THE NEW YORK HERALD.

WHOLE NO. 7138. SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 8, 1857. PRICE TWO CENTS.

SHOCKING TRAGEDY IN GREENWICH STREET.

Horrible Outrage by Rowdies—An Aged Woman Violated and then Murdered—Arrest and Escape of one of the Perpetrators—Coroner's Inquest Upon the Body of Deceased—Verdict of the Jury—One of the Murderers Caught, &c.

The basement of No. 32 Greenwich street, on Friday night, was the scene of one of the most fiendish acts of violence ever perpetrated in a Christian community. A respectable woman, well advanced in years, named Teresa Spitzlin, was ravished and then choked to death by a party of four or five rowdies, who entered the premises as above stated against the will of the occupants, and then commenced a series of violent acts hitherto unparalleled in the annals of crime.

It appears that about 11 o'clock P. M., when the occupants of the basement in question had all retired for the night, a party of four rowdies, named Morris O'Connell James Tool, William Hagan, and a boatman called "Sailor Dan," came to the basement door and demanded admittance. This was denied them, when one of the fellows threw a brick against the door, and proceeded to force it open, while the others went around by the rear and tried to gain an entrance through the back door. It may be as well for us to state here that the basement was occupied by a German named Christian Martin, as a lager bier saloon of very low repute. But, nevertheless, the woman Spitzlin was a respectable and industrious female, as will be seen from the sequel, who lodged in the place during the night time and worked out during the day.

O'Connell, who appeared to be the ringleader of the party, succeeded in forcing open the front basement door, when he entered the place, and running through to the rear hallway, unbolted the back door there and allowed his companions to enter. As soon as Martin found that the place was in complete possession of the rowdies, he turned off the gas, thinking that that would deter them from any further acts of violence. But the *ruse* failed most signally. Finding that little or no opposition was made by the proprietor of the saloon, the ruffians proceeded to take improper liberties with his wife and sister-in-law. The deceased, who was lying asleep upon the floor when the rowdies entered the place, here came forward and endeavored to protect the other women. Being an aged woman, and one who could converse in English, she thought she could manage to pacify the fellows by telling them to take seats and behave themselves like men. But they paid no attention to her entreaties, and seemed bent on doing something desperate. At this moment O'Connell and Tool, as it is alleged, caught hold of the poor old creature, one by the legs and the other by the head, and dragged her into an adjoining bedroom for the purpose of violating her person.

Deceased struggled hard with the ruffians, and screamed loudly for aid, but none could be afforded her, for the other two rowdies had complete possession of the premises. Tool first violated deceased and then left her to the tender mercies of O'Connell. The latter, in perpetrating the assault, found it necessary to choke the deceased in order to stifle her cries for help. Most effectually did he smother the screams of the unfortunate woman, for he choked her to death.

Having accomplished their hellish desire they left the premises and coolly walked off, as if nothing had occurred. By this time the police had got wind of the affair, and upon entering the basement and examining the body of the prostrate woman they found that life had become extinct.

They instantly went in pursuit of the fugitives, and succeeded, after a brief search, in finding O'Connell. The prisoner was taken to the sub-station house in Trinity place, when he expressed a willingness to do all in his power to aid the officers in their search for the rest of the gang. He stated to the sergeant, then in command of the station house, that if he was allowed he would go and show the police the spot where the gang were concealed.

The sergeant was completely entrapped. *He allowed the prisoner to go out in charge of policeman Gilfeather alone*, and the pair proceeded down Rector to Greenwich street together. While walking in Greenwich street, just as they were within a few yards of the Battery, O'Connell started off and left the officer standing in amazement on the sidewalk. The fugitive was pursued, but he managed to make good his escape, and up to the present time has eluded the vigilance of the police.

Yesterday morning the search for the fugitives was recommenced, but with no better result. Sailor Dan managed to get on board of a brig bound to Mobile, and is now on his way to that port. O'Connell is supposed to be secreted somewhere in the neighborhood of the spot where the tragedy was enacted, but the police are unable to find any clue to his hiding place. Tool was seen yesterday morning, but it is believed that he is now many miles from New York. Hagan's whereabouts has not been ascertained, but the police think he is concealed somewhere in Washington street.

The occupants of the saloon, including the proprietor, a man named Wickle, and two women, were all arrested and conveyed to the station house as witnesses, to await the action of the Coroner in the matter. The female prisoners evinced much sympathy for the poor woman who had sacrificed her own life while endeavoring to protect their persons from violence.

THE CORONER'S INQUEST.

At noon Coroner Connery proceeded to the station house where the body of the deceased was then lying, and at once commenced to investigate the matter. A jury was first empanneled, when the following gentlemen were sworn to make a true inquiry into the case of the murdered woman:—

W. T. Shannon, Brooklyn.
Henry Hanghill, New York Hotel.
Charles Currier, Brooklyn.
Francis Secore, No. 241 Fifth avenue.
D. H. Wallace, No. 26 Beach street.
S. J. Ferguson, No. 74 Broadway.

The Coroner then proceeded to take the testimony of the witnesses who had been subpœaned, as follows:—

Francis Martin being duly sworn, deposed that he lived at No. 32 Greenwich street; deceased has lodged with me for the last month, and paid me six cents per night; she worked for a doctor on the corner of Cedar and Greenwich streets; she was not a prostitute; between 8 and 9 o'clock last night a party of three men came to my house and kicked in the door of my basement; a fireman—a big loafer—came in with two other loafers, and commenced fighting with my sister; they threw my sister and daughter on the floor and tried to use them in an improper manner; we told them that we had no girls, when they took hold of deceased and offered her money; I then went between deceased and them and told them to go away and not to touch her; a little fellow then came up and took out a dirk knife and held it over my chest, and told me that if I interfered with him he would kill me; I then told one of the young men to go out for a policeman, but he said he was afraid they would kill him, and would not go; I then ran out to look for one, but could not find any; I did not see what they did to deceased until I came back, when I took a light and went into the back room, where I found a man by the name of Morris Connell lying on deceased with his hands around her throat; the rest of the party were gone; I immediately gave the alarm, when he ran away.

Frederick Toepritz, living at 134 Greenwich street, deposed that he was an apothecary; I knew deceased for three weeks; she worked for me that length of time; I think she was a decent woman; she left my house about eight o'clock last night; she was quite well then; she told me she boarded with a tailor; I know nothing about the occurrence that took place last night.

Eliza Diedrich, living at 32 Greenwich street, with her sister, Mrs. Martin, deposed as follows:—I knew deceased for three months; I always knew her to be of good character; I went to bed before eight o'clock last night; about half an hour after four men broke in the basement door; one of them, by the name of Morris Connell, caught hold of me and threw me on the floor; I got up and took my child and ran up stairs; when I went up stairs I told the landlady, and we went into the yard, when Morris Connell came out of the back window; the landlady caught hold of him and said, "Now, I have got you, and I will know you again;" he got away from her and ran away; I then went for an officer, and when I came back deceased was dying; I did not see what was done to her.

John Weikle, of No. 32 Greenwich street, deposed as follows:—I am an emigrant runner; two men came down and kicked in the basement door; they went into the back room, and caught hold of deceased by the throat and dragged her into the back room; I was afraid to go out for a policeman; I thought there were some more men at the head of the steps who would beat me if I went out; I went to the door of the room and told them there was an officer there, when three of them went out of the back window, and the other one went out of the front door.

Leslie Blackburn, of No. 28 Greenwich street, deposed that he lived at his brother's store, No. 106 Greenwich street; I met James O'Toole, Morris O'Connell, a boy called Sailor Dan, Fairy Divine and Wm. Hagan, at No. 36 Greenwich street, talking together; they first started for the corner of Morris and Greenwich streets, but crossed over to No. 32 Greenwich street, when one of them said, "Let us go down and get some money from him;" I think Morris O'Connell was the person who first said "Let us go down into the basement;" then Hagan, O'Connell and Tool started for the basement; I think they went into the entry and into the back basement; Divine, the sailor boy, and myself, stopped for about ten or fifteen minutes after the boys went down into the basement; the boy called Sailor Dan then went into the basement; I went as far as the door and heard some loud talking; I think it was a woman's voice; I then went down into the basement and said to the man behind the bar, "what's the matter;" he was the boss; he made me no answer, but a woman who was in the barroom commenced talking in Dutch to the man behind the bar; I then went into the room and saw Hagan coming out of the room; I said something to him, and then went in where I saw James Tool lying on the body of a woman on the bed; the woman might be the person who is dead for aught I know; I then left the room and went through the bar up stairs; Hagan followed me, and I think O'Toole likewise; they said to me Morris is down there, yet, and is doing the same act that they had performed with the girl; we remained outside a few minutes; Morris did not come out; he was the last man in the basement; there was music in Walker's public house, across the street, where we went over, and stopped outside the door for a few minutes; there was no one with me except Hagan; we then went away and met Toole on the corner of Greenwich and Morris streets; he, Divine, Hagan, and myself went up Rector street to Broadway, and then came down Morris street; while coming down Morris street we met O'Connell, who said Toole was going to be arrested; Toole laughed at O'Connell, and so did all of us; a boy by the name of Smith, who lives in Trinity place, said the woman at No. 3 was dead; the witness, John Weikle, then came across Greenwich street and said the woman was dead he went up Rector street, when we followed him; we stood on the corner of Tin Pot Alley, when I think Toole came up and stood with us; Morris then went home to bed; I am pretty sure that O'Connell was the last person in the cellar; Toole lives at No. 35 Greenwich street; Hagan lives in Washington street; Morris lives at No. 64 Greenwich street; Divine lives at No. 34 Greenwich street; and I live at No. 28 Greenwich street; I saw Toole this morning, but did not see any of the rest; Morris said that he had connection with the woman; others said that Sailor Dan had also; I heard that Sailor Dan went to Mobile thi morning; I do not know where the other parties are.

By a Juror—Toole was the person who was having connection with the woman who was on the bed; I did not see Morris having connection with the woman; I saw no one holding deceased; I saw no one in the barroom but the woman who was talking Dutch; my impression is that the boys forced the girl.

Christian Martin, of No. 32 Greenwich street, deposed, that he was the husband of the first witness; I am a tailor by trade, but keep a lager beer saloon at the above number; I keep prostitutes at my place; about half-past eight o'clock last night some one knocked at the door and asked to be admitted; I refused to admit them, when they threw bricks at the door; they then went around to the back door, when my wife told me to open the door for them; one of them forced open the door in front; the others, who were in the yard, were then let in by the back basement door; there were three or four men then in the basement; one of them attacked my wife, when she told them that she was married; then the deceased interfered, and told the men that they should sit down and keep quiet; then they took hold of deceased and carried her into a little hall; one of them took her by the legs and the other by the head and laid her on a bed in the bedroom; one of the two who carried her in was Morris; I saw Morris throw deceased on the bed and there have connection with her; I looked for a club, but could not find any; the deceased was screaming and struggling at the time; I saw no one else having connection with deceased beside Morris; my wife went out after the police while I staid in the basement; I heard Blackburn tell the men to go out of the place; I don't know how many persons there were in the basement; I was so much confused I could not tell; one of the men tried to have connection with my wife, but she got away from him; they also tried to have connection with my wife's sister, but failed in the attempt; they had no connection with any one in the basement, except deceased.

THE POST MORTEM EXAMINATION.

Thos. C. Finnell, of No. 39 Grand street, being duly sworn, says:—I held a post mortem examination on the body of a woman now lying dead at the sub-station house in Trinity place; the throat was bruised and scratched more or less on the right side of the neck, such as would be produced by strangulation; the genital organs were much bruised and swollen, and a small laceration was found at the inferior part of the vagina; the stomach was very much distended with gas, and contained a large amount of food; the liver was much diseased, being in that condition called *cirrhosis*; there was an enlargement of the thyroid gland pressing upon the trachea or windpipe; this condition of the gland is common to persons living in Switzerland, and the disease is called *goitre* or *bronchocele*; I am of opinion that deceased came to her death by strangulation; a moderate amount of strangulation would have produced death in this instance.

Coroner Connery then proceeded to address the jury, reviewing the evidence that had been adduced, and calling upon the jury to render such a verdict as would tend to bring the perpetrators of this most fiendish outrage within the pale of the law.

The jury then retired for deliberation, and after an absence of fifteen minutes returned with the following

VERDICT.

We find that the deceased, Teresa Spitzlin, came to her death from violence received at the hands of Morris O'Connell and James Toole, and that Sailor Dan and William Hagan were accessories before the fact. Further, that Morris O'Connell and James Toole had criminal intercourse with the deceased by means of force and violence. We request and hope that in the present alarming state of crime in this city the Mayor and every good citizen will not only offer a reward for the apprehension of the offenders, but that the police will be instructed to use every means to have them arrested.

Upon the rendition of the above verdict warrants were issued for the apprehension of the accused parties, and the same were placed in the hands of officer Shangle, of the Coroners' office, for execution.

The deceased was a native of Switzerland, and was about fifty-five years of age. She was a widow, having lost her husband at sea about two years ago.

ARREST OF ONE OF THE MURDERERS.

At a late hour last night the police succeeded in arresting Tool, as he was leaving house No. 52 Greenwich street in disguise.

More Demonstrations of the Working Classes in Tompkins Square.

A large number of men collected yesterday in Tompkins Square for the purpose of hearing the report of their committee and devising some means of obtaining employment during the winter. At 8 A. M. groups assembled in different parts of the square, talking over their condition and that of their families, and at nine a meeting was organized. In the absence of Mr. Smith, secretary, it was called to order and presided over by James T. Maguire, who said that their committee advised that nothing further be done until Tuesday morning, when they expect all the workmen who are out of employment to assemble in Tompkins square; for as that is the time at which the promised work was to have commenced, they will know better how to act. Mr. Maguire exhorted them to be peaceable till then, inasmuch as the eyes of the entire city are upon them, and he was desirous, for one, that they should conduct themselves as quiet respectable persons.

George Noll next addressed the meeting. He said he was a workman himself, and as such he thought he had a right to say what he thought. I believe, said he, it is proper that workmen who are the real strength of this or any country, should meet together on an occasion like the present, and show to those who have plenty that they are in want not only of work but of food. Already some good has resulted from our meetings, as the conversations of our committee with our Mayor fully show. (Cheers.) We have been promised some work and we have received his advice to remain quiet, which we intend to do like good citizens, as all working men are. There was much cheering during the delivery of this speech, and when quiet was restored Mr. Maguire said that as it was the desire of their committee that they should adjourn and remain quiet until Tuesday morning next, he hoped they would all disperse, and that no one would detain them by speaking, as there was nothing to be said that could benefit them in any way before Tuesday, when it is hoped everything will look better. The meeting then quietly dispersed, but the crowd did not leave the square for some time after. The unemployed working men are to meet again at eleven o'clock next Tuesday.

The Central Park, and Working Men.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Incendiary articles having appeared in several papers of this city, seriously reflecting upon the Mayor and Common Council in relation to employing men upon the Park and the appropriation of certain moneys therefor, in plain words charging the Common Council with corruption, it is highly necessary that the "public, the tax payer" and the laborer himself should be made acquainted with the causes for non-action on the part of the "Council Board" at their last meeting. Information having been obtained by members of the Board that a number of men having been employed on the Park are yet without their pay, and that a habit exists, after paying the laborer and receipt given, that return of the money is requested, and certain sums deducted, and that not over one hundred laborers have been employed at any one time for the last year, (notwithstanding newspaper and "employees'" reports); that more than one-half of the wall layers and "laborers" employed were from Westchester county and Staten Island; that competent men have stated that all work so far having been done could have been accomplished for the sum of $10,000. Then, I ask, where is the $50,000 appropriated a few weeks ago? We have been told that men having bills due of even $11 have been refused payment, and told to get it if they can. Now, a few questions of inquiry:—Have the Commissioners made their estimate for the next five months, amounting to $25,000? If so, what use do they intend making of $250,000? Do they want i for Mississippi and Milwaukie, or for election purposes? Have there been at any one time 700 men employed? Have they deducted a portion of thei wages? Have they (the laborers) all been paid? Did they hire most of the men from Westchester? Did they get up the excitement and send crowds down to the City Hall and endeavor to force the Common Council to give them $250,000, and after a few weeks' work send the poor laborer adrift and then ask for more, after spending $20,000 or $30,000? "Consistency is a jewel." No, citizens and tax payers, the Common Council are ready to employ 2,000 men to-morrow on the Park; they are ready to vote the say $50,000 or $100,000 at a time; they will be responsible that the men be paid in cash, but they do object to give this $250,000 in a lump and no return made for it. Let the Commissioners set the men to work on Monday; let them employ men within the bounds of the twenty-two wards, and not Westchester county; let them pay the men and no deduction; compel them to make a return of every name and residence to the Common Council of their employees; give this satisfaction to the tax payer and all will be well.

Should there be anything here stated not correct, the Commissioners, or either of them, are particularly invited to appear before the Committee on Lands and Places of the Council Board on Monday, 9th inst., at 2 o'clock, and answer such questions as shall be put to them.

J. L. WAUGH,
Ch'n. Com. on Lands and Places Board of Councilmen.

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Opening of the New Fireproof Building—Addresses of Hon. Luther Bradish, Hon. George Bancroft, Rev. Dr. Adams and Rev. Dr. Bethune.

The opening of the new fireproof building which was erected for this institution on the corner of Second avenue and Tenth street, took place on Tuesday evening, on the occasion of its regular monthly meeting. The handsome and spacious lecture room was crowded to its utmost capacity by the members of the society, among whom were Hon. George Bancroft, Dr. J. W. Francis, Rev. Dr. Adams, Rev. Dr. Bethune, Rev. Dr. De Witt, Mr. Brodhead Rev. Dr. Robinson, Rev. Dr. Van Pelt, Mr. Frederick Depeyster, Hon. Mr. Schell, Mr. Charles King, Mr. William Chauncey, Treasurer of the Society; Mr. Andrew Warner, Recording Secretary; and Mr. George H. Moore, Librarian.

The meeting was opened by Hon. Luther Bradish, the President of the Society, and prayer said by Rev. Dr. De Witt. The President, after calling the meeting to order, made the following appropriate address:—

We are at length assembled for the first time under our own roof. The New York Historical Society has passed its nomadic state, and has at last found a fixed and permanent home. From wandering for half a century, the tenants at will of others, we come this evening to take possession, as our own, of this beautiful temple, with all its ample accommodations, and to dedicate them to the cause of history and of art—of history in its broadest sense, and of art in its illustrations of history. Here, for the benefit of the present and future generations, will history garner up its treasures. Here will each succeeding age, for the instruction of those to come after it, bring its record of the current events of time. And here, too, in the future, will the Genius of History, from these accumulated treasures, construct its variegated but harmonious narrative—showing the relations and dependencies of apparently isolated events, and exhibiting the great truth that the histories of seemingly detached periods, instead of forming integral subjects complete in themselves, are but parts of the universal system of that Providence which, in infinite intelligence and wisdom, governs the world. Here, too, in this fitting temple, will art lend the light and the fascination of its illustrations to the great truths of history. The genius which inspired the imagination and guided the pencil of Raphael, of Michael Angelo, of Rubens, and of Murillo, will hereafter cover these walls with its beautiful creations illustrative of the men, the manners, and the events of the time; and prove to mankind that in art the present is not inferior to the past, or the New World to the Old. Sculpture, too, whose magic power can call from the inert and shapeless mass the ideal semblance of animated and intellectual life, even in its sublimest forms; which can give to marble in its chisel traces, the graceful lineaments of female form and loveliness, the combined expression of the shrinking delicacy of female modesty and the force and dignity of conscious virtue; which, in its magical transformations, can exhibit, in the quarried block, the first dawn of civilization, and the first springing of celestial hope in the bosom of a graceful daughter of the forest; or can in marble symbolize the etherial spirit's flight from darkness into light, and from time to eternity—this noble art will hereafter adorn these galleries with the productions of its genius, and prove to the world that America too can furnish names worthy to be associated with those of Thorwaldsen and Canova, of Phidias and Praxiteles. The burin of the engraver, too, will lend its aid to enrich our galleries, and in its representations of both painting and sculpture, exhibit the magic of light and shade, the grace of outline and the beauty of design. Thus will these several departments of art conspire to illustrate and give additional interest to the truths of history, and thereby advance the proper objects of this society. Ten years have passed away since the project of this building first received a definite form. In 1847 the New York Historical society, comparatively then few in numbers, and feeble in pecuniary resources, but deeply impressed with the great and increasing value of its library and collections, and with the danger to which they were exposed, took the incipient steps for the erection of a new fire proof edifice for the reception and preservation of that library and those collections, and for the general accommodation of the society. This enterprise, under the circumstances, might well, as it did, to the timid and even prudent, seem hardy. It was indeed bold. For the society resolved upon an undertaking of great magnitude and importance, involving a large expenditure of money, without having in its treasury a single dollar for its achievement. But the society relied upon the intelligence and known liberality of New York, in the confident belief that her public spirit would not permit an object of such conceded merit and of so great public concernment to fail for want of the necessary means for its accomplishment. It was, therefore, determined that an appeal, accompanied by a statement of facts, should be made to the public generally, and to the friends of historical literature in particular, for aid in the accomplishment of this great object of general interest. Most nobly did the public of New York respond to this appeal, and by its liberality and public spirit in promptly furnishing the requisite pecuniary means, fully justify the confidence of the society and the wisdom of its enterprise. To collect and apply those means, however has required a long time, great effort, and continued perseverance. But the success which has at length crowned persevering effort, should render us insensible to the exertions which have achieved that success; and, in the important good thus accomplished, we should forget the personal sacrifices it has cost, and regard only the new hopes it inspires and the increased responsibilities it involves. On the 17th of October, 1855, this enterprise, thus commenced, had progressed with such encouraging success, that the corner stone of the present building was laid, and the work thenceforward steadily advanced. That liberality and public spirit which were so nobly manifested at the inception of this enterprise, still accompanied its continued prosecution, until, in this finished and beautiful structure, you now behold the consummation of an enterprise commenced in weakness, but in hope, perseveringly prosecuted in anxiety and with great effort, and at length crowned with ample and entire success. The two cardinal conditions, also, upon which this enterprise was undertaken, have been faithfully observed, and are this evening fulfilled. This new edifice was to be fireproof. It is substantially so; and, when completed, no debt was to remain upon the society on account of it. This, also, is true. The report of the Trustees of the Building Fund, which will be presented to you in the course of the evening, will, among other interesting details, announce the gratifying fact that, after faithfully discharging every just obligation incurred in procuring the site and in the erection of this new fireproof edifice, there will still remain, on account of this special fund, a balance to go towards the furnishing of the building for the uses of the society. The further sum required to complete the payments for the necessary furniture of the building, alone now remains to be provided for. A voluntary contribution of a very few dollars from each member of the society would abundantly supply the deficiency, and fully accomplish the desired object of finally closing this great enterprise. This small sum would in each case bear but a very inconsiderable proportion to the greatly increased accommodations and advantages procured to each member of the society by the very satisfactory completion of this enterprise. Thus the two original and important conditions of this enterprise are this evening fulfilled. Your building is essentially fireproof, and there will remain upon the society, on account of it and its site, no debt, except, indeed, one of deep gratitude to those munificent patrons of the enterprise who have generously furnished the means of its accomplishment. To those generous patrons we point to this new and beautiful structure as an enduring and fit monument to their own liberality and public spirit. To the society generally who originally projected and undertook this enterprise and has watched with the deepest interest its progress and its completion, we present this noble edifice with all its tasteful arrangements, its ample accommodations and its admirable adaptation to its objects, as the reward of its enterprise, its perseverence and its ultimate and complete success. With the successful accomplishment of this enterprise, a new and brighter era in the history of this society is inaugurated. With these enlarged accommodations and these greatly increased facilities for the prosecution and accomplishment of its objects, the responsibilities of the society are correspondingly increased. In proportion, as its library and collections are rendered more safe and more available, will be the inducement and the obligations of the society to extend the former and enlarge the latter. That these new and increased responsibilities will, in the future, be fully and honorably met by the society, we have an assurance in its past history. But, for the ability to meet in a fit and becoming manner these new and increased responsibilities by increased activity, enlarged operations and more extended usefulness, we must still look to the continued encouragement and patronage of that generous public which smiled so benignly upon the infancy of the society; which has so generously fostered its youth, and which surely will not withhold from its ripening manhood the encouragement it may hereafter need and shall deserve. Let it then be our object as a society fully to merit the patronage we seek. Let us, in entering upon the new and more brilliant career now opened before us, go forward with new energy and increased zeal; and, by judicious administration and greater activity in our operations, justify the appeals made to the public in our behalf, giving back to that public the cultivated fruits of its own munificence; and thus rendering this society what, if wisely conducted, it cannot fail to be—both an ornament and a blessing to New York and our country.

At the conclusion of the President's address the report of the Trustees of the Building Fund was read by Mr. Frederick Depeyster. This document, in addition to many other things, stated the gratifying fact that the building and all its appurtenances had not only been paid for, but that there was a balance in favor of the society. The cost of the whole structure, as appeared from the report, amounted to $84,739 84, in which was also included that of the lots on which it is erected. Mr. Depeyster improved the occasion by giving a sketch of Cadmus, whom he called the first historian, and a number of other distinguished characters.

Dr. J. W. Francis moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Mr. Bancroft in the following remarks:—

The Committee of Arrangements have assigned me the pleasing duty of seconding the motion for the acceptance of the report. This beautiful and convenient building is the endowment for history made by the citizens and especially by the merchants of New York. It is their affectionate tribute in commemoration of the honorable fame of their ancestors, the varied fortunes of this great commonwealth, and that sympathy which binds the present generation with every generation of mankind that has gone before. Assembled here, we feel that events do not occur without adequate cause; that for everything there is a reason; that there are no gaps in the chain that connects the past with the present; that the institutions of to-day are but the necessary development of former time; that this moment in our existence, though often imperceptibly and in minute degrees, reflects light from all preceding ages. In an especial manner our own city and our own State have the most diversified affinities with ancient forms of civilization. The son of a merchant of the Venetian republic first ran down our coast. A fellow-citizen of Dante and Michael Angelo, under the banner of France, found out the channel into our harbor. When the fulness of time came for the establishment of a colony on this shore, Holland summoned Hudson from ranging among the jagged rocks of Spitzbergen and the icy mists of the Straits of Veigatz to lead the way in ascending our noble river; just as afterwards, when the great men of the age went forth, not like Titans to destroy, but with the better energies of creative power to lay the foundations of our Union, a Hamilton, whose cradle had been rocked by the breezes of the tropics, was called from the Antilles to plead for the adoption of the federal constitution. Here assembled the first Congress of 1765; here the New York sons of liberty sent forth the first invitation for that of 1774; on our soil was won the decisive victory of independence, and here Washington inaugurated national freedom and union. The moment of planting the institutions of cultivated man within our limits was marked by whatever is most romantic in American history. The interior of the State was occupied by that wonderful people who had advanced furthest amongst savages in civil polity and confederation; and while all that was most daring in adventure, all that was most self-sacrificing in religion, were entering on the one side with Champlain and the Catholic missions, on the other the great commercial republic of Europe, the forerunner and fostering example for America, was preparing to take possession of Albany and Manhattan. In the Old World republican government has fallen on evil days, and a kingdom has taken the place of the glorious Dutch union of sovereign States. But if the living waters of freedom have diminished in that European land, through which they once flowed most brightly, they are but as the fountain of Arethusa, which disappears only to gush forth again in a happier clime. America claims a share of the honors due to Chaucer, and Raleigh, and Shakspere—the English literature that preceded the first planting of Virginia. The glory of the Dutch republic is peculiarly our inheritance. The republican liberty of the Netherlands, which was vindicated by a contest longer and more trying than that of Athens with Persia, is to be found only here. It is ours, all ours. The banks of the Hudson are its asylum, where it renews its perennial youth like the eagle. The gift of this building has another significance; it is one of many proofs that the busiest city is the most genial home for literature. Where there is the most action there there must be the most thought. The world of the scholar and the world of the man of affairs are all one. The widest connections furnish the greatest opportunity of concentrating knowledge, and the readiest means for its diffusion. In such a community there is no possibility of a dead calm, of a stagnation of mind. The ever-moving winds of controversy winnow opinions, and the fire of truth is kept alive and fed by contributions from all climes. And what city is bound by more associations and ties to all parts of the world than our New York. At one moment, one of its sons discovers the Antarctic continent; at another, a ship from our wharves is planted by a man of heroic mould, illustrious in his youth—the immortal Kane—among the icebergs of Greenland, as the imperishable monument that of all the flags in the world the stars and stripes have approached nearest to the pole. But if we would see the intimate connection of our city with every part of the globe and the many nations of the earth, we have only to look about us, not at the magazines of our merchants, where, indeed, everything is gathered together from ocean and from land for the support, the comfort and the grace of life, but at the men moving in our streets, representing as they do not our own country only, not England and Holland only, but every nation of Europe, from Cadiz to Warsaw, from Ireland to the Isles of Greece; so that by necessity the civilization of all those lands is intertwined with ours. The seers who look into futurity abound in their eulogies of the coming commercial greatness of New York, when its proportion of the mercantile marine shall be still greater than it is now, and it shall be the centre of the exchanges of the world; when its population shall fill this island, and, like a branching vine, cover all the lands around. But this superiority in material resources is not enough; the crowning glory of New York must be its advancement in intelligence. Here must flourish unsurpassed colleges of that science of which the blessed skill removes disease, or charms away its pains. Here we must have schools of jurisprudence to teach it as a science, resting on immutable principles of justice, to interpret international and constitutional law on a system that shall be at once cosmopolitan and national, breathing union among ourselves and good will to all the peoples of the earth. Here, where the crowded streets show the most of that favored being who alone was created in the image of his maker, the truths that lift man above the vicissitudes of time and connect him with things that are eternal, must shine out in their purest lustre. Here divine art must make visible to the senses the forms of beauty that repose in the capacious recesses of creative genius. Here universities must gather together all the fountains of truth and send the living waters through the land. Let the comprehensive and liberal spirit of our merchants and the vivifying intelligence of scholars join together to promote the fullest developement of every capacity for good. This edifice is an earnest of that co-operation.

At the close of Mr. Bancroft's remarks the meeting was addressed by Mr. King, President of Columbia College, substantially as follows:—

I find myself, said he, on looking around me and and remembering the early beginnings of this society, almost as a man of a past age, looking rather at posterity than upon my contemporaries, for I remember the beginning, humble and unpretending, as has been well said, of our college—(laughter)—I mean of our library. I remember it, he continued, when it was a very small, small association with a very small collection and very slender hopes; and I have lived to see it as it is—useful, honored and especially well housed. We have come here to-night to celebrate an event of great interest, not to the society alone but to the country. We have provided a home for the monorials of the past. We present here a temptation to al who have valuable papers or documents to put them in our possession, since we are now in a condition to keep them safely from the fire, and from what once was far worse, from the hammer of the Sheriff. After some further remarks, showing the importance of such an institution in preserving the records of the past, Mr. King resumed his seat.

He was followed by Rev. Dr. Adams, who, after a brief allusion to two of the first members of the society, Mr. Verplanck and Washington Irving, related some interesting anecdotes of Dr. Johnson, illustrative of the ill feeling which some, even of the most distinguished literary men, had against works written by those against whom they had conceived a prejudice. Such a feeling could not be too strongly condemned, for it was subversive of that spirit which regards all historical truths, no matter by whom recorded, as worthy of preservation and entitled to that importance which belongs to their character. Everything that tended not only to throw light upon doubtful questions of history, but that served to illustrate the manners, customs and social habits of the generations that were and of those that are to come, should be collected and carefully preserved. We are, said the speaker, reminded by history of those great spirits of liberty who are to be found in every age of the world, and whose acts inspire the patriots and lovers of freedom in every land to deeds of heroic and noble daring, and it was to him a peculiar satisfaction to be a member of a society which had for its sole object the collection of not merely historical evidence, whether in a printed or written form, but of those works of art which show that, in the creative genius of her sons, America is not inferior to the Old World.

The motion was still further supported by Rev. Dr. Bethune, who was particularly severe upon all clergymen who left the sacred vocation of the ministry to engage in politics. The reverend gentleman was listened to with unabated interest through an address of an hour's length. When he resumed his seat, the motion in regard to the report of the trustees of the building fund was adopted; after which the meeting adjourned.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING.

The building, as we have stated, stands on Second avenue, corner of Eleventh street, and was completed under the superintendence of Mettam & Burke, the architects.

The structure is in the Italian style of the Roman Doric order, and the facades are built with a drab colored stone known as the New Brunswick Dorchester quarry stone. The dimensions are as follows, viz.:—55 feet front on Second avenue, by 92 feet deep on Eleventh street, two stories high, with a basement, and surrounded by an open area enclosed with a massive balustrade.

The basement is rusticated, which gives it a massive effect. The first story is finished with Doric pilasters and cornice. The second story windows are trimmed with panelled upstarts, consoles, cornices and pediments; the centre window on Second avenue has a broken pediment, in which is placed on a pedestal the bust of Herodotus, the father of historians. It is the intention of the society to have a bronze bust after a time. The building is finished with a Doric cornice with triglyphs, and a panelled blocking course on top.

The front on Second avenue is divided into three sections, the centre section projecting out two feet beyond the other, and surmounted with a pediment on Eleventh street.

The main entrance on Second avenue is a handsome doric portico, with a flight of seven steps, flanked by massive buttresses, and on which are placed two handsome lamps. The private entrance for the officers and speakers is on Eleventh street, which gives direct access to the rostrum.

At the front door there is a spacious vestibule finished in the Corinthian order; this opens into the lecture room and office, and contains the main staircase and basement staircase, which are all of iron.

The lecture room is 16 feet high and 50 feet 6 inches by 68 feet; on the south side is a rostrum and two ante-rooms; the rostrum is for the officers and the speaker of the evening. The seats are placed in concentric segments, and will seat 500 persons. This room is lighted by six windows.

At the top of the main staircase is another vestibule, finished as the first, in the Corinthian order, and further on is the entrance to the library and librarian's private office.

The library, however, is the great feature in the building. It is a fine, spacious and lofty room, surrounded by two galleries. These galleries are fifteen feet wide, and are supported by Corinthian columns (iron), with cornices, &c. The first gallery is eleven feet six inches high, and contains the newspapers and engravings. The second gallery is sixteen feet high, and contains the splendid collection of paintings of the New York Art Gallery and the paintings of the society. There are two other galleries off this, over the vestibule of the second story, for statuary and paintings, whilst on the first floor are the book alcoves, which are finished with Corinthian pilasters. The library is lighted by a large dome and lantern and skylight. There are a flight of iron stairs to the galleries, and the galleries are protected with iron railings. The interior of the library is finished in white, with gold etchings on the caps of columns and ornaments of railings. This gives a light and pleasing effect to the interior.

In the basement is the refectory, where the members enjoy the time honored custom of indulging in coffee, chocolate, &c. The remainder of the basement is devoted to the janitors' apartments and heating apparatus.

The building is constructed in the most substantial manner, the floors being laid with iron beams, and brick arching between the beams, which are four feet apart. These arches are levelled up with concrete, on which is placed sand, and then a yellow pine floor.

The roof is of corrugated iron, galvanized, supported on iron trusses and columns. All the windows are secured with heavy sliding iron shutters; and the library is shut off from the rest of the building with massive iron doors.

The ventilation of the building is improved by means of flues and registers; and the library is ventilated through the skylight and portions of the lantern, which open on pivots. It is also ventilated over the dome and in the ceiling, which opens under the roof, and from which it is carried off by ventilators in the roof.

We congratulate the society upon their accession to such a splendid building, which is one of the finest in the city.

The building and lot costs $85,000, all of which have been fully paid for.

City Intelligence.

The Democracy Rejoicing.—The boom of cannon and a calcium light brought a large crowd, numbering several thousand, to the Park last night. It seemed to be an *impromptu* affair, but a meeting was organized by calling Stephen D. Dillaye, Esq., to preside. The chairman happily opened the meeting, which was addressed by Alexander C. Morton, General Walbridge, William J. Rose, Colonel Hiccox, Thomas A. Glover, and others. Songs were sung, and the democracy seemed to have a good time generally.

Garroting a Minister.—The Rev. Mr. Lord, pastor of the Dutch Reformed church in Harlem, was attacked on Wednesday evening in Second avenue, near 119th street, by a desperate ruffian, who suddenly sprung upon him and struck him a violent blow, which was quickly followed by another in the face. The reverend gentleman is stalworth, well proportioned and athletic, and the highwayman finding that the blows he gave failed to bring his intended victim to the ground, and thinking, no doubt, that he was likely to catch a Tartar, took to his heels. But Mr. Lord, not having been rendered *hors du combat*, put after him, and after a chase around two or three blocks run him into a grocery store, where he secured the fellow and handed him over to the police. He was safely locked up in the station house and will undergo an examination. Woe betide him if he should come before Judge Russell. This is not the first introduction Mr. Lord has had to a garoter. Some time since, one of the fraternity of highwaymen attacked him in Brooklyn, and struck him two blows before he was able to act on the defensive, but he soon recovered himself, and with his powerful arm sent the rascal reeling in the gutter, where he left him lying, and proceeded on his way.

American and Foreign Bible Society.—The regular monthly Board meeting of this society was held at the Bible House, 115 and 117 Nassau street, on Thursday afternoon, Nov. 5, Rev. B. T. Welch, D. D., President, in the chair. After the usual preliminary services, letters were presented and read from several of the Society's agents, together with reports from colporteurs for the month of October, showing the following gratifying results, viz.: 4,332 families visited for Bible reading and prayer; 370 induced to attend church; 103 children taken to Sunday Schools; 279 sermons and addresses delivered; 172 prayer meetings held; 553 vessels and seamen's boarding houses visited; 20 persons converted; 9 baptized. The Board, in common with other benevolent societies, feel the effects of the general depression and financial embarrassments of the country, and the imperious necessity of an increase of funds to prosecute the benevolent operations of the society. After the appropriations recommended by the different committees were made, the Board adjourned.

Alumni Association of Columbia College.—A regular meeting of this association was held on Wednesday evening, the 4th inst., at the rooms of the Children's Aid Society, Clinton Hall—the President of the Association, Oliver S. Strong, Esq., in the chair. After the reading and approval of the minutes of the last meeting, the reports of the Standing Committee and of the committee appointed to attend the examinations of the students of the college, were severally presented, accepted and ordered on file. The subject of the festival, address and poem was, on motion, referred to the Standing Committee for the next year, with full power. The following named officers of the Association, for the ensuing year, were then elected: