury.

Recently the heirs secured judgment in their favor against Mrs. Ross at Newport, and an order for a distribution of about a million dollars of the estate within that jurisdiction.

MRS. RUDD'S CASE POSTPONED.

Was the Second Wife of Commodore Rudd, but Not the Mother of His Children.

The examination of Mrs. Emeline H. Rudd, who was arrested on Monday in this city for the larceny of rings and wearing apparel from Mrs. Jennie Cross-Douglass of St. George, S. I., which was set for yesterday afternoon by Justice Acker of New Brighton, was deferred for one week to enable the District Attorney to be present. Mrs. Rudd was in court. Afterward she left for the city with her lawyer.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 24.—Mrs. Beverly Sitgreaves of this city, who says she is a daughter of Commodore Rudd, says that Mrs. Emeline H. Rudd was the second wife of the Commodore, but not the mother of his children. Mrs. Sitgreaves says Commodore Rudd, after the death of his first wife, married a Mrs. Long, who had two daughters by her first marriage. One of these daughters is the wife of Lieut. William Braunsreichter, stationed at Mare Island, and the other is the wife of a wealthy American who lives in Europe. Mrs. Sitgreaves also says Commodore Rudd's first wife was Miss Spence of Virginia. Of this union three children were born, two sons and one daughter. One son, Royal S. Rudd, is living in Virginia and one is dead. Mrs. Sitgreaves is the daughter. She denies emphatically that there are any daughters who married officers of the British army or navy, as was stated in despatches from New York.

IS MRS. SARAH E. HILL INSANE?

Some of Her Neighbors Disapprove of Her Removal to the Asylum.

Mrs. Sarah E. Hill is a patient in the receiving ward of the Flatbush Asylum, on a commitment obtained by her husband, John Hill, but Drs. Bates and O'Connell, the county medical examiners, said yesterday that they did not believe the woman was insane, but that she is probably suffering from nervous prostration. Since her removal from her home at 766 Macon street to the asylum, the four children of the woman have been under the care of the Charities Commissioners. Some of the neighbors intimate that family trouble was the cause of Mrs. Hill's apparent insanity, and they pronounce her incarceration in the asylum as an outrage.

Asphyxiated in a Brooklyn Hotel.

A man, who registered at the Cochran Hotel, 124 Fourth avenue, Brooklyn, as "John Skelly, Brooklyn," was found dead in bed yesterday morning, with the gas turned on and escaping. He was about 50 years old and had no valuables in his possession. From letters found in his pockets he is supposed to belong to Greenmount, Baltimore, Md., and the police of that place have been notified. The body was taken to the Morgue.

Brooklyn City Employees' Pay Held Up.

The city employees in Brooklyn did not get their salaries for November yesterday, although it has been the invariable custom in that city to pay them on the day before Thanksgiving. The financial officers found that they had not enough money on hand to make full payments, the collection of taxes being short by nearly $2,000,000 and arrearages of personal taxes amounting to nearly $3,000,000.

PURE ICE AND SKATING.

Ice Pond Owners Near Paterson Will Keep Them Closed This Winter.

PATERSON, N. J., Nov. 24.—People of this neighborhood who enjoy skating will have some difficulty in finding ponds that are open to the sport this winter. Two of the most prominent pond owners, ex-Assemblyman Bridge and Sheriff Hopper, have already announced that their ponds will not be open. Both men are ice dealers. Their publicly expressed reason for closing the ponds is that the Board of Health has threatened to condemn their ice if skating is permitted on the ponds from which the ice is taken. The Board of Health denies that it has made any such threat or intimation.

Paterson had a typhoid fever epidemic last year. A consequence of the epidemic was an examination of the water of the Passaic River by experts. It was found that below the falls the river was much polluted with sewage. The board then notified ice dealers whose supply was taken from the river below the falls that their ice must not be sold in Paterson except for cold storage purposes. One Van der Beck, who took his ice from the Slack, a pond that is really a lagoon with its mouth opening on the river just above opposite the mouth of one of the city's main sewers on the opposite bank, was interfered with by the authorities. When the board acted on the ice of Van der Beck and others the aggrieved licemen pointed to Bridge and Hopper. "Those fellows," they said, "get their ice from ponds on which people skate and spit and throw away cigar and cigarette butts all winter long. How about them?"

In support of their attack upon skating pond ice, the aggrieved dealers produced a resolution of the Board of Health of the State of New Jersey, calling the attention of township and city boards to the possible pollution of ice taken from skating ponds. The Paterson Board of Health, however, did not act and has not acted. According to Inspector Leal, who talked to a SUN reporter at some length about the matter to-night, no action is probable.

"I doubt whether we would have authority to condemn ice from skating ponds," he said. "I wouldn't want the contract of proving legally that such ice is unfit. Of course, theoretically ice that receives the sputum of a person suffering from tuberculosis is infected. But, practically, tuberculosis patients don't go skating much. It all depends really upon the care with which the owner keeps his pond. If he can prove that he scrapes it and sweeps it every day, I don't see how we can touch him."

The whole matter seems to come to this. The competition between icemen here is very keen. Each one wishes to keep the good name of his ice above all question. Each one also wishes to avoid the possible unpleasantry that might follow closing the ponds to the public.

The Germans of this vicinity are talking of flooding the Clifton trotting park to make a lake especially for skating. Until something of this sort is done, Paterson skaters must take to the rough ice of the Passaic River.

A NEW HOME FOR AGED MEN.

Provision Made for It in the Wills of Samuel M. Pringle and Margaret P. Fenton.

By the wills of Samuel M. Pringle and his sister, Margaret P. Fenton, which have been filed within a year, large bequests are given for the establishment of "the Pringle Memorial Home." The home is to be built somewhere within the State and is to care for respectable, invalid, aged and indigent men, a preference to be given to educated and literary men.

Mr. Pringle was a bachelor of upward of 70 years of age, who lived with his sister and her husband, David W. Fenton, a broker, at 71 West Twelfth street. He died on Oct. 31 and his will was filed yesterday. He left an estate of about $125,000. He makes several small bequests and leaves of his residue of his estate, amounting to $115,000, to his brother-in-law, David B. Fenton, for life, with remainder over to "the Pringle Memorial Home."

Mrs. Fenton died last February, leaving about $140,000. She provided that her husband and brother should have the income for life, with remainder over to "the Pringle Memorial Home."

MANUFACTURERS TO MEET HERE.

Third Convention of the National Association to Be Held at the Waldorf-Astoria.

The third annual convention of the National Association of Manufacturers will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria on Jan. 25, 26, and 27. The association was formed at Cincinnati in January, 1895. Among its objects are the protection of American industries, the creation of a Department of Commerce and Industry, a national bankruptcy law, the improvement of internal waterways, the introduction of the metric system, the improvement of the consular service, the establishment of reciprocity treaties, the restoration of American shipping, and the construction of the Nicaragua Canal under American control.

The membership, trebled in the last year, includes representatives of 1,000 plants, producing, it is estimated, one-half of all the manufactured products of this country, the value of which is placed at $12,000,000,000 for 1897. The arrangement of the convention is in the hands of a committee of which Charles A. Schieren is Chairman.

SCULPTURE SOCIETY PROTESTS.

Mayor Strong Asked Not to Approve the Soldiers and Sailors' Monument Site.

Mayor Strong received yesterday from J. Q. A. Ward, President of the Sculpture Society, a letter inclosing a copy of the resolution adopted by that organization requesting him to withhold his approval of the site selected for the soldiers and sailors' memorial monument at the Fifty-ninth street and Fifth avenue entrance to Central Park.

Mayor Strong said he had not considered the matter and did not care to discuss it. President Jerolomon of the Board of Aldermen, who is one of the persons who have to pass upon the site, said that he was not sure that the proposed location was a suitable one for a shaft monument. He said he believed it would show to better advantage if erected on some high point in Central Park.

THREW NIGHTSTICKS AT A CROWD.

Policeman Lynch Accused of Fracturing a Boy's Skull.

Policeman Edward Lynch of the Hamburg avenue station, Williamsburg, who, it is alleged, threw his nightstick at a crowd of boys on Tuesday night and fractured the skull of 8-year-old Oscar Gracke of 1136 Myrtle avenue, was arraigned in the Ewen Street Police Court yesterday. The boys had been playing in Myrtle avenue, near Broadway, and after learning that Gracke was injured Lynch summoned an ambulance. Gracke was taken to St. Catharine's Hospital. Sergeant Curran took Lynch to the station house and suspended him from duty. Lynch denied that his stick struck Gracke, who, he said, received his injury by falling against an iron pillar of the elevated railroad. Justice Lemon committed him to jail without bail for a hearing to-morrow.

$2,000,000 MORE OF DOCK BONDS.

Sinking Fund Commission Authorizes Their Issue—Board of Assessors to Move.

The Sinking Fund Commissioners, at their meeting yesterday, authorized the issue of $2,000,000 of dock bonds for the water-front improvement on the North River above Gansevoort street. This was done under the act which permits $6,000,000 to be spent for this purpose, at the rate of $2,000,000 a year.

The Commissioners also leased rooms in the Central National Bank building for the Board of Assessors at $4,000 a year and for the Surveyor of the Tax Department in the Emigrant Savings Bank building for $2,600 a year. The Assessors and the Surveyor are to be ousted from their present quarters at 27 Chambers street, as that building is to be condemned for the new Hall of Records.

To Facilitate the Landing of Steamship Passengers.

Representatives of the ocean steamship lines called at the Custom House yesterday afternoon, at the request of Collector Bidwell, to confer with him as to the best methods of expediting the landing of passengers, both during the day and at night. The question of better lighting for the docks at night was considered, and the steamship men said they would provide all the light required. They also promised the Collector to endeavor to notify the customs authorities earlier than heretofore when a steamship is to come up at night, so that the customs inspectors, who get no extra pay, will not be forced to wait at the docks until a late hour before receiving definite word.

Sailor Killed by Gas.

John Petersen, a sailor, hired a room on Monday evening in a hotel at Rector and West streets. He was cautioned about properly turning off the light before he went to bed, and laughingly said that he knew all about gas.

Petersen turned on the gas accidentally during the night and was found unconscious in bed the following morning. He was taken to Hudson Street Hospital, where he died yesterday.

New Package Box Mail Route.

The Post Office Department at Washington has authorized the establishment of a new package box mail route in the district above the Harlem River, and Postmaster Van Cott hopes to have it in operation in the early part of next month.

ESKIMOS ARE JOLLY NOW.

FROST AND SNOW HAVE GLADDENED THEIR LITTLE HEARTS.

The Cold Snap Works a Big Change in the Drooping Spirits of the Arctic Invalids at Bellevue Hospital—Still They Don't Think Our Snow Approaches the Real Arctic Thing.

Not since they were taken to Bellevue Hospital, on Oct. 30, have the visiting Eskimos of Peary's expedition been in such good spirits as they were yesterday. It was the cold weather that did it. A good touch of frost is what they have been needing. All of them have been suffering from lung trouble, having caught cold, or, rather, caught warmth, for it was the heat that affected their lungs, a short time after their arrival. They were as bright as crickets yesterday, and although they are not yet allowed out of doors, it is probable that by the time the next snow flurry comes they will have a chance to go out and enjoy an arctic afternoon on the lawn.

Suspicion was mingled with their pleased surprise when they awoke on Tuesday morning and beheld what appeared to be snow on their window sills and showing white upon the ground below. While the men, having arisen and crowded around the window, were discussing it, Aughar, who has been suffering from pneumonia, and the twelve-year-old girl, Awuhar, came running in from the women's quarters in great excitement.

"It's snow, real snow," cried Aughar, speaking gleefully the Eskimo word which has only been pronounced in tones of regretful reminiscence since the party arrived here.

"Can there be such a thing as snow in this wretched country?" skeptically asked Mooktur, who, in his forty-five years of life, has grown cynical. In his own home Mooktur keeps ice on his head for fear of sunstroke when the thermometer rises above zero. He looked at the whiteness outside discontentedly. "It's some other kind of stuff," he said.

"No; it's snow," said Awuhar eagerly. "I touched it."

Whuhu, the young man, lifted the window, grabbed a handful, slapped it upon the back of his neck, and shivered ecstatically.

"Wuff! That's good!" he observed.

"It goes away too quick," objected Awuhar. "It isn't like the snow at home. Look, it's all gone now. Nothing is like it at home."

"Thankless one!" rebuked Aughar. "Did they not take you to the place you told me of, down the stairs where ice lies in small bergs, and let you play there?"

"That is true," admitted Awuhar; "but the bergs were very small, and I think they were not the kind of ice that stays. Somebody made those bergs, and unless one watches them all the tim they vanish away. A man told me so."

"Besides, it isn't as cold as our ice," added the 10-year-old boy Wenney, who has also been permitted to play in the ice cellar. "When I sat down on a cake of it, it grew wet and small. It is most strange."

"Yet it is true that the air feels more natural to-day," said Mooktur, who had been poking his head out of the window and drawing deep, satisfactory breaths. "No longer do my lungs feel as if I were breathing flame and smoke. This is well."

"When they bring us our meat," observed Whuhu, "I shall set mine outside to freeze. That will taste good."

"No meat here is good," complained Mooktur. "It is all too tender. One does not know that he has his teeth in anything before—plot! it is swallowed."

"But I did," said little Wenney in an aside to the girl Awuhar. "It was that which the doctor was talking to us about. I found it under one of the sleeping places that stands upon four sticks. At the first it was good to the teeth, but as I chewed there came off from it a black substance very evil to the taste, so that I was obliged to put it away lest I be taken ill, as were you when you ate the hide of the seal with the fur still on it." And Wenney grinned.

"And I heard that doctor speaking," replied Awuhar sharply, for this reminiscence displeased her, "and he said, 'Who has been letting a puppy loose around here? One has been chewing at my boots and licked the blacking off the top.'"

"This is an evil place," returned the boy sulkily, "where good, tough meat is painted black and worn on men's feet. I wish to go back to my home."

"Wait, little man," said Mooktur; "we shall all see the white fields and the green bergs again. There is life in this air."

"The gods of our own country grant it," said the woman Aughar, with a sigh. "My years begin to weigh upon me."

"Well, what do you think of it?" cried Matt Hansen, their guide, mentor, friend, and general attendant, cheerily, coming into the room. "Why, this'll be a regular North Pole in a week. We'll have polar bear meat for Christmas."

Before he went away he had the entire company so cheered up that they were planning an expedition to spear seals through the ice in the East River as soon as the doctor would let them out.

AN EVENING POST SENSATION.

How a Peaceful Arrest in Bound Brook Appears in Its Columns.

The *Evening Post* seems to be trying to make all of its pages as sensational and blood-curdling as its football page. On its first page yesterday afternoon was a [illegible] of a burglary at Bound Brook, N. J., that is alleged to have occurred at 4 o'clock yesterday morning. Two men, it was said, were caught in the act of robbing a clothing store by the Chief of Police of the town.

The Chief, according to the *Post*, tried to arrest the burglars. The burglars resisted, and a hand-to-hand struggle took place between the burglars and the Chief, in the course of which the Chief was so grely wounded. Wounded though he was, the brave officer, as the *Post* had it, summoned assistance (the manner of the summoning was left to the imagination), and finally the burglars were arrested and taken by the Chief (still wounded) to the county jail in Somerville, several miles away.

What actually happened was this:

The night watchman of the village of Bound Brook, John Sebring, at 12:30 o'clock yesterday morning, while he was in the rear of the clothing store kept by a man named Broffe, heard a noise that sounded like the breaking of wood. He found two men crouching beneath a window of the store. One of the shutters of this window had been pried open, and had Sebring not appeared when he did the store might have been entered.

As it was, the officer told the two men to stop what they were doing, which was sitting under the window, and come with him. They did as they were told, not even offering an objection. Squire Brampton was routed out of bed long enough to permit Sebring to arraign the men before him. Brampton committed the men to the Somerville jail for trial, and thither the men were taken by Sebring and another man and locked up. No burglary was committed, nobody was wounded, and Sebring doesn't yet know what a hero he is, because the *Evening Post* doesn't circulate as far south as Bound Brook.

STABS A POLICEMAN.

A Drunken Man Uses a Knife When Arrested—Policeman Not Badly Wounded.

Joseph Lohr of 850 Columbus avenue, who stabbed Policeman Robert Hubbard of the West 100th street station at 1 o'clock yesterday morning, was arraigned in the West Fifty-fourth street Police Court later and held without bail for examination to-morrow.

Lohr was arrested on Columbus avenue by Hubbard for intoxication. He fought with the policeman and when near the station house drew a knife and stabbed Hubbard in the groin. The wounded policeman rapped for assistance and two others hurried to the rescue in time to secure the prisoner. Hubbard was taken to the Manhattan Hospital. He will probably be able to appear in court to-morrow to prefer charges against his assailant.

THE BROOKLYN POST OFFICE.

The Question of Its Standing in the Greater New York.

George W. Beavers, head of the Bureau of Salaries and Appointments in the Post Office Department, held a conference yesterday with Postmaster Wilson of Brooklyn, and incidentally discussed the question as to the standing of the Brooklyn office after consolidation. One plan provides for two main offices, the New York office to have charge of the boroughs of Manhattan, the Bronx, and Richmond, and the Brooklyn office of Brooklyn and Queens, and another plan is to consolidate all Long Island Post Offices in the Brooklyn district. The latter plan finds most favor with the Brooklyn officials.

Only the Lower Grades of Coffee Affected.

The milder and more expensive grades of coffee have not been materially affected by the cuts made recently in prices. Brazilian coffees, which include the stronger and cheaper grades, are what have been affected, and it is in them that the war between the rival coffee roasting interests has centred. High prices continue to rule for genuine Java and Mocha coffees.

Cut Rates to Colorado.

The Morgan Steamship line and the Southern Pacific have ordered a reduction of 16 cents on all classes of freight from Atlantic ports to Colorado points, to take effect on Friday. The reduction is to meet the cut of the same amount declared by the all-rail routes.

THE STEER OWNED THE TOWN.

It Was of Aristocratic Blood and Caused the fire of at Least One Citizen.

"Seems to me," said John Gilbert, the travelling groceryman, "that I never saw more life, action, and real fun compressed into a short