M'LAUGHLIN AND CROKER.

NO COMBINE YET ENTERED INTO AGAINST EX-SENATOR HILL.

The Brooklyn Leader Saw Croker to Assert the Independence of the Kings County Democracy, and Croker Conceded It—Brooklyn Is to Control the Brooklyn Patronage.

The Hon. Hugh McLaughlin, the veteran leader of the Kings county Democrats, had conversations with his friends last night over his visit to Mr. Croker in New York the other day. It has been persistently said that Mr. McLaughlin went to Mr. Croker for the purpose of telling Mr. Croker that he, Mr. McLaughlin, would take no part in any fight against ex-Senator David B. Hill for control of the next Democratic State Convention. Mr. McLaughlin is not a man who talks very much for the newspapers, but it may be stated on absolute authority that Mr. McLaughlin will not tackle the Hill question until he is compelled to.

In other words, Mr. McLaughlin will not cross a bridge until he gets to it. Not a word was said between Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Croker about Mr. Hill. Mr. Hill was not in their thoughts at the time. Mr. McLaughlin was looking out entirely for his friends in the Kings county Democratic organization.

Mr. McLaughlin's friends went on to say that his visit to Mr. Croker was for the purpose of insisting that the Kings county Democratic organization should be allowed in every way to remain as it is, and notwithstanding any appointments that may have been made by Mayor Van Wyck for the Brooklyn organization to retain its autonomy, just as if Brooklyn had not been made a part of New York. For instance, the Brooklyn Democrats named by Mayor Van Wyck to be commissioners or deputy commissioners were to have absolute authority over the appointments of their own subordinates, and must not be meddled with by Mr. Croker or the Tammany organization.

This ground was gone over very carefully by Mr. Croker and Mr. McLaughlin, and it was said for Mr. McLaughlin last night that Mr. Croker agreed absolutely to Mr. McLaughlin's wishes in the matter. So that it may be set down, according to the highest authorities close to Mr. McLaughlin, that the Kings County Democracy is to retain its individuality in the matter of appointments and patronage, and that under no circumstances is it to be swallowed up by Tammany Hall. In other words, the Kings County Democracy at the State Convention will have the same privileges that it has had for the last forty years under Mr. McLaughlin, and the amalgamation of New York and Brooklyn will not in any way affect the political arrangements of Mr. McLaughlin's machine. Mr. Croker, Mr. McLaughlin's friends said, agreed entirely with this proposition.

Mr. Croker is well aware, it was said, and for that matter Mr. McLaughlin is fully conversant with the fact, that the majority of Mr. McLaughlin's leaders agree with Mr. Croker in his fight against Mr. Hill.

The majority of these McLaughlin leaders, Mr. McLaughlin's friends went on to say, have agreed with Mr. Croker that Mr. Hill should be superseded as the alleged Democratic leader of the State; but Mr. McLaughlin has suppressed any sentiments antagonistic to Mr. Hill on the part of his lieutenants.

Mr. McLaughlin believes that it is not yet time to come out against Mr. Hill; and that the Brooklyn Democrats should wait for a number of months and understand exactly where they are at before they go into a Democratic State convention.

Mr. McLaughlin's chief lieutenants said that their leader was consulted of course when he would have in the Democratic State Convention. Moreover, they went on to say that Mr. McLaughlin did not propose to fritter it away, being well aware that if Mr. Croker proposed to make any fight against Mr. Hill he would need the McLaughlin Democrats.

Mr. Croker's friends in Tammany Hall are grumbling somewhat at the amount of patronage given to the McLaughlin Democrats. No matter about that; Mr. McLaughlin's friends went on to say that they were fully aware of the strength of their position, and that they proposed to get all they could from Tammany Hall.

Finally, Mr. McLaughlin's friends made the solemn assertion that Mr. McLaughlin has entered into no combine as yet with Mr. Croker against Mr. Hill. This matter, it was insisted, will not be settled until the gathering of the Democratic State Convention.

CONFESSES BY LETTER.

Reineck, the Louisville Embezzler, Says That He Stole $75,000.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 15.—Before William Reineck, manager of the Kentucky Trust Company, fled from the city he wrote a letter to the retiring President of the company, Albert Scott. This letter was put in the mails in time to reach Scott last night. It contained a full confession from Reineck, who said that he had taken $75,000 from the company in speculations, besides converting trust funds to keep the company in daily operation. His worst venture was the purchase of an iron furnace in Alabama, which was undertaken, he said, to secure a debt of $17,500 due the company. He borrowed the money from the company to pay for it. The furnace could not be sold, and he sunk a great deal of money in running it.

Afterward Reineck raised money in any way he could. He said that he would have stayed to face the people he robbed except for the necessity of earning money for his family. The Kentucky Trust Company carried on a foreign exchange business, and, as Reineck was the Italian Consul, he was intrusted with considerable sums to send to Europe. It is known that he embezzled some, and it is believed the aggregate will run up in the thousands. One of his victims was a Russian, a Russian Jew, who had him send $636 to Europe, which has never been heard from.

The directors of the Trust Company made an assignment of the wrecked institution this afternoon. It is thought its liabilities will reach over $100,000. There are no assets.

TOOK OUT HER STOMACH.

Mrs. Bestian of Milwaukee Lived Only Four Hours After the Operation.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Jan. 15.—Drs. Farnum of Chicago and C. D. Hankwitz of Milwaukee removed Mrs. G. Bestian's stomach last night, but she was too weak to stand the shock and died four hours after the operation.

On Nov. 26 last an operation to remove the cancer from Mrs. Bestian's stomach was performed, but it was not successful, as the cancerous growth immediately reformed.

It was decided that the only possible operation which could benefit her was the same which Dr. Carl Schlatter had performed. Dr. Farnum of Chicago was called, and he and Dr. Hankwitz had the woman removed to the Milwaukee Hospital. They removed the entire organ.

They found then that the cancer had not only affected the stomach, but that it had also consumed much of the other tissues. This necessitated the removal of more of the tissues than the surgeons thought necessary at first. They however performed the operation successfully. They made the connections between the alimentary canal and the intestines and sewed up the wound.

STABBED IN THE STREET.

Del Felia's Assailant Enabled to Escape Through His Brother's Trick.

After a quarrel over a game of cards, Giuseppe del Felia, 21 years old, of 544 East 149th street, was stabbed in the abdomen last evening by Nicolini Retrieve, 38 years old, of 540 East 149th street. Retrieve escaped and Del Felia was removed to the Harlem Hospital. The wound is so serious that Del Felia's ante-mortem statement was taken.

The stabbing occurred in the street in front of Del Felia's home. Policeman Burke of the Alexander avenue station ran up, and Emelo Retrieve, a brother of the man who did the stabbing, told him that Del Felia had been attacked by a woman, who had run down the street.

Retrieve gave a hurried description of the woman and Burke hurried off to find her. In the meantime the real assailant escaped. Learning this, Burke arrested Emelo Retrieve.

MOVING COURT-MARTIAL.

The Tribunal Trying Capt. Carter Will Go to Augusta, Ga., for a Day.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Jan. 15.—The court-martial in session here for the trial of Capt. Oberlin M. Carter, Corps of Engineers, United States Army, will meet one day next week, probably on Tuesday, in Augusta, Ga. The court will have to go there to take the testimony of Marion Twiggs, who served as an inspector for Capt. Carter when engaged in the work in the Savannah Harbor. He is ill and cannot be present at the hearing in this city.

Capt. Cassius E. Gillette was on the witness stand this morning. He said that the channel of the Savannah River, which was deepened under the work done by Capt. Carter as engineer, is filling in, and that the dredges will have to go to work in it again soon. The day's session was without any sensational features.

BRITISH WARSHIPS.

More of Them to Be Added to the North Pacific Squadron.

VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 15.—Carrying out the plan of colonial defence decided upon some months ago, the British Admiralty and War Office are augmenting the force of both ships and men under the command of the Admiral of the North Pacific station with headquarters at Esquimalt.

Undoubtedly the object is to make provisions for possible disturbance in the Orient in the event of Great Britain becoming involved in that quarter.

She has already twice the naval force in these waters that she ever had before, with the completed fortifications at Esquimalt to protect the base of supplies.

There are now ten warships attached to Admiral Palliser's squadron, and to this fleet are shortly to be added the Iron Duke and the Invincible, each of over 6,000 tons and both famous battleships of the third class.

The Admiralty is said to intend to keep the Iron Duke at Esquimalt. She is an old craft comparatively, and when sent here will, according to the present arrangements, carry but half her complement of men.

The surveying ship Egeria has been engaged for some time past in the Strait of Magellan, fathoming the water at all important passage points, and though this work is announced as bearing simply on the correctness of the charts, the officers of the fleet here say it is chiefly because doubt has been expressed as to the expediency of sending the battleships through the Strait.

DIED OF BERI-BERI.

Seamen of the Bark Pactolus Stricken with the Deadly Disease.

Koomnt Whitsi, 27 years old, a Japanese sailor, who came to port on the bark Pactolus on Friday, died yesterday at 126 Cherry street of beri-beri. James O'Neil, 39 years old, another sailor on the same vessel, was taken to the Hudson Street Hospital from 385 Water street last evening suffering from the same disease and he was in a dying condition. At 10 o'clock Charles Smith, 19 years old, another of the sailors on the Pactolus, was taken to the Gouverneur Hospital from 190 Cherry street. He, too, will probably die.

Capt. Watts of the Pactolus is accused by the men of his ship of feeding them an insufficient quantity of food. The men say that they were fed on salt pork and bad water during the trip, and that that is the cause of their illness.

Seven others of the crew of thirteen were landed at the Marine Hospital at Stapleton, Staten Island, when the ship arrived in port, all sick with beri-beri.

"JOHN THE BAPTIST."

Sudermann's Much Talked of Play at Last Produced in Germany.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BERLIN, Jan. 15.—Sudermann's play, "John the Baptist," was produced at the Deutsches Theatre here to-night.

Much interest was manifested in the play owing to the fact that its production had several times been forbidden and that its presentation was only made possible by the intervention of the Emperor, and five-mark tickets sold to-day for 100 marks.

Many distinguished persons were among the crowded audience. The play met with a cool reception. The dialogue was unpoetical and unimpressive, except in isolated passages.

The play was produced simultaneously in Dresden and Stuttgart.

GOV. TAYLOR A CANDIDATE.

He Announces That He Is in the Race for the Senatorship.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 15.—Gov. Taylor this evening announced his candidacy for the United States Senate, saying to his friends that the announcement was made with the knowledge and consent of Senator Turley, whom he appointed in July, 1897, to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator Isham G. Harris.

While some friends of the Governor had already opened headquarters and were working in his interest, the announcement by Gov. Taylor that he had entered the race was a matter of surprise to many.

The Taylor men say that there are between twenty-five and thirty members of the Legislature who will vote for the Governor on the first ballot, and they think he will receive enough votes on the second ballot to elect him.

This is strongly disputed by the friends of the other candidates, Senator Turley and Congressman McMillin, who say that the race really lies between these two.

No date for the Democratic caucus has yet been agreed upon, but it is probable that it will be held about the middle or last of next week.

The entrance of Gov. Taylor in the race, it is thought, will protract the contest.

ROBBED IN SIGHT OF HER HOME.

Miss Roos of Yonkers Held Up by Two Men at Midnight.

YONKERS, N. Y., Jan. 15.—Miss Melia Roos of 157 Voss avenue, this city, was held up and robbed at midnight last night within 100 yards of her home. Miss Roos was returning home alone from a Grand Army reception and installation, and was going along Voss avenue, which is sparsely populated, when two men, one much taller than the other, sprang from behind a large rock and confronted her. The larger man, who, Miss Ross says, was a negro, seized her by the throat and demanded her money. The young woman was terribly frightened, and was unable to speak.

The smaller man, who spoke with an Italian accent, began to rifle the young woman's pockets. The negro seized her watch, and Miss Roos, fearing the man would kill her, gave her pocketbook, which she held in her hand, to the men. They then released her and ran away.

The young woman made her way home as best she could and collapsed upon entering the door. She went into convulsions, and it was not until after several hours that she was revived sufficiently to tell of her adventure. The police were informed immediately, and they searched the surrounding country but unavailingly. Miss Roos believes she could identify the larger man.

RAID ON ITALIAN GAMBLERS.

Thirteen Prisoners, Eight Revolvers, Some Stilettos, and 85 Cents Captured.

Capt. Albertson of the Mulberry street station and eight policemen raided the rooms on the second floor of the double tenement at 239 Elizabeth street, occupied by Santo Bernizairo and his wife, shortly after 10 o'clock last night.

On forcing open the door the police found thirteen men sitting around a long table playing an Italian gambling game.

In the centre of the table was a pile of silver and bills. Cards were before each player. A short time before Bernizairo had been sent out by his wife to get some bread for breakfast, so he escaped arrest. Everybody else in the rooms was locked up.

Then the thirteen Italians were searched. Eight revolvers and several stilettos were found.

Capt. Albertson made a dive for the money on the table as soon as he entered the room, but he was not so quick as the players. The result was that he only got 85 cents in money and about a bushel of cards.

EXPECTS ZANOLI'S RELEASE.

His Lawyer Says He Will Give Bail To-Morrow on the Charge of Swindling.

Thomas Dineen, attorney for Charles Zanoli, who was suspected of murdering several people whose lives he had insured, said last night that his client would be released to-morrow on $2,000 bail on the charge of swindling the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. The charge of murder against him has been withdrawn.

No Cable Cars in 125th Street To-Day.

No cable cars will be run along 125th street to-day. At Fourth avenue the tracks are on an elevation. This hump in the road is now being taken away and the tracks will be lowered to grade.

To do this the cable had to be stopped, and horse cars have been substituted for the cable cars. It is expected that the work will be completed by Monday noon.

BIG YACHTS OF EARLY DAYS

PROF. LANCIANI TELLS ABOUT THE WRECKS OF LAKE NEMI.

The Vessels Were as Large as the Old-Time Atlantic Liners—The Lake Is About a Mile Wide—Opinions as to Their Intended Uses.

From the Youth's Companion.

No recent discovery has struck public imagination more vividly than that of the two ships, as big as the old transatlantic liners, which lay at the bottom of the Lake of Nemi, seventeen miles from Rome. The facts are briefly these:

There was a tradition current among the local fishermen that two great "things," 500 feet long, and as rich and beautiful as an enchanted palace, had gone to the bottom under the cliffs of Genzano, at the time of the Roman emperors; and that these "things" were so firmly built and well preserved that all efforts to bring them to the surface or to cut them to pieces had proved useless. The tradition rested on a foundation of truth, because three such attempts are actually recorded in the history of the lake.

The first was made by Leone Battista Alberti at the time of Eugenius IV. (1431-1439); the second by Francesco de Marchi in 1535, the third by Annesio Fusconi in 1827. The results were always the same. By dragging over the wrecks four-pronged hooks attached to a chain, beams of larchwood, boards caulked with tar and sailcloth, and sheets of copper were occasionally brought to the surface.

In the exploration of 1535 a diving bell, or something like it, just invented by William of Marseilles, was brought into action. The divers alighted on a spar deck, paved with slabs of white, red, and green enamel, under which ran lead water pipes nine inches in diameter. They also laid their hands on nails of copper, the shining heads of which were cut in the shape of stars. According to their calculation, the ship on which they had made a descent measured 468 feet between the perpendiculars, 234 feet beam, and 54 feet depth of hull. These figures were manifestly exaggerated, but the true ones, as we shall presently see, are none the less surprising, if we consider the difficulty of building and launching the huge crafts in such an awkward, funnel-shaped hole—the lake lies at the bottom of a volcano crater—and of floating and maneuvring them in such a diminutive sheet of water.

The enterprise was tried for the fourth time in 1895. Two divers did the work, exploring but one of the wrecks. At first they were allowed to avail themselves of the crowbar and of the saw and hatchet, but the State officials having objected to the use of such instruments, and to the dismembering of the wreck piece by piece, the divers, reduced to the help of their hands alone, were soon obliged to strike work for want of movable and light objects to recover. To these objects, especially to the six mooring rings of solid bronze, representing heads of lions, wolves, tigers, and one of Medusa, a prominent place has already been given in the history of Greco-Roman art, so beautiful and so perfectly preserved are they. More important, from the point of view of history and chronology, was the discovery of another section of the same lead water-pipe, seen three and a half centuries ago, which the vision of the Emperor Caligula (37-41 A. D.) was engaved. There was also a pavement of large tiles from the kilns of a certain Marcius, who made bricks in the second half of the first century of our era.

From those facts we gathered that the mysterious wreck of Nemi had been built at the time of Caligula, and had been equipped with a pipe completed under the reign of Domitian (81-96 A. D.), who owned a beautiful villa close by. As to its true nature, we believed it to have been a pier, or jetty, or a landing place, lined with mooring rings, and supporting a construction of some kind—a boathouse, or a bathing or fishing lodge. We believed also that when the pier collapsed, and when its platform slid down the steep bottom of the lake to a distance of about 150 feet from the shore one or more boats were sunk at the same time. Such was the state of things when the exploration was given up in the month of February of the year to allow the State Department of Antiquities to study the matter in hand and see what could be done to save the wreck from further destruction.

The care of inquiring scientifically as well as technically into the subject was intrusted to a naval engineer, Signor Vittorio Malfatti. He has published his whole archæological inquiry in the official *Notizie degli Scavi* for 1895, and with an illustrated pamphlet with the title, "*Le Navi Romane del lago di Nemi*" (reprinted from the *Rivista Marittima*, November, 1895). The following information is mainly gathered from these reports:

Are we decided at the outset that the finding of an ancient ship in good preservation is by no means an extraordinary event among us. There have already been discovered in my lifetime—the first in 1876, when the foundations of the iron bridge at "La Ripetta" were sunk in the Tiber by means of compressed air. The craft was deep imbedded in the silt and the visible section which fell within the range of the air cylinder so small that no investigation could be made. The second was discovered at Porto d'Anzio in 1884 in the foundations of the Hotel della Sirene. The mainmast, part of the rudder, and part of the keel, with fragments of the ribs, were exposed to view. In the spring of 1885, about two miles west of Astura, an island and a castle on the Pontine coast, well known in the history of Cicero, Augustus, and Conradin von Hohenstaufen, and about fifty yards from the shore, which runs there very shallow, a fisherman discovered the wreck of a Roman trading ship, the hull of which was filled with amphoræ, or earthen jars, which were used in the shipment of wine from the islands to the continent. Crustacea of various kinds had cemented in the course of centuries the whole mass into a kind of coralliferous rock, from which it was very hard to extricate an amphora without breaking it, yet four or five beautiful and perfect specimens can be seen in the grounds of the Villa Sindici at Porto d'Anzio.

In each of these cases, however, we had to deal with fishing or trading ships of small tonnage and hardly fifty feet in length. Very different is the case of the lake of Nemi, as you shall see presently that I was not far from right when I compared the vessels which plied on its waters in centuries gone by to the liners which crossed the Atlantic twenty years ago.

The measurements of the wrecks have been taken very carefully by the racing head diver and by his assistant. Floaters, tied to strings, were fastened at short intervals around the edge of the woodwork, care being taken to draw the string tightly so as to have the floater absolutely perpendicular above the point below. When the operation was finished the people on shore were surprised to see the four, or horizontal section, of a great ship appear on the surface of the lake.

The exactitude of the proceedings was verified at a subsequent period by measurements taken directly on the wreck itself. The length between the perpendiculars has been ascertained to be sixty and twenty-five hundredths metres, or about two hundred feet; the beam eighteen and one-half metres, or about sixty feet. The depth of hull cannot be measured on account of the silt which fills it to the deck. The prow lies twelve and one-half metres, the stern only five and three-tenths metres, below the surface.

The deck must have been a marvellous sight to behold, and it goes beyond the power of imagination for its strength and elegance. That fanciful naval engineer who built these things for Caligula must have thought he was paving a bath or an imperial bath instead of the deck of a ship. First comes the framework of wood, made of beams ten inches and of boards four inches thick. On this wooden floor is laid a bed of concrete, and upon it a pavement of bricks, each two feet square, of which many hundreds have been recovered, and many more have been left below. Last of all comes the pavement trodden by imperial feet, made of disks of porphyry and serpentine, not thicker than a silver dollar, framed in segments and lines of enamel, white and gold, white and red, or white, red, and green. The colors are perfectly brilliant. Fancy the deck of a modern yacht inlaid in enamel!

The second ship lies at a distance of 400 metres due south, about seventy feet below the level of the lake. Exploration at such a depth is very difficult, because the diver can hardly see at seven feet distance; and besides, the objects appear to him, through the glass of his helmet, twice as large as they are in reality. One thing is certain, this second vessel is larger than the other. One of the beams brought ashore measures eighty-five feet in length, one of its ends being broken. Assuming 90 feet to be the width of this ship, and the proportion between width and length to be the same as in the first vessel, the length between the perpendiculars would come to about 300 feet. A steamer 300 feet long was considered almost gigantic a quarter of a century ago; much more so a sailing vessel or a pleasure yacht of such size. The last addition to our Italian Royal Yacht Club, the Ægusa, built for the Commendatore Ignazio Florio of Palermo by Messrs. Scott & Co. of Greenock, is only 264 feet long, 31½ feet broad, and 20½ feet deep, and yet the Ægusa outdistances all such pleasure craft registered at the club for size and accommodation. The hull of the second ship is almost perfect except at the prow, which has disappeared, we do not know whether on account of a collision or because it has been destroyed by former explorers. The only work of art recovered here is a bronze hand. It is much larger than nature, and rests on a socket which fits to the head of a beam like a thimble to the finger.

I need hardly dwell on the excitement created not only among specialists, but in the general public by these startling discoveries. We knew that the ancients had sometimes built large and wonderful vessels, but we were not prepared to find a monster 300 feet long in a little speck of water hardly 6,000 feet in diameter.

The question now comes, What shall we do with it and with its sister ship? There is no doubt that the Government was right in stopping the destruction of the ships piece by piece. Better that they should continue to lie in their soft bed, deep in liquid crystal, undisturbed as they have practically been for centuries, than that their limbs should be torn to pieces to satisfy our curiosity or the greediness of dealers in curiosities and antiquities. As to the possibility of solving the problem in the interest of science, Signor Malfatti proposes three ways. The first is to dig out the mud in which they are half buried and lift them bodily to the surface. The second is to build a water-tight caisson around them, pump out the water, collect the scattered and movable objects, and lift the mass to the level of the lake. The third is to lower the level of the lake by seventy or eighty feet, remove the ships to the present shore, and then let the waters resume their normal height. This last system seems the one offering the best chances of success. It will involve the boring of a tunnel two miles long through the heart of a mountain which rises 155 metres above the lake, and an outlay of $80,000 for the lowering of the waters alone.

In America or in England help from wealthy citizens would have been offered at once, because it does not seem fair that such *dépenses de luxe* should be imposed on the overburdened ratepayer, who does not care an atom for the wonders of the ancient world. With us in Italy, however, the omnipotent and omniscient State has to do everything, and such offers of help would be considered almost offensive. I do not see much chance, therefore, for the sister ships of Nemi to float again on the "mirror of Diana," as the lake was sometimes called in classic times.

I am sure you would wish to know, before we finish with this subject, why two such great wonders of naval architecture should have been launched on this little pond. There is no doubt that both had on deck marble terraces, temples or shrines, fountains and hanging gardens, after the fashion of the vessel built by Archimedes for King Hiero of Syracuse, of which Athenæus has left a description. But that vessel was designed to carry the King along the coast of Sicily, or across the Ionian Sea, while in our case a few strokes of the oar would have made the ships collide with the opposite shore of the lake. I am inclined to believe that they were the property of the sanctuary of Diana, the remains of which appear at the place called Il Giardino, and that they were used for the conveyance of pilgrims from shore to shore, as well as for religious ceremonies. If we live to see the ships floated again, no doubt they will reveal to us the secret of their existence.

AMUSEMENTS.

The People's Choral Society Gives "The Messiah," Mr. Frank Damrosch Conducting.

When contemplating what New York affords in the sphere of musical organizations, musical events, and their general results, perhaps nothing appears so worthy and interesting as the People's Choral Society, which Frank Damrosch has led and controlled during the past five years. It touches and helps the great masses, teaching and uplifting those who otherwise would never be able to enjoy the faintest breath of that atmosphere of art which is to the souls of all mortals, and especially to such as can live but narrow, monotonous lives, what strong, fresh, invigorating air is to our human frames.

One thousand persons from Mr. Damrosch's classes united last evening at the Metropolitan in singing the choruses from the "Messiah." The women, everyone of them dressed in white, occupied the central portion of the large stage, with tenors to the right of them and basses to the left of them, in two long black stripes. A great deal of praiseworthy work was done, although the performance was far from an ideally perfect one. Orchestra and chorus were not always agreed as to *tempo*, and other faults or flaws might have been discernible had criticism had eyes to hear. But it was the spirit and not the letter that demanded attention last evening—and it certainly was nothing less than inspiring and touching to consider what Mr. Damrosch has accomplished in the way of making intelligent singers out of material gathered from byways and hedges, as it were.

Much of the oratorio was omitted, making a performance of just a little over two hours long. The principal and most beautiful numbers were all given, however, unless the "Amen" chorus may be counted as one of these. This was not sung, nor any of the third part except the soprano solo "I Know That My Redeemer."

Mme. Emma Juch sang with much charm and delicacy, some of her high notes being especially sweet. Mrs. Jacoby commended herself to the public as an artist of rare and delightful simplicity of manner and sincerity in style. She made an exceedingly agreeable impression. Evan Williams rose to very grand artistic heights. He is dramatic, and has warm-heartedness and good judgment, besides a beautiful voice of extraordinary range, evenness, and power.

Mr. Clark was not heard to great advantage in the Metropolitan. He seemed not to fit the building, and he did not distinguish himself in the rendering of his phrases.

REPORT COURTEOUS TO COLUMBUS.

Minister Dupuy de Lome's Reply to a Seeker After News from Havana.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Señor Dupuy de Lome, the Spanish Minister, has lived long enough in the United States to acquire an idea of American humor. On Thursday, when he came out of Assistant Secretary Day's office in the State Department, after reporting that American interests in Havana would be protected, he was approached by a young man who said he wanted news for a Columbus, O., newspaper.

"Ah, yes," replied the Minister, "Columbus would have exciting information! You may tell the people of Columbus that Havana experienced yesterday what Columbus has experienced for the past week, but in lesser degree. You may say that, now that Mr. Hanna has been elected to the Senate, Columbus is in the same condition as Havana—absolutely quiet."

SHAKE-UP AT BELLEVUE.

Many Heads to Be Cut Off at the Hospital, the Gossips Say.

The talk among the employees of Bellevue Hospital yesterday was to the effect that a shake-up was to take place there early this week. The understanding was that twenty-six men will be laid off to-morrow or Tuesday.

The salaries of these men range from $12 to $40 a week, and it is estimated that by the removals the city will saved about $9,000 a year.

The statement was also made that thirty of the 170 men who work about the hospital for their board will also be laid off.

TO RE-ELECT PRESIDENT QUIGG.

Unanimous Decision of the Local Republican Leaders.

The Republican local leaders held a conference yesterday to map out a programme for the annual meeting of the County Committee, which will be held on Thursday evening. It was unanimously agreed to support the present officers for reelection. The meeting will be held in the assembly hall of the United Charities building, Twenty-second street and Fourth avenue.

Arrested at a Fire Alarm Box.

Thomas C. Quinn, 33 years old, who described himself as publisher of the *Penny Magazine*, and Henry J. Morton, 48 years old, of 496 Lafayette place, Brooklyn, were arrested at the corner of Beekman and Nassau street last night by Policeman Crane, who says that they had the door of a fire box open. Later they were bailed out by Joseph Howard, Jr.

Oil Struck in Dallas, Tex.

DALLAS, Tex., Jan. 15.—Petroleum was struck at 6 o'clock this evening in the grounds of the home of E. G. Patton at Oak Cliff, a suburb of Dallas. Patton was sinking an artesian well, and at the depth of 300 feet petroleum came to the surface. The fluid burns freely. Prof. Laird of Oak Cliff College pronounces it good quality of crude petroleum in sand rock, and says a large vein surely exists further down.

Boat Crushed by Floating Ice.

BUCKSPORT, Me., Jan. 15.—Lewis Whitmore of Verona and William Abott of Bucksport were drowned last night in the Penobscot River, near Sandy Point. Their boat was crushed by floating ice floes. They were smelt fishermen.

Steamer in Distress Off St. John's, N. F.

ST. JOHN'S, N. F., Jan. 15.—A steamer, believed to be the Parkmore Avonmouth, for Boston, is lying outside the harbor, afraid to enter before daylight. The cargo is shifted and the steering gear probably damaged.

Shot Himself After Losing $80 at Craps.

Walter Britt, a colored hallboy at the Hotel Marlborough, lost $30 at craps last night and then went home and shot himself in the neck. He was sent to Roosevelt Hospital in a critical condition.

Death of the Heir to the Chieftaincy of the Ute Nation.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Col., Jan. 15.—Capitanete, an Indian youth of the Great Southern Ute Nation, the last of the famous line of chiefs, is dead.

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

Justice Beekman has granted an absolute divorce to Margareta Oswald from Carl Oswald.

Theophilus Damm, a physician, was brought to Bellevue Hospital yesterday afternoon in an ambulance from 296 Third avenue suffering from the effects of morphine. He is said to be a victim of the morphine habit.

Post Office Sub-Station 91, at St. Nicholas avenue and 130th street, has been closed owing to the removal of the drug store in which it was located. The station will be reopened in the same neighborhood as soon as new quarters have been secured.

FIGMENTS OF THE SENSES.

THE MODERN SCIENTIFIC VERDICT ON THE GHOST QUESTION.

Eye Ghosts and Ear Ghosts Are the Most Common; but There Are Touch Ghosts, Taste Ghosts, Smell Ghosts, Combination Ghosts.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—"Ghosts are the common property of mankind, and only persons of scientific training are able to exorcise them."

The speaker was Major J. W. Powell, director of the Bureau of Ethnology, who has given a great deal of attention to this branch of research. He added:

"There is hardly anybody who has not seen or heard ghosts on one or more occasions in his life. Some thousands of such instances have been assembled by the Society for Psychical Research, and efforts have been made to show that this was a method adopted by disembodied spirits for communicating ideas to living persons. It has been attempted to show that in many cases the communications were truthful and yielded valuable information. But science knows now that all such ghosts are merely the offspring of hallucinations. A hallucination, once recognized as something actually objective, becomes a ghost.

"Thus we can see how a ghost may speak, may be seen, or may even be smelt, inasmuch as the ear, the eye, and occasionally the nose are affected by hallucinations. Having boiled down the subject, which has been a problem of ages, to this point, the discussion of hallucinations becomes exceedingly interesting. We find that hallucinations of vision are the most common kind, and hence it is not surprising that ghosts are seen much more often than they are heard. Porson, the famous scholar, used to have as his constant companion a little old woman in a red cloak. She accompanied him on his daily walks abroad, and was usually with him in his study, sitting on a chair. Realizing that the apparition was a mere creation of his own brain, he was accustomed to amuse himself with it, sometimes poking his stick through it. A certain German gentleman of distinction, when taking his usual afternoon stroll, used to see regularly, on reaching a certain spot, the leading horsemen of a squadron of cavalry crossing the street at a little distance in front of him. One day it occurred to him to wonder why the rest of the troop did not follow, and he soon discovered that the cavalrymen were phantoms.

"The case has been recorded of a sick person to whom there appeared occasionally the spectre of a hideous old woman, the apparition always preceding an attack of his malady. The old woman advanced and struck him on the head with her cane, whereupon he fell to the ground in convulsions. In another case the devil appeared in a shadowy form. Hallucinations are often pathological—that is to say, associated with conditions of disease. Dying people sometimes behold pleasant landscapes and the faces of angels. The commonest visual deceptions are black rats, cats, snakes, spiders, shining stars and fiery spheres. Either they pass diagonally across the field of vision, or else, as is more usual, they come from behind, hasten past, and disappear in the darkness.

"Philosophers and artists are especially liable to hallucinations. Religious ecstacy is apt to inspire them. The visions of Swedenborg are an example. Emanuel Swedenborg was privileged to behold the Deity himself. He was carried by the Holy Spirit through space to the gates of hell, and then borne in a golden chariot up to heaven, where he saw choirs of saints and angels forming round the throne, and received a message from God, delivered to him by an angel. Savonarola saw the heavens open and a sword appear, on which was the inscription, 'Gladius Domini super Terram.' Byron was haunted, and Sir Walter Scott saw spectres.

"Ghosts are sometimes heard without being seen. Lucy Parker, while on the stairs of a building in Rome, heard distinctly the words, 'The just shall live by faith.' Occasionally a person who is subject to this kind of deception hears taunting or insulting voices calling after him in the street and making injurious insinuations about him. A very strange kind of auditory hallucination is the phenomenon of 'audible thinking,' wherein the sufferer hears his own thoughts spoken aloud and imagines that they can be heard by everybody, or else hears them repeated or dictated to him by an imaginary being. A woman, while walking along, hears a voice calling to her; she turns around, but there is no one. While she is at her work, familiar voices speak in her ear. She hears them on both sides, but perhaps chiefly on the right. A famous Minister of State constantly heard insulting words spoken in his left ear. The words were heard most distinctly when he was lying on the other ear, or when that ear was other wise affected. The case is recorded of a lady who, after a dinner party, heard repeated not the conversation of the persons to whom she had been listening at the dinner, but the talk of her neighbors on the other side, which she had not consciously noted at the time.

"Visions of ghosts are sometimes produced by drugs, and are due to subjective stimulation of the organs of vision. Dr. Theodate Smith, a woman expert in experimental psychology, made some interesting trials not long ago of the effects of a species of cactus which is used for intoxicating purposes by the Kiowas and other Indians of the Western prairies. They chew it, and it produces an effect somewhat like that of hasheesh. While under the influence, she described to an attendant, charged with making a record of her words, a series of wonderful dissolving views. An electric fountain of many colors was succeeded by flashes of light with intense green predominating. Then came flower ferns, with quantities of violets, yellow in color. These were followed by deep opal blue rings running outward from a centre and in constant motion. Next appeared a complex Greek pattern of deep blue, with white dots, suggesting snowflakes over it, this changing through many tints to turquoise and becoming a bowl and pitcher ornamented with gold. Subsequent appearances were of a ship with square sails, embroidered leather with rainbow colors flickering over it, cat's fur of blue and white, the form of a great centipede, a beautiful chandelier, richly jewelled and blazing with light, phosphorescent fishes' eyes and fiery serpents, a picture of an Arctic sunset, a ceiling from which hung ribbons of every color, and a camel with gorgeous trappings and a palm tree behind him.

"All the North American tribes have intoxicants that produce hallucinations. They supplement them with music, singing, drumbeating and tormenting the body, for they believe that helping on the ecstatic state and encouraging the illusory phenomena. They believe these intoxicants produce hallucinations which convey communications from the invisible world; they resort to them to get a view of the past and future, and to learn how to conduct may be governed by superior knowledge. The character of the hallucinations caused by excess of alcohol is well known. Terrifying impressions predominate. Sweet voices are sometimes heard, melodies delight the ear, and fair landscapes appear to the eye, but this seldom lasts long. Monsters and serpents take the place of flowers, and vermin, reptiles, &c., appear in great numbers, swarming over the bed and up the wall. Sometimes black men appear, who gibber and threaten, then vanish up the chimney.

"Drugs or inflammation of the ear may produce auditory illusions. Disease of the nose sometimes makes illusions of smell; the imaginary smells are occasionally very delicious, but more often they are disgusting. It is the same way with the sense of taste, which is most apt to be affected by illusions of nauseous or poisonous flavors. In the early stages of paralysis the patient sometimes experiences all the enjoyment of an imaginary feast. Hallucinations of taste are rare, however, and so likewise are those of smell. A person afraid of being murdered has been known to be haunted by fumes of charcoal, noxious gases, and poisonous dust. Where the sense of touch is affected, the hallucinations are usually of insects, mice, or snakes crawling on the skin.

"I am not speaking of the delusions of the insane, but of hallucinations to which persons normal in other respects may be subject. Oliver Cromwell had his greatness foretold to him by an apparition. Socrates enjoyed the constant companionship of a benevolent demon who warned him of impending evil. It is a fact, unfortunately, that hallucinations are the frequent cause of violent and criminal acts. In epilepsy, hysteria, and somnambulism, and especially in the delirium occasioned by alcohol, cocaine, or morphine, persons are thrown into paroxysms of terror by phantoms which threaten them. The sufferer snatches up a weapon, and, perhaps, commits murder or sets fire to the house. Or, again, departing of escape from the spectres which pursue and mock him, he puts an end to his life, often in a skilful and cunningly planned manner.

"There has been some awakening of interest lately in the subject of 'crystal vision,' as it is called. In this sort of vision the vision seer strives to banish all thought from his mind, and fixes his gaze for many minutes together upon a crystal, a glass of water or other reflecting object. Many persons, after gazing thus for some time, imagine that they see pictures in the crystal, familiar faces, &c. A remarkable story is told of Mr. Salt, British Consul-General in Egypt, who suspected his servants of theft. He sent for a magician, but himself selected a boy as seer. The magician drew on the boy's right palm a diagram. Then he poured into the palm some ink, and bade the boy look fixedly into it. Various visions came and went, as described by the boy, but finally the form of the guilty servant appeared to him and was recognized by the description he gave. On being arrested the thief, thus strangely convicted, confessed his crime.

"A discourse on this interesting subject would hardly be complete without some reference to dreams and dreaming. Such illusions are often caused by external influences. The bed covering slipped to the ground causes us to dream of appearing half clad on the street or at a social gathering; or it may call up visions of skating, Alpine travel or a polar expedition. These again may suddenly end in the feeling of falling into a gulf, due to a slight alteration of the sleeper's position in bed. A hot-water bottle at the feet may suggest a vision of climbing Mount Ætna and walking on hot lava. If