LURED AWAY A SMALL BOY

MRS. SYMONDS CAUSED THE M'AVOYS A HEAP OF WORRY.

The Woman, Without Apparent Motive, Induced Four-year-old Joe to Go With Her and See the Sights of the Great World—She Was Arrested in the Early Morning at the Bridge Entrance While the Little Fellow Was Tearfully Protesting Against Being Taken to Brooklyn.

Like many other four-year-old boys, Joe McAvoy has a love for travel. His home circle at 99 Walker street has failed thus far to satisfy his longings for the excitement of life. He wanted to see the world. The bustle and rush of Broadway allured him and he used to sit and make plans of escape that kept his mother busy blocking them. Many a time he has been caught trotting up the block as fast as his fat legs would carry him and brought back disgraced and indignant, protesting that he wasn't trying to run away but only wanted to see what was going on and would have returned without compulsion as soon as his curiosity had been satisfied. Hereafter, however, Joe is likely to be pretty well satisfied with his home, for he made a little excursion into the outer world on Tuesday under peculiar auspices and saw enough life of a certain kind to quench his wander-longings for some time to come.

The excursion began about noon on Tuesday, when the youngster was taken downstairs by his mother to play about in the ground floor store, which was vacant, while she swept it up. In time the limits of the store palled and Joe wandered out on the sidewalk, eluding the maternal eye by a strategic movement which had led his mother to suppose that he was playing house behind a pile of boards. Once on the sidewalk he glanced around to determine the point of greatest activity and make for it, when a tall, elderly woman with big spectacles stopped to speak to him. At first Joe shrank. The spectacles rather horrified him, but the wearer of them spoke to him very gently and asked him if he didn't want to go for a little walk. Of course Joe wanted to go for a walk; that is what he had come out for. But the question was whether the walk that he wanted to take would coincide with that which the woman with the spectacles had in view. It occurred to Joe's mind that in those previous cases where he had been personally conducted the direction of the stroll had been invariably homeward by the shortest route. Many a journey of magnificent proportions had been spoiled by interfering persons who seemed to know Joe better than he knew them and who evinced an incomprehensible interest in restoring him to the family hearth. Therefore Joe looked at the woman doubtfully and said he didn't know when she repeated her question.

"Oh yes, do come," said the woman. "We'll have such a nice time and see all sorts of things."

"What things?" asked Joe.

"The big choo-choo fire engines," said the stranger. "Wouldn't you like to see them go?"

Indeed Joe would like to see the engines. It was one of his most cherished ambitions and it had been cruelly nipped in the bud on one memorable occasion when the engine had come through his street with a grand, heart-thrilling rattle and bang and he had run out in the street to follow it and had suffered the weight of the maternal hand because—so it was unaccountably declared—the engine had almost run over him. In Joe's opinion if that were so, it was the engine that should have been spanked and not himself. Here was the chance of a lifetime to see the engine without jar or hindrance. In that glittering prospect all childish fears of the stranger were submerged, and Joe placed his hand in that of the woman. When Mrs. McAvoy failed to find Joe a little later and discovered that a small boy answering his description had been playing around in the street near the store there was a wild time in the McAvoy household. The distracted mother ran around to the wholesale house on Broadway where her husband is employed as a porter and told him that little Joe had run away. He left his business and with his wife made a search of the neighborhood and then went the rounds of all the police stations in that part of the city. Nothing had been heard of little Joe by the police. They guessed he would come back; scary all babies did. The McAvoys went out and hunted up the Broadway man and made the lives of the Broadway policemen a burden to them with multifarious descriptions and queries.

Meantime Joe was seeing the world. His memories of the multitudinous things he saw are something of a jumble now, but when he talks about his adventurings with the strange woman he gets wise and says: "Den we got in a car an' had anover ride."

Most of the street car lines on Manhattan Island must have been patronized by Joe and his chaperone, according to his statements. By and by Joe's ears and toes began to feel uncomfortable. It occurred to him that home was a pretty good place. He would have been glad to return there and see what little else remained of the world some other day, and he mentioned this to the woman, but she said that they were very far from home and there were lots of nice things to see. Then she took hold of him some roughly and Joe braced up on that and concluded that she was probably some little boy's fairy godmother who had mistaken him for her own charge. He was tired and footsore, however, and suggested more strongly on the cars, for they had been walking then a while; but the woman picked him up and carried him instead. This made him sleepy. When he awoke he was in a fairy palace, sure enough. There was a great glitter of lights that reflected from dazzling glass walls and strange tinkling ornaments overhead. But the people who inhabited this sphere didn't seem like any fairies that he had ever heard of, for they were rough clothes and some of them had very red noses, like ogres who eat little boys. One of them reached out for him and he cried, but the woman didn't let him be touched, not even when she walked over to where a line of men was standing and drank something out of a glass. Some of the men talked to her about Joe and she said that he was her little boy, and they admired him and gave her money to buy candy for him; at least that is what he supposed and hoped it was for.

From that place they went to other fairy lands, the quality of the elfin abodes deteriorated as they proceeded, and the last one that he remembers smelled very ill and almost made him choke. At each place the strange fairy godmother drank out of a glass, the size of which appeared to grow in truly magic fashion, and Joe began to have doubts whether she was the real thing in a fairy godmother after all, because she talked in horse tones and staggered a little when she tried to carry him. He remembers hearing somebody say that the old woman had too much to drink, and that the kid wasn't hers, anyway, and then they went out into a bright street very quickly and walked a long, weary distance till they came to a place where more cars than he had ever before seen chased each other around curves. This, he guessed, was the end of the world, from which all the cars started. He had seen it all and he wanted to go home. When the woman tried to persuade him to go with her he hung back unwillingly. Then a policeman came toward them and there was some talk which ended by his falling comfortably asleep on the policeman's broad shoulder and dreaming of wonders until he woke up with his father bending over him.

While he was on his travels little Joe had become an object of official solicitude to the metropolitan police force and that agency known as a "general alarm" was after him. That is how Policeman Wiedmeyer of the Oak street station on duty at the New York end of the Brooklyn Bridge happened to take a hand in the proceedings when he saw an unwilling child being led toward Brooklyn by an elderly woman. Most policemen don't pay much attention to general alarms, but Wiedmeyer has a good memory and the description of a lost child which he had heard read off in the station house that night came back to him. Another policeman near by recognized the woman as one known as "Specsy" around the Bowery and Park row, where she was a supporter of the mixed-ale industry. She had no children of her own, he said. Wiedmeyer asked the woman how she came by the little boy, and she replied that he was her sister's child and she was taking him to his home in Brooklyn. The policeman picked up the youngster and the party went to the Oak street station, where the woman gave her name as Marie J. Symonds of 78 St. Mark's place. The sergeant asked Joe if he knew the woman.

"I want my modder," said Joe sleepily. "She lives in Walker street."

So he went to sleep in the rear room and an hour later his father had come for him and he was taken home, a very glad youngster. The woman was taken before Capt. McClusky at Police Headquarters yesterday morning and was told that she could be sent to State's prison for kidnapping. At this she broke down and said that she had no intention of keeping the child.

"He was such a pretty kid," she said. "I longed for him as soon as I set eyes on him. I never had any kid of my own, Captain."

Mrs. Symonds, as she calls herself, says that she is 37 years old, but she looks much older. When arraigned at the Centre street court she seemed to be on the verge of collapse from drink, and shook so that she could hardly stand. Hiram Symonds, with whom the woman has been living at 78 St. Mark's place, appeared as a witness and said that she was not a criminal and had never been in any trouble before except one arrest for drunkenness. For the last month, he said, she had been drinking heavily. The woman herself pleaded brokenly for forgiveness and asked that the little boy's parents be told how sorry she was.

"I am inclined to think that this was the act of a woman half crazy from drink," said Magistrate Hogan.

He held the prisoner in $1,000 bail for examination to-day and gave orders that she be carefully looked after in the Tombs as her condition seemed to be serious. A representative from the District Attorney's office was sent for and will make a special investigation into the case. If nothing serious is discovered in the woman's record she will probably not be prosecuted for kidnapping.

APPELLATE DIVISION DECORATION.

Mural Paintings at the New Court House Shown to the Public Yesterday.

The first public view of the mural paintings in the new building of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court at Madison avenue and Twenty-fifth street was given yesterday afternoon and was largely attended. No other judiciary building in the country, it is said, can be compared with this for beauty of decorations. The architect of the building is James Brown Lord, and most of the best-known American decorative painters are represented in the works of mural art.

The main court room which is at the east end of the ground floor takes up the whole width of the building and is lighted by a stained-glass dome elaborately designed and bearing the names in beautifully wrought lettering of the past leaders of the American bar. The somewhat solemn effect of the dark, heavy woodwork and massive furniture is relieved by the brilliancy of the gilded ceiling. Opposite the dais which faces east are three large mural panels. The centre panel, by H. O. Walker represents Wisdom, attended by Learning, Experience, Humility, Love, Faith, Patience, Doubt and Inspiration. On the right of this is a panel typifying "The Powers of the Law," by Edwin Howland Blashfield. On either side of the figure representing The Law, who stands with sword drawn, in behalf of "Appeal," are figures of Roman Law, Common Law and Canon Law. Edward Simmons is the painter of the panel to the left, which represents "Justice of the Law." "Justice" in the centre is flanked by Peace and Plenty, Peace recoiling from Brute Force who, in turn is held back by Fear, and Plenty assisting the poor. In the background is Labor hailing Justice, and at the front is a child figure of Mercy. These three large panels are flanked by frieze panels of the city and State painted by George W. Maynard.

Back of the dais of the justices on the west wall is a large frieze by Lorenzo Cox representing "The Reign of Law." In this painting are figures of Peace, Commerce, Statute Law, Common Law, Liberty, Force, Tradition, Equity, The Court and Plenty rewarding Industry. Between the pilasters and the windows are a number of small frieze panels by Joseph Lauber, representing Moderation, Veneration, Perspicuity, Eloquence, Reticence, Research, Unity, Fortitude, Justice, Truth, Philosophy, Courage, Patriotism, Logic, Knowledge and Prudence.

In the main hall, on the north wall, is H. Siddons Mowbray's frieze "The Transmission of the Law," comprising eight groups: Mosaic, Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Norman, common and modern law. The east wall of the entrance hall is taken up by Robert Reed's "Justice," the main figure being surrounded by figures representing peace, prosperity, arts, sciences, education, religion, drama and music. The subject is carried on to the south wall, where appear poetry, painting, sculpture, architecture and fame. The west wall bears Willard Metcalf's frieze representing justice and equity, with other figures typifying sovereignty, law, transgression, protection, the oppressed, and flight from justice. On the west end of the south wall is the artist's "Banishment of Discord." The two lunettes between the entrance doors are by C. Y. Turner, and represent law and equity.

On the upper floors of the building are the private rooms of the Justices, a private consulting room, the law library, clerks' rooms and file rooms. Most of the Justices of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, with their families and friends, visited the building yesterday afternoon.

CROKER NOT LEGALLY FIRE CHIEF.

Must Pass an Examination and Meanwhile Gets a Deputy's Salary.

The Municipal Civil Service Commission is preparing an examination for candidates for the office of Chief of the Fire Department. Under the decision of the Appellate Division, in the case of Chamberlain against Knox, it has been established that the appointment of Edward F. Croker to be Chief was made in violation of law. Croker was appointed after the White Civil Service bill had been passed by the Legislature, but before it had been made law by the Governor's signature. Commissioner Scannell contended that the interval between the passage of the bill and affixing of the Governor's signature thereto was an interregnum, during which neither the old nor the new law affected the right to appoint without examination.

The Civil Service Commission declined to certify to the payroll containing Croker's name as Chief. Croker brought suit to compel payment of his salary. That suit was held up to await the decision in the case of Chamberlain, who was made a clerk by the Board of City Magistrates as Croker was made Chief of the Fire Department. The Civil Service Reform Association is greatly elated because Croker will have to take an examination. Deputy Chief Duane, who filled the vacancy left by Croker's promotion, passed an examination and is not affected by the decision. Croker will draw only a Deputy Chief's salary until he is lawfully made Chief.

MIDNIGHT MASSES IN BROOKLYN.

Bishop McDonald Gives Instructions for New Year's Eve.

Bishop McDonald of the Brooklyn Catholic Diocese sent out a circular letter yesterday to the various rectors, instructing them to celebrate midnight masses on New Year's Eve, in accordance with the universal Papal decree. This is the letter:

"In order to sanctify the night of Dec. 31, 1899, the International Committee for the Solemn Homage asked the Holy Father to grant permission for the celebration of midnight mass in all the churches of the world and for the faithful the privilege of receiving the Holy Communion at that time. The Holy Father not only graciously acceded to the request, but in order that the faithful might at the beginning of the Holy Year great the Author of Time, he extended the concession so that the midnight mass may be said on the 31st of December, 1899, as well as on Dec. 31, 1900. During this mass the blessed sacrament may be solemnly exposed, with the prudent permission of the ordinary, and the faithful may receive Holy Communion. This is the most extraordinary permission of the whole reign of Leo XIII., and it shows how intently his wishes are fixed on the celebration of the Holy Year as well as on the international homage to the Redeemer of Mankind."

CALLED ON WITNESS 127 TIMES.

Singular Testimony in a Damage Suit Against the Metropolitan Railway Co.

Hugh Gribben had an action on trial before Justice Andrews of the Supreme Court yesterday to recover $50,000 damages for injuries from the Metropolitan Street Railway. His contention was that while boarding a car on Second avenue, at Thirty-seventh street, on July 2, 1894, the car suddenly started and he was thrown in front of a car coming the other way, the horses of which trampled him. An arm and three fingers were fractured and his mouth and ears were bruised and deformed. The company contended that the accident was due to Gribben's own negligence.

When Thomas Kilgannon, a saloon keeper, was called for plaintiff, he was asked by Louis J. Grant, attorney for plaintiff, if David J. Lynch, a representative of the defendant, had offered him money to testify for the company. The witness replied in the affirmative. In refutal of this Lynch declared that he only asked the saloon keeper what he knew about the case. He said he called on him about four times. When Kilgannon was asked if that was so, he replied: "He came just 127 times, as I kept count of the visits."

As the jury had not agreed after being out two hours, the Court ordered that a sealed verdict be brought in this morning.

PRINTER CHARGED WITH THEFT.

Had a Satchel and Pockets Full of His Employers' Materials.

Otto Bory of 100 St. Marks place was arrested last night by Detective Allen of the Oak street station and locked up on a charge of stealing type and printers' materials from his employers, McGowan & Co. of 30 Beekman street. The firm has been losing type and make-up materials for the last six months, and a few weeks ago complained to the police. Last night Detective Allen saw Bory coming out of the printing office carrying a heavy satchel and arrested him. The satchel was full of type and the man's pockets full of printers' rules.

VOTE TO CALL DR. PURVES.

THE FIFTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOLK TAKE ACTION.

At a Meeting Last Night They Were Unanimous in the Decision to Ask Him to Take the Pulpit Left Vacant by Dr. Hall's Death—His Salary Is to Be $12,000 a Year.

A meeting of the congregation of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church voted unanimously last night to send a call to the Rev. Dr. George T. Purves of Princeton to succeed the late Dr. John Hall as pastor. H. Edwards Rowland, chairman of the Pulpit Supply Committee, read a report covering the work of the committee for the past thirteen months in looking for a clergyman to fill the empty pulpit. Members of the committee had visited England, Ireland and Canada and many parts of this country in the quest and seventy-five clergymen had been invited to preach in the church so that the people could have a chance to judge them. The committee had only been able to agree upon two men up to the time that Dr. Purves was considered. Dr. Purves had been spoken of ten years ago as an assistant pastor for the Fifth Avenue Church, but his health was not good at that time. He is in robust health now.

Dr. Purves has refused calls from a number of churches, the report continued, among them calls from the Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church and the Twenty-ninth Street Marble Collegiate Church in this city. The committee then unanimously recommended that the following call be sent:

"The congregation of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, in the city of New York, in the Presbytery of New York, being on sufficient grounds well satisfied with the ministerial qualifications of you, Rev. George T. Purves, D. D., LL. D., and having good hopes that your ministrations of the Gospel will be profitable to our spiritual interests, do earnestly call and desire you to undertake the pastoral office in said congregation at such time as may be convenient to you, promising you in the discharge of your duty all proper support, encouragement and obedience in the Lord.

"And, that you may feel free from worldly cares and avocations, we hereby promise and oblige ourselves to pay you the sum of $12,000 per annum, in regular quarterly payments, and to give you the use and possession of a parsonage during the time of your being and continuing the regular pastor of this church, and to furnish you with an assistant minister."

William Brookfield moved that the vote be a rising one. This was seconded by James O. Sheldon and was adopted. The congregation then voted to send the call, and the elders and deacons and trustees, with William Brookfield, Charles T. Britton, James O. Sheldon and Joel W. Thorne, representing the congregation, were instructed to sign the call. A committee composed of Elders Rowland, James Talcott and William Irvin and William Brookfield and James O. Sheldon, was appointed to present the call to Dr. Purves and to lay the matter before Presbytery according to form.

The Rev. Dr. R. R. Booth, the moderator, announced that Dr. Purves would probably attend the Christmas services in the church on Friday evening. He will occupy the pulpit on Sunday, Dec. 31, if he consents to accept the call.

SPECIAL ELECTION IN THE 31ST.

Slater, Rep., Decides Not to Dispute the Election of Stone, Dem., Deceased.

At the last election in the Thirty-first Assembly district nearly 12,000 votes were cast, and upon the unofficial police figures it appeared as if Edward C. Stone, the Democratic candidate for Member of Assembly, had been elected, although the entire Republican ticket, excepting for Member of Assembly, had carried the district by at least 500 majority. The figures of the watchers at the polls and THE SUN, however, made it appear that Samuel S. Slater (Rep.) had been elected by a small majority. When the Board of Canvassers met, Slater seemed to have a majority of 28 votes. The canvassers substituted for the figures in the Fourth election district other figures, which appeared on the police returns, on which substitution Stone seemed to have been elected by 16 votes. Mr. Slater was preparing for a contest in the courts, or at Albany, when, on Dec. 8, Mr. Stone died.

Immediately upon the death of Mr. Stone, Mr. Slater announced that he did not care to continue the contest. At a meeting of the Assembly District Committee last night at the Central Republican Club, 127th street and Lenox avenue, resolutions were adopted supporting Mr. Slater in his purpose not to contest but to leave the representation of the district in the Assembly to be determined at a special election.

In speaking upon the resolutions, Mr. Slater said that it might be contended that if he was really elected the death of his opponent could not alter that fact, but on the other hand there must be an opinion in the district that Mr. Stone had been elected, and he did not believe the district organization ought to be subjected hereafter to the necessity of defence against charges by political opponents that they had been party to a wrongful seizure of the office of a man who had died. Personally, he preferred that the election of Mr. Stone be counted for the purpose of having a vacancy in the office and enabling the electors to express their wish again.

The certificate of election will be issued today by the Board of Canvassers to Edward C. Stone. Under the law it is filed with the County Clerk, who must immediately certify to the Governor the death of Mr. Stone. Thereupon the Governor will issue a proclamation calling a special election, which must be held not less than twenty days nor more than thirty days after the proclamation. A registration will be required to remove from the election lists of the last election the names of persons who have removed from the district, or have otherwise become ineligible to vote, and to add the names of persons now eligible whose names were not on the lists at the last election. Any man now registered and eligible will not be required to register again.

The Assembly District Committee recommended to the Republican District Convention that it renominate Mr. Slater.

SHERIFF CALLED ON TO EXPLAIN.

It Seems a Writ He Didn't Serve Was Not Properly Countersigned.

Sheriff Thomas J. Dunn had a narrow escape yesterday from being adjudged in contempt of the Supreme Court by Justice Werner, who is trying the election fraud cases. A subpœna was issued some time ago by Justice Werner for Michael J. McGrath, a saloonkeeper, of 130th street and Lexington avenue. He could not be found and a body attachment was given to the Sheriff to serve. Yesterday neither McGrath nor the Sheriff was in court and it was stated that the Sheriff had refused to serve the writ.

A court attendant was sent to Sheriff Dunn for an explanation. He returned with the information that the Sheriff's counsel had told him that the writ was not properly countersigned by the justice and that he was personally liable for damages if he executed it. Corrected papers were sent to the Sheriff's office and Deputy Sheriff Walgering was sent to get McGrath. Meantime McGrath appeared in court and told Justice Werner that he had made a mistake in the date of his original subpœna and that he had no intention to act contemptuously. He was purged of contempt.

STUCK TO HIS POST AND DIED.

An Engineer Fatally Scalded in the Boiler Room of a Tugboat.

Leonard Wager, 25 years old, of 235 Third street, Jersey City, engineer of the tugboat Gov. Fenton, owned by Richard Pearsall of Tottenville, S. I., was fatally scalded yesterday afternoon in the tug's engine room. The boat was off Tottenville when the check valve, which Wager was repairing, blew out and the engine room was filled with steam and flooded with hot water. Although the water was scalding, he tried to close the opening with a cap but did not succeed. Almost overcome, he dragged himself to the door through the hot water, calling weakly for aid. Capt. Claser pulled him out. He was taken to the Smith Infirmary at New Brighton, and he died at 8:30.

Early English Dressing Bureau

A reproduction from an old English piece. Made of Mahogany and sold in sets or single pieces as follows:

The Bureau,	$75
Chiffonier,	$65
Bedstead,	$65
Toilet Table,	$40

Gift Things—Both stores filled with Easy Chairs, Desks, Rockers, Cabinets, Tables; also Old Sheffield Plate, Pottery, Pictures, Candelabra, Clocks, Bronzes, Gold Mirrors, etc.

Schmitt Brothers,

Two Stores. Cor. 25th St. & 4th Ave. 40 E. 23d St. Two Stores.

FORMER MAYOR MALSTER RETIRES.

R. C. Flower Elected President of the Atlantic Trust Company of Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 20.—Rumors and counter rumors respecting the Atlantic Trust Company were current on the Street throughout the day. The failure of the Columbian Iron Works, of which former Mayor Malster is President, and the latter's connection with the trust company as its President, occasioned much of the uneasiness on the street. Speculation as to results was increased by the arrival from New York of B. F. Small, representing R. C. Flower & Co., of 10 Wall Street (not R. P. Flower & Co.). Another arrival in the matter was Alfred Hill, a capitalist of Cincinnati, who is a member of the Board of Directors. Later in the day it was announced officially that Mr. Malster had retired from the presidency of the Trust Company and that R. C. Flower of New York had been elected temporary President.

Mr. Small said to-day that there would be no application for a receiver for the Trust company, the affairs of which were in good condition. Other directors resigned and their places will be filled by out-of-town people.

As regards the Columbian Iron Works failure the ex-Mayor said to-day:

"We are hopeful that the Court will permit the works being continued in operation. An application will be made to the Court to allow this. It will be the only means to save the good name of the concern, to pay off obligations and to maintain the families of the employees, who would otherwise be deprived of a livelihood in the middle of winter.

"Our troubles came as the culmination of a hard fight against discouraging circumstances. We struggled in vain. The stringency of money and the panicky feeling in the financial market and the unfortunate failure of such a well-established firm as P. T. George & Co., followed by the assignment of the Vogeler Co., all tended to present unsurmountable difficulties. Now that the blow has come I trust the ill effects will not fall upon the employees of the company. There are contracts which are necessary to be filled to yield any return and the necessity for continuing operations is most urgent."

PHILADELPHIA'S NEW MUSEUM.

It Is Devoted to Art and Science and Was Opened Formally Yesterday.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 20.—The Free Museum of Art and Science, which during the past three years has been in course of construction on ground given to the University of Pennsylvania by the city of Philadelphia, was opened formally and presented to the university to-day. In connection with the exercises there was presented to the university a bronze statue of the late Dr. William Pepper, formerly provost of the university, who conceived the idea of establishing the Free Museum, secured many of the collections, did much to persuade the city to give the land, and also contributed liberally to the building fund.

Former United States Senator George F. Edmunds, who made the speech presenting the statue of Dr. Pepper, in closing announced the gift of $50,000 by Mrs. Frances Sergeant Pepper to the museum as a memorial to her husband and for the purpose of carrying on the work started by him, and the gift of a valuable Esquimaux collection and a lot of Etruscan gold jewelry by John Wanamaker. In presenting the museum Daniel Baugh, President of the Board of Managers, detailed the work that had been done in collecting funds for the museum and archæological objects to place in it. He said the six sections of the building were the gifts of Dr. William Pepper, P. A. B. Widener, E. N. Farron, Mrs. Edwin H. Fitler, William L. Elkins and himself. The building represents an approximate outlay of nearly $400,000. There are within the walls, exclusive of manuscripts that have already been translated and published, about 40,000 inscribed tablets representing the results of the Nippur expedition, and other collections which tax the accommodations.

The museum was accepted by Provost Harrison of the university.

BRYAN WONT SEE CALLERS.

Texas Statesmen Who Go to Austin to See Him Find His Doors Closed.

AUSTIN, Tex., Dec. 20.—The presence of Col. Bryan has caused this city to be the Mecca for State Democratic politicians, both great and small. They have been pouring in here from the Panhandle to the Gulf since the fact became known to them that Bryan was making this his temporary stopping place. They all come to see Bryan, and it is a severe disappointment to these worshippers at his political shrine to find that he is not accessible to them. Of the many Democrats who have visited here for the purpose of calling on Bryan, none have been successful in seeing him. He and his family are stopping with County Judge A. S. Walker and the only exception to his invariable rule against admitting callers is when Congressman Hogg calls. Mr. Hogg is the only favored one and the big crowds of party leaders who have visited Austin during the past several days for the purpose of counselling with the free silver orator on political plans and subjects and have found the door in his face are temporarily cured of their ailment. Many of them feel their disappointment keenly and are saying some harsh things about his action.

In addition to declining to receive admiring visitors and party leaders, Bryan has also refused all requests to deliver speeches and addresses during his stay in the State on the ground that he must devote his entire time to preparing for the forthcoming national campaign and the carrying out of other plans. These other plans embrace the writing of another book. The single exception to this rule is an address which he has promised to deliver before the Jefferson Club at San Antonio some time next month. He made the promise of this address before coming to Texas on his present visit.

BARREN ISLAND NUISANCES.

Dr. Doty Tells the Governor That the City Must Cremate Its Garbage.

ALBANY, Dec. 20.—Dr. Alvah H. Doty, Health Officer of the Port of New York, talked over the Barren Island garbage disposal nuisances with Gov. Roosevelt to-day. The Governor said afterward that Dr. Doty was convinced that New York city would have to come to a crematory as the only satisfactory method of garbage disposal. The Governor said Dr. Doty had agreed to furnish him with full details of his plan within a few weeks. Dr. Doty had been to Europe and looked the field over and the Governor said that of the disposal plants he had seen the doctor was most impressed with that at Hamburg. In order to care for the garbage properly the doctor told the Governor that there must be a system for its prompt collection. The crematory, he thought, could be located almost anywhere, as the burning would not cause offensive smells.

The Governor said the nuisances at Barren Island, which caused such discussion last winter, had continued, and that no great improvement could be brought about, even after making large expenditures.

THE ALHAMBRA BURNED.

Syracuse's Big Convention Hall Destroyed by Fire—Loss $60,000.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Dec. 20.—The Alhambra Convention Hall, originally a skating rink, at the corner of James and Pearl streets, was destroyed by fire early this morning, involving a loss of $60,000. In the basement of the building were several stores and offices, whose contents were totally destroyed. St. John's Catholic Cathedral, on the opposite side of Pearl street, was damaged to the extent of $10,000.

The Alhambra has been best known through the State as the meeting place of State conventions, which came to Syracuse. The Republican State Convention of 1893 met there. The Democrats nominated Van Wyck there in 1898. They held State conventions there three times before. In 1894 the convention for which the Alhambra is best remembered was the "Dandelion" or "anti-Snapper" Convention of 1892, organized by friends of President Cleveland.

Grand Boulevard and Concourse.

The Board of Public Improvements at its meeting yesterday spent an hour discussing opening up the Grand Boulevard and Concourse, the land which the city obtained two years ago. Several residents of the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth wards submitted a map drawn by Engineer Risse of the board, who said that the highway might be opened as approaches to Van Cortlandt Park at an expense of about $1,100,000. They moved that it be done. President Holahan and the Commissioner of Highways will, at the next meeting of the board, report on the advisability of assessing the taxpayers for a part of the cost.

Walter E. Edgerly's $24,500 Verdict Stands.

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn has denied the application for reargument on the question of permitting the defendant to go to the Court of Appeals in the case of Walter E. Edgerly against the Long Island Railroad Company. Edgerly, while riding a bicycle, was run over by a train on Atlantic avenue and both his legs were cut off. He got a verdict for $24,500 and it is sustained by the Appellate Division. The judgment will now probably be paid by the company.

MAY SCHEDULE REPEALED.

NEW MAKESHIFT IN THE TEACHERS' SALARY MUDDLE.

Manhattan and Bronx School Board Takes This Action Despite Court Decision That Schedule Is Legal—Lack of Funds the Reason—Plight of Some Teachers.

This year's School Board for Manhattan and The Bronx held its last meeting yesterday and passed a resolution repealing the salary schedule adopted last May, which led to the financial muddle in this borough and the contest between the board and the Comptroller and Corporation Counsel. Although as a result of Justice Gaynor's recent decision, the legality of the schedule has now been conceded by these officials, the insufficiency of the appropriation made by the Board of Estimate for next year's salaries rendered a continuance of the schedule in 1900 impossible. A joint committee on teachers and finance reported to the board yesterday that as this appropriation was only $8,093,300 there would be a deficit of $596,715 if the schedule were to remain in force. The committee's recommendation that the schedule be repealed was followed and a resolution was passed that the schedule in force prior to the adoption of the May schedule be enforced, beginning on Jan. 1, providing that no teachers affected by the Ahearn law receive less than the minimum mandatory salary of that act, $600 in the case of women teachers and $600 for men. The schedule adopted means a cut of from 15 to 20 per cent. in the salaries of a majority of the teachers.

The board also passed a resolution providing for the appointment of a special committee to consult with the other school boards with a view of securing legislation at Albany this winter in order that school affairs may run more smoothly in the future. The committee will draw up a bill before Jan. 1, and submit it to the Legislature at once in order that it may be ahead if possible of other measures which have been proposed by outside sources. The repeal of section 1095 of the charter, under which the apportionment of the appropriation for schools is made by the central board, will be included in the bill. The committee appointed to push the bill consists of Commissioners Van Hoesen, Harrison, Huestis, Sterne and Lee.

Before the board adjourned yesterday, it decided to reward Acting Secretary Bussey for his extra services by fixing his salary for December at $708. This would be at the rate of $8,500 a year, while the secretary's salary is fixed at $4,000. The board, presumably because of a political deadlock, has failed to elect a secretary for the last six weeks, during which time Mr. Bussey has acted as secretary and had to perform the extra work because of the salary muddle. The resolution was carried after considerable opposition.

A resolution, proposed by Mr. O'Brien, was adopted ordering that the flags on all school buildings in the boroughs of Manhattan and The Bronx be displayed at half mast for the next ten days in respect to the memory of Major-Gen. Lawton.

The terms of five members of the School Board, including that of President J. J. Little, expire on Jan. 1. The other members whose terms expire are Richard R. Adams, John E. Eustis, Abraham Sterne and John M. Lincke. In addition to these two vacancies exist, making seven Commissioners to be appointed by the Mayor before the next meeting of the board on Jan. 3.

TEACHERS STILL WAIT FOR PAY.

Queens and Richmond Teachers to Make Another Effort to Collect.

As a result of Judge Garretson's refusal to grant a writ of mandamus directing the Central Board of Education to disburse for the benefit of Queens teachers the Queens School fund, the teachers in that borough, who have not been paid since September, will receive no money for Christmas. The $53,000 now remaining in the City Treasury to the credit of the borough School Board will remain there probably until some agreement can be reached between the teachers and the clerical employees of the School Board as to how the two forces shall share in its distribution. The teachers sought to have the money distributed only among themselves, the fund remaining being not quite enough to pay them for October alone. Comptroller Coler had agreed to pay out the money at once for the relief of the teachers, but Justice Garretson in his decision holds that some of it should go to the clerks.

It will take a long time to determine just how the money shall be apportioned and it was concerning the time it would consume that the latter's plight could not now be helped in any way before the holidays. Many of them are reported to be almost penniless and the distress among them is increasing. A committee from the Queens Selfhol Board is expected to appear before The Board of Estimate to-day and make one more plea for a supplementary appropriation for the payment of the teachers' back salaries.

Another committee with the same object in view will be present from Richmond, where the plight of the teachers is the same.

The special committee of the School Board of Brooklyn which was appointed to prepare a new schedule of salaries for the teachers for 1900 has decided to recommend the adoption of the old schedule which was in force prior to July 5, 1898. No increase in salaries is to be allowed except where mandatory by the Ahearn law. The school appropriation for Brooklyn in 1900 is $3,750,000. The board will ask for $4,500,000 in 1901.

Schoolteacher Will Sue for Salary.

Miss Anna Harford, who was formerly a teacher in the West New York public school, will sue the Board of Education of that town to recover $300, which she alleges is due her for salary. Miss Harford was dropped from the list of teachers in the school three months ago. She contends that the grounds on which she was dismissed were illegal, and she has reported for duty every school day during the three months. Notice was served on the board yesterday that the suit would be begun before Judge Parker in the Second District Court, Jersey City, on Jan. 5.

BEGGAR WITH $2,000.

Sent to the Workhouse, and Magistrate Won't Release Him.

Abram Jacobs disappeared several days ago from his home, at 14 Ludlow street, with $2,000 in a belt around his waist. He was found yesterday in the workhouse on Blackwell's Island, having been committed for three months for vagrancy, after being caught begging on the Bowery. When he was arrested he was recognized as a professional beggar. The money was not found until he was searched at the institution.

A friend of Jacobs asked Magistrate Zeller yesterday to order the prisoner's release. "He cannot be a vagrant with all that money," said the friend.

"I will not discharge him," replied the Magistrate. "There is an excuse sometimes for a poor man who begs, but not for a man with such an amount of money. Let him serve his sentence."

Say Charter Revisers Should Be Well Paid.

The Council of the City Club have adopted resolutions approving the request of the Chamber of Commerce that Gov. Roosevelt appoint a commission of thoroughly qualified persons to undertake a systematic revision of the charter of the city of New York. The resolutions also declare for a liberal compensation for the members of the commission and advise that such conclusions as the commission reach from time to time be made public in order that there may be public discussion upon them.

TIFFANY STUDIOS

The collection of this season's Art Objects in Tiffany Favrile Glass is more varied and beautiful in color and design than ever before. The individuality of such Holiday Gifts as are here shown is a feature of rare attraction.

Many pieces, many prices

TIFFANY STUDIOS

333 to 341 Fourth Avenue between 24th and 25th Streets

SHE WANTED TO CARRY A PISTOL.

Got a Summons, Instead, for Dr. Hasbrouck and They Settle Things Amicably.

A well-dressed woman, who called herself Mrs. F. Wilson, went to the West Forty-seventh street police station the other day and asked for a permit to carry a revolver. She said that she was being persecuted and that her life was in danger. She was told to go to the West Fifty-fourth street police court and tell the Magistrate all about her troubles. Mrs. Wilson went to Magistrate Deuel. She asked him for a revolver permit and her application was denied. Then she produced a letter which, she said, she had received from her tormentor. After reading the letter Magistrate Deuel issued a summons for "Dr. Hasbrouck."

Dr. Hasbrouck responded yesterday afternoon. He was accompanied by a young man who said that he was a lawyer. The young man told Mrs. Wilson, in the course of the conversation before the Magistrate, that she was in danger of being punished for blackmail.

"Stop that sort of talk," exclaimed the Magistrate. "I have seen one of the letters that have been sent to this woman and I mean that she shall be protected."

"We have also received letters," retorted the young man.

Dr. Hasbrouck and Mrs. Wilson secured an adjournment for ten minutes and retired to talk it over. The young man tried to join them but was waved aside. After their consultation the man and the woman agreed to drop the matter and at their request the case was dismissed.

When asked about the case Mrs. Wilson said: "I think it might be well to tell, but I won't on account of his old mother."

The Dr. Hasbrouck who was in court lives at 62 West Thirty-eighth street, where two doctors of the name live. "I am the senior Dr. Hasbrouck," he said to the reporter. He is a man with white hair and moustache and past middle age. He would not talk about the case.

Detective Sheehan of the West Forty-seventh street station said that Mrs. Wilson lived at 211 West Forty-third street. At that address it was said last night that no person of the name of Wilson had lived there since last spring.

MUST A CHILD WIFE GO TO SCHOOL?

Question Raised in the Case of a Valley Stream Girl.

VALLEY STREAM, L. I., Dec. 20.—Recently an inspector from the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction visited the Valley Stream school and found that twenty-five children were absent. He looked up the record and was surprised to learn that nearly that number of children were absent every schoolday. The members of the Board of Education were informed that they must enforce the Compulsory Education law. The commissioners have kept Truant Officer George De Mott busy looking up every case in which a child has been kept away from school. A report has been made to the board that Mrs. Charles Coombs is down on the school register as 14 years old, and the board believes that she is a child, notwithstanding her marriage, and must attend school unless she is regularly employed. The matter has been submitted to Inspector Symes, who is detailed to see that the law is enforced here. If the decision is against Mrs. Coombs, the members of the board will try to compel her to attend school.

ELECTION INSPECTOR ARRESTED.

He's a Brother-in-Law of John Morrissey Gray, Who Ran for Register.

James J. Corcoran, an inspector of elections in the Thirteenth district of the Tenth ward in Brooklyn, was arrested yesterday by one of Sup