UNSAFE ASSEMBLY STAIRCASE

ANOTHER EXAMINATION MADE BY ENGINEERS.

State Engineer Heins Informs the Governor That There Is No Danger of Any Portion of the Building Collapsing if the Staircase Should Give Way.

ALBANY, Jan. 29.—To-day State Architect Heins made another investigation of the Assembly staircase, accompanied by former Deputy State Engineer and Surveyor Herschel Roberts and Engineer Fitzgerald, who was the engineering officer in charge of shoring up the staircase by Contractor T. J. Sullivan some fifteen years ago. Afterward the State Architect saw the Governor and former Senator Pound, counsel to the Governor. The staircase and the entrance to the Assembly chamber from the front have been barricaded by direction of the Superintendent of Public Buildings.

Gov. Higgins was asked for a statement of the situation as he understood it from the point of view of the trustees of public buildings, who are in charge of the Capitol. He declared that several months ago the trustees had had the cracks in the piers called to their attention and that some two weeks ago the trustees had called on the State Architect to make an investigation and report on the state of affairs.

"Architect Heins," said the Governor "asked me for authority to employ two engineers to assist him in such investigation. I told him if he doubted his own ability to go ahead and secure them. He then got Messrs. William Barclay Parsons and Daniel E. Moran, whose report was given out on Saturday. There has been no change in the situation to cause particular anxiety at this time. We must first determine just what structural weakness there is, and then we can get at the probable cause and apply the remedy. To this end, Mr. Heins is to continue in charge of the situation, and it is uncertain when the information will be at hand upon which it will be possible for the trustees of buildings to base a report to the Legislature. It is very regrettable, but it is one of those things which cannot be avoided, and the trustees and State architect must meet the situation promptly. From what Mr. Heins tells me, I take it that he is of the opinion that there is no danger of any portion of the building being likely to collapse, and the only part which might be further affected in a dangerous way is the staircase, which we have barricaded as a precautionary measure."

The employees in the offices of the Superintendent of Public Works, the Railroad Commission, the Secretary of State, the State Architect, the Forest, Fish and Game Commission and the State Civil Service Commission, which border on that part of the Capitol Building about the condemned staircase, are apprehensive that if anything should give way the entire northwestern end of the big building might be carried down, involving them in the collapse. The trustees of buildings and Supt. Hill believe that there is no such danger, although they admit that there are many things in connection with the situation that could not be accurately figured upon. Supt. Hill relies upon the strength of a wall of heavy stone masonry outside the departments mentioned as sufficient to withstand any such improbable collapse.

In the numerous changes made in the building during its construction the builders have worked so independently that there is no one who can be absolutely certain that anything in the portion of the structure surrounding the well of the big staircase would be immune from collapse if the staircase itself was to give way.

Ten years ago the Capitol Commission, which was created by Gov. Frank S. Black to complete the unfinished portions of the building, directed the removal of fifteen feet of the heavy stone masonry on the central tower. This is thought to have somewhat relieved the pressure on the foundations, but the only idea of the commission was that the stone had to come down because it would cost too much to complete the Capitol on the plans which had been drawn calling for a high tower. It was determined too that the weight of such a tower would be too much for the walls to support, but the main reason for taking out the layers of heavy granite was to reduce the expense of completing the building. There are yet some thousands of tons of stone masonry on this rejected tower portion and it is possible that if this masonry is taken down some of the strain on the foundations of the big building will disappear.

The members of the Assembly were much put out to-night when they arrived for the week's work at the Capitol to find the entrance to the Assembly chamber barricaded and that the only means of getting inside the big chamber was through the rear entrance. The shutting up of the front entrance and corridor will greatly discommode the Assembly in its work. To enter the Assembly chamber one must pass through the western door at the north of the Speaker's desk. The post office, cloak room, document room and Assembly parlor are still open, but the parlor can only be reached from the Assembly chamber by passing through the cloak room.

Many of the Assemblymen are rather sceptical of the need for such elaborate precautions and appear to believe that the staircase could have been left open for use under restrictions. Kicking, however, did them no good. Danger signs are to-night conspicuously posted on each floor around the well of the staircase. Nothing further will be done by the State officers until the expert engineers have finished their investigation.

Dr. Fowler of Brooklyn Ill in Albany.

ALBANY, Jan. 29.—Dr. George R. Fowler of Brooklyn, a member of the State Board of Medical Examiners, representing the New York State Medical Society, is ill at the Albany Hospital. Dr. Fowler came to Albany Saturday evening to attend to matters connected with the meeting of the board of examiners. He was taken ill on the train, and on his arrival here was aided to the Hotel Ten Eyck, where he remained until to-day, when his friends caused his removal to the hospital for observation and attention, it being believed that Dr. Fowler is suffering from appendicitis. Dr. Fowler is a noted authority on appendicitis. His son, Dr. Harrison Fowler of Brooklyn, and his wife, Mrs. George R. Fowler, are now here with the patient.

The operation upon Dr. Fowler for appendicitis was successful.

ARMY OF WORKMEN STRANDED.

Employment Agent on Trial Blames Railroad for Breaking Its Contract.

Commissioner of Licenses Bogert heard testimony yesterday on complaints brought against Francisco Sabbia, the owner of an employment agency at 49 Prince street. Sabbia was engaged by the Florida East Coast Railroad Company to send workmen down there to help in the construction of new lines. In September he shipped 2,685 men South. He promised that they should get $1.75 a day in addition to railroad fares.

Several of the men he had employed testified yesterday that they were paid at the rate of $1.25 only, and that as a matter of fact they received no money at all because of the deductions made for their fares and keep. After a time, they stated, they were turned loose at Miami without money enough to get home, and when they sought to jump the freight trains they were arrested by the Sheriff and put to work in the chain gangs. Some of them had to serve ninety days in the chain gangs. The witnesses added that they were only able to get back to New York by writing home for money.

Sabbia, for whom ex-Commissioner of Licenses Keating appeared, contended that it was not he but the railroad company which was to blame, for the reason that the company had not carried out the contract it made with him to pay the men $1.75 and to give them free transportation. Decision was reserved.

Forbidden Fruit Cordial is a blend of the juice of Grape Fruit and old Cognac Fine Champagne.

Forbidden Fruit Cordial is on sale at first-class grocers, cafés and restaurants.

FORBIDDEN FRUIT CORDIAL

Winter—the time of heavy dinners. Forbidden Fruit Cordial lightens the conversation. It makes the dinner's end seem like the beginning, and the going home as delicious as the going out.

BUSTANOBY BROTHERS,
Prop's of the Café des Beaux Arts, New York
Sole Owners.

STRIKING PRINTERS ENJOINED.

Butterick Company Gets Order to Prevent Interference With Its Business.

President McCormick and Organizer Jackson of Typographical Union No. 6 were served last night on behalf of the Butterick Publishing Company with a preliminary injunction signed by Justice Gildersleeve of the Supreme Court restraining them from interfering with the printing department of the company. It is charged that the union and its representatives have attempted to persuade the men at work in place of the printers who are on strike to quit. The papers are made returnable on February 5.

Accompanying the injunction were affidavits covering more than 200 pages by the men employed by the Butterick Company and letters from its customers. The affidavits allege that the men making them have been approached by the pickets of the union and the letters from customers allege that the union has tried to persuade them to discontinue their relations with the pattern house until the settlement of the printers' strike. It is stated in a document accompanying the injunction that the union had injured the business of the Butterick Company to the extent of about $2,500 a week.

President McCormick of Typographical Union No. 6 said last night that the union had not violated the law in its conduct toward the Butterick company, and that there were absolutely no grounds for the injunction. He declared that the union had been careful to do nothing or make any overtures to its employees tending to hamper the work of the firm.

BUILDERS NOT ALARMED.

Say Unions Would Hurt Themselves if They Broke Arbitration Pact.

The effort which is being made through the Central Federated Union and the American Federation of Labor to get the unions in the building trades which are under the arbitration agreement to strike in support of the housesmiths caused much indignation at the Building Trades Club yesterday. The employers said that they did not look on the matter seriously, but they will organize more thoroughly to prepare for anything that may be coming.

It was denied on behalf of the Building Trades Employers' Association that there was any intention of introducing the open shop generally. If the employers had any such intention, it was said, the arbitration agreement which was based on recognition of the unions would never have been framed. The following statement was made later on behalf of the employers:

The employers do not believe the rank and file of the unions will be willing to violate a pledge to observe an agreement in support of a union which has deliberately broken it. The general sentiment is that if the unions violate this agreement, which we believe the rank and file of the unions will not sanction, there will be no more conferences over the arbitration agreement. The employers will simply organize as strongly as possible and be ready for anything that may happen. The present arbitration agreement is the work of the unions themselves. We prefer to believe that they have some sense of honor. The Central Federated Union has no power to order strikes, and some of the best of the unions are not represented in that body.

Charles L. Eidlitz of the strike committee of the employers and former president of the employers said:

All I can say is that the unions under the arbitration agreement should stick to it as they should stick to a lifeboat. It is their salvation. Instead of the employers having the unions by the throat under the arbitration agreement, the unions have the employers by the throat. The arbitration agreement was the joint work of the unions and the employers, and in drawing it up the unions gained every point. We cannot violate it, and if they throw it to the winds they will be throwing away their sheet anchor.

Herman Robinson, the New York representative of the American Federation of Labor, said that he will not say in advance what the executive council of the American Federation of Labor will do when it meets in this city. The council consists of the national officers of the Federation, including President Gompers.

It was conceded that a good deal depends on the response made by the unions to the call to send representatives to the meeting of the C. F. U.'s executive committee on Friday night. The invitation to send delegates extends not only to the old unions but the new unions formed under the arbitration agreement after the last lockout.

Mark Twain and Speaker Cannon Swap Yarns.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Mark Twain held an informal reception to-day in the Speaker's room at the Capitol. The distinguished humorist called while Mr. Cannon was presiding in the House, but the Speaker turned his gavel over to Representative Watson of Indiana and spent more than half an hour in his office with Mr. Clemens. A score of members called to meet the Speaker's guest and were introduced. When the two men were alone they swapped yarns about the old days in the middle West, and Mr. Clemens told the Speaker some of his unpublished experiences on the Mississippi. Representative Hepburn, himself a veteran of the old days, later joined in the reminiscences.

The Weather.

An area of low pressure moving in from Manitoba was drawing winds yesterday from southerly quarters and warmer weather into the district from Texas and the Rocky Mountains to the upper lakes.

It was appreciably colder in the Middle Atlantic States, New England and the lower Lake region and the temperature was below zero in northern New England.

In this city the day was fair and colder in the morning, growing warmer; wind, fresh northerly, becoming variable; average humidity, 51 per cent.; barometer, corrected to read to sea level, at 8 A. M. 30.12; 3 P. M. 30.20.

The temperature yesterday, as recorded by the official theremometer, is shown in the annexed table:

	1906.	1905.		1906.	1905.
9 A. M.	29°	14°	6 P. M.	36°	19°
12 M.	31°	19°	9 P. M.	35°	18°
3 P. M.	34°	20°	12 Mid.	34°	18°

Lowest temperature, 28°, at 10 A. M.

WASHINGTON FORECAST FOR TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

For eastern New York, eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia, fair and warmer to-day; fair to-morrow; fresh, possibly brisk, southwest winds.

For New England, fair and warmer to-day; fair to-morrow; fresh, increasing to brisk, southwest winds this afternoon.

For western New York, fair to-day and warmer in east portion; snow or rain and colder to-morrow; fresh west to northwest winds.

A FLOOD OF RESOLUTIONS,

ALL PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATIONS.

One Is Aimed at Judge Deuel and "Town Topics"—Resolution for Investigation of the Mayoralty Election in This City Is Sent to Ways and Means Committee.

ALBANY, Jan. 29.—A deluge of resolutions providing for legislative investigations almost swamped the Assembly clerk's desk to-night.

Assemblyman Hoffman of New York introduced the *Town Topics* case by bringing before the Assembly Judge Deuel's connection with that paper. He wanted a committee appointed to investigate the judiciary of the State because "it is commonly known that many members of the judiciary are either directly or indirectly associated with the corporations and other like institutions, to the detriment of justice." Mr. Hoffman wants the committee to inquire into the unfitness of members of the judiciary. The resolution went to the Ways and Means Committee.

Assemblyman Eckman had a resolution to restrain the New York city Board of Rapid Transit Commissioners from entering into any more subway contracts until the Legislature shall have passed upon the Elsberg amended Rapid Transit bill, now pending.

Assemblyman Merritt in his resolution wants the State departments now supported by assessments on the corporations provided for by direct appropriations from the State.

Assemblyman Palmer wants a committee appointed to revise the election laws so as to make it impossible to have frauds at future elections. He also wants a legislative committee to investigate the acts of the State Tax Commission, his resolution saying that it has been repeatedly asserted that there has been gross caprice and favoritism in the making of corporate assessments by the board.

Paradise Park Jimmy Oliver came forward with his moss covered resolution providing for a legislative investigation of the so-called book trust.

All of these resolutions either went over for debate next Monday night or were sent to the proper committees.

Assemblyman Foelker called up for debate his resolution for a legislative investigation of the New York city railroad merger. It was referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

In each House of the Legislature to-night was read the petition and resolution adopted by the New York city Board of Aldermen, reciting that frauds were practiced at the last Mayoralty election and urging a legislative investigation. In the Senate it was referred to the Judiciary Committee and in the Assembly to the Ways and Means Committee, after Paradise Park Jimmy Oliver suggested that it be referred to the Committee on Revolutionary Claims.

Senator Saxe's bill permitting the taxation in this State of personal property of non-residents located here was reported favorably in the Senate and ordered to a third reading. The bill is aimed at wealthy New York city residents of Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Jersey.

Grover Cleveland is to be the guest of the Legislature to-morrow, when a reception will be tendered him at noon in the Assembly. Both houses to-night adopted a concurrent resolution introduced by Senator Raines reciting the fact that ex-President and ex-Gov. Grover Cleveland was in Albany to attend the meeting of the State Medical Society and inviting him to meet the members of the Legislature.

Of peculiar interest to certain of New York city's cosmopolitan population will be a new and additional definition of bigamy embraced in a bill introduced by Senator Smith (Rep., Columbia). It provides that a person who, having a husband or wife living, where "his or her marriage has been dissolved within this State for his or her adultery, shall hereafter within this State live, consort and maintain the marital relation of husband and wife with another person" shall be guilty of bigamy and punishable by imprisonment in a penitentiary or State prison for not more than five years.

Senator Burr introduced a bill permitting Suffolk county town voters to pass upon the question of establishing town parks on the waterfront. He says wealthy residents are buying up the waterfronts and that these parks must be located now if ever, before the land becomes too valuable.

Gov. Higgins sent to the Legislature a special message urging an appropriation of $100,000 to enable the Secretary of State to tabulate all the statistics gathered by the enumerators who polled the State for the purpose of the coming legislative apportionment.

Senator Marks introduced a bill requiring street cars to come to a stop on approaching block corners on which an engine house is located and to come to a stop within fifty feet of every engine house in order to avoid collisions should the fire apparatus be under way.

GRAMERCY PARK TAXED TWICE.

Won't Do, Says Justice Dowling, Who Takes the Trustees' View.

Justice Dowling in the Supreme Court denied yesterday an application made on behalf of the Commissioners of Taxes and Assessments to quash writs of certiorari sued out by Henry W. Poor, John Hone, James Henry Lane, Stuyvesant Fish and James W. Pinchot, the trustees of Gramercy Park, for a review of the assessment of the property of $560,000 in 1904 and of $750,000 in 1905 for taxation. The trustees have been making further objection to a $500,000 assessment in 1903.

Gramercy Park is a semi-private square for the use of tenants holding the surrounding lands. It was conveyed to the trustees in 1831 by Samuel B. Ruggles. At first the trustees paid taxes and came down on the lot owners for them. Later, however, the Commissioners of Taxes took to slapping extra assessments on the surrounding lots to cover the value of the park property. This excess assessment, Justice Dowling held yesterday, amounts to more than the full value of the land embraced in the park, if it could be sold free and unencumbered.

The Commissioners of Taxes held that the park trustees are not the persons to bring the certiorari proceedings, since they are not the persons aggrieved. Justice Dowling thinks differently. In the strict interpretation of the law they are responsible for the taxes to both the city and the owners of the land. If they were to pay an unlawful tax the owners of the adjacent property might come back at them.

"The city," said Justice Dowling in his opinion, "has added to the ordinary value of the lots surrounding this park $660,000, while the park itself, if sold free from restrictions and rights during the years 1901, 1902 and 1903, could not have been sold for more than $542,000."

McKinley's Birthday in the House.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—To-day was Carnation Day, the anniversary of the birthday of William McKinley. For several years it had been the practice for one of the employees of the House to raise a fund by subscription large enough to buy a quantity of carnations sufficient to supply one to every Representative. To-day, however, there was no fund and no distribution, but persons desiring to wear the flowers were referred to the cloak room employees, who sold the carnations at florists' current rates.

Chaplain Couden, who usually misses no interesting event of contemporaneous history, did not refer to either Mr. McKinley or Gen. Wheeler in his opening prayer.

German Restaurant Keeper Kills Himself.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Fritz Reuter, 55 years old, a prominent German of this city, committed suicide this morning by shooting himself through the right temple. Reuter has been in ill health for some time. He also has been melancholy recently over financial troubles. For the last quarter of a century Reuter has kept a German restaurant in this city, and his place has been frequented by many tourists from Germany as well as by the German element of this city.

"WISE" WOMEN IN DISCORD.

The Minerva Club Elects Officers After a Deal of Trouble.

With six ballots in the field, one of them printed in red ink, and with less than two-thirds of the members present, the women of the Minerva Club held their annual election at the Waldorf yesterday afternoon. So many of the ballots were scratched and there were so many "illegal ballots," according to one of the nominating committee, that it took the tellers five hours to count the 102 votes cast. And in the end this club, which stands for "wisdom among women" and which has for its motto "Woman's Loyalty to Woman," had to admit that some of the Minervas had been unwise and others disloyal. It was on a scratched ticket that Mrs. A. D. Jamison, the treasurer and bone of contention, was reelected, with forty of the 102 votes against her.

"It's all because the reformers weren't loyal to their principles at the last minute and stayed away from the election," said one of the defeated candidates. "If all the women who want a new administration of things and who want to establish a new system by which the books of the club, for instance, would be open to inspection had come another result would have been applauded."

Mrs. Howard MacNutt, whose name was on all the five tickets for president, was scratched on four ballots, while the other candidates got from six to thirty checks of opposition.

The trouble began about two months ago, when the primaries for the election began. Some of the members were dissatisfied and wanted a new set of officers. Then the nominations were made, and on Christmas eve a ballot was sent out. The next day postal cards containing four of the nominating committee's names were mailed to the members suggesting other names for election than were printed on the first ballot.

Mrs. S. C. A. Ward, chairman of the nominating committee, heard of this and called a meeting at Lotos Hall to investigate the matter. The meeting was held behind closed doors, but some of the Minervas left before the end of the session, declaring that they would secede and start a new club for "wise" women themselves. The nominating committee resigned in a body. Mrs. Ward named a new committee and another ballot was sent out. Then some of the disloyal Minervas made up a ballot and printed it in red ink. Still another ballot was sent to the members anonymously.

Mrs. Ward, Mrs. John H. Judge and several other women in the club appealed to Mrs. Trow, president of the Women's Post Parliament Club. Mrs. Trow said she would attend the election and settle all the knotty problems for the "wise" women of Minerva. Then Mrs. MacNutt heard of this and said she could manage her own club and Mrs. Trow was told to stay away. The problem was finally settled by the drawing of a new ballot, which was called "official" and which was not circulated until the meeting yesterday. No other ballot was to have been considered legal. Some of the women couldn't see it that way, so they rang in ballots of their own and scratched the "official" one to their hearts' content.

The following officers were elected: Mrs. Howard MacNutt, president; Mrs. Marie Newhaus, first vice-president, to succeed Mrs. Belle Gray Tailor; Mrs. J. L. Pettit, second vice-president, to succeed Mrs. Theodore Odell; Mrs. A. D. Jamison, treasurer; Mrs. Sarah B. Holstead, recording secretary; Mrs. J. M. Yander, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. W. M. Miller, chairman of the executive board.

The new officers will be installed on the second Monday in February.

Embezzling Banker Gets Eight Years.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Jan. 29.—Gustave A. Conzman of Terre Haute, former cashier of the Vigo County National Bank, was sentenced to serve eight years in the Fort Leavenworth prison by Judge A. B. Anderson in the Federal Court this morning on a plea of guilty to the charge of embezzling and making false entries in the bank's books.

OBITUARY.

Col. Wells Willard, U. S. A., retired, died at his home in Springfield, Mass., suddenly yesterday afternoon. Col. Willard in early life was a civil engineer. He entered the army in 1861 as a member of the Twenty-first Massachusetts Regiment. He served in the campaign of Newberne in North Carolina, and in 1862 became captain of the Thirty-fourth Massachusetts. He was in the field during the entire war, was captured twice and was confined in Salisbury Prison. He was twice presented with a medal for gallant and meritorious service in battle. After the war he was commissioned in the Nineteenth Regular Infantry and served three years on the plains. Part of the time he was in charge of a Navajo Indian agency in New Mexico. In 1869, when the army was reorganized, he was commissioned in the Fifty Artillery. In 1880 he was appointed to the Subsistence Department in the army. His service ended in 1898, when he retired on age. Col. Willard is survived by a son, Bryant, who is a lawyer in this city.

Mrs. Barbara Wechsler, widow of Joseph Wechsler, was taken suddenly ill at Eighth avenue and Union street late last night while returning to her home, at 43 Eighth avenue, Brooklyn. She was carried into the office of Dr. H. Beekman Delatour at 73 Eighth avenue, and died in a short time. Death was due to heart disease. Mrs. Wechsler was 61 years old and was born in this city. Her husband, who was a prominent Brooklyn drygoods merchant, died nine years ago, leaving a large estate, of which Supreme Court Justice William J. Gaynor was one of the executors. Mrs. Wechsler is survived by four sons and a daughter.

Mrs. Frank R. Plumley, one of the most prominent women in Vermont, and wife of the French-Venezuelan arbitrator, is dead at her home in Northfield. In the adjustment of the claims of the French Government against Venezuela Mrs. Plumley took a prominent part with her husband, who was the referee. She visited Venezuela to assist in an investigation of the matter there, and at the final meeting of the representatives before the referee she acted as interpreter. She is survived by Mr. Plumley and two children.

The Rev. Francis Edgar Mason, founder and until a year ago pastor of the Church of Independent Opinion, originally called the First Church of Christ (Scientist), Brooklyn, died on Saturday of dropsy at St. Remy, Ulster county, in his fifty-fourth year. He studied Christian Science under Mrs. Eddy and for two years preached in Boston before coming to Brooklyn, eighteen years ago. He leaves a widow and son. The funeral will be held this evening at the latter's home, 1464 Bedford avenue, Brooklyn.

James Mulloy, the oldest member of the Washington police force but for many years on the retired list, died in that city Sunday, aged 93 years. He was born in Ireland, was brought to Canada while a boy and afterward settled in Michigan. During the civil war he raised a company of the Fourth Michigan Regiment and served as lieutenant. He was the seventh man appointed on the Washington police force after its organization.

Ambrose F. Travers, vice-president of the Travers Bros. Company of 41 Worth street, dealers in cordage and twine, died yesterday at his home, 321 West Fifty-first street. Mr. Travers was born in this city in 1851. After graduating from the public schools he entered business with his father at 41 Worth street. He leaves a widow and six sons, one of whom was associated with him in business. Mr. Travers was a member of the Catholic Club.

Daniel Balme, who died on Saturday at his home, 525 Greene avenue, Brooklyn, in his sixty-second year, was a well known member of the French colony in New York. He was vice-president of the French Hospital board. For over twenty years he had been in the wholesale liquor business at 8 Thomas street. He leaves a widow and four sons.

Former Judge R. M. Henderson, leading member of the Cumberland county (Pa.) bar and distinguished throughout that State as a jurist, died at Carlisle yesterday from paralysis, aged 79 years. He was Judge of the Dauphin county courts for several years. He served in the rebellion as Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Thomas F. Monaghan, father of the Rev. Thomas F. Monaghan of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, Paterson, N. J., died at his home in Newark yesterday morning. He was born in County Meath, Ireland, about sixty years ago, and is survived by a wife, one son and one daughter.

James W. Ratcliff, a well known auctioneer of Washington, died in that city Sunday night at the age of 54 years. He was a native of Baltimore but went to Washington as a youth and for thirty years had a wide reputation as an auctioneer and real estate expert.

Albert C. Hill, receiving teller of the Shoe and Leather Bank, died at his home, 96 John street, Belleville, N. J., yesterday of pneumonia. He was 31 years old. He was also treasurer of the Nereid Boat Club and a member of the Belleville Club.

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POLICE COURT WORK AND COST.

Magistrate Wahle Favors Court Attendants Instead of Police.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Magistrates yesterday Magistrate Wahle was reelected president for the ensuing year and James McCabe reelected secretary to the board. Samuel S. Ellerstein of 138th street and Lenox avenue was appointed a court stenographer.

In his report for the year President Wahle says that 147,925 prisoners were arraigned in the eight Magistrates' courts in the past year, of whom 33,305 were women. The total represents an increase of 18,388 over 1904.

Magistrate Wahle recommended that a new court be located on the upper end of the island to take in the territory between Spuyten Duyvil and Ninetieth street.

The statistics of the year show a decrease of crime among native Americans, Irish, Germans and French, with an increase among Italians, Russians and Greeks. There has also been a large increase in serious crimes, such as grand larceny, burglary and homicide. A large increase in the number of misdemeanors, the Magistrate said, was due to the arrests of pedlers selling without a license and for violations of other corporation ordinances. An increase of 959 cases for excise violations was largely due to arrests under the Ambler law.

Referring to the court policemen, Magistrate Wahle said it was subversive of discipline to have the court authority divided. The police are responsible only to the Police Commissioner and the Magistrate has no authority over them. They are also subject to transfer without the knowledge of the Magistrates. The force in the eight courts consists of eight sergeants, nine roundsmen and seventy-eight patrolmen, whose salary totalled $140,200. This, together with the $189,400 paid to clerks and interpreters, made the total cost of the courts $349,600 per annum. Magistrate Wahle suggested that the policemen be sent back to do regular police duty and be replaced by eighty-six attendants: Eight at a salary of $1,400 a year to do the work done now by the sergeants and seventy-eight at $1,000 a year, making a total of $89,200. This would reduce the cost of the courts $51,000. The plan has the support of the Mayor and the Police Commissioner. The Board of Estimate has the power to create the offices. The Police Commissioner could appoint the new attendants special policemen.

Magistrate Wahle also discussed the questions of prostitutes, pickpockets and professional bondsmen at length. He recommended laws that would make the first two prove their innocence when on trial, and said the bondsmen could be done away with by taking from the police the power to accept bail and placing that power in the hands of bail justices, appointed for that purpose, as is done in Massachusetts.

WATER METERS FOR EVERYBODY.

Instead of Water From the Catskills, Is Alderman Meyers's Idea.

The Aldermen's committee on finance gave a public hearing yesterday on the application of Water Supply Commissioner Ellison for $5,640,000 and will approve it.

It is doubtful if the Republican majority in the Board of Aldermen will help forward the Mayor's scheme for bringing additional water supplies to the city from the Catskills. Alderman Meyers, the leader of the majority, said yesterday that if the waste of water which goes on in this city were stopped there would be no need for many years to come to spend a hundred millions for new supplies. At to-day's meeting of the Aldermen he will introduce a resolution calling for the installing of water meters in apartment houses, tenements, flathouses and private dwellings.

The Citizens' Union sent out a statement last night that 58,500,000 gallons of water are going to waste daily in this city, which represented a yearly loss of $2,846,930.

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JAPANESE MEDICAL HINTS.

Baron Takaki Tells How Sailors' Lives Were Saved—Food Values.

Baron Kanehiro Takaki, Surgeon-General in reserve of the Japanese Navy, gave the second of his series of three lectures last night at the New York Academy of Medicine, in West Forty-third street. His topic was "Naval and Military Sanitation."

The Baron said that 94 per cent. of the men wounded in the navy in the late war recovered and reported for duty. Exclusive of the battles of Port Arthur and the Sea of Japan, 3,689 officers and men were killed and wounded, of whom 1,892 died instantly and 117 subsequently. Of the remaining 1,680 wounded 1,536 have returned to duty and 61 are still in hospital.

The losses were divided as follows: Officers, 307 killed and wounded; gun room officers, 93; petty officers, 891; enlisted men, 2,333, and non-combatants, 65.

At the siege of Port Arthur 6 officers were killed and wounded, 8 gun room officers, 6 petty officers and 268 men, making a total of 343.

In the battle of the Sea of Japan 49 officers were killed and wounded, 14 gun room officers, 158 petty officers and 409 men.

"So you see, ladies and gentlemen," said the Baron proudly, "we won this decisive battle of the war with the loss of but 700 officers and men killed and wounded."

The keynote of the Japanese system of caring for the fighters is sanitation. The Baron told how before going into battle the entire surgical staff as well as the nurses removed their clothing so that no poisonous matter could possibly be introduced into wounds.

The Baron told of important experiments to determine good values. In 1884 six dogs were divided into two classes. For a period of nearly a year one group was fed on a diet principally of rice, while the second group was fed on vegeables, beef and soy. At the end of the year the first group had gained considerably in weight, but then sickened and died. The dogs of the second group, while hardly gaining in weight, were in excellent condition.

"It is not how much we eat," he said, "but what we eat."

BRIDGE MOVING PLATFORM.

Project Submitted to the New Bridge Commissioner.

Max E. Schmidt submitted yesterday to Bridge Commissioner Stevenson his plan for equipping the Williamsburg Bridge with a moving platform. Mr. Schmidt is the chief engineer and general manager of the Continuous Transit Securities Company, the owner of the moving platform patent. His proposition, which was also laid before ex-Commissioners Lindelthal and Best, is to install a moving platform to run between the ends of the bridge and to be connected with the proposed subways for Manhattan and Brooklyn.

Both Mr. Lindenthal and Mr. Best were of the opinion that this would provide a cheap and effective means of transporting crowds across the bridge, seeing that as many as 60,000 passengers an hour could be carried without crowding. No definite action was ever taken, however, because of the desire of the Rapid Transit Commission to use the bridge for the projected system of interborough transit. One of the plans, in fact, now pending before the commission for carrying passengers between this borough and Brooklyn is for the extension of the suggested bridge moving platform to run from the bridge plaza at Delancey street to Ludlow street, and south under Grand street, west to Varick street, crossing Canal street to Hudson and Desbrosses, under Desbrosses to Greenwich, under Greenwich to Watts street and then back to Canal street. In Brooklyn the plan is to construct a route from the bridge plaza under South Fifth street to Union avenue, thence east under Monroe street to a junction with the Bushwick station of the Long Island Railroad.

JAP SUBMARINES BUILT HERE.

The Fact Made Known When the Builders Sued for a Bonus.

ELIZABETH, N. J., Jan. 29.—The Electric Boat Company of Bayonne was the defendant in the circuit court to-day in a suit brought by Charles F. Ebbex and Joseph Strain, shipbuilders, to recover a larger bonus than had been allowed them on five boats built for the Japanese Government.

The case established the fact that the Japanese had submarines at their command which were built in this country, whether they made use of them or not. Ebbex and Strain were employed to go to Japan to put the boats together after they had arrived in sections from the United States. Their wages and expenses were paid under a contract, but they were to get an unnamed amount as a bonus. In their suit for a larger bonus judgment was given against them.

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BRIDGE TRAVEL IMPROVEMENT.

Commissioner Stevenson and the B. R. T. Agree on Some Changes.

Bridge Commissioner Stevenson announced yesterday after a conference with representatives of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company that an agreement had been reached for the improvement of the traffic conditions on the Williamsburg and Brooklyn bridges. One of the clauses of the agreement will gratify the passengers who have sought to cross the Brooklyn Bridge at night on the trolley cars, but have been met with a sign three or four nights a week, that only the trains were running because the trolley tracks were being repaired.

The company has agreed to put down a form of track construction which will permit repairs to be made without shutting off travel. In order to avoid blockades from crippled cars on the loops at the Manhattan end of Brooklyn Bridge two stub tracks will be laid for the shunting of broken down cars. Two inspectors are to be stationed at each loop in Manhattan to regulate the traffic and five inspectors are to be stationed on the roadways of both bridges during the rush hours.

MR. CLEVELAND IN ALBANY.

He Is to Address the State Medical Society This Evening.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 29.—Former President and Mrs. Grover Cleveland arrived in Albany at 4 o'clock this afternoon and are the guests of Dr. Samuel B. Ward. They were entertained at dinner by the Wards to-night at their home on State street.

Mr. Cleveland comes to Albany at this time at the request of the State Medical Society and is to address the Centennial meeting of that society here to-morrow evening. Mr. Cleveland's physician and old time partner on many of his duck shooting expeditions, Dr. Joseph D. Bryant of New York, is the president of the State Medical Society. The Clevelands also met so ne of their old Albany friends at a reception at the home of the Wards.

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