NEW YORK CITY.

THE COURTS.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.

The Peruvian-Chilean Bond Case.
Before Judge Nelson.

John Graham vs. Antonio Millan.—This rather important and interesting case came up before Judge Nelson on a motion to discharge the defendant from arrest. It will be remembered that the controversy, of which this suit is but one phase, involves the title to $500,000 of Peruvian and Chilean gold bearing bonds, which Millan alleges Graham had obtained from him by fraudulent representations some time in April last. Millan had Graham arrested and held to bail in the sum of $400,000. Since then Graham commenced several retaliatory suits against Millan in the State courts, on various allegations of fraud, but in every instance these have been discharged. Judge Blatchford, in the United States District Court, rendered a decision in one branch of the controversy a few days since, in which he disagreed with the various decisions of the State courts, but Judge Nelson, to whom an appeal was taken, rendered his decision virtually sustaining the decisions of the State courts, reversing the decision of Judge Blatchford and discharging Millan from arrest.

Holliday's Overland Stage Line Case—Decision.

Thomas W. Keanard vs. Benjamin Holliday.—Judge Nelson delivered an opinion in this old litigated case. The plaintiff deposited with the United States Express Company, in this city, a package of $10,000, addressed to C. E. E. Blakesley, Central City, Col., and took a receipt for the same, to be delivered at nearest point of destination reached by the company only, which was Atchison, Kansas, where a line of stages commonly called Holliday's Overland Stage Line received it, to be carried thence to its place of destination. The stage while on its route was attacked by the Indians on the 7th of January, 1865, at Julesburg stage station, where there was a military post, and plundered, including the package of $10,000. We have no doubt the suit is properly brought against the defendant, as owner of the line of stages from Atchison, Kansas, as the contract of the United States Express Company was discharged on the safe delivery of the package to the defendant's line, and they were no longer responsible according to its terms. On the receipt of the package by the defendant's line, a contract was implied on behalf of its owner, the plaintiff, to carry it to its place of delivery. We do not conceive in the case the terms or conditions upon which the defendant engaged to carry express matter on his line; but the court held that the carrier was not responsible for loss or damages by the public enemy, and that the Indians were to be regarded as such, put the case to the jury upon the question whether the express agent who has special charge of the express matter and accompanied it had exercised the proper care and diligence in the protection of it immediately before and at the time of the attack by the party of Indians upon the stage. There was much evidence tending to show that he had not obeyed the instructions or advice given him by the commander of the military post at Julesburg in advance of the attack and when it was threatened, and that if he had the property might have been placed in a situation where it would have been safe, and even would have been within the protection of the post. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, and we are not inclined to disturb it.

New trial denied.

A Towage Case on Appeal.

Edward Robinson et al. vs. The Steamtug William H. Webb et al., Claimants.—The libel was filed in this case against the steamtug Webb for breach of contract of towage, having engaged to tow the steamship Shooting Star from Portsmouth, N. H., around to the port of New York. The steamship was stranded on Tuckernuck Shoals, in the Vineyard Sound, about three o'clock on the morning of the 23d of March, 1859, by the tug on her passage to New York, in consequence of the pilot having mistaken his true course and the lights which were on the route. The deviation was too great to be attributable to accident or the prevalence of a fog which existed at the time of the disaster. A skilful and attentive pilot would have discovered the error before it occurred, or if the weather was such as might have led to it the vessels should have come to anchor and an examination made, so that their true position could have been ascertained. The main ground relied on to exonerate the tug from responsibility is that the coasting pilot who had charge of the navigation was employed and paid by the owners of the Shooting Star, and hence they were responsible for the negligence or want of skill that led to the disaster, and not the owners of the tug. We agree, however, with the court below, that this position is not supported by the proofs. The contract was in writing, and the master of the tug thereby stipulated "to tow the ship from Portsmouth to New York and furnish coast pilot for $625, and also furnish my (his) own hawser free of charge, to be at Portsmouth to proceed on Monday." This was under date of March 19, 1859. Nor are we satisfied on the proofs that the master of the tug had no authority to employ the coast pilot, which was made a point in the defence. We think the decree below must be affirmed.

There is also a cross suit brought by the owners of the tug to recover for the services rendered and offered to be rendered after the Shooting Star was got off the shoals and temporarily repaired; and also for the value of the tug's hawser, which had been used in relieving the ship. A decree was rendered for the libellants for the sum of $1,355 95. There may be some question as to the allowance for the services rendered, but we are not inclined to disturb the decree as entered. Decree below affirmed.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT—IN ADMIRALTY.

Salvage Case—Decision.

William E. Gladwick vs. The Steam Tug Jack Jewett.—In this case the libellant, who is owner of the steam tug Game Cock, sued the Jack Jewett for salvage remuneration for services rendered in a case of fire by which the Jack Jewett was rescued from utter destruction near Ricker's Island in October, 1866. The Jack Jewett was on fire and deserted by her crew. The Game Cock sped to her relief and, as alleged, succeeded in extinguishing the fire and saving the hull. The claimants pleaded that the Game Cock's services were not required and that she was told so; that the fire was not put out by the jet of water thrown into the Jewett, but by the hull of the vessel, under the action of the tide, rolling over and becoming full of water, by which the fire was put out in a jiffy. Judge Blatchford in his decision said that it could not be regarded as a case of salvage, but rather an application for compensation for the libellant's own individual benefit, and ordered that $150, without costs, should be given to him as remuneration for his services.

SUPREME COURT—GENERAL TERM.

The Erie Litigation—Appeals—Decision by Default.

Before Judges Barnard, Sutherland and Cardozo.

The great Erie litigation came before this court yesterday on three appeals taken by the defendants in the actions of the People vs. the Erie Railway Company, Shell vs. Same and Bloodgood vs. Same, from Judge Sutherland's order denying motions to vacate original orders of injunction. Counsel for the defendants stated that inasmuch as the litigation had been virtually settled it was useless to argue the appeals, and contended that they should be dismissed.

The court declined to dismiss the appeals on defendants' motion; but a motion for dismissal by Chas. A. Rapallo, counsel for plaintiffs, was granted, with costs.

The Murder of Policeman McChesney.

Margaret Welsh, Plaintiff in Error, vs. The People.—The plaintiff was convicted in January, at the Court of General Sessions, of the murder of officer Robert S. McChesney, on the 20th of October last, she having stabbed him in the neck, in Canal street, with a pocket knife and thereby caused his death. She was tried in December and sentenced to imprisonment for life, and her counsel now appeals from the conviction on exceptions taken to the charge of the court and exceptions to refusals of the court to charge specific requests. Argument will be closed to-day.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.

The Police Commissioners and the Broadway Concert Saloons.
Before Judge Ingraham.

David J. Mack vs. The Commissioners of Metropolitan Police.—Mack is the proprietor of the "Dew Drop In" concert saloon, on Broadway, and brings this action for injunction to enjoin defendants from stationing police officers in front of his premises to warn persons from patronizing the place. The Commissioners charge that the plaintiff keeps a disreputable house, the resort of vile characters, and that it is a public place of infamy. The plaintiff denies these allegations and makes quite a strong point in his claim that numerous other places of a similar character to his establishment are tolerated by the police on either side of his premises. The court reserved its decision.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

Grand Larcenies.
Before Recorder Hackett.

Assistant District Attorney Bedford conducted the prosecution of the cases put on the calendar for trial.

Louisa Brady was tried and convicted of stealing $290 from Joseph Watson on the 4th instant at a disreputable house in Rose street. The Recorder being informed that the prisoner had served a term in the Penitentiary—which, when arraigned for sentence, she admitted—sentenced her to the State Prison for five years.

Stephen Kenny and Mark Gorham were convicted of stealing six half chests of tea, valued at $300, from a canal boat at pier No. 7 East river, the property of Williams & Carley, on the morning of April 28. It was sold by the prisoners at a grocery store in New Chambers street. His Honor said that he had been instructed by the Harbor police that Kenney and Gorham were connected with a notorious gang of river thieves. They were each sent to the State Prison for four years.

Mary Wilson, an alleged shoplifter, pleaded guilty to an attempt at grand larceny, she having been charged with stealing a piece of cloth on May 26, the property of George Lord & Co.

John Curham pleaded guilty to petty larceny from the person, he having on the 1st inst. stole a pocket-book containing $3 and some promissory notes from Valentine Obernauer while riding on a Second avenue railroad car.

These prisoners were remanded for sentence.

Ida Reed was tried, charged with stealing on the 2d inst. three silk dresses and three cloaks, the aggregate value of which was $1,000, from the boarding house of Caroline Newberry, 12 Greene street. The jury rendered a verdict of not guilty.

COURT CALENDARS—THIS DAY.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT.—Nos. 3713, 3809, 3942, 4359, 4317, 4327, 4352, 4363, 4380, 4484, 4526, 4527, 4533, 4547, 4582, 4609, 4614, 4619, 4626, 4735, 4757, 4799, 4800, 4807, 4821, 4840, 4842, 4851, 4852, 4938, 4945, 4978, 4983, 4990, 5018, 5019, 5021, 5023, 5067, 5081, 5092, 1901, 1977, 2059, 2235, 2584½, 2643, 2751, 2782½, 3055, 3160, 3238, 3242, 3272, 3335, 4761, 4762, 4777, 4789, 4798, 4806, 4817, 4843, 4854, 4885, 4960, 4964, 4966, 4988, 5015, 5026, 5031, 5046, 5049, 5050, 5051, 5054, 5059, 5065, 5071, 5087, 5094, 4761, 4962, 3373, 3631, 3667, 3689, 3704, 3749, 4003, 4012, 4030, 4066, 4086, 4112, 4221, 4259, 4260, 4265, 4283, 4286, 4322, 4324, 4337, 4340, 4522, 4534, 4551, 4571, 4589, 4594, 4595, 4682, 4731, 4732.

SUPREME COURT—GENERAL TERM.—Nos. 24, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 14, 15, 16, 435, 20, 43, 44, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52.

SUPREME COURT—SPECIAL TERM.—Nos. 63, 176, 185, 186, 188, 193, 28, 54, 91, 92, 146, 162, 197, 198, 199, 202, 203, 205, 206, 207, 139, 134, 137, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.—Nos. 83, 153, 212, 225, 249, 260, 261, 262.

SUPERIOR COURT—TRIAL TERM.—Part 1—Nos. 3943, 3875, 3985, 3989, 3883, 4001, 3939, 4126, 4133, 3992, 4000, 3895, 4009, 4017, 4019, 3917, 4021, 4027, 4029, 4103, 4122, 4148, 4240.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—TRIAL TERM.—Part 1—595, 817, 44, 1269, 1272, 1273, 1274, 1276, 1277, 1278, 1281, 1283, 1284, 1285, 1286. Part 2—Nos. 431, 82, 323, 966, 998, 894, 730, 251, 735, 1243, 756, 1000, 824, 1288, 1289.

MARINE COURT—TRIAL TERM.—Nos. 1613, 1571, 1471, 1492, 1620, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625, 1626, 1627, 1628, 1629, 1630, 1631, 1632, 1633, 1634, 1635, 1636, 1637, 1638, 1639, 1640, 1641, 1642, 1643, 1644.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

THE WEATHER YESTERDAY.—The following statement indicates the changes in the weather for the past twenty-four hours, as shown by the thermometer at Hudnut's drug store, HERALD Building:—

3 A. M.	62	3 P. M.	67
6 A. M.	60	6 P. M.	67
9 A. M.	62	9 P. M.	66
12 M.	65	12 P. M.	66

Average temperature 63⅝
Average temperature Wednesday 65⅛

PERSONAL.—Mr. Ole Bull, the distinguished violinist, sailed in the steamship America for Bremen yesterday.

CHANGES IN THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE.—Eugene Durnin has resigned his position as Deputy, and Sheriff O'Brien has appointed John Scammel in his stead.

BODY RECOVERED.—The body of Henry Miller was found floating yesterday in the water close by the pier at Factoryville, Staten Island. Miller, it will be remembered, was drowned about ten days since.

CAVING IN OF A CULVERT.—The police report that the culvert at the corner of Murray and West streets has caved in and is now in a dangerous condition. There is also a large hole at the corner of Vesey and Washington streets. The Croton Aqueduct Board has been notified to repair both of these places.

THE LATE POLICE INSPECTOR CARPENTER.—The ceremony of unveiling the monument of the late Police Inspector Carpenter, at Cypress Hills Cemetery, which was announced to take place yesterday afternoon, has been postponed to a future day on account of the storm.

AN ILLICIT STILL SEIZED.—Revenue Inspectors Marston and Jewett, of the Sixth district, yesterday visited the premises No. 408 West Fifty-second street, and found in the rear yard a still of about twenty gallons capacity, with all the appurtenances for the production of whiskey. The still was hot, and had evidently been worked within a few hours. No owner put in an appearance and it was destroyed.

A BOY DROWNED.—Early on Wednesday evening a lad twelve years of age, named John Eardley, while at play on pier 12 North river fell through a hole in the pier into the water and was drowned. The body was subsequently recovered and conveyed to the residence of the parents, No. 139 Cedar street, where Coroner Flynn was notified to hold an inquest.

THE AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL AND STATISTICAL SOCIETY will hold this evening, at their rooms in the Cooper Institute, their regular monthly meeting, when Professor Hartt, of Vassar College, late naturalist of the Agassiz expedition to Brazil, will deliver a discourse upon the geography, geology and natural history of that country. This will probably be the last meeting of the present season.

DEATH FROM INJURIES.—Coroner Keenan held an inquest at Bellevue Hospital on the body of Mrs. Sarah Howe, late of No. 20 Madison street, whose death was the result of injuries received by either jumping or falling from a window on the third floor of the above named premises to the sidewalk on the 11th ult., while suffering from temporary aberration of mind. Deceased was thirty-six years of age and a native of Ireland.

THE FRONT STREET ACCIDENT.—An inquest was yesterday held by Coroner Keenan on the bodies of Warren L. Payne and T. F. Greenlee, the men who were killed at No. 161 Front street, as reported in yesterday's HERALD. The jury rendered a verdict of accidental death in both cases. Payne was fifty-three years of age and a native of New York. Greenee was forty-five years of age, but his place of nativity did not appear.

BOARD OF AUDIT.—The only case of interest presented before this Board yesterday was the claim of Cornelius Donohue, who claims $5,000 from the city for the loss of his son, a child of seven years of age, who was drowned in August, 1866, in a pool of water which had collected in some sunken ground between Seventy-fourth and Seventy-fifth streets and Second and Third avenues. The Board after hearing the testimony in some unimportant matters adjourned until noon to-day.

FAST TIME.—A few days ago the steamboat Daniel Drew, on the downward trip from Albany on Tuesday, ran from Yonkers to New York, a distance of fourteen miles and a half, in thirty-four minutes and forty-five seconds, which is better than a mile in two minutes and thirty seconds. This is the best steamboat time on record, and was done with a pressure of only thirty-five pounds of steam. The law allows the Drew to carry sixty pounds. This statement is upon the authority of the officers of the boat.(!)

THE RAIN STORM.—Yesterday New Yorkers experienced one of those days that add to the receipts of umbrella venders and stage and railway lines, and call down upon the "clerk of the weather" the curses of the profane and the pouts of the fair, who so love an afternoon promenade upon Broadway and the avenues. The rain commenced at an early hour, accompanied by a high wind, and poured down, with momentary intermissions, during the day and evening. No damage resulted except the flooding of some of the cellars along the East and North rivers, the interruption of the meditations of the rats which make their homes in the sewers and cellars, and the levelling to the ground of a few trees.

FIRE IN TWENTY-EIGHTH STREET.—About half-past seven o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out in the private stable of Mr. Paren Stevens. The building is situated at No. 5 East Twenty-eighth street. The front part of the house is occupied by the coachman, Patrick Reilly, who is employed by Mr. Stevens. From this part of the house a door leads to the hayloft of the stable, and it being open the presumption is that the children in the house had been playing there, may have had matches in their possession, and hence the fire. The loss on hay and building amounts to $1,000. The stable is insured for $10,000.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—Yesterday a denizen of Grand street contemplated the idea of extinguishing himself by suicide. He provided himself with a sword for the great event, and when the hour of nine yesterday morning was at hand Richard Ade, aged forty-nine years, and living at 49 Grand street, commenced the attack. He thrust the sword into his abdomen and afterwards drew it across his throat. Fortunately an officer was called in before he could carry his hari-kar intentions out to the fullest extent, and the weapon was wrested from the sanguinary Richard. He was taken to Bellevue Hospital. His wounds, it is thought, will prove fatal.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE.—A meeting of the American Institute (Polytechnic Branch) was held last evening at the Cooper Union. Dr. J. V. C. Smith read a paper on the elder Brunel, the famous engineer, projector of the Thames tunnel, recounting the many evidences of his active mechanical genius as exhibited in his numerous inventions. Among other things Dr. Davis said Mr. Brunel anticipated the sewing machine and actually constructed a contrivance for hemming and stitching. Dr. Davis also related some of his personal experiences of the younger Brunel, best known in this country as having designed and constructed the Great Eastern. Several new inventions were exhibited to the club and explained, after which a discussion was had touching the rival merits of different plans for bringing the Battery and Harlem into closer relation by underground means of connection, at the close of which the club adjourned to the first Thursday in September.

THE PLATFORM OF THE UNITED STATES WANTED.—The following remarkable epistle was received by the Mayor yesterday postmarked "Vicksville, Va., June 2, 1868," and directed to "Mr. New York priesdent in hast":—

SOUTHAMPTON co, Va 1868 may the 17.

dear Sir Mr President congagtion I requass with this if you be so plas to have a Compissishen of the plat form of the United States prieated an sent to Southampton co to the collared people for we are on learnt of this meaters an we wish to hear sormething of it & we want it in large letters, I will send the example send it Wakefield Stayishion on the Norfolk an Petersburg Rail Road an if you send me this one send me Word What you charge for that an I will pay you for it. send the money the next leters I Will take a paper noW and then

JAMES p. TAYLOR

an Eliza Williams writen by James P. talor, send it to him from New York. I want it very plain so that we can understand. send me your charge.

JAMES P. TAYLOR collarred man.

THE NEW YORK SKATING ASSOCIATION.—The opening exhibition of this association, whose headquarters are in the Plimpton Buildings, corner of Ninth and Stuyvesant streets, occurred last evening. Contrary to expectation the attendance was quite large and included several celebrated ice skaters, who proved fully equal to the difficulties of executing brilliant movements upon parlor skates. Alfred Howard made some fine passes, serpentine slides and top spins on two feet that attracted considerable notice. Charles Smith was rapturously encored for his astonishing feats of dexterity, including thirty-three top spins, serpentine curvings and chain slides. The venerable William Davis entered into the sport with great enthusiasm, and was loudly applauded. Miss Powell executed some graceful and difficult movements. The attraction of the evening, however, was Miss Bedell, of Brooklyn, whose movements showed her to be the most graceful and accomplished patron of the establishment. Her double chain, black toe slide, toe chain, side roll backwards and chain step backwards could not well be excelled on ice. The grand and lofty tumblings of unprofessionals created much amusement. An effort is being made to induce the management to throw open the rooms of the public twice a week for instruction in this graceful and healthy accomplishment.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

RAID ON A STREET CORNER.—There are many street corners on which the police might make successful raids. A gang of street youths, assembled on the corner of Fifty-third street and Eleventh avenue and insulting passers by, were yesterday brought before Judge Connolly at the Yorkville Police Court. It was found that several had concealed weapons. The whole party were committed for examination.

GARROTING AND HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—Going through certain sections of the city at a late hour at night is getting to be decidedly dangerous. An unqualified instance of garroting and highway robbery occurred in the Seventh ward late on Wednesday evening. Thomas Holland, second mate of the ship Star of the West, lying at pier 46 East river, was passing through Cherry street, near Rutgers, on his way to his vessel, when eight or nine men suddenly sprang upon him, and while one choked him and two or three others held him, between the rest his watch and chain and $40 in money were taken from him. As soon as they began to let him loose he drew his revolver and fired, his purpose being to alarm the police, in which he was happily successful to the extent of capturing two of the garotting gang. The prisoners, both young men, who gave their names as Edward Kane and Thomas Radley, were yesterday taken before Judge Shandley at the Essex Market Prison, who ordered their commitment without bail and the forwarding of the papers in the case at once to the Grand Jury for their immediate action.

NEW YORK SHIPOWNERS' ASSOCIATION.

Election of Officers—Report of the Committee on Mercantile Marine—Bills Before Congress—Their Nature and Tendency.

A regular meeting of the Shipowners' Association of the State of New York was held on Wednesday, June 10, 1868, at the rooms Nos. 50 and 52 Pine street, Mr. Edward Hincken, President, in the chair, and a full board present. After the transaction of the usual routine business the meeting went into election of officers and standing committees for the ensuing year, with the following result:—

President, Edward Hincken; First Vice President, George M. Clearman; Second Vice President, D. Colden Murray; Treasurer, William D. Morgan; Corresponding Secretary, William C. Sturges; Recording Secretary, Thomas S. Sandford.

Executive Committee—Gustavus A. Brett, Lemuel Brown, George F. Bulley, Stephen W. Carey, John G. Dale, James W. Elwell, Francis M. French, Christian F. Funch, A. Foster Higgins, Jed. Frye, Williams Howland, Charles Lamson, Robert Mackie, John T. B. Maxwell, William Nelson, Jr., Ambrose Snow, George L. Tapscott, James A. Van Brunt, John S. Williams, Alston Wilson, Charles L. Wright.

Arbitration Committee—Gustavus A. Brett, Chairman; Nathaniel D. Carlile, Cornelius Comstock, James W. Elwell, Francis Hathaway, James H. Frothingham, Robert Mackie.

The following report was then read:—

Your committee, to whom was referred the consideration of "A bill in relation to the mercantile marine of the United States," begs respectfully to report the bill is voluminous and from a cursory examination would appear to be mainly devoted to enactments regulating the construction and equipment of steamships and other vessels engaged in the passenger trade and for providing for the examination and licensing of masters, mates and engineers. But a more careful investigation discloses that the bill not only prescribes regulations for the aforesaid purposes, but also includes in its restrictions all such vessels as are engaged in the transportation of merchandise only; in fact, as is declared in the sixty-fourth section, "every description of craft used in navigation and propelled otherwise than by oars."

The powers conferred on the "marine boards" and on the "inspectors" to be appointed by them are novelties in the legislative history of this country, as applied to commerce, and the extent to which they may be stretched can only be known when the provisions of the bill are enforced by active and ingenious marine boards and their inspectors. From the decisions of these boards the bill provides no appeal. This bill has evidently been prepared by other parties than those directly interested. So far as we can learn no member of this association has been consulted in reference to it, and our first knowledge of it was derived from copies sent to a few of our members. Since the receipt of these copies we understand that the bill has been introduced in the House of Representatives and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The argument used by the framers of this bill, "that it will improve the character of our commerce," we regard as futile. The shipbuilders of this country have, from its earliest history, been free from government interference, and the excellence of our materials, the skill and workmanship of our constructions are not excelled by those of any country. The policy of our laws has always been to allow the competition which exists in all branches of trade to govern the construction, equipment and maintenance of our vessels, and the result has been seen in the specimens of naval architecture produced by our mechanics which have heretofore been exhibited in all the ports of the world. The rebellion, and the events growing out of it, caused the sale and transfer of many of our vessels to neutral flags, a suspension of building and a transfer of capital to other enterprises. Recovery from this depression must necessarily be slow, and as shipowners were beginning to anticipate some improvement in navigation interests, and were hoping for partial relief, through Congress, from some of the burdens they in common with others have borne, an attempt is made to procure the passage of a law by Congress imposing conditions and restrictions which the past history of the country shows to be unnecessary. The instincts of our people are very averse to dictation in business matters, and shipowners and shipbuilders are no exception to the rule. Congress legislated some years since in relation to passenger carrying vessels, and if the laws then made require amendment for the more effectual protection of life and health it should be done in the regular manner, and on the recommendation of the officers appointed to execute them; but we protest against advantage being taken of such necessity to engraft on the law restrictions of the kind proposed in this bill.

To so much of the bill as provides for the examination and licensing of masters, mates and engineers, your committee would say that the character of our officers requires no apology from us. They will compare favorably with those of any nation for integrity, intelligence, nautical skill and seamanship, and it would be very easy to show that losses and disasters by sea have been no greater or more frequent in our merchant marine than in that of those nations most favored by regulations similar to those now sought to be embodied in our laws. Of the necessity of these regulations your committee have doubts; but we would infinitely prefer the examination of masters and mates by an established government Board free from the influences of outside interests to the present system created by underwriters. The fees to be levied under the provisions of this bill on vessels and officers are onerous and will amount to an enormous sum, estimated by the framers of the bill at $400,000 annually, all taken from the hard earnings of seamen and from an interest that is struggling to keep the flag of our country afloat on the ocean.

Your committee therefore recommends the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Whereas a bill has been introduced in Congress entitled "A bill in relation to the mercantile marine of the United States," which provides for the appointment of "marine boards," to whom are given various powers including a supervision of the construction, equipment, repairs, &c., of all vessels belonging to our merchant marine "propelled otherwise than by oars," and as many of the provisions of this bill impose conditions and restrictions hitherto unknown in the history of the commerce of our country, and which if sanctioned by Congress would render the navigation interest subject to vexations regulations from which other business pursuits are exempt; therefore be it

Resolved, That this association does most respectfully but earnestly protest against the passage of this bill as being uncalled for by the interests directly concerned, as imposing conditions and restrictions hitherto unknown to the navigation interest, and as providing nothing for the benefit of that interest, but as increasing the burdens under which it now labors and from which it seeks relief; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolution, signed by the officers of the association, be forwarded to the Hon. E. B. Washburne, chairman of the Committee on Commerce, and that he be requested to use his influence to prevent this bill from becoming a law.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE M. CLEARMAN,
EDWARD HINCKEN,
THOMAS S. SANDFORD,
D. COLDEN MURRAY,
FRANCIS HATHAWAY,
} Committee.

On motion of Mr. James W. Elwell, seconded by Mr. Stephen W. Carey, the report was accepted and the resolutions therein set forth were adopted. After the transaction of some minor business the meeting adjourned.

CORPUS CHRISTI.

Interesting Ceremonies at St. Joseph's Church—Confirmation by the Archbishop and Dispensation of the Eucharist to Over Eight Hundred Persons.

Set apart by the Roman Catholic Church, that the faithful might wholly apply themselves to the consideration of the wonders of the solemn mystery, the Feast of Corpus Christi was yesterday made the occasion of one of the most imposing spectacles that could be witnessed within the walls of a sacred edifice. Intensely edifying throughout and marked with a significance that could not be mistaken, the religious services at St. Joseph's church, corner of Sixth avenue and Washington place, were characterised with a solemnity that at once inspired awe and reverence, as well as feelings of sincere emotion, in the minds of the immense throng who congregated to behold the proceedings. Of all the earnest desires and eager anticipations of the young Christian soul, of all the devout longings and holy expectations that possess his heart, none call forth such religious anxiety or awaken such lively sentiments of devotion as the thought of a first communion. This was the all-engrossing thought that has for some time past engaged the minds of the children or the extensive schools in connection with St. Joseph's church. Under the careful superintendence of the Sisters of Charity and the Christian Brothers the collegiate and religious instruction of the boys and girls of the surrounding district are daily imparted with a zeal and an assiduity which only earnestness can inspire. But for some days past the order of the secular exercises has been suspended and preparations made to approach the holy sacrament with all the requisite attributes of love, reverence and faith. At nine o'clock yesterday morning the children assembled in the church and filled both aisles of the building. There was besides a numerous congregation in attendance, for the day being a strict holiday with the Roman Catholic Church few seats were left unoccupied. The Rev. Thomas Farrell, pastor, officiated as celebrant at the holy service of the mass, and at the termination of the first gospel delivered an eloquent and pathetic discourse, taking his text from the words, "I will not leave you, orphans, and my delight is to be with the children of men." The reverened gentleman adverted to the great solemnity of the occasion and the feelings which should animate those approaching the holy sacrament. They must live in Christ; for He was the principle of this life. He would strengthen them against the dangers of their corruption. Having alluded to the everlasting benefits which the Saviour had conferred upon mankind, he proceeded to explain the divine goodness in the institution of the blessed sacrament. They must remember that the end of receiving Christ was not only to obtain transient grace such as would sanctify them for the present, but to receive Him so effectually as to induce Him to abide in them. They must so live in the principle of Christ that all their thoughts and anxious desires and actions might be influenced and governed by the spirit of Christ. He concluded by exhorting them to pursue the noble paths of virtue, patience and humility, and by doing so they would promote the glory of God and secure for themselves everlasting happiness. The children approached the altar and received their first communion with a devotion and meekness truly imposing. An act of consecration to Jesus was then read by Michael Mulroy, one of the participants, and act of consecration to the Blessed Virgin by Thos. Halloway. The exercises were interspersed with many sweet hymns, which were harmoniously rendered by the hundreds of youthful voices. Altogether the ceremony was most beautiful, and inspired feelings of devoutness to the crowd of spectators. But there was yet another to be gone through, one that had likewise required much preparation and regarded by the Roman Catholic Church all important to the Christian—the sacrament of confirmation.

In the afternoon the church was again densely crowded to its utmost limits. Although four o'clock was the hour announced for the commencement of the evening exercises every available seat was taken possession of long before that time. The galleries especially were filled to excess, and around the entrance doors a vast concourse of persons had assembled, so that when the initiatory exercises were proceeded with egress to the building was next to impossible. The aisles of the church presented a pleasing spectacle. Ranged on either side—the females occupying the one and the male portion of the school the other—their appearance did not fail to excite the admiration as well as the respect of the entire congregation. The girls were decked in those garments which innocence and purity have from time immemorial suggested as the most fitting costume for such religious occasions. Each was dressed in spotless white, having on their heads a beautifully entwined wreath of flowers, from which fell a veil of white gauze, thazing on the long array of pious wardens, their eyes upturned in prayer, their faces beaming with devotion, sweetness and love, the very pictures of innocence, they resembled so many cherubims in similar attitudes and spread around them feelings of deep emotion and reverence for the Great Being whom they adored. The boys, too, presented a very fine appearance. There was a pleasing similarity in their attire, each displaying a neat rosette as well as a ribbon on the arm and having a taper in his hand. Besides these there were a number of adults awaiting the sacrament, the entire upon whom it was to be conferred numbering about nine hundred. The altar was brilliantly illuminated, and with all the surroundings the sight will rarely be forgotten by those who witnessed it. The solemn peals of the organ now rose aloft, sending a thrill through every one present, and shortly after the Most Reverend Archbishop, attired in full robes, preceded by his secretary, Rev. Mr. McNierney, Rev. Dr. O'Leary and Rev. Dr. Parsons, issued from the vestry and walked in procession to the foot of the altar. After some preliminary devotions the Rev. Dr. O'Leary preached a sermon upon the subject of the renewal of baptismal vows, and adverted to the necessity and great utility of the sacrament of confirmation. The Most Reverend Archbishop then delivered a brief address to those about to receive the sacrament. He referred to the descent of the Holy Ghost upon the apostles in Jerusalem and to the great moral strength which they thereby received. The Holy Spirit came from heaven with a sound like the rushing of a mighty wind and filled their hearts with faith. Their faith taught them to believe that the Holy Ghost descended upon them in the sacrament of confirmation, just as really and just as spiritually as He came upon the apostles. The sacrament which they were now about to receive would strengthen them to contend against the wicked machinations of the world. He exhorted them to avoid the occasions of sin, and vividly pointed out the dangers attendant on bad example, for he who would lead another away from the performance of his duty was his enemy. Moreover they should above all avoid bad companions, and walking in the path of truth and virtue they would be strengthened to fight the good fight of Christ. They had been baptized and that day had approached the holy Eucharist, but the dangers of this wicked world were strong and required strenuous efforts to overcome them. Therefore the sacrament of confirmation was to strengthen them in the faith which they had received and would give them courage to make good soldiers in the cause of their religion. They would never be afraid to confess it and would never turn their backs upon it. He dilated upon the great advantages which the sacrament conferred. It would make them perfect Christians all their lives and would enable them to obtain life everlasting. The Archbishop was listened to with the most profound attention, and at the conclusion of his address a procession of those about to receive the sacrament was formed around the aisles of the church, the males first and females after. Each individually passed the altar and received the sacrament at the hands of the Archbishop, who, dipping his fingers in the holy chrism and oil blessed on Holy Thursday, made the sign of the cross on the forehead of the recipient, saying at the same time, "I sign you in the sign of the cross and I confirm you with the chrism of salvation, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." He then gave each child a slight blow on the cheek, saying "Peace be with you;" and the chrism having been wiped off by the assistant clergyman the child is dismissed. The procession was most imposing and the appearance of the recipients was extremely devout. The musical selections, under the direction of Mr. Martini, were well rendered. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Archbishop pronounced his blessing, and the benediction of the holy sacrament having been given to the vast congregation the interesting proceedings were brought to a close.

BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

Passage of the Tax Levy.

The Board met yesterday morning, at eleven o'clock, and in the absence of the President Mr. Hartman was called upon to preside.

A resolution was offered and laid over providing for the appointment of a joint committee of five members from each Board to get up prizes to be awarded to the American Marksman's Association, at a cost not to exceed $250.

As there was only a quorum of members present, the Board took a recess till two o'clock.

The Board reassembled after recess and took up the tax levy for approval.

Mr. STEPHEN ROBERTS protested against the tax levy. He would vote for it because he wanted the wheels of government to be kept in motion and wished these men to get their money. Neither the Mayor nor Governor would vote for it if they had not to do so. The system was wrong. It was a farce to bring this tax levy here. If they did not sign it within twenty days from the time the Governor signed it it would at any rate become a law. They asked for $500,000 to repair their rotten docks. It was said at Albany that they had asked for $200,000 too much, and $300,000 only would be given. One million of dollars ought to be given every year, for five years at least, for this purpose. He could take three of the piers on the North river which would wipe out every dollar of the money. He would vote for it protesting against the proceedings of the Legislature.

A vote was then taken, and, twenty voting for the ordinance, it was approved.

After the transaction of some routine business the Board adjourned to meet again on Monday afternoon next, at two o'clock.

WEST POINT.

Close of the Examination—Preparations for the Homeward March—The Transformation from Gray to Blue Next Tuesday—Who Enter West Point—Interesting Statistics.

WEST POINT, June 11, 1868.

The examination of the graduating class was completed this afternoon, the subject of to-day's catechising being "cavalry tactics;" and the Board of Examiners are now busily engaged in preparing the standing or order of merit of each member. The announcement of this standing, it is needless to say, is looked forward to with no small interest by the first class men and particularly by those who have, by their natural abilities and studious dispositions, led, or been numbered in, all the first sections of the various branches of learning in which they have been instructed during the past year. In a communication sent to Major Thayer, Superintendent of the Academy in 1818, by John C. Calhoun, who was then Secretary of War, and who, be it known, was a very staunch friend and admirer of the West Point Military School, while asserting "that in future wars the nation must look to the Academy for the skill to conduct valor to victory," the great nullifier ordered that the Superintendent should "report to the War Department annually the names of those cadets who have most distinguished themselves in the examination, not exceeding five in each class, specifying the studies in which they may excel." Ever since this regulation was established it has been faithfully adhered to by every Superintendent of the Academy. In fact, it is now regarded as binding as a law. The registering in the records of the War Department of the "five distinguished" of every class had of course for its special object to "inspire attention to study and create emulous exertion" in the entire corps; but as it became to be considered more and more a mark of particular distinction for the first class, the exertions of the leading members of every graduating class for years past to be included in the honorable limits have been always very great. Moreover, from this regulation has sprung the custom of the recommendation by the Academic Board that the "stars" should be made engineer officers, and as a matter of course those who are desirous of becoming engineers know by their standing just what their chances are to become such. Last June the first eleven members of the graduating class were made engineers, leaving but three vacancies in the corps to be filled. Who the three lucky ones to fill these vacancies will be this year depends upon who the first three of the class will be in the final standing, which will be known next Tuesday afternoon. The contest for places above the sixth on the roll of merit in the general graduating class has been very close, as many as ten of the leading members being so thorough in all their studies that even now no person not a member of the Academic Board has the least idea which of the ten will be the leader of all.

PACKING UP.

Many of the first classmen are now busily engaged in packing up their trunks, in anticipation of their final farewell to the old Post, to which, notwithstanding their "demerits," their arrests and their confinements, they have through four long years become deeply attached. "Halleck's International Law" and "Mahan's Military Engineering," in badly broken covers, are flung in many a nook and corner in nearly every room; and as for "French's Practical Ethics," they are nowhere to be seen. Boxes, books and papers lay strewed about the floor, and gray jackets and white pants are stuffed in holes and niches as mementoes of the past and strong reminders to coming successors that where there's a will there's a way to get rid of "old clo's." There's a smile on every face and a lightness in every step that tell you at once, on peeping into the room, that moving day is indeed at hand for somebody, and were it not a thing tabooed by military order you'd certainly be asked in to "smile" with all the class were you stranger or were you not. And yet four long days must pass away ere their cadet life is ended. Oh, how slowly will the hours pass by and how studiously will they be counted until the drums beat and they hurry away to the last parade! and then how many will sing, not without a trembling voice, as many a voice now hushed in death hath sung before on graduating day—

To our kind old Alma Mater, our rock-bound Highland home,
We'll cast back many a fond regret as o'er life's sea we roam