# NEW YORK CITY.

## THE COURTS.

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.

**Proceedings Before Registers in Bankruptcy.**
Before Mr. Isaac Dayton.

*In the Matter of Bernard B. Sippert.*—Held first meeting of creditors, who chose John Todd, 202 Broadway, as assignee.

*In the Matter of Philander W. Stebbins.*—Meeting of creditors fixed for January 30, at one P. M.

*In the Matter of Norman C. Jones.*—Meeting of creditors to be held on January 24, at twelve M.

*In the Matter of Peter W. Gallaudet.*—Held first meeting of creditors, who chose John Todd, 202 Broadway, as assignee of bankrupt's estate.

Before W. H. W. Allen.

*In the Matter of Caroline Marks.*—First meeting of creditors fixed for 16th of January, at one P. M.

*In the Matter of Samuel Brouner.*—On bankrupt's application for discharge made order to show cause, returnable January 23, at eleven A. M.

*In the Matter of Matthew O'Farrell and Daniel O'Farrell.*—Held first meeting of creditors, who failed to elect assignee. Register appointed John Sedgwick as assignee of bankrupt's estate.

*In the Matter of Thomas C. Goetchius.*—Made adjudication of bankruptcy; granted certificate of protection.

*In the Matter of Irving N. Simons.*—On bankrupt's application for discharge, made order to show cause, returnable January 25, at eleven A. M.

*In the Matter of Henry M. Williams.*—Held first meeting of creditors. Mr. G. A. Seixas appeared for Christ, Jay & Co., filed proof and exhibited letter of attorney to act for them. On application of bankrupt, and creditors consenting, register adjourned meeting to Monday, January 6, at two P. M.

*In the Matter of George Green.*—Bankrupt has passed his last examination, and Register certifies that the bankrupt has complied with the requirements of the law.

*In the Matter of George W. Kimball.*—Witnesses will be examined in this case on the 8th inst. at one P. M., before the Register.

*In the Matter of George G. Haydock.*—Bankrupt has last examination, there being no opposition. Register certifies that the bankrupt has complied with the requirements of the law.

Before Mr. Edgar Ketchum.

*In the Matter of Isaac Wyman.*—Held first meeting of creditors. John Sedgwick appointed assignee by Register.

*In the Matter of William Flandrau, Jr.*—Held first meeting of creditors and Register appointed John Sedgwick as assignee.

*In the Matter of Joseph L. Townsend.*—Made adjudication of bankruptcy. Warrant returnable January 25 at twelve M.

Before Mr. J. F. Dwight.

*In the Matter of John H. Elliott.*—Held meeting of creditors. John A. Foster, counsellor at law, chosen assignee by creditors.

*In the Matter of George Hoffman.*—Held meeting of creditors. John Sedgwick appointed assignee by Register.

Before Mr. T. B. Gates.

*In the Matter of John A. Bigelow.*—Mr. Charles N. Hummel, who had been chosen assignee at the first meeting of creditors, having declined to accept that post, Register appointed Mr. Elijah Dubois, of Kingston, Ulster county, as assignee of bankrupt's estate.

Before Mr. L. T. Williams.

*In the Matter of Bernhard Strauss.*—Held first meeting of creditors, who chose Albert Smith as assignee.

*In the Matter of James Black and William Secor.*—Adjourned reference to January 7, at two P. M.

*In the Matter of Frederick W. Coleman.*—Issued order to show cause, on bankrupt's application for discharge, returnable January 24, at ten A. M.

*In the Matter of Samuel Lauterbach and Max Lauterbach.*—Order to show cause, on bankrupt's application for discharge, returnable January 30, at ten A. M.

*In the Matter of John S. Belcher.*—Altered date of first meeting of creditors from January 9 to 17.

*In the Matter of Alonzo R. Peck and William H. Peck.*—Warrant returnable 18th January, at twelve o'clock M.

*In the Matter of James Van Nuke.*—Made adjudication of bankruptcy.

**Petitions Filed in Bankruptcy Yesterday.**

Edwin McKenzie, New York city; referred to Register Dwight; order of reference returnable January 9, at two o'clock P. M. Thomas Dowse, New York city; referred to Register Ketchum; order of reference returnable January 6, at two o'clock P. M. Richard Hibbard, New York city; referred to Register Williams; order of reference returnable January 4, at two o'clock P. M. John F. Ruttman, New York city; referred to Register Fitch; order of reference returnable January 4, at two o'clock P. M. Joseph A. Solomon and David Folaski, New York city; referred to Register Dayton; order of reference returnable January 6, at two o'clock P. M.

### SUPREME COURT—GENERAL TERM.

**The Appointing Power to Local Offices—The Question of the Tax Commissionership.**
Before Judges Leonard, Sutherland and Peckham.

*The People, &c., Appellants, vs. James M. Raymond, Respondent.*—This case was brought to test the constitutionality of the act of 1867 empowering the Governor to appoint the Commissioners of Taxes and Assessments, and was argued before the December General Term of this court. The following is the opinion rendered on Monday last by Mr. Justice Leonard:—

The new duties directed to be performed by the Tax Commissioners under the act of 1850, and since that time by the act of 1857 and other acts, are merely incidents and colorable additions to the duties before these dates for a long time appertaining to the office of assessors of taxes.

From 1850, when the Board of Tax Commissioners was created, until the act of April 17, 1867, the Commissioners were appointed by the Board of Supervisors or by the Comptroller of the city of New York, local authorities elected by the people of that city. The change in the appointing power from the Supervisors to the Comptroller made no infraction of the constitution, because these offices are elected by the people of the city within which the Commissioners are to perform their duties. By the act of 1867 the Commissioners of Taxes and Assessments are to be appointed by the Governor, an officer elected by the people of the whole State of New York. It requires no argument to demonstrate that the latter act is in plain violation of the spirit and intent of section 2, article 10 of the constitution of this State. The change in the name, with the continuation of the same powers and the addition of certain new duties and functions, not before found necessary to the administration of the office, does not amount to a creation of a new office. Every office now filled by the people of the city of New York may by legislation have some new power or duty conferred which, with the same reason and justice, it might be claimed permitted a change in the term and power of appointment, so that the Governor of the State, instead of the people of the city of New York, or some authority elected by them, should fill all the offices of that city. The plaintiffs are entitled to judgment of ouster, &c., against the defendant, and the judgment appealed from must be reversed with costs to the appellants.

### SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.

**Decisions.**

Dec. 31—By Judge Leonard.

*Margaret Elwood vs. Franklin Elwood.*—Allowance denied.

*The People ex rel. William Lee vs. James Lynch, late Sheriff, &c.*—Order granted for peremptory mandamus.

Jan. 2—By Judge Clerke.

*Washington Life Insurance Company, of New York, vs. Hannah M. Lawrence, &c.*—Eighteenth proposed amendment disallowed.

*In the Matter of the Attachment of the Propeller Jack Jewett, &c.*—Motion denied, with $10 costs.

By Judge Ingraham.

*William P. Ware vs. Alfred P. Reynolds.*—Motion denied, with $10 costs, to abide event.

*Northern Railroad Company et al. vs. Ogdensburg and Lake Champlain Railroad Company et al.*—Motion for injunction denied and temporary injunction dissolved, with $10 costs.

*Marcus Brod vs. E. Heyman et al.*—Motion denied, $10 costs, to abide event.

By Judge James.

*Smith vs. Wheeler and Zabriskie vs. Wheeler.*—Motions granted, setting aside judgments, with costs.

By Judge Cardozo.

*Ernestina Franz vs. Philip Franz.*—Report of the referee confirmed and judgment of divorce granted.

JAN. 2.—*Margaret Elwood vs. Franklin Elwood.*—Report confirmed and judgment of divorce granted.

### MARINE COURT.

The following is the annual statement of business transacted in the Marine Court of the city of New York before Justices Alker, Hearne and Gross during the year 1867:—

GENERAL TERM.

| | |
|---|---|
| Appeals from judgments at special term | 82 |
| Appeals affirmed | 45 |
| Appeals reversed | 13 |

SPECIAL TERM.

| | |
|---|---|
| Total number of judgments rendered from January 1, 1867, to December 31, 1867 | 1,747 |
| Total number of summonses issued | 2,060 |
| Total number of alias summonses issued | 893 |
| Total number of warrants issued | 336 |
| Total number of attachments issued | 206 |
| Total number of jury cases remaining in court | 291 |
| Total number of non-jury cases remaining in court | 262 |

### DONNING THE ERMINE.

Mr. Justice Albert Cardozo, the newly elected member of the Supreme Court bench, of this district, took his seat yesterday morning at Chambers, and rendered his first decision in his new capacity. He takes the position rendered vacant by the expiration of the term of office of William H. Leonard.

Judge George C. Barrett took his seat in the Court of Common Pleas, and fills the vacancy created in that court by the resignation of Judge Cardozo as a judge of the Common Pleas.

A large number of the members of the bench and bar called upon and paid their respects to the new appointees in court this morning.

## POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

THE KALAMAZOO MURDER CASE.—A short time ago the HERALD published the arrest of Hugh Darragh, alias William Hoyt, by detectives Hubbard and Young, of the Eighteenth precinct. The officers arrested him while he was in company with a number of others on suspicion, and he was held on the complaint of these officers, with the expectation that a complaint would be preferred against him. The authorities of the State of Michigan, learning of the arrest of the accused through the papers, sent a detective on here from Chicago, who applied at the Central office in Mulberry street, and was told that the prisoner in question was then lying in Second District Police Court prison. The Chicago detective, in company with one of the detectives of the Central office, visited the prisoner, when detective Dixon, of Chicago, identified Darragh as being one of the two men who was charged with the murder of the Sheriff of Kalamazoo, Michigan, on the night of the 2d of December, and who would now be at large but for the energy of Hibbard and Young. A requisition was applied for and granted by the Governor of the State to deliver the prisoner over to the authorities of Michigan, where the crime of murder is alleged to have been committed. Yesterday the officers were in court, and Justice Dodge, of the Jefferson Market Police court, delivered up the prisoner to the Chicago officers. It is said there is a large reward offered for the accused parties, and it is to be hoped that the Eighteenth precinct officers, who made the arrest here and who held the prisoner, will receive all the acknowledgment and benefit due them in this important arrest.

HOW THEY KEPT NEW YEAR'S DAY.—The presiding justice at the Second Police District Court yesterday had a busy time of it. There was scarcely a case on the court calendars save those charged with being drunk and drunk and disorderly. Of these, however, there was any quantity, and the appearance presented by the prisoners was one that would lead a spectator to believe that they felt very much like being disgusted with themselves. All ages and conditions, both native and foreign, to the number of about sixty-two, after "making calls" during the day, reposed their weary limbs in the station house, and accompanied a brass-buttoned M. P. to the police court yesterday morning. Some had been found sitting on the door steps appealing to an inhospitable occupant of a dwelling house, "Come, landlord, fill the flowing bowl," while others, in sober meditation sad, fell into the hands of the philistines while they mournfully sang "Think of your head in the morning." One officer, in charity, taking compassion on one who "laid him to sleep on the cold, cold ground," brought him along to the mansion with a green light over the door, where he met another officer who was between a brace of worthies who vehemently declared that "They were jolly good fellows, which nobody could deny." And nobody did deny it, and because they were such good fellows they were kept for safe keeping until morning. And when morning and the police magistrate came and each was accused of being drunk, his Honor, possibly considering that as the good old Knickerbocker custom comes but once a year, viewed the offence more lightly than he would otherwise have done and discharged most of the prisoners with a reprimand, and great was their joy thereat.

A SPANISH MERCHANT ROBBED.—A few days ago a Spanish merchant named Anton Triana arrived in this city and took lodgings at No. 24 Oliver street, where he still remains. Early on Tuesday evening the apartments of Mr. Triana were entered by means of false keys, and his trunk, containing $300 worth of wearing apparel and $1,000 in Spanish doubloons, carried off. Yesterday detectives Mullen and Horbelt, of the Fourth precinct, arrested Anton Montenel and Teri Garcia, both Spaniards, on the charge of committing the burglary and larceny, after which they confessed their guilt to the officers. In Garcia's room, corner of Hester and Baxter streets, the stolen trunk and clothing were found, but the money is still missing, and the accused parties said they would take the chances of going to State Prison for five years each in preference to restoring the money. The accused parties were taken before Justice Hogan and committed to the Tombs for trial in default of $2,000 bail each. Garcia is twenty-eight years of age, lives at No. 200 Hester street, and is a cigar maker. Montenel is only nineteen years old, lives at the Atlantic Hotel, New Bowery, and by occupation a cigar maker. In his formal examination Montenel denied his guilt, but Garcia "owned up." In possession of the prisoners were found keys which opened both Mr. Triana's room and his trunk.

SUSPECTED OF BEING SHOPLIFTERS.—Early on Tuesday evening detectives Kelso, McCord and Radford arrested on Broadway, near Fourth street, Samuel Tristram and his reputed wife, Catharine, on suspicion of being shoplifters. The prisoners were taken to the central office and searched. Beneath the dress of Mrs. Tristram was found suspended from her waist a large linen bag, such as are usually worn by female shoplifters, which contained a lady's cloak, quite new. Tristram carried in his hand a satchel in which were found gold breastpins, one pair of gold earrings, a pair of new gloves and other small articles. Mrs. Tristram claims the jewelry as her own, but failed to give any satisfactory account as to her possession of the cloak. They were committed by Justice Hogan to await an examination. The detectives found an owner for the cloak.

ALLEGED STABBING AFFRAY.—As officer Ryan, of the Eighteenth precinct, was bringing a prisoner to the station house the night before last he heard a scuffle in a hallway in Twenty-second street. After securing his prisoner he went back to the place where he heard the disturbance and there found a man named Henry Brierly lying in the hallway and suffering from a severe stab in the back. From information the officer received he arrested Andrew Jackson, alias Donovan, on the charge of having stabbed Brierly. The prisoner was brought before Justice Ledwith yesterday and charged with the offence, when he was committed to await the result of the wounded man's injuries. The wound is said to be a dangerous one, and may result seriously.

On Wednesday night, while James Simpson, of No. 302 Rivington street, was standing in Rivington street, near Pitt, a person, subsequently arrested, named Robert Watts, went up to and accosting him desired to know what he (Simpson) was going to do, and before he was answered seized the cap on his head and ran off with it. Simpson pursued Watts, and coming up with him attempted to regain his property, and while so attempting Watts drew a knife and stabbed him with it in the hand. Officer Seymour, of the Thirteenth precinct, arrested the would-be robber and assassin. Watts, on being arraigned before Justice Mansfield, presiding at the Essex Market Police Court, denied the charges preferred against him by Simpson. The prisoner, in default of $1,000 bail, was held for trial for felonious assault and attempt at robbery on the highway.

HOP, SKIP AND JUMP.—An exceedingly honest woman is Mrs. Susan Tenin, as she assured his Honor Justice Mansfield, presiding at the Third District Police Court, yesterday afternoon, on being arraigned for stealing three pounds of hops, the property of Michael Hummel, of 101 Broome street. To sustain Susan's declaration that she was unmistakably an honest woman, she invited her husband, Mr. John Tenin, a rough looking customer, "to come forward and state if he knew anything derogatory to her character." Upon this invitation Mr. Tenin, who was evidently in moral if not physically in fear of his better half, stepped up to the bar and clearing his throat with a loud hem or two said:—"I have this to say, your Honor: my wife Susan is a perfectly honest woman, so far as I know; she never stole anything that I know of; and, sir, my intimate acquaintance with her before and since our marriage gives me the right to——"

"Mr. Tenin," here interrupted the lady, "you said intimate acquaintance before our marriage;" what do you mean by that, sir? Did you ever know me to act improperly? Answer, sir, directly."

"No, oh no, my dear," said Mr. Tenin, in an apologetic tone of voice. "I merely meant to say that we were before our—our marriage so intimate, my dear, that—that it led to our—our union—our loving relationship of husband and wife—our"—

"Bother, Mr. Tenin," again interrupted Mrs. Susan, "Answer categorically. Did you ever know me, while I was boarding—before our marriage or subsequent to the date of that ever-to-be-remembered event—know me, I repeat, to steal hops? That is the question."

"Never, my dear!" answered Mr. Tenin, triumphantly.

Notwithstanding this assurance the magistrate had the hardihood to commit to durance vile Mrs. Susan Tenin, in default of bail to stand trial at the Special Sessions, for petty larceny. The lady, indignant at the incredulousness of the bench, left the court room with a sort of "hop, skip and jump" for the lockup adjoining, from whence, via the Court of Special Sessions, she will make the grand tour of the "Isle of the Angels."

BURGLARY.—On the night of the 31st ult the premises 891 Third avenue, known as a liquor saloon, the property of Patrick Carroll, was burglariously entered by breaking a pane of glass in one of the windows of the store opening on Fifty-third street, and thus the burglars, subsequently ascertained or alleged to be John Heron and Henry Howard, effected an entrance into the store, and stole United States and other money to the value of $13. Subsequently to the burglary, and on the arrest of Henry Howard by policeman Elijah Spencer, there were found on his person a bill purporting to be a one dollar token on the "Alleghany County Bank" of Maryland and a three dollar token on the "Lynn Mechanics' Bank," of Lynn, Mass., which William O'Connor identified as having been in the drawer at the time of and previous to the burglary. On the examination of the accused Heron said he had nothing to say in his defence, while Howard admitted his guilt. The accused, on being arraigned before Justice Connolly, presiding at the Fourth District Police Court, yesterday, were committed in default of $2,000 bail each for trial at the General Sessions on the charge of burglary.

DRUNKEN ROWDIES ON RAILROAD CARS.—Yesterday, before Justice Connolly, presiding at the Fourth District Police Court, went Charles H. Eaton, conductor of car 144 on the Third avenue, and William B. Osborn, conductor on car 54 on the Second avenue railroads, who severally deposed that on the first named car a drunken man, John R. Williamson, became exceedingly riotous and quarrelsome, employing abusive and obscene language in presence of a number of women, and when remonstrated with became exceedingly violent, and on being put out of the car commenced throwing snow and ice at the windows to the damage of the car and the quiet of those who were in it at the time; while in the car under the control of Osborn, on the Second avenue railroad, Michael O'Brien brawled and disturbed the peace, breaking in his anger several panes of glass, doing other damage and maliciously assaulting the deponent. The accused were held to bail in $800 each for trial.

CONSPIRACY TO STEAL.—Yesterday James Primrose and Charles Worth were arraigned on separate charges preferred by Daniel Holtez, of 81 Delancey street, of entering his store, on pretence of buying clothing, and while one of them, with another unknown, occupied the attention of the salesman, the third one seized an overcoat of the value of $30 and ran off with it. The salesman started in pursuit, and three blocks from the store succeeded in arresting the thief. The arrested parties declared their innocence of the charge. Justice Mansfield, of the Essex Market Police Court, committed the accused for trial at the General Sessions for grand larceny.

A BOLD ATTEMPT TO ROB A CITIZEN.—John Spaulding was yesterday morning arraigned before Justice Mansfield, at the Third District Police Court, at the instance of Atwerty Welde, who charged that Spaulding, while he was entering the door of his (deponent's) residence, at 193 avenue A, on Wednesday evening, came up to him, and grasping his watch chain, attempted to take from his person his watch. Deponent attempted to arrest the man, but he succeeded in getting away from him. A man was subsequently apprehended by officer Roddy, of the Seventeenth precinct, whom the deponent identified as the person who had attempted to rob him. On being questioned Spaulding acknowledged himself guilty of the charge preferred. He was fully committed for trial in default of $1,000 bail.

## CITY INTELLIGENCE.

BELLEVUE HOSPITAL.—The following are the statistics of this institution for the year just ended:—Admissions, 5,805; patients in hospital on the 1st of January, 1867, 790; total number treated during the year, 6,595; discharged from hospital, 5,264; deaths, 640; in hospital on the 1st of January, 1868, 691. The ailments of the patients were as follows:—Accidents and injuries, 1,507; obstetric cases, 626; infants born, 561; cholera, 5; all other cases, 3,106. The deaths were from the following causes:—Injuries and accidents, 147; cholera, 5; puerperal fever, 9; infants born dead, 77; Bright's disease, 113; pulmonary consumption, 146; all other causes, 143. The majority of the patients were of foreign birth, only 1,799 native born citizens having been brought to the hospital for treatment.

THE SURVIVORS OF THE RALEIGH DISASTER.—The survivors of the disaster which befel the steamer Raleigh some time ago, consisting of C. W. Bartlett, first mate; Gordon Young, second mate of the ill-fated vessel; Wm. Welch, Andrew Sloan, Captain N. R. Mills, Eighth regiment, passengers; and Nathaniel Boyd, John McDonald, Patrick Harrington, James Renfield, Eugene Ellis, Michael Gibbons, Thomas Brown and Michael Larkins, have drawn up a card of thanks to Captain M. S. Woodhull, of the steamer Manhattan, who brought them from Charleston on his vessel, free of charge, and did everything that lay in his power to render them comfortable on their voyage to this port.

DEMOLITION OF AN UNSAFE BUILDING.—There is now in course of demolition at Nos. 80 and 82 Oliver street, in this city, a building which was reported by an inspector of the Department for the Survey and Inspection of Buildings as being in an unsafe and dangerous condition. The owner thereof was served with a notice to secure the building, but failed to comply. The Superintendent of Buildings, as soon as he became apprised of the fact that the owner did not intend taking any action in the matter, instituted the necessary legal proceedings, and a precept was issued by the Court of Common Pleas, empowering and commanding said Superintendent to take down and remove the building. This is now being done under the supervision of the inspector of the district in which the building is situated.

WILLIAM MITCHELL GILLESPIE, LL. D., Professor of Civil Engineering in Union College for twenty-three years past, and author of several standard works in his profession, died in this city on Wednesday last.

BURGLARY.—The bonded warehouse No. 55 Greenwich street was entered by some boys on New Year's Day and robbed of ten boxes of lace scarfs, valued at $300. The boys gained an entrance to the building by descending through the scuttle. They have not been apprehended.

CURIOUS CASE OF POISONING.—A somewhat singular case of poisoning was under investigation before Coroner Schirmer yesterday afternoon, at No. 294 Ninth avenue. Mrs. Ellen McLaughlin, thirty-four years of age, and a native of Ireland, died at the above number. On Tuesday evening deceased, on passing through Third avenue, found a small package on the walk, took it home and on examination came to the conclusion that it was yeast powder. Accordingly she mixed the powder with flour, baked some cakes and partook of them, but the other members of the family being absent escaped. Soon after eating the cakes, Mrs. McLaughlin was seized with pains in the stomach and spasms followed. She grew rapidly worse and death ensued before medical aid could be procured. Deputy Coroner S. N. Leo examined the powder used by deceased and found it to be arsenic. The jury, therefore, rendered a verdict of death from accidental poisoning. Whether the poison was dropped on the pavement by accident or design could not be learned.

ROOSEVELT STREET FERRY COMPANY.—The Roosevelt street Ferry Company have long been famous (!) for their munificence to their patrons. What with slow boats, tumble-down bridges, saucy employés and everything that can make its patrons insecure and miserable, they have added another improvement of its kind to the other inconveniences. On New Year's day, during the height of the rain storm, the gentlemen's waiting room resembled a large shower bath, so as to preclude the possibility of its use by the numerous travellers on that day. The roof of the building has long been leaky and insecure, but on the occasion mentioned it gave way in several places, the seams of the ceiling opening in several places and the water pouring through the apertures in torrents. When the legislative committee investigated the affairs of this company last year the public expected some redress for this mismanagement; but before the session was concluded it was significantly announced by one of the ferry masters that the chairman had been "seen," and the whole thing was a farce.

REGIMENTAL PRESENTATION.—The officers of the Ninth regiment infantry N. G. yesterday presented Colonel Wilcox with a magnificent imperial album, enclosed in a splendid case of wood, richly inlaid and bearing the inscription:—"To Colonel J. H. Wilcox, January 1, 1868." The album contained portraits of all the officers of the regiment.

MASONIC.—The seventh annual reunion of Excelsior Lodge, No. 195, Free and Accepted Masons, will take place this evening at Irving Hall. The object of this affair is to raise funds for distressed members of the fraternity and the widows and orphans of deceased brothers.

REQUIEM MASSES FOR THE LATE ARCHBISHOP HUGHES AND DR. CUMMINGS.—A solemn high mass of requiem for the repose of the soul of the late Most Rev. Archbishop Hughes will be celebrated at the cathedral in Mott street to-day (January 3), being the fourth anniversary of his death. The services will commence at ten o'clock A. M. To-morrow a similar service will be celebrated at nine o'clock A. M. at St. Stephen's church, Twenty-eighth street, for the repose of the soul of the late Dr. Cummings.

## THE EXCISE LAW.

The adjourned meeting for conference between the liquor dealers of New York and Brooklyn and the members of Assembly for those cities was held yesterday at the Astor House.

The meeting having been called to order by Mr. Charles Herbert, who officiated as chairman, Mr. McKeon, the counsel for the New York Liquor Dealers' Association, said he regretted to find that the Brooklyn delegates had not properly understood the object of the present meeting. He had considered it arranged at the last meeting that they would bring their counsel to confer with him as to the bill repealing or modifying the present odious and tyrannical Excise law, to be submitted for the consideration and decision of the Legislature. It seemed to him to be a matter of some difficulty to word it so as to protect alike the interests of New York city and Kings county, as the former city claimed that her ancient charter, centuries old, secured her from any interference on the part of the Legislature and vested in her Common Council the exclusive right to issue licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors.

Mr. CARTER, of Brooklyn, said he had supposed the only thing proposed to be accomplished was the repeal of the present Excise law; but he was willing to assist in defraying the expenses of protecting the rights of the city of New York, if he could be shown that this would help Kings county in any way. As to employing counsel, he believed Senator Murphy could be retained, and if necessary that gentleman would doubtless meet McKeon at the earliest possible time and arrange the bill to be presented.

A great deal of discussion followed, and it was ultimately arranged that Mr. McKeon, Senator Murphy and Mr. Patrick Heady should be appointed to draw up the bill repealing the obnoxious Excise law.

**The Brooklyn Liquor Dealers.**

A meeting of the Brooklyn liquor dealers was held yesterday morning in Montague Hall, for the purpose of considering the best means of securing a modification of the Excise law. The object for which they had assembled was briefly explained by Mr. Charles Bunce, who called the meeting to order. Subsequently Mr. J. D. McCloskey was called to the chair, when remarks were made by several liquor dealers upon the harsh provisions of the law.

Mr. OLIVER COTTER thought the law was very oppressive and tyrannical, and did not know why New York and Brooklyn should be compelled to submit to a law which was not enforced through the entire State. He wanted an Excise law for the whole State. It was his wish that such might be made which would satisfy the government and the liquor dealers as well.

Mr. CAMPBELL thought that any special legislation would be unfortunate, and he hoped that the New York committee would not urge the bill recently presented by Mr. McKeon.

On motion the following gentlemen were appointed a committee to meet with the liquor dealers in New York:—Messrs. Bunce, Riley, Cotter, Duell, Dailey, Jarvis, McCloskey and Hartshorn. The meeting then adjourned.

### MURDEROUS ASSAULT.

**Two Brothers Beaten with Deadly Weapons—Ante-Mortem Examination.**

Coroner Rollins received information yesterday that Peter and Wilhelm Lint, aged respectively twenty-five and twenty-nine years, were lying in a very dangerous condition at their residence, No. 105 Fourth street, the result of violence inflicted upon them about two o'clock on Wednesday morning. From the information at hand it appears that the wounded men had been in a saloon near their home drinking a glass of cider. On leaving for home they were followed from the place by three or four men, two of whom struck them on the head with stungshots and brass knuckles, knocking them to the pavement, thus rendering them helpless. The assailants then fled and made their escape, and, as they are unknown, there seems but little probability of their being arrested. The brothers were taken from the pavement and conveyed home, where a physician, on making an examination, found their skulls to be fractured, and it seems almost impossible for them to recover. Coroner Rollins will investigate the case to-day.

## MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

### BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

This Board, after waiting more than half an hour for a quorum, convened with the president in the chair. The minutes of two previous meetings were read, after which several papers, regarding the opening of certain streets on the upper end of the island were read and laid over, and the Board adjourned to meet again on Saturday, at twelve o'clock noon.

### BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

This Board met yesterday afternoon, the president, Mr. Brinkman, presiding. After the minutes of the two previous meetings were read and approved, a motion to meet on Saturday at three o'clock was made and carried, after which the Board adjourned without transacting any business.

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

**Supervisor Roche Elected President—Mr. Ely Admitted to the Board—The Machine Started.**

At noon yesterday, pursuant to adjournment, this Board convened at the City Hall, and after a "secret session" of some fifteen minutes duration, the business was commenced by the election of Supervisor Roche, as chairman, in the absence of the president of the Board.

The roll was called and a quorum being present, the chairman asked Mr. Ely, who had entered the enclosure and taken a seat, if he had qualified as a Supervisor of the County of New York. Mr. Ely answered that he had taken the oath of office before Judge Cardozo and was ready to take any further oath that the Board might require. The chairman then directed the clerk to record Mr. Ely's name, which was accordingly done. The Board then proceeded to the election of a presiding officer for the ensuing year, and, with Messrs. Hayes and Willman acting as tellers, the Board elected Mr. Walter Roche, eight ballots having been deposited with Mr. Roche's name and one blank. The gentleman chosen was escorted to the chair, and on being installed he unfolded a document and read, in a very nervous manner, a lengthy inaugural address, in which he thanked the gentlemen of the Board for the high honor conferred upon him, and assured the Board that he would endeavor to merit their approbation in the discharge of the duties of the office. He advised the Board to "exercise strict care of the public interests and a rigid economy in expenditures." The document went on to show that since the organization of the Board the county expenses had "necessarily increased." That in 1863 the expenditures were $5,385,526, and in 1867 they were $8,292,138 67. The paper recounted the increase in the several items of expenditure over which the Board has control, as follows:—General county expenses, from $953,332 to $1,365,561; Metropolitan Police from $1,743,920 to $2,601,054; interest on and redemption of county debt from $147,752 to $761,408; State taxes from $2,540,557 to $3,375,237, and the new appropriations for the Metropolitan Board of Health and the College of the City of New York, $188,876. Mr. Roche concluded the document with the statement to the Board that he did not doubt that in the future, as in the past, they would merit and receive the approbation and commendation of their constituents. The speech was ordered to be printed on the minutes and the Board went into the election of attendants. The present clerk and his assistants were reelected, and James McGowan was chosen sergeant-at-arms in place of Eugene Durnin, resigned.

Supervisor Tweed stated that he had intended to offer a resolution, in compliance with a request made by the judges of the several courts for an increase of salary, but he would not do so until a full Board was present.

The Board then adjourned to meet again at the call of the chairman.

### MAYOR'S OFFICE.

**Nominations for School Trustees.**

First School district—First ward, William Kenney; Second ward, John Robinson; Third ward, John Kennell; Fourth ward, Archibald Fullerton; Fifth ward, William H. Johnston; Sixth ward, Herman Schroeder; Eighth ward, David S. Paige. Second district—Seventh ward, Dennis J. Twigg; Tenth ward, Alonzo Truesdell; Thirteenth ward, Joseph H. Tooker; Fourteenth ward, Michael Burke. Third district—Ninth ward, James W. Farr; Sixteenth ward, Arthur Ahmuty. Fourth district—Eleventh ward, Edward Miebling and Harvey C. Calkins; Seventeenth ward, Frederick C. Wagner. Fifth district—Fifteenth ward, Charles D. Brown; Eighteenth ward, John Foster. Seventh district—Twelfth ward, T. E. B. Hawks; Nineteenth ward, James R. Davies; Twenty-second ward, William H. Doherty.

These nominations are made by the Mayor and the Board of District School Inspectors, and will be referred to the Board of Education for confirmation.

## CITY FINANCIAL ABUSES.

**Interesting Letter from the Citizens' Association to Comptroller Connolly—The Revenue Bond System Under Review.**

CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK,
No. 813 BROADWAY, Dec. 30, 1867.

Hon. RICHARD B. CONNOLLY, Comptroller, &c.:—

DEAR SIR—The Citizens' Association respectfully calls your attention to the great abuses detailed below which have grown up in the management of the financial affairs of this city and county, and requests that you, as the head of the Department of Finance, will use your best endeavors to put a stop to a system so detrimental to the public interests. The matters detailed below all occurred before January 1, 1867, when your term of office began.

According to the Comptroller's City Report for 1866, page 7, there was a balance of $3,397,966 in the city treasury January 1, 1866. Let us inquire the occasion of this balance. From page 86 of the City Report it appears that on January 1, 1866, $1,382,490 of the city revenue bonds issued in 1865 were then outstanding, and from page 43 of the County Report for 1866 it appears that on January 1, 1866, $924,700 of county revenue bonds issued in 1865 were outstanding. It also appears that this amount of $2,307,100 had been borrowed in July and August, 1865, in anticipation of the taxes of that year; but, although there was an average balance of $5,260,325 in the treasury from October 21, 1865, to the end of the year (see page 132 City Report, 1865) upon which the city and county were paying interest at the rate of $368,222 per year, the city bonds were not finally paid until March, 1866 (City Report, page 232, 1866), and the county bonds not until May 24, 1866 (County Report, page 113, 1866), the city and county paying interest upon them at seven per cent, and the bank paying the Chamberlain at the rate of $210,413 for allowing this balance to remain from October 21, 1865, to the end of the year. Another portion of the balance on hand January 1, 1866, arose from uninvested balances of the sinking fund amounting to $583,684. This amount lying idle since October, 1865, should have been applied to the purchase of the city bonds (see section 15 of sinking fund ordinance); but although $2,307,100 of the revenue bonds of 1865 were outstanding, the whole of this balance, which averaged about $600,000 (see page 142 City Report), was allowed to lie idle in the bank, the city thereby losing the interest.

The city and county began the year 1866 with a cash balance of $3,397,966, upon which they were paying interest at the rate of $237,857 a year in order that the Chamberlain might have a revenue of $135,918 a year by lending the amount to the bank at four per cent. From the City Report, page 143, it appears that on March 15, 1866, by the payment of the revenue bonds the balance was reduced to $1,151,252.

If money were then needed a portion of the $642,513 then in the treasury to the credit of the sinking fund could have been borrowed, as the city would still have had the entire balance of $1,151,252 in the bank, the loan being a mere transfer from one account to another on the books of the bank. This, however, was not done. From page 28 of the County Report it appears that in March there was borrowed upon county revenue bonds the further sum of $705,200. In the month of April, 1866, with the large balance of $1,660,161 in bank, there were borrowed upon revenue bonds at seven per cent interest further sums amounting to $1,395,100 (see page 27 City and page 28 County Reports), the whole of which was permitted to be idle in the bank, the weekly balance increasing until, at the end of the month, it amounted to $2,981,033. No portion of those loans was taken from the sinking fund, since the balance of that fund continued to increase until it amounted, at the end of the next month, to $1,015,031. In May, although the cash balance was $2,500,000, the further sum of $1,274,300 was borrowed on city and county account at six and seven per cent (see page 27 City and page 28 County Reports). As this loan of $1,274,300 did not materially increase or decrease the general balance of the bank, it is possible that the bank lent the city and county a portion of their own money, which the Chamberlain let lie in the bank, receiving for so doing four per cent. In October, for the last six years, the city has realized an average of over $4,000,000 of taxes, and in November of $5,000,000. Therefore, a wise financial system would have prompted that those large sums at interest should have been borrowed only until October or November, especially when money was to be had all summer at four or five per cent. A different course, however, was pursued. The city not only paid six or seven per cent all summer because the bonds ran into the winter months, but in October and November, 1866, although there was actually paid into the treasury from taxes alone $12,435,931 (see page 171 City Report), yet of the $8,489,100 of revenue bonds issued in the early part of 1866 only $415,000 were paid or payable in October and $2,095,000 in November, the remaining $4,000,000 being scattered over the following month and nearly $1,000,000 extending into 1867 (see page 27 City and page 28 County Reports).

In the summer months, when money was cheap, the balance was allowed to dwindle, since the bank could hardly afford to pay the Chamberlain four per cent upon the same; but in October, when money was in demand, and when the taxes came in, instead of applying the city funds to pay off the bonds issued, the bonds were allowed to remain upon interest while the funds were allowed to accumulate in bank, until in November they amounted to $7,638,978—(see page 143 City Report)—upon which the city and county were paying at the rate of $500,000 a year, and the Chamberlain was receiving from the bank at the rate of $305,589 a year, or nearly $1,000 per day.

As an inducement for parties to pay their taxes in October, instead of waiting until November, the city actually allowed a discount of $37,153 upon the $5,093,831 paid during October (see page 74 County Report). These millions of revenue bonds were permitted to remain outstanding for months, drawing interest at seven per cent, while the average balance of $5,240,000 raised at the extra expense in October was permitted to be idle in bank from October 20 to December 23 (See page 143 City Report), and on this balance somebody other than the city was realizing at the rate of $1,000 a day. From page 232 City and 113 County Reports it appears that while this immense balance was lying idle in bank the city and county of New York actually paid, subsequent to October 20, 1866, for interest on the revenue bonds, no less than $153,578.

From your financial experience you must see how monstrous is that system by which the city and county lose annually between three and four hundred thousand dollars. If it be necessary that any legislation should be secured to enable you to use the public money to pay the public obligations, without having constant recourse to the system of issuing revenue bonds redeemable at a late day, the Association trusts that you will heartily co-operate with it to secure such legislation. I remain, very respectfully, PETER COOPER,
Chairman Citizens Association of New York.

## THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

The following is Dr. Harris' weekly report on the mortality in this city and Brooklyn during the week ending Saturday, December 28:—

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF HEALTH,
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS, Jan. 2, 1868.

In the last ten days of the year just ended there were 550 deaths in New York, and 210 in Brooklyn. This is equal to a yearly death rate of 20.91 in 1,000 in the former, and 20.18 in 1,000 in the latter city, the population being estimated at 928,000 and 370,000 in the respective cities. (The resident population at this season is believed to exceed these totals.) This death rate is lower than that of the chief cities of Great Britain, in the first week of December, for in London that week Dr. Farr reports a death rate equal to 27 in 1,000; in Edinburg, 31 per 1,000; in Dublin, 25 per 1,000; in Glasgow, 33 