MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

Stated Session of Board of Aldermen.

OFFICIAL.

MONDAY, Jan. 16, 1854.

Present—Nathan C. Ely, Esq., President; Aldermen Brown, Williamsen, Blunt, Baird, Hoffmire, Howard, Woodward, William Tucker, Voorhis, Trowbridge, Boardman, Wakeman, Kelly, Chauncey, Christy, Lord, Herrick, C. H. Tucker, Mott, Drake.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

PETITIONS.

By the PRESIDENT—Petition of Robert H. Roberts to be appointed Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By the same—Petition of Thomas Macfarlan to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman MOTT—Petition of Edmund Stephenson to have the word "expelled" erased on the Firemen's register opposite his name. To Committee on Fire Department.

By Alderman C. H. TUCKER—Petition of O. V. Dayton to be appointed Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman LORD—Petition of Noah T. Pike for remission of assessments. To Committee in Assessments.

By the same—Petition of William J. F. Dailey for remission of tax. To Committee on Finance.

By Alderman CHRISTY—Petition of A. F. Cushman to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman WAKEMAN—Petition of C. S. Vanderhoof, to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman CHAUNCEY—Petition of Wm. S. Brown and others, in relation to the employment of laborers. To Committee on Alms-House Department.

By the same—Petition of Amos Jones, to be appointed assistant messenger. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By the same—Petition of Otis D. Swan to be appointed Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By the same—Petition of Jefferson Coddington, to be appointed Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By the same—Petition of Wm. G. Sterling, to be appointed Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By the same—Petition of Hose 32, to have a fire alarm bell placed in the Latting Observatory. To Committee on Fire Department.

By the same—Petition of Engine Co. No. 1, to have a fire alarm bell placed in the Latting Observatory. To Committee on Fire Department.

By Alderman BOARDMAN—Petition of Hook and Ladder Co. 13, for an apparatus. To Committee on Fire Department.

By the same—Petition of Trustees of Rodef Sholom congregation, for remission of taxes. To Committee on Finance.

By Alderman LORD—Petition of Daniel Randall, to be appointed Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman TROWBRIDGE—Bill of Dr. Wells, for medical services at Tenth ward stationhouse. To Committee on Police.

By the same—Petition of Eliss Combs to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman LORD—Petition of the Corporation of Trinity Church to stay proceedings in the matter of extending albany street. To Committee on Streets.

By Alderman BOARDMAN—Petition of Nelson Smith to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman VOORHIS—Petition of Charles Oakley for leave to withdraw his application and papers presented to the Board of Aldermen in the years 1852 and 1853. Where upon Alderman Voorhis presented the following resolution, viz.:—

Resolved, That the petitioner, Charles Oakley, be permitted to withdraw his papers and petition referred to. To Committee on LAW Department.

By Alderman HOFFMIRE—Bill of Doctor J. Sage Kilbourne for medical services at the Fifth ward station house. To Committee on Police.

By the same—Petition of Joseph Watkins to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By the same—Petition of Wm. W. Martin, policeman, for pay for official services. To Committee on Police.

By Alderman HOWARD—Petition of Samuel W. Chilson to be relieved from personal tax. To Committee on Finance.

By Alderman HOFFMIRE—Petition of Mose Company No. 41 for a new house. To Committee on Fire Department.

By Alderman WM TUCKER—Petition of Benjamin G. G. Brown to be appointed Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman VOORHIS—Petition of Wm. H. Barker for remission of tax. To Committee on Finance.

By Alderman VOORHIS—Petition of Wm. H. Hamed, to be re-appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman HOFFMIRE—Petition of Chas. M. Hall, to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By the same—Petition of Thomas Venen, to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman WM. TUCKER—Petition of Geo. Ireland, Jr., to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman BLUNT—Petition of Edward Terni, to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman WILLIAMSON—Petition of the members of the Fire Department, to have M. Callahan appointed to take charge of bell on the Post Office. To Committee on Fire Department.

By Alderman TROWBRIDGE—Petition of John F. Bailey, to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Alderman BLUNT—Whereas, it is a wise and prudent policy to notice with marks of approbation any act of noble daring and heroic courage whether accomplished upon the land or upon the sea, and to express our admiration of individuals who, regardless of themselves, and anxious only for the safety of their fellow men, hazard their own lives in an attempt to rescue and preserve those of others; and whereas, in the recent calamity which occurred to the ship San Francisco, upon her voyage from this port to San Francisco, by which the lives of upwards of one hundred and seventy persons were suddenly sacrificed, the disinterested courage and noble conduct of Captain Robert Creighton and crew of the British ship Three Bells from Glasgow and bound to this port, was the means of rescuing from an awful death two hundred and thirty persons, among whom were women and helpless children, and many of our citizens and fellow countrymen, at the imminent hazard of their own lives, and who did so nobly stay by the unfortunate vessel for six days during a severe gale of wind, and at a time when his ship was in a leaky condition, and heavily loaded with chloride of lime. And, whereas, Captain Low, of the bark Kilby, of Boston, did at the same time remain by the wreck of the above unfortunate vessel, and with like true, noble aid and rescue to unfortunate passengers, in the above wreck; while at the same time his ship was in a leaky condition, short of provisions and nearly destitute of sails. And, whereas, Captain Stoeffer, of the ship Antarctic, of New York, with his crew, did nobly aid, and with heroic endeavor to rescue the passengers from the above unfortunate vessel. And, whereas, Captain Creighton, of the American ship Lucy Thompson, of New York, did nobly by the Blessing, succor this port a portion of the surviving passengers, therefore,

Resolved, That the Common Council of the city of New York have heard with feelings of gratitude and deep interest of the daring and gallant conduct of the officers and crews of the above named vessels, who, at the imminent hazard of their lives, were the means of saving a large number of persons from a watery grave, and restoring them to their respective shipwreck, and for which they are entitled to, and we do hereby tender to them the thanks of the inhabitants of this, the first commercial city of the Western World, and commend them and their families to the care and attention of those whose duty it is to protect the interest of our gallant seamen.

Resolved, That the freedom of this city be tendered to Captain Robert Creighton of the ship Three Bells, and to Captain Low, of the bark Kilby, and a copy of this resolution, and a committee of three be appointed to carry the same into effect.

Which was adopted, and Aldermen Blunt, Hoffmire, and Lord appointed such committee.

By Alderman HOWARD—Whereas, the Fire Department of the city of New York is composed of nearly four thousand citizens, who devote their time and exertions to the public service without any reward except the satisfaction derived from the faithful discharge of their duties as citizens, and

Whereas, this branch of the civil service possesses the capacity for government in itself, at least equal to that of the citizen soldiery, we are satisfied in the free and full management and control of their own internal affairs, and

Whereas, The present system of administering the affairs of the Fire Department through the Common Council is onerous to the latter body, interfering with its more legitimate business, has operated in experience unfairly and injuriously to the Department, greatly impairing its efficiency, and the principle of the Department is deprived of the power of governing themselves by duly selected representatives, is one which should only be applied to subordinate mercenaries, and is derogatory to the character and dignity of the Department, and the time has arrived when the liberal and just policy of trusting this Department as possessing the requisite faith, honor and character to be left to their government, should be put into operation, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the annexed ordinance, providing for the separation of the management of the affairs of the Fire Department from the Common Council, be laid on the table, and printed for the consideration of the Common Council. Laid on the table and directed to be printed.

By Alderman HOWARD—Resolved that the clerk of this board be requested to have the unfinished papers or matters of the last board handed to the appropriate committees of this board. Referred to Committee on Law Department.

PAPERS FROM THE BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

A Report of Committee on Finance.—On communication from the Comptroller, with tax levy, and in favor of an ordinance providing for the payment of appropriations for the year 1854. Referred to Committee on Finance.

An invitation to attend the annual ball of Engine 21, at Niblo's saloon, on Tuesday evening next. Accepted by said board was concurred in.

A Report of Committee on Assessments.—In favor of confirming the following named assessment lists, and appointing Isaac Edwards collector, viz.: Order for regulating, paving and flagging Thirtieth street, from Eighth to Tenth avenues; for regulating and paving Forty-fourth street from Fifth avenue to Broadway, and flagging through the sidewalks; for regulating and grading Forty-sixth street, from Broadway to the Eighth avenue; for regulating &c. Eighth avenue from Fifty third to Fifty ninth street; for flagging sidewalks of the twenty-feet wide streets and avenues, Thirty first street, and from Thirty fourth to Thirty ninth street; for regulating, &c. Liberty street, between Broadway and Greenwich street, for building a receiving basin and culvert in the northwest corner of Avenue B and Fourteenth street; for building a sewer in Mercer street, from Spring to Prince street; for sewer in Washington street, from Charlton to Spring street; for sewer in Eighth street, between avenues C and D; for receiving basin and culvert, at southwest corner of twenty first street and Third avenue. To Committee on Assessments.

Resolution, That the name of Timothy Woore be restored to so to read, Timothy Waters, Jr., as Commissioner of Deeds. Concurred in.

COMMUNICATIONS.

From Street Commissioner—Being annual report of the state of his department. Laid on the table, and directed to be printed.

From the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department—In answer to a resolution of inquiry. Laid on the table, and directed to be printed.

From the Receiver of Taxes—Relative to increased accommodations. To Committee on Repairs and Supplies.

From Edgar S. Van Winkle, and James R. Whiting—Tendering their resignations as Revisors of the City Ordinances. Laid on the table.

From Nelson J. Waterbury—In answer to a resolution of inquiry as to the progress made in so revision of the corporation ordinances. Laid on the table.

From the Street Commissioner—Relative to changes in the arrangement of wharves, &c. To Committee on Law Department.

From the Comptroller—With statement of monthly receipts of Sixth and Eighth Avenue Railroad Companies for December, 1853. Accepted and ordered on file.

From the County Clerk—In answer to a resolution of inquiry as Commissioner of Deeds. To committee on Salaries and Offices.

RESOLUTIONS RESUMED.

By Alderman KELLY—Resolved, That Wm. G. Laughlin be, and he is hereby, appointed a Commissioner of Deeds for the city and county of New York. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman DRAKE—Resolved, That Henry W. Genet of the Nineteenth Ward, be, and he hereby appointed a Commissioner of Deeds for the city and county of New York. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman KELLY—Resolved, That the name of Alexander Robinson be, and is hereby, changed to Thomas Read on the Fireman's Register, and that the said Thomas be allowed his time since. To Committee on Fire Department.

By Alderman VOORHIS—Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee on Lands and Places to inquire into and report upon the expediency and propriety of memorializing the Legislature for the passage of a law to diminish the size of the Central Park, and to repeal the act for the taking of Jones' wood for a park, in this city. To Committee on Lands and Places.

By Alderman BAIRD—Whereas, The Fourth ward station house as at present arranged, is entirely inadequate to the present wants of the department, the only sleeping apartment for the accommodation of forty-six men, being one single room; this room is occupied in turn, during the night by twenty three policemen at a time; as one platoon turns out the other platoon turns into the same beds so recently occupied by their associates. Here, this number of men are obliged to keep their surplus clothing, in addition to their fire and day caps. To these inconveniences and abuses have the force been compelled to submit ever since they have occupied that station. The Police Commissioners and District Attorney have recently inspected the premises, and unanimously agree that in its present condition the building is utterly unfit for the health and well being of the occupants. Be it therefore—

Resolved, That the Commissioner of Repairs and Supplies be, and he is hereby, authorized to add another story to the building known as the Fourth ward station house, and put it in such other repair as will meet the wants and necessities of the Police Department. To Committee on Repairs and Supplies.

By Alderman MOTT—Whereas, the Honorable T. R. Whitney, one of the Senators from this city, has introduced into the Senate of this State, a bill to prevent the taxation, or allowance of any costs or charges to the Counsel to the Corporation of the city of New York for his legal services in laying out, widening, altering, or opening streets, avenues, public parks, and places in this city. Now be it

Resolved, That this Board is decidedly favorable to the passage of such bill, and that the Senators and members of Assembly from this city and county be, and are hereby respectfully asked to support the same.

Resolved, further, That this preamble and resolution be printed, and that a copy of the same be forwarded to each Senator and member of Assembly from this city, with a request that the same be presented to each branch of said Legislature. Adopted.

On motion, the Board then adjourned until Wednesday evening, 18th inst., at 5 o'clock.

D. S. VALENTINE, Clerk.

Debates in Board of Aldermen.

[Our Special Report.]

VOTE OF THANKS AND FREEDOM OF THE CITY TO THE RESCUERS OF THE SUFFERERS ON BOARD THE SHIP SAN FRANCISCO

Previous to the ordinary presentation of papers, last evening, the Alderman of the Third ward presented a preamble and resolution (which will be found in the official report) respecting the disinterested and noble conduct of Capt. Robert Creighton, of the British ship Three Bells; Capt. Lowe, of the ship Kilby; Capt. Stoeffer, of the packet ship Antarctic and Capt. Pendleton, of the Lucy Thompson, for rescuing the passengers of the steamer San Francisco, and tendering to all of them the thanks of the city, and to Captains Creighton and Stoeffer the freedom of the city. The resolution was passed unanimously and without debate.

EMPLOYMENT OF THE LABORING POOR.

The petition of Wm. Smith Brown and others was presented, in relation to the employment of a portion of our laboring population—idle and unemployed—and suggesting the manufacture of boots and shoes by teams, or a subdivision of parts as combined with the use of machinery. An accompanying letter from Mr. J. R. Pitkin states that the work referred to can be carried up (within a short space of time) to $30,000,000 per annum, and the goods sold with great advantage to the market. It would also find its way into almost every department of industry in and about our cities. The mother and her children down to six or eight years of age, will find employment for a (otherwise) idle hour. Men also, of all ages and of every capacity, can find employment or an occupation, direct or indirect, in this great work, until, by its natural increase and influence upon the market, and productions, in the way of private enterprise and public aid, will reach the sum of forty or fifty million of dollars instead of the first named amount.

UNFINISHED PAPERS OF THE LAST BOARD.

On a motion to take up unfinished papers of the former board, Alderman MOTT opposed it; he contended that the board office when their term of office expires, and as this board did not know what papers were in the hands of the committees of the old board, he would refuse to act on any of their unfinished papers.

Alderman WAKEMAN differed from Mr Mott. He apprehended that the board never dies, and he would have all the business of the old board brought before this board, and report it on by committees of this board.

Alderman KELLY said that the right of this board to take up the business of the last board be referred to the Committee on the Law Department. Carried.

PAPERS FROM THE COUNCILMEN.

On the papers from the Board of Common Councilmen being brought up,

The ALDERMAN of the Sixth ward called for the report of the Committee on Law Department from whom got those papers, and that it be first considered.

The CHAIR inquired how the Alderman of the Sixth know there was such a paper. He was aware that the last board used to know what papers were coming from the other board, and called them up for special purposes.

ALDERMAN OF THE SIXTH—I heard it outside. Suppose you elected by Democrats? Well, that is what we elected you for. (Laughter.) You are a mere servant of ours. If it is not there, I don't want it. (Loud laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN then put the question, and declared it lost.

The ALDERMAN OF THE SIXTH—I ask not.

The CHAIRMAN—The Alderman of the sixth will rise when he addresses the chair.

ALDERMAN OF THE SIXTH (getting on his legs) asked whether the Chairman of the Board of Aldermen, or of any other board, is in order when he undertakes to debate a question?

The CHAIRMAN—He is not.

ALDERMAN OF THE SIXTH—Then you are out of order. (Loud laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN decided that the motion of the Alderman of the Sixth Ward, in calling for a paper that has not been announced as before the Board, is not in order.

The decision of the Chairman was appealed from, and sustained by a vote of eleven to nine.

The communications from the Councilmen were then taken up with the preference; and the first that came to the hand of the Chairman was the report of the Comptroller, which the Alderman of the Sixth had so anxiously endeavored to have "called up."

It was moved that the report of the Committee of the Councilmen in favor of the report of the Comptroller be concurred in.

The ALDERMAN OF THE TWELFTH WARD was not prepared to vote for the appropriation of two millions and a quarter without a reference to a committee of this Board.

The ALDERMAN OF THE SIXTH said the report had been before the public for the last three months. It had been published in all the papers and in pamphlet form. If it is not now concurred in, he wished to know for how long it would be referred.

CHAIR—Until the committee report.

The communication was on vote referred.

RECEIPTS OF SIXTH AND EIGHTH AVENUE RAILROADS.

By the report of the Comptroller it appears that the receipts of the Sixth Avenue Railroad for the month of December were $20,691, and of the Eighth Avenue for the same time, $23,683 53.

STREET DEPARTMENT.

The annual report of the Street Commissioner was received, are ordered to be printed. By it is apparent that the expenditure on account of docks and slips, new work, and docks and slips repairs, for 1852 and 1853, have been greatly decreased.

Amount expended on docks and slips, &c., in 1852	$249,986 29	
" " " in 1853	126,967 00	
" on dock and slip repairs in 1852	45,000 00	
" " " in 1853	30,500 00	

The following is a summary of expenditures on trust and city account, under this department, for 1853:—

Battery salary account	$21,74 00
Cleaning Corporation docks and slips	2,440 00
Land for based for assessments	77,917 72
Lands and places	11,000 00
Second and Eighth avenue	9,982 92
Real estate expenses	49,80 50
Removing sunk n vessels	1,635 00
Docks and slip (new work)	126,967 00
Docks and slips (repairs)	30,500 00
Moneys refunded on assessment sales	19,678 09
Charges on arrears of assessments	5,561 07
Fencing vacant lots	213 35
Closing case ment contracts	4,793 09
Interest on assessments	29,867 77
Licenses lots	21,519 43
Street pavement	37,854 00
Street pavement and assessment contracts	943,101 95
Wells and pumps	505 18

After the transaction of some other business the Board adjourned at half past eight o'clock to meet again on Wednesday.

Stated Session of Board of Councilmen.

OFFICIAL.

Present, Edwin J. Brown, Esq., President, and fifty-five members.

PETITIONS

By Councilman NORTH—Of David Randall, to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Councilman GRAY—Of Samuel Jessup, same. To same.

By Councilman FORBES—Of John Cooper, same. To same.

By Councilman BAXTER—Of Frederick B. Wightman, same. To same.

By Councilman CURRY—Of Wm. A. Colt and others, to have the dimensions of the Central Park curtailed. To Committee on Lands and Places.

By Councilman CONOVER—Of J. B. Heag, for medical services. To committee on Police.

By Councilman KAYNADO—Of Elias Combs, to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Councilman SCHUYLER—Of Hook and Ladder Company No. 13, that ladder truck be furnished them. To Committee on Fire Department.

By Councilman KENNEDY—Of C. M. Hall, to be appointed a Commissioner of Deeds. To Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Councilman FORBES—Of David A Forbes, same. To same.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Councilman WILDE—Whereas the tidings of the loss of the steamship San Francisco has spread a feeling of universal gloom over our city, and whereas the incidents of that dreadful event call upon us to applaud deeds of distinguished benevolence and timely aid which, through a kind Providence, was extended in the hour of peril; therefore,

Resolved, That the thanks of our citizens and city authorities are eminently due to all who aided the sufferers by said disaster, and particularly to Capt. Creighton, of the ship "Three Bells," Capt. Low, of the bark "Kelby," and the master of the ship "Antarctic," by which timely aid the lives of so many have been preserved. Laid over to next meeting.

By Councilman NORTH—Whereas, it is becoming the corporation of this great metropolis to encourage by all appropriate means those noble endeavors to save life and property on the high seas, which are called forth by great emergencies; and whereas, the noble daring and generous sacrifice of Capt. Creighton, of the ship Three Bells, in laying to his vessel, herself in great peril, and remaining for six successive days near the disabled steamer San Francisco, until a large portion of her passengers were placed aboard his ship, and brought safely to this port; therefore,

Resolved, That the Mayor and Aldermen concur, that His Honor the Mayor, convey to Capt. Creighton, in the name of the Corporation of New York, an expression of commendation for his manly conduct in rendering assistance to the passengers of the dismasted steamer San Francisco, accompanied by an offer of the freedom of this city."

CHAIRMAN—Will you accept the substitute?

Mr. WILDE—No, sir; my resolutions cover the whole ground.

Mr. KENNEDY (reform)—I think it would be better to refer the whole matter to a committee.

Mr. FINCHNAY—I rise to a point of order, sir. By rule second any resolution must lay over for a day at least.

Mr. WILDE—Then I move to suspend rule second.

The question on suspending was then put, and lost for want of a two-third vote.

Mr WILDE (aside)—I believe that if the cholera was at the door, you would move to lay it over before you would run away from it, or take measures to stop its progress.

The resolution of Mr. Wild was then laid on the table until the next night of meeting.

CLEANING STREETS.

A communication was then read from the Street Commissioner, Mr. Arcularius, relative to cleaning streets, which was published in the HERALD a few days ago.

Mr. KENNEDY, (reform,) then rose and commenced an attack upon the Commissioner of Streets, saying that the streets were never cleaned, that the fault lay at the door of the head of the department, and not with the contractors subordinate to him.

Mr. CLANCY (hard)—In reply to the attack on the Commissioner of Streets and Lamps, by the gentleman of the Ninth, he said that Mr. Arcularius had endeavored to be lenient with the contractors. Men who were supposed to clean the streets were paid for doing the work by the Comptroller, notwithstanding a protest, had been sent to his office by the heads of the Department. The great defect in the manner in which the streets are cleaned arose from the way in which contracts were made under the amended charter.

Mr. PURDY (reformer)—We have been waiting long enough for the head of the Department to have a fair trial. People are tired of walking through the mud ankle deep when their money goes towards having the streets cleaned.

Mr. KENNEDY (reform) moved that the communication be referred to the Committee on Streets. Agreed to.

PAPERS FROM THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

Resolutions from the Board of Aldermen were then received and laid on the table complimentary to Capt Creighton and Captain Lowe, for their conduct in rescuing the passengers of the San Francisco.

After the Chair had announced the various committees appointed, the Board adjourned.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR A BELL.—The first bell in Haverhill, Mass., says the *Salem Gazette*, was purchased in 1784; before that time there was a singular substitute, as appears by a vote passed in 1630: "That Abraham Taylor blow his horn half an hour before meeting, on the Lord's day and on lecture days, and receive one pound of pork annually for his services from each family.

Court of General Sessions.

Before Judge Beebe.

JAN. 16.—The court resumed its sitting to-day at the usual hour, and sat until three o'clock, P. M., disposing during that time of over a dozen cases, and then adjourning for want of material

CONVICTIONS.

Assault and Battery with Intent to Commit Rape.—A German Jew was the first man that appeared at the bar, charged with the above offence, in having attempted to ravish a little girl, thirteen years of age, named Mary Haneson. The evidence detailed on the trial was of too revolting a character for publication; enough to say that the prisoner was convicted of the crime, and remanded until Friday for sentence.

Grand Larceny.—A colored girl, named Louisa Peterson, was convicted of stealing fifty dollars from Leander Knapp and was sentenced by the court to three years and four months imprisonment in the State prison at Sing Sing.

Burglary in the Third Degree.—Two young men, named Thomas Healy and Jacob Wilson, convicted last week of the above charge, were sentenced the former to two years and six months, and the latter to two years confinement in the State prison.

Forgery in the Second Degree.—Lewis R Morgan, who was convicted last week of passing a counterfeit twenty dollar bill on the Meriden Bank of Connecticut, on the ticket seller of the New Jersey Central Railroad Company, was sentenced to five years and four months imprisonment in the marble palace at Sing Sing.

Grand Larceny.—James O'Niel, convicted of stealing $140 from Michael Sutton, was sentenced by the court to three years and four months confinement in the State prison.

PLEAS OF GUILTY.

Grand Larceny.—Edward Golden, on pleading guilty to an indictment charging him with stealing some ear rings and money, to the amount of sixty dollars from Belinda Brown, was sentenced to two years confinement in the State prison.

Burglary in the Third Degree.—John Edwards pleaded guilty to burglariously entering the store of William Dunne, and stealing therefrom several articles, valued at sixty-five dollars, and was sentenced to two years and six months imprisonment in the State prison.

Keeping Disorderly Houses.—Margaret West pleaded guilty to keeping a disorderly house at No. 22 Manhattan place, and was remanded for sentence. John Kelly also pleaded guilty to keeping a disorderly house at the premises No. 255 Stanton street, and was remanded until Friday for sentence.

ACQUITTED.

Manslaughter in the Fourth Degree.—Cornelius Sullivan was then placed at the bar, charged with having killed his son William, by striking him with a club; but the evidence going to show that the deceased was intoxicated at the time, and that the fall was not produced by the blow received from his father, and that he accidentally slipped after he had been struck, thereby striking his head against a stone and fracturing his skull, the jury acquitted the prisoner without leaving their seats.

The Court then adjourned for the day.

Jersey City News.

SMUGGLING BY THE EUROPA—ARREST OF THE SURGEON AND BARKEEPER—GOODS SEIZED.

The late developements relative to smuggling have aroused the custom house officers to vigilant watchfulness, and the result promises to be the discovery of a much larger amount of contraband goods than was at first supposed. We learn that Mr. Cunard was put into the possession of information which came by the last steamer, that goods had been put on board the steamer at Glasgow and Greenock to go to Liverpool, and thence to the United States duty free. Preparations were made at this port to discover this or any other infringement of our laws. Officers have been occupying a room in the Darcy House, in waiting for the Europa for three days past, and immediately upon her arrival at her dock, at 9 o'clock yesterday morning, they were on the watch. In the afternoon, at 3 o'clock, Dr. Winston, surgeon of the ship, who was suspected, started to go to New York. He passed through the store without molestation, and proceeded to the ferry boat, when he was arrested and taken into a room in the Darcy House, and searched, and a quantity of lace, said to be worth about $1,600, was found secreted upon his person. John Bevan, barkeeper upon the Europa, was also arrested upon the charge of smuggling a quantity of watches of considerable value, which it is believed he smuggled. The prisoners were taken to the Eldridge street jail in New York and locked up. Traces have also been discovered of lots of goods of yet greater value, which have been brought into the country in the same manner. Officers left for Boston last evening, to be present at the arrival of the Cambria at that port, and detect any such attempts at an infringement of our revenue laws. The Europa has not been seized.

Perilous Adventure in a Cave.

[From the St. Louis Democrat, Jan. 9.]

On Tuesday, the 3d inst., while the steamer Flag was aground near Ste. Genevieve, Captain Gray, the pilot, accompanied by an Englishman, undertook to explore the great cave situated three miles above that place, taking with them a lamp, ladder, &c. They entered the cave about eight o'clock on Tuesday evening, and had advanced a distance of nearly two miles when their lamp was unfortunately broken and extinguished. After groping about for a length of time, they found an upward passage or chimney, so nearly perpendicular that Gray found it impossible to ascend it. The Englishman, however, clung to it as his last hope of deliverance, promising his companion, if he reached the top in safety, to mark the spot by tying his handkerchief to a tree and then go for assistance. Fortunately, he made his egress in safety. It was not yet day, so he was unable to take observations, but marking the place, as agreed, he proceeded to the village for assistance, and returned early on Wednesday morning with two or three others. He vainly attempted to find the place of his egress. They then proceeded to the mouth, and under the guidance of the Englishman, found the place where he left his friend, but he was not to be found. The captain, in his uncertainty of the escape of his companion, felt impelled to renew his efforts to extricate himself, and groped on till exhausted nature compelled him to give up in despair. The party in search returned for further assistance, and were eagerly joined by the officers and crews of four steamers. At two o'clock on Wednesday they entered, and proceeding to the place where Captain Gray was last seen, they divided, and proceeding in different directions continued the search till three o'clock on Thursday morning, when, to the great joy of all, he was found. He had sat himself down to die. He had not only worn his gloves completely out, but his fingers were torn to the naked bone, in his vain efforts to extricate himself. The flesh was worn from his knees, and his boot toes and pant legs were also demolished. He was found a distance of three and a half miles from the mouth of the cave, greatly exhausted. He is now on board his boat and doing well. He was forty three hours in the cave.

This great cave has many outlets or chimneys, as they are called, one of which is said to be five miles from the mouth.

Legal Intelligence.

COURT OF APPEALS, Jan. 7.—Nos. 105, 11, 115, 221, 142, and 162, struck off.

Nos. 14 and 18, reserved generally.

No. 15, reserved till 23d, and No. 16 til 12th.

No. 19. John M. Hathaway, appellant, agt. James Gordon Bennett, respondent. Argued. Mr. D. Dudley Field, counsel for appellant; Mr. Edward Sandford, counsel for respondent.

No. 20. Submitted.

Default taken in Nos. 29 and 31.

JAN. 9.—Morning Session—Default in 31, (Pratt, respondent against Foote, appellant.) Opened and argued. Mr. Robert Parker, counsel for appellant; Mr. L. Tremaine, counsel for respondent.

Nos. 170, 34, 52, struck off.

No. 266 submitted.

No. 33, reserved generally; also 37.

No. 21. (Reserved cause.) McGregor against Brown. Mr. N. Hill, Jr., counsel for appelant; Mr. Root, Parker, counsel for respondent.

Default to 29 opened.

Nos. 29, 41, 42 44 passed.

Default taken in 36 and 40.

Court called 10 causes and adjourned for want of business. Very few counsel in attendance.

Afternoon Session.—No. 29. Snedeker and another, respondents, against William F. Waring, appellant. Argued—Mr. Charles H. Smith, counsel for appellant; Mr. A. Taber, counsel for respondents.

JAN. 10.—Morning Session—No 41. Reserved generally.

No. 46. Owenus Hubbard, respondent, against Samuel S. Briggs, appellant. Argued Mr G. F. Comstock, counsel for appellant; Mr. J. A Spencer, counsel for respondent.

At 3½ o'clock argument not concluded.

JAN. 10—Afternoon Session.—No. 45 on argument.

JAN. 11—Morning Session—Argument 45 concluded. No. 215 submitted. No. 75 reserved till 18th inst.

No. 23. Holmes against Holmes. Argued. N. Hill, Junr., for appellant James Emott for respondent.

No. 60 struck off, also, 41.

No. 45. Gibson against Stanton. On argument. Mr. J. A. Spencer for appellant; Mr. C. H. Doolittle for respondent.

Case not concluded at 3½ o'clock.

Jan. 12—Evening Session—No. 57, struck off.

No 16, argument concluded.

No. 9, Spencer agt. Ayranlt. Argued. Mr. James Wood, jr., counsel for appellant; Mr. O. Hastings counsel for respondent. Argument not concluded.

Jan. 13—Morning Session—Argument in No. 9 concluded.

Nos. 84 and 89 struck off.

WHAT IS A NEGRO?—According to the Revised Code, a person having less than one-fourth negro blood flowing in his veins can get from any court of record a certificate that he or she is not a negro, and several persons have already made application to the courts for such certificates. Some few years since we attended two lectures in the capitol of Virginia, on sheep breeding, delivered by P. A. Browne, Esq., of Philadelphia, in which he combatted the idea that an inferior race could ever be entirely obliterated by breeding towards a superior one. He alluded to the explanation of Col. Smith, in his Natural History of Man, of the names of hybrids, who says:—"A black and a white make a mulatto; a mulatto and a white make a quadroon; a quadroon and white a mestee; a mestee and a white a white." "But," says Mr. Browne, "what kind of white is the manufactured cut of black and white? He tells us:—"But this last has black and curly hair, nails dark and ill shaped, feet badly formed, and much of the negro propensities." Now, Colonel Smith may call this a white if he chooses; but we would be very much afraid of marrying such a white, for fear of finding ourselves some day blessed with a "black heir;" and then adds this note, "our learned friend, William F. Van Amringe, to whom we loaned the manuscript of this chapter returned it, with the following valuable note:—'Black heir! This unfortunate circumstance happened recently in ——. A gentleman of high respectability married a beautiful girl, whose first child was a negro! The fidelity of the wife was beyond suspicion; but, on investigation, it was discovered that her grandfather, or great grandfather, was a negro.'" By reference to page 91 of the Patent Office Report, (Agricultural.) House document for 1851 the subject is there fully developed, which it would be well for our legislators to investigate before they make those tainted with negro blood white men and women.—*Charlottesville (Va.) Jeffersonian.*

Naval Intelligence.

The brig of war Bainbridge, Lieut. Chas. (Alvarado) Hunter, arrived at Porto Prayo December 10, from New York, after a stormy passage, to join the Brazilian squadron. All well.

MARITIME INTELLIGENCE.

Movements of Ocean Steamers.

NAMES.	LEAVES	FOR	DATE.
City of Glasgow	Liverpool	Philadelphia	Jan 4
Niagara	Liverpool	Boston	Jan 7
Atlantic	Liverpool	New York	Jan 11
Glasgow	New York	Glasgow	Jan 18
Canada	Boston	Liverpool	Jan 18
Star of the West	New York	San Juan	Jan 20
George Law	New York	Aspinwall	Jan 20
Baltic	New York	Liverpool	Jan 21
Washington	New York	Bremen	Jan 28
Curlew	New York	Bermuda, &c.	Feb 7
Franklin	New York	Havre	Feb 11

☞ *All packages and letters intended for the* NEW YORK HERALD *should be sealed.*

ALMANAC FOR NEW YORK—THIS DAY.

SUN RISES	7 31	MOON RISES	8 19
SUN SETS	5 00	HIGH WATER	11 00

Port of New York, January 16, 1854.

CLEARED.

Steamship Nashville, Perry, Havre, M Livingston.
Ship Cape Cod, Sears, Hong Kong, Crosby, Crocker & Co.
Ship Montreal (Br) Jones, Liverpool, Gillespie, Dean & Co.
Ship Macedonian, Preble, Havre, E D Hurlbut & Co.
Ship Wabash, Barnes, Havre, E D Hurlbut & Co.
Ship Pacific, Nelson, New Orleans, W Nelson & Son.
Schr Caroline Knight, Allen, Puerto Cabello, R P Buck & Co.
Bark Rhederic Dhu, Smith, Salinas, S W Lewis.
Bark Indiana, Watts, Cienfuegos, J W Elwell & Co.
Bark Charlotte Wynnes, Hosmer, St Marks, &c, Smallwood, Andersen & Co.
Bark American Adie, Portland, H A Curtis & Co.
Brig Neptun (Olden), Schweichel, Antwerp, Hennings, Muller & Gosling.
Brig Sutton, M'Bean, Zara, Ysnaga & Etulsin.
Brig Philura, Graham, Savannah, Dunham & Dimon.
Brig Mason Watkins, Savannah, Demill & Co.
Schr Caroline Knight, Allen, Porto Cabello, R P Buck & Co.
Schr John Castner, Mullinor, Savannah, Scranton & Tallman.
Schr D B Warner, Harmon, Charleston, McCready, Mott & Co.
Schr Eloise, Robinson, Wilmington, M'Cready, Mott & Co.
Schr Mary Jane, Mott, Norfolk, Sturges, Clearman & Co.

ARRIVED.

R M Steamship Europa, Shannon, Liverpool, Dec 31, with mdse and passengers, to E Cunard. Jan 2, lat —, lon 13 20, passed (supposed) Fr bark Euphrosine, from St Domingo; 34, about 40 miles off Cape Clear, passed R M steamship Niagara, from Boston for Liverpool.

Steamship Florida, Woodhull, Savannah, 58 hours, with mdse and passengers, to Sam'l L Mitchill. Saturday, passed the Isabella, bound out, and coming out, steamship Keystone State, going in. Sunday, 10th, at 7 PM, 20 miles north of Cape Hatteras Shoals, exchanged signals with steamships James Adger, hence for Charleston, and Augusta, hence for Savannah.

Ship New Hampshire, Chase, Glasgow, Nov 21, and Lamplash Harbor Dec 5, with mdse and 9 passengers, to Zerega & Co. Jan 1, lat 43 53, lon 56 40, saw a steamer bound E; 11th, lat 39 24, lon 67 30, passed a bale of cotton and a spanker mast, apparently but a short time in the water; 13th, Fire Island bearing WNW, distant 18 miles, saw a ship with loss of main mast, foretopmast, and mizenmast, bound W; Sunday, 15th, Barnegat light bearing WSW, distant 20 miles, saw a propeller take a bark in tow, partly dismasted (no doubt the Kilby and steamer City of New York, which took her in tow, for Boston), and steering NE. The N E has been to the westward of the Banks 20 days