THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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AFFAIRS IN THE METROPOLIS.

PROGRESS OF THE NEW MUNICIPAL REGIME.

CLOSING OF THE DRINKING SALOONS.

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THE UNSOLVED PROBLEM.

SPEECH OF GENERAL JOHN SIDNEY JONES.

THEATRICAL AND MUSICAL MATTERS.

SCENES AND INCIDENTS,

&c., &c., &c.

The New City Regime.

THE TEMPERANCE MEN AND MAYOR WOOD.

The Seventh Ward Temperance Society had a great demonstration last evening, at Botanic Hall, 68 East Broadway, President Duff in the chair. Able speeches were delivered by Mr. J. Gregg and others. The hall was crowded, many not being able to get standing room. The following resolution, which was moved by Jeremiah T. Brooks, seconded by James Scott, and sustained in a speech by Dr. H. A. Benton, was unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That the Seventh Ward Temperance Association tender their warmest thanks and hearty co-operation to his Honor Mayor Wood, for the effort he has made, and the bold stand he has taken, to close the dram shops on Sunday, and that it will meet with the warmest thanks of hundreds, and the humble prayers of thousands will be poured out for his prosperity.

THE CLOSING OF THE DRINKING SALOONS.

New York was a sober city yesterday. The metropolis was on its legs, and not in the gutter. Nearly all the drinking saloons were closed—no drunken men to be seen—and the police magistrates astonished at the want of business. Justice Osborn remarked that he never witnessed a more quiet Sabbath. Only one prisoner in the Sixth ward station house yesterday. Sunday generally closes with forty or fifty. People ask the reason of all this. The answer of the policemen was—"Wood is Mayor—he is!" All right! We hope that Wood will continue to show in this way that he is Mayor.

The Hard Times.

MEETING OF THE GERMAN WORKINGMEN—THE NEW YORKER STAATS ZEITUNG DENOUNCED—THE MASS DEMONSTRATION POSTPONED—SPEECHES, ETC.

Quite a large meeting of German workingmen assembled at Hildebrand's Hall, No. 160 Hester street, on Saturday evening, to make preparations for the demonstration which was to have come off to-day in front of the City Hall.

Mr. P. Roetel was appointed chairman, and Mr. C. Bellair secretary.

After the meeting was organized, considerable discussion arose as to the propriety of allowing the reporter of the *New Yorker Staats Zeitung* to take notes of the proceedings. The course that journal pursued in reference to the labor movement among the Germans was commented on with great severity. At this stage of the proceedings the utmost confusion prevailed—every one desiring to speak, and no one disposed to hear. Mr. Alex. Elelscheike, Dr. Schrum and Mr. Roetel contended for the freedom of the press, no matter what its coure might be; and their arguments had the effect of inducing the meeting to pass a resolution allowing the reporter to remain.

A discussion here ensued between Mr. Lindeman and others as to the propriety of the German workmen having a mass demonstration as proposed in an advertisement in the *New Yorker Staats Zeitung*. It was at length decided not to turn out on Monday, but instead to attend the meeting of the American unemployed workmen at Hope Chapel, this evening. This matter being settled, the chairman introduced

Mr. Wm. West—He said that he was glad to learn that the German population knew the value of land, and appreciated the efforts of their American brethren to secure to them their right to the use of the soil which God had given equally to all of his children, and which it was the duty of the American government to secure to all of its citizens. (Applause.) The condition of the workingmen of all nations now in this country was very distressing. They had no work, but little to eat, and very miserable shelter. All, with one accord, united in their petition to the city government, that they may have occupation in the erection, on the public lands and lots belonging to the city, of buildings suitable for the tenantry of New York. They wanted the right to labor—that is all. If they had that, they could dispense with any charitable aid. They ought to have it, and he was very happy to say that there was a possibility that the prayer of the workingmen to the Mayor and Common Council would be granted. At all events, if the city legislators were given to understand that if they should dare to dispose of their prayer without at least doing something by way of an appropriation in behalf of its objects, there would be thousands of votes cast against them whenever they should be again candidates for any office within the gift of the people. In conclusion, Mr. West invited the Germans to attend a meeting of the workingmen to be held at Hope Chapel, this (Monday) evening, at half-past 7 o'clock, of which there would be due notice given in the papers on Monday.

Mr. West took his seat amid great applause, and the invitation to attend the meeting was unanimously accepted.

Mr. Ira B. Davis was then introduced, and spoke as follows:—Fellow-citizens—I labor under some disadvantage, as I could not understand the speakers that addressed you in the German language; and, therefore, I may repeat some things that have been said by others; yet I should not satisfy my own feelings, or do justice to the cause, if I did not say something. I can say that this meeting, and the agitation of the subject of more just and equitable laws, fills my soul with intense pleasure. (Applause.) Thus far legislation has been devoted to the protection of property in the possession of those who, by the fraudulent system of trade under which we live, have obtained it, and thus far legislation has only systematized the fraud. (Applause.) Workingmen, you are the producers of the wealth of this community, and no matter in whose hands the same may be, the property rightly belongs to you. (Great applause.) And now, that by your labor the storehouses of the capitalist are filled to overflowing, they say to you, "Your services are no longer required until these goods are consumed, and if you are able to live until that time arrives, why, we will then allow you to labor, if not, you must starve, steal, or become paupers." (Sensation.) And now, when starvation stares you in the face, and your knowledge of the fact that there is plenty of everything to supply your necessities, and that it has been produced by you, yet you ask not for that of which you have been plundered—all you demand is that the means of employment be furnished you, when private capitalists refuse to employ the people whose wealth they possess. You demand that the public authorities furnish them an opportunity. This demand is just and wise, for it is the only alternative to save them from starvation, and that is a dangerous position to place a people who have breathed the air of liberty. (Excitement.) The demand that the public lots of the city be improved to furnish work to the people and houses to the tenantry, must be urged by you, and in order to make your prayer granted, you must organise the entire working thousands of the city, that they may speak with effect, for our legislators are our public servants and, like other men, will readily perform their duty when it is our wish. But hitherto they have refused to be the pioneers in reform, fearing that you would not appreciate their labors and in the hour of trial you would desert them. (Applause.) But the time has come when stern necessity compels the workingmen to think wisely and act with energy, and when you understand your own rights and present propositions, the carrying out of which would be blessings to the community, these unwise and prejudiced organizations would be deserted, and the working millions united in one grand order of brotherhood, without reference to the land that gave them birth, or the shrine at which they worship the Father of us all. (Applause.) And now, in order to effect such important results, let every man present a paper to the Common Council on Monday evening, with his name, residence, and occupation, so that the workingmen may know each other and their circumstances.

Great enthusiasm, amid which Mr. Davis took his seat.

The following petition was read and endorsed:—

RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE FREE USE OF THE PUBLIC LANDS—SAYINGS OF THE GREAT AND GOOD.

The land shall not be sold forever; for the land is mine, and ye are strangers and sojourners with me.—*Levitious.*

The most undone human being in the limits of Judea had still a hold on the land. His ruin could not be final; in the last extremity he could not be scorned as one whose birthright was extinguished.—*Croly.*

To afford every American citizen of enterprise the opportunity of securing an independent freehold, it seems to me best to abandon the idea of raising a future revenue out of the public lands.—*Jackson.*

I am now reduced to a thousand acres, and I exult in the diminution, since the happiness of others is promoted by the participation.—*Lafayette.*

Lo, we bring into bondage our sons and daughters to be servants; neither is it in our power to redeem them, for other men have our lands.—*Nehemiah.*

I set out on this ground, which I suppose to be self evident, that the earth belongs in usefruct to the living.—*Jefferson.*

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.—*Jesus Christ.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled;

We, the undersigned citizens of the United States, respectfully ask Congress to secure, by the enactment of efficient laws, to such citizens as shall be otherwise landless, the right of free occupation of the public lands, in limited quantities, by actual settlers.

The platform of the American workmen adopted at Hope Chapel was also endorsed, with two amendments; one to secure the payment of wages after work is done, and the other a recommendation to adopt the ten hour law.

The hall, which is a very large one, was densely packed by the Germans, so that many were unable to obtain admittance. During the evening the utmost enthusiasm was displayed, the radical sentiments of the speakers being cheered vociferously. The meeting was protracted to a late hour.

The following is the advertisement referred to above from the *New Yorker Staats Zeitung:*—

MASS DEMONSTRATION OF THE WORKING MEN OF NEW YORK AND VICINITY—On Monday, January 8, at 10 A. M., in front of the City Hall. Place of meeting, Hildebrand's Hall, 158 and 160 Hester street. Workmen! Brethren! The time has come. He who is manly is obliged and should act. Women! Maidens! Gather also to the work; walk freely and openly forward to obtain speedy help for the starving and suffering condition of the laborers. Come forward now. Famine is abroad. Show that, though wearied by misery and hunger, you are united, firm and strong. (Signed by the Committee.)

REDUCTION OF WAGES AT THE BROOKLYN NAVY YARD—INDIGNATION MEETING OF WORKMEN.

Commodore Boardman last week gave notice to the master carpenters, laborers, &c., that the wages of the men employed in the Brooklyn Navy Yard must be reduced—joiners, from $2 50 to $2 25 per day, and the other branches in proportion. The employés in the yard, believing that the Commodore had no authority for this course of action, held a meeting on Saturday evening, at the Brooklyn Hotel, corner of Hudson avenue and Prospect street. William Gardiner was called to the chair, and Mr. Pearsall was appointed secretary. After some consultation, the chairman was selected as a delegate to proceed to Washington and lay the matter before the Secretary of the Navy, and ask his interposition to prevent the consummation of what the workmen believe to be a most outrageous proceeding. Considerable indignation was expressed by the workmen, and some of them thought it would be a good idea, if wages were to be reduced, to commence with Congressmen, Cabinet ministers and commodores.

A GOOD IDEA—WHY NOT BUILD THE NEW RESERVOIR?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Among the multitudinous plans which have been suggested for the alleviation of the poor, I have seen no reference made to the subject of the new reservoir, the construction of which would furnish employment to a very large number of men. By an act of the Legislature, passed two years ago, all the property lying between the Fifth and Seventh avenues, and Eighty-sixth and Ninety-sixth streets, became vested in the city for the purpose of this necessary improvement, and which the interests of the city demand—as conceded on all sides—should be commenced and carried to its completion without delay. The property comprised in the above boundaries covers a space of twenty large blocks; and it is estimated that one thousand men at least can be employed on this work, and that over two years will be required for its completion. Under these circumstances would it not be wise, as well as humane, to let the work be commenced without delay, thereby furnishing employment to those who do not covet the degradation of beggary? Many months have elapsed since commissioners were appointed to estimate the amount to be paid to the owners of the property, and still no report is forthcoming. The interest of a thousand families is paramount to that of the commissioners, who have enjoyed their three dollars per day for many months for services which need not have occupied more than a month or two at the farthest. The city requires this new reservoir for its own protection, as any accident to the Croton works would illustrate, while a thousand voices, tremulous with suffering and want, plead for employment.

New York, Jan 6, 1855.

THE SICK POOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD—While collecting for the poor, please advise the relief committees to subscribe a portion of their hands to the dispensaries for the relief of the sick poor. JNO. WILSON.

The original committee appointed at the mass meeting in the Park, have been collecting money for some time past to relieve the necessities of the poor. They report the receipt of $240 50, of which they have expended $214 50, leaving a balance of $36 in their funds. They have opened a depot at 69 Fourth avenue, where they will receive donations, provisions, &c., from such as may be disposed to give them, to be dispensed to the poor. Isaac Halyea is the president, and Jacob S. Smith is the secretary of this committee.

The Mass Meeting in the Park Yesterday.

THE UNSOLVED PROBLEM—SPEECH OF BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN SIDNEY JONES, OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MILITIA.

The following strange announcement appeared in Sunday morning's HERALD:—

THE SOLVED PROBLEM—TO THE PUBLIC—Gen. John Sidney Jones, of Pennsylvania, a well known citizen, largely interested in the welfare and prosperity of New York, will attend the meeting in the Park this afternoon (Sunday), at two o'clock, God willing, to give his views to alleviate the present need of the poorer classes of society, in harmony with Fannie Lee Townsend, of Massachusetts, and others representing the Jubilee Association of the Daughters and Sons of Toil.

P. MCDERMOTT, Secretary.

At two o'clock about a dozen persons had assembled to assist in the solution of the problem, whatever it might be, but there was no sign of the speakers who had promised to be present. At length, about three o'clock, a singular looking individual made his appearance in front of the steps, and began to declaim with great energy. He was a small man, with quick, sharp eyes, long gray hair falling in ringlets over his shoulders, and a red beard and moustache. He was dressed in an overcoat and pants of woollen material, with red and gray stripes, a vest of white flannel, and a blue dress coat with brass buttons. He was further adorned with a cravat of a bright blue color with a fancy tie.

This odd-looking genius introduced himself as General JOHN SIDNEY JONES, of the Pennsylvania State Militia. He commenced with a fierce tirade against the Common Council of this city, who, he said, was doing all they could to crush the poor. After talking for some time in this strain, he stopped, and wished to know if any one else desired to speak. No one answering, he then asked if some of the gentlemen in the crowd hadn't a good segar to give him. Here a rather seedy looking gent stepped forward and offered him one, which he accepted, and commenced to smoke and speak with great energy.

MAN IN THE CROWD—Oh, that's a half Spanish segar. (Laughter.)

General JONES—Well, my friend, Columbus, who discovered America, was but half Spanish, yet he was a good one. I have been furnished with a light, and I will return the kindness by enlightening you. The soup houses, I understand, have been denounced by the newspapers. Now I go in for soup, and I don't think a hungry man would object to some. I hear that the clerks in a famous dry goods store in your city are dispensing soup to the poor. This is certainly a better employment then dealing out laces and tape to those compounds of flounce and flummery called women. Object to soup, indeed! Why, what are we all working for but our soup? What are those poor fellows cutting each others throats for at the Crimea but for their soup. (Laughter.) The speaker here entered into a long dissertation on beards, and quoted from Moses and the Prophets to prove that we shouldn't mar the corners of our beards. He continued—I attended a ball of the Emmet Guard the other night, and there, for the first time, I saw Mr. Thomas Frances Meagher, the eloquent Irishman; but what charmed me was not his eloquence, but his beard, which, would you believe it, was handsomer than mine! (Roars of laughter.) The American revolution was commenced by men with cropped faces, but we, their descendants, must go forward in the work, and to perfect it we must have plenty of hair on our chins. I was once in the Tombs, and I'll tell you how I got there. I had some business with the board of brokers in Wall street, and I attempted to enter their room while they were in session. I was refused admittance. I told them I was a Brigadier General in the Pennsylvania militia, that my grandfather fought the Britishers, that I was a free American citizen; but it was no use—they wouldn't let me in. So I got indignant, and called a meeting in front of the Exchange. Now you are a good looking audience, but you ain't a circumstance to the crowd I had then. (Great laughter.) I was told to get off the steps. "No, I won't," said I; "didn't Dan Webster speak here, and ain't a live dog better than a dead lion?" (Laughter.) So they called the police, who seized me before I was aware what they were about, and tumbled me head over heels. Your police here are a well drilled set of fellows, or they couldn't upset an old soldier like me. (Laughter.) Well, they took me before the Judge at the station house. "Take off your hat," said he; says I, "No, I won't." "What's your name?" "That's none of your darn'd business." (Laughter.) They then put me in the cell for lunatics, and kept me there until I was released next day with a reprimand. The speaker continued in this strain for over an hour; but he unfortunately omitted to solve the problem he had announced in his advertisement, and the crowd was quite in the dark when he finished, as to what he had been driving at.

After he concluded a person came forward and announced himself as a teacher. He approved of the last speaker's notions on the beard question, but disagreed with him on the liquor law issue. "Now," said he, turning to the General, "don't you approve of Mayor Wood's course in shutting up the grog shops to-day?" Applause from the crowd; but Gen. Jones looked quite dubious, and remarked that he believed in good liquor, and was opposed to any legislation on the subject. The meeting soon after adjourned.

Miss Fanny Lee Townsend, who was announced to speak, was present, but could not be prevailed on to address the audience.

Steamer Day at our Post Office.

The foreign mail sent out by the Pacific, on the 27th ult., was the largest ever despatched from our shores. Five of the large mail wagons were employed in conveying the bags from the Post Office to the ship.

In consequence of the withdrawal of several of the Atlantic mail steamers, we have no semi-weekly mail, except at long intervals, and consequently the weekly mails must be correspondingly heavier.

The number of letters sent forward by the Pacific, including those from the British Provinces, &c., were calculated at 110,000, of which 67,665 were stamped and made up at the New York office alone. Of the whole number of bags sent, one half were made up at this Post Office.

In consequence of the large increase of mail matter sent forward by each steamer, and the tardiness of merchants, bankers and others, in delivering their letters at the Post Office, it is feared that the mail must in future close one half an hour earlier, unless the matter is remedied by those whose interest it is so to do.

On the 27th ult. the heavy letter bags made up at the Post Office were not despatched from thence until a quarter before 12—the hour of sailing; and had not the steamer delayed sailing in order to receive the mails, they would have been left behind. It was found utterly impossible, notwithstanding every effort, to make up the matter sooner. The cause of the difficulty, we learn, is that the merchants and others do not, until the last moment, take their letters to the Post Office, and, as a consequence, the great labor of making them up is obliged to be performed in a limited time. For example: 7,056 letters were deposited in the Post Office on the 27th ult., between 9 A. M. and 10:25; 10,022 after 10:25, when the hour of closing was 10:30—over 10,000 to be received and postage taken in five minutes! In consequence of the vast number waiting, the closing of the mail was extended to 10:50, and in consequence of such extension the mails were twenty minutes behind at the ship.

Now, if, instead of the delay in sending their letters, the merchants would keep until near mail closing only those which they deem important for late advices, the whole matter could be easily remedied; and instead of the Postmaster being obliged to close the mail half an hour earlier, no doubt but that an additional extension of ten or fifteen minutes might be gained.

Having gleaned this information for the benefit of the commercial community, we would suggest that those interested will do well to take the hint, and send to the Post Office all that they can on the day previous, and on steamer morning as early as possible.

The New York State Military Convention.

The annual convention of the officers of the State militia will assemble for the transaction of business at Clinton Hall, on Tuesday, the 9th inst. The Astor House has been selected as the headquarters of the members of the convention, from which place they will march in a body to Clinton Hall, escorted by the State Guard, Company F. The following is the notice:—

MILITARY.—STATE GUARD, COMPANY F.—Armory, Broadway House, January 6, 1855.—Company order, No. 1.—You are ordered to appear at quarters on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at ten o'clock precisely, in full uniform, with overcoat, knapsack and white gloves, to act as escort to the New York State Military Convention. By order of

JOS. A. JOHNSON, Commandant.

WASHINGTON HADLEY, Orderly.

They will return to the Astor House at 4 o'clock P.M., and at 5 partake of their annual dinner.

Additional interest will be added to the meeting of the convention this year, by the fact that Brigadier General Scroggs, the Know Nothing candidate for Lieutenant Governor, will be present, and deliver the annual address. These conventions are held yearly, and were originally instituted to promote good feeling among the different companies throughout the State, and to devise means to add to their efficiency.

General Spicer has charge of the arrangements for the convention this year, and it is expected that the attendance will be quite full. Measures are being taken by our city military to entertain their guests in an appropriate manner.

Sermons on Romanism.

The American and Foreign Christian Union have made arrangements for a course of sermons or lectures on Romanism, to be delivered in various Protestant churches in this city during the present winter. Dr. Plummer commenced this series on Sunday evening, the 31st ult., in the Dutch Reformed Church, Lafayette place. The second sermon of the course under the patronage of the American and Foreign Christian Union, was delivered last evening in the Presbyterian church on Madison square, by the Rev. Dr. William Adams, of this city. The attendance was very large. The following is an outline of the reverend gentleman's sermon:—

The text was taken from 2 Peter, chap. 3, verse 8. "But beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." Dr. Adams commenced by alluding to the providence of the Almighty over nations, and his plans for their future existence. Infinite in His nature and eternal in His duration, God's plan is for the whole of time, and hence it is, that many things are incomprehensible to us, for they are part of an unfinished whole. The plan of God in reference to a nation may extend over thousands of years, and it would be folly in us to form conclusions from the events of a brief period. This principle is applicable especially to the Roman empire. The city of Rome was founded before the old Assyrian empire had reached its climax. It was a large city long before Cyrus sacked the city of Babylon. Its population had reached a half a million before Alexander had subjugated the East. It was the ruling dynasty when Jesus Christ was born. In its subsequent history the line of Pontiffs is far more ancient than the longest line of kings, and at this moment there is no question of more interest to the civilized world than the probable destiny of the power which sits enthroned in the Eternal City. On this evening it was the object of the speaker to treat of the transition of Rome imperial and Pagan into Rome papal. He pictured the vision of her imperial power, her civilization, her arms, her arts, and her eloquence. Her kings, her consorts, her emperors, pass before us in magnificent array. This was Roman Pagan. But the tiara has supplanted the imperial crown. Now, we hear the anathemas from the Vatican, and see the insignia of Rome Papal. Twice has Rome been called the mistress of the world—once from the prowess of her arms, and once from her ecclesiastical dominion. Giving the impressions of his (the preacher's) mind on the occasion of his visit to the renowned city, he spoke of the fulfilment of the prophecies of Daniel in relation to Rome. All kingdoms of the world were gradually subjugated, until the whole world was conquered. Everything in those days tended to centralization, for cities were empires, and everything contributed to beautify and strengthen municipal communities. Thus Rome became the centre of all. Of that period of her greatness a few majestic ruins still remain. Two of these possess especial interest to a Christian traveller—the Colliseum, the spot where many a disciple of Christ has shed his blood; and the Arch of Titus, which is one of the unbribed evidences of the truth of Scripture, for on one of its sides, in bas reliefs, are representations of those identical implements used in the Jewish worship, as described in the Book of Leviticus. The speaker then described the rise and progress of Christianity—its establishment in the Roman capital; and the trials and persecutions through which the early Christians were obliged to pass. The fourth century arrived, when Christianity was embraced and the Emperor took the name of Christian. So long as the Church was persecuted its ministers were only distinguished for their patience and humility, but afterwards they took their places next to imperial dignity. The clergy began to separate themselves from the people, and when the forces of the empire became weak, the prominent men among the clergy succeeded to power. At length the empire broke in twain, and the strife for the succession began. The question was then asked, why should not Rome retain ecclesiastical as she had obtained temporal supremacy? A feeling generally prevailed throughout the world that Rome ought to be, and still was, the mistress of the world. The power of the pontiff increased from that time, until, in the person of Hildebrand, the title of *Pontifex Maximus* was assumed, and Boniface declares that no one can be saved unless they believe in the supremacy of the Pope. Wherever you go now, in the city, you perceive that there is still an attempt to keep up the grandeur of the imperial dynasty. The old initials, S. P. Q. R. (*Senatus Populus Que Romanus*), are yet retained. In that old city, amid those old temples and palaces, the Pontiff of the Church has built his palaces, and goes forth in his trappings of crimson and gold in greater state than an emperor of old. The speaker then glanced at the ceremonials of the Roman Church, and quoted at length from several authors to show that in many of the forms of Papal worship there was a close resemblance to those of the Pagans. He instanced as an authority for this Pope Gregory, who declared that the early Christians introduced Pagan customs into the forms of Christian worship. Churches were erected in honor of the early martyrs. Their figures were sculptured in marble, and from honoring the people soon began to adore them. The old Pagan temples were consecrated to the saints. He, the lecturer, believed in the mental transmission of the associations which resided in these ancient relics of Paganism, and contended that they still wielded an influence over the minds of the people. Italy was and is the home of imagination. Every object in nature was once associated with mythology, and so it is now with what is called religion. The spirit of turning the common into the miraculous, which existed in the days of Paganism, has not been exorcised. Another element of power bequeathed from the ancient to the modern system, is the perfection of the arts. The arts were the chief support of the ancient mythology, and they are the support of the modern faith. The men who are called divine, in the language of Rome, are those who excel in art. The architects of the church are held in greater reverence than the priests who officiate in them. When the allied sovereigns were in Paris, and kings were demanding their crowns and their territories, Rome asked for her paintings and her marbles. These are infused into the religion of Rome. Her religion lies more in the paintings which hang above the altars, than in the living forms which officiate before them. The power thus exerted is not on the reason, but on the imagination. Hard will it be for a people to detach themselves from a religion with which the arts are in such close alliance.

The speaker concluded his sermon by giving an eloquent description of St. Peter's at Rome, and the service performed there. If these churches and altars, he said, were destroyed, the religion would meet with immediate ruin.

The third lecture of the series of Romanism, will be given next Sunday evening (the 14th inst.), by the Rev. Dr. Murray, of Elizabethtown, N. J., in the church on Twelfth street, near the Sixth avenue (Dr. McLeod's). Subject—The genius and tendency of Popery.

City News.

THE NEW POLICE COURT.

Since the first inst., the Fourth district police court has been held in the Twenty-second ward station house by Justice Connolly. The jurisdiction of this court will extend over the Twelfth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty first and Twenty-second wards. No business, with the exception of disposing of those prisoners released by the ward station houses, has been transacted. Until a court house has been assigned by the Common Council, for the transaction of the business, no warrant will be issued from this branch. Mr. George Dohrenwen has been appointed the German interpreter for the court.

SERIOUS STABBING AFFRAY.

A serious affray took place a night or two ago between two colored individuals named William Harden and Harriet Chambers, both cooks, at Pool's drinking saloon, in Broadway, in which the former received a severe stab with a carving knife at the hands of the latter. It appears that a quarrel ensued between these parties relative to some scandal which was alleged to have been circulated by Harriet to the disgrace and discomfiture of Harden, who, charging Miss Chambers with the same, received in reply a regular outburst of female indignation. This enraged Harden, who struck his fair opponent in the face, and she being enraged still more at the audacity of Mr. Harden, in a great passion snatched up a carving knife and plunged it in the lower part of her assailant's abdomen. She then left the premises, and has not since been heard of. The wounded man was conveyed to the New York Hospital in great suffering, where he now lies in a crisical situation.

ACCIDENT FROM FIREARMS.

Yesterday a boy named John Gell, living in Stone street, went over to New Jersey, with a rusty old fowling piece, for the purpose of shooting some small birds. When in the neighborhood of Bergen Five Corners, and while in the act of shooting one of the feathered tribe, the gun exploded, and a piece of the barrel struck him in the head, producing a severe scalp wound. A splinter also struck him in the nose, cutting it severely. He was taken to the New York Hospital, where he was attended to by Dr. Wright.

THE EIGHTH WARD TRAGEDY.

The man Joseph Hall, confined in the hospital on Blackwell's Island for the homicide of William O'Brien, on New Year's night last, is recovering but slowly from the effects of the injuries he inflicted on himself on the night in question. Dr. Sanglin, who has been attending him, has written to Coroner Hilton, stating that it would be very imprudent to examine the prisoner, on the charge preferred against him, as he was in a very critical situation. The death of O'Brien seems to have a great effect upon the mind of Hall, and it no doubt will retard his recovery for several weeks.

In the report of the inquest before Coroner Hilton on the body of William O'Brien, who was killed by Joseph Hall on New Year's night, a mistake was made in the evidence of Mrs. Margaret O'Donnell, the mother of the deceased by her former husband, in regard to her place of residence. Mrs. O'D. resides at No. 162 Smith street, in Brooklyn.

THE WEATHER.—During all of yesterday morning, the city and bay were enveloped in a thick mist, the fog was so dense that it seriously impeded navigation on the rivers and bay. There was but one arrival announced yesterday, as all the vessels were detained outside and it is to be feared that some serious accidents must have occurred. The Wall street ferry boats to Brooklyn and the Staten Island boats did not run. On the other ferries there was but one boat used on each. There were fortunately no accidents or collisions during the day. In the afternoon it cleared up bright and pleasant, and the streets were thronged with promenaders. About eleven o'clock in the evening a storm of wind and rain set in, and the temperature very sensibly lowered. It is to be hoped that we will soon have some cold weather, so as to dry up the streets and convert the mud and slime into ice.

ATTEMPT TO COMMIT SUICIDE.—A man named William Rutherville, attempted to destroy himself on Saturday night, by taking a large dose of laudanum, while in the drinking saloon 79 Cortlandt street. The attempt at suicide was discovered by the inmates immediately after he had drank the poison, and the alarm being given, officer Williams, of the Third ward police, was called to the assistance of Rutherville. He was at once conveyed to the New York Hospital, where the stomach pump being applied, the poison was removed from his system. The unfortunate man, promptly relieved from the effects of the laudanum, is fast recovering. No cause can be assigned for the attempt at suicide, but it is supposed that he has had domestic troubles of late, which, weighing heavily on his mind, induced him to put an end to his existence.

SUDDEN DEATH.—A man named John Kelly, who has obtained a livelihood by selling soap fat, suddenly fell to the ground in Sullivan street in a fit. He was picked up by the Fifteenth ward police, who took him to the New York Hospital, where he expired a few moments after his admission. The deceased was a man of about 70 years of age, and was known to many people as "the old soap-fat man." He was in the habit daily of traversing the lower wards of the city in search of soap fat, in the obtaining of which he was noted for his industry and tact. It is supposed Kelly died from disease of the heart.

ACCIDENT ON THE HARLEM RAILROAD.—The freight and passenger train which left Dover Plains at 1.30 P. M., in charge of Mr. Kuper, conductor, ran off the track near Wassaic, in consequence of one of the wheels breaking, by which one of the freight cars was cut in two, others nearly demolished. By the untiring exertions of Mr. Petty and Mr. Kuper the ruins were soon removed.

SOUTHWARK ENGINE COMPANY NO. 38 hold their annual *soiree* this evening at the Apollo Rooms. This will no doubt compare favorably with, if not surpass, all the former assemblies of this company.

Police Intelligence.

PISTOL FIGHT AMONG PUGILISTS.

Yesterday morning, about 2½ o'clock, a serious fight took place in the oyster saloon of Richard Platt, corner of Broadway and Broome street, between a party of men headed by a man named Turner and Tom Hyer, in which the latter received a severe beating at the hands of the former. It appears that Turner (who is a returned Californian) and Hyer had some altercation, when both parties pulled out pistols and fired at each other, but without any effect. A fisticuff fight then took place between the friends of both these parties and the individuals in question, which resulted in Hyer's being badly cut and bruised. Officers Bradley, Ward and McBride, of the Eighth ward police court, hearing the report of the pistols and the noise attending the fight, repaired to the saloon, and arrested the pugnacious parties. They were all taken before Justice Bogart in about half an hour afterwards, who discharged them to appear the next morning at the police court. Sunday morning, all parties appeared at the Jefferson market police court, where, after undergoing a preliminary examination, they were held to appear on the charge on some future day. The court room, of course, was crowded to excess by the lovers of the "fancy," who accompanied the prisoners to and from the court room.

ARREST OF AN ALLEGED FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE.

Marshal McGrogan and officer Douglass, of the Paterson (N. J.) police, arrived in this city on Saturday, and made application at the office of the Chief of Police for the aid of a detective in endeavoring to arrest some parties who had of late committed depredations in the town of Paterson and had come on to New York with the booty. Accordingly, officer O'Brien, of the reserved corps, was detailed for the purpose. The officers succeeded in arresting a man named Ben Leslie—alias Ben the Jumper—alias Ben Johnson—who is charged with being one of the refugees from Paterson. The accused consented to go back with the officers without the aid of a requisition, and was accordingly conveyed back under the care of those officers, to stand his trial on the charges imputed to him.

SURRENDERED BY HIS BAIL—SEDUCTION.

A young man named Charles Rawson was arrested by the Ninth ward police, charged with having, under promise of marriage, seduced Mary Freely. The accused was arrested and held to bail in the sum of $1,000 a few weeks ago, on the charge. Since then, however, his bondsmen has surrendered him to the magistrates. The prisoner was taken before Justice Wood, at the Essex Market Police Court, who detained him in durance until the bail should be forthcoming.

ARREST OF A SUPPOSED THIEF.

On Saturday night officers Kenny and Smith, attached to the Chief's office, observed a well known thief passing along Broadway, near Fulton street, and seeing him very comfortably and richly dressed, took him to the Chief's office for examination. Here, on undressing him, three coats which had no doubt been stolen, were found on his person. The goods were retained by the police until some person may claim them, and the gentlemanly thief, after being fully paraded, was locked up for further examination.

Dramatic and Musical Matters.

The past week has not been distinguished by any remarkable event in the theatrical world. All the city theatres suffer more or less from the pressure of the times. But they will probably be able to get through the season without serious loss.——At the Broadway theatre, the English opera troupe has appeared in "The Beggars' Opera" and "Guy Mannering" to good houses. In the last named piece Miss Louisa Pyne introduced "Home, Sweet Home," and sang it charmingly. Madame Ponisi gave a spirited and effective rendering of Meg Merrilies. Miss Josephine Gougenheim, the popular *comedienne* of this house, met with a severe accident on Thursday night. While descending the stairs from her dressing room to go on the stage for Ganem, a portion of her dress became entangled, and she fell. Striking her head against a wall at the bottom of the stairs, she received a severe contusion. We are gratified to learn that Miss Gougenheim has recovered from the effects of this accident, and that she will play in the farce to-night.——Mr. Buchanan made his first appearance at the Metropolitan theatre on Tuesday. During the week he played Hamlet, Macbeth, Othello, King Lear, Richard III., and Sir Charles Coldstream. Mr. Buchanan was well supported in the leading female parts by Mrs. M. Jones. Her performance of Lady Macbeth was very fine.——At Burton's, "A Nice Young Man," "Apollo in New York," "Sophia's Supper," and other pleasant pieces, have drawn good houses. Mr. Toodles also turned up again during the week, very much to the satisfaction of his old friends. A new piece is announced for Wednesday of this week, and an American comedy, by Morris Barnett, is in rehearsal. Miss Kate Saxon is no longer a member of the company at this theatre. Burton brings out to-night Croley's comedy, "Pride Shall Have a Fall." This piece was first played in London thirty-one years ago, and in New York soon after; but few play-goers of the present day have ever seen it, and it is worth a hearing, if only as a curiosity.——At Wallack's theatre the "Sisters" and other popular pieces have been played during the week. A five act play founded on Bulwer's novel, "Night and Morning," is in rehearsal at this house. There is a drama founded on this story, but it was not good enough to keep the stage.——Nothing new has been presented at the Bowery. The efficient stage manager, Mr. Robert Jones, has a benefit on Wednesday, and a new fairy spectacle is underlined.——Miss M. E. M. Makeah, the lady who recently played a star engagement at the Metropolitan, is in town. It is stated that she will shortly play at the Broadway theatre.——Miss Jessie McLean, the young lady who recently made a successful *début* as Juliana, purposes to adopt the dramatic profession. She intends to attach herself to a good stock company, and thus complete her education—a sensible idea.——A marriage theatrical took place a few days since. Capt. James M. Turner, late of our army in Mexico, and at present in the civil service of the United States, to Miss Josephine Woodward, (an excellent actress and a very pretty woman,) of the Metropolitan theatre.——Mrs. Timm, once a favorite actress at Mitchell's Olympic theatre, died in this city last week.——The Sunday concerts at the Metropolitan are very well attended. A new vocalist, Madame Victor Chomé, recently made her *début* in the United States at one of these entertainments.——Mr. John R. Scott is still drawing full houses at the Museum.

At the Broadway theatre, to night, "Maritana," one of the greatest "hits" of the season, will be repeated, with the cast as before. "Cinderella" is in rehearsal, and "The Crown Diamonds" will be given to-morrow night.

At the Metropolitan theatre, the attractions of the ring will be added to the usual dramatic performances. Richard Sands is the manager of the equestrian troupe engaged, and it will no doubt be found excellent. The names of the performers are well known, and they are second to none in their peculiar lines. The bills also announce in preparation the melo dramatic spectacle of the "Virgin of the Sun," not seen in this city, we believe, since it was brought out at the Park theatre by Price & Simpson many years ago. There will also be produced, in quick succession, several military equestrian dramas, oriental spectacles, &c. There are to be extra entertainments given during the engagement of the Circus, on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

At Burton's this evening, with new scenery, costumes, &c., Croly's comedy of "Pride Shall Have a Fall." All the favorites of the company—Burton, Fisher, Jordan, and others—are included in the cast. "Sophia's Supper" is the farce.

At Wallack's theatre, Mr. Lester, as Sir Edward Ardent, will make a morning call upon Mrs. Hoey as Mrs. Chillington; Mr. O'Brien's Sisters will be personated by Miss Rosa Bennett, and Mr. Vincent will give a practical illustration of the meaning of the conventional expression, "Out on the Loose."

At the Bowery theatre three popular dramas are announced.

At the Museum, Mr. J. R. Scott will play Ugolino; Miss Mestayer as Angelica.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA ELSEWHERE.

Mr. E. L. Davenport has been playing at the Boston theatre. The *Journal* says he had a liberal house on the first night, when he played Hamlet. He made a speech, interesting only to Bostonians.——Mr. and Mrs. Conway, of the New York theatres, commenced an engagement at the Boston Museum last Monday, in "Ingomar." The *Herald* says that they made a great "hit." They are engaged for two weeks.——The remains of Mrs. George Barrett were last week placed in the lot of the Museum Dramatic Fund, at Mount Auburn.——Signora Clocca, who lately arrived in this city, after several years absence in Mexico, has been engaged for the new Boston theatre. Signora Clocca will be remembered as a most excellent *artiste*, and a fascinating woman.——The *Transcript* learns that the arrangements for the appearance of Grisi and Mario in Boston will be as follows:—

They will perform six operas at the Boston theatre, commencing with "Il Puritani," on Monday evening, January 15. They will appear on alternate nights, when the following operas will be presented, viz.:—"Lucia di Lammermoor," "Lucretia Borgia," "La Favorita," "Norma," and "Semiramide." The theatre will be surrendered to the opera company, who will have the entire control of the