TAMMANY'S EARTHQUAKE.

Latest Phases of the Municipal War.

THE MAYOR ACCEPTS THE INEVITABLE.

Important Statement of Injunction Foley.

Connolly's Cool and Candid Confession.

"Slippery Dick" Penitent, but Revengeful.

The Tammany Samson Who Will Die in the Ruins.

"LITTLE MAC" DECLINES TO HELP HALL.

O'Gorman's Opinion as Is an Opinion.

Reported Prosecution of Swindling Contractors.

Fernando Wood's Balsam for the Bruised Democracy.

The Council of Seventy Congratulates Green.

THE JOINT COMMITTEE INTERVIEWED.

Scenes at The Boss' Lair—Sights at the Comptroller's Citadel—Sounds at the Mayor's Castle—Whisperings Around "The Squire's" Eyrie.

VOX POPULI.

The mystery of the Ring is solved at last. The house divided against itself has fallen with a crash which must bury every vestige of its mushroom architecture in the ruins. Notwithstanding the anxiety with which every development in the war upon Tammany has been watched by the people, and the fever beat of the public pulse, events have marched with a rapidity which beggars all previous break-ups of the kind. It recalls forcibly the Arab legend wherein at the rubbing of the ring a powerful genius appears of mighty power. The "Ring" has been rubbed rather hard, and

THE GENIUS OF THE PEOPLE

has appeared. Here the simile fails, for the genius of the people breaks the "Ring" which chained it. From the hour that the injunction was made permanent by Judge Barnard the demon of confusion has revelled among the Tammany leaders. Four names were on every tongue, and their every utterance was hung upon in the expectation that either Tweed, Connolly, Sweeny or Hall would give some sign whereby the future might be divined. Matters thus stood when the Comptroller appointed Andrew H. Green his deputy, and handed over to him the department under his control, that its interests might be rolled out before the eyes of the Joint Committee. It will be recalled that the Mayor, believing this to be an *ipso facto* resignation of the office, thereupon appointed General George B. McClellan to the Comptroller's office. The public

WAITED BREATHLESSLY FOR EVENTS.

The answer came from Connolly, quick, sharp and decisive, that he did not mean to resign, and quoted Hall's first letter as to the Mayor's inability to remove him. Next followed the legal opinion of Charles O'Conor, sustaining the Comptroller upon the point of law involved, and declaring that the Mayor's only resource was impeachment. With Judge Loew absent the Court of Common Pleas could not meet, and the citizens chafed at the idea that they would have to wait for the settlement of their disordered municipal affairs through

THE SLOW PROCESS OF THE LAW.

The Mayor, on his side, was not slow to invoke a legal opinion through the medium of the Corporation Counsel, which we publish to-day. Through the mellifluous sentences of Mr. Richard O'Gorman is negatively admitted that the Mayor has no right to remove the Comptroller, and through a dexterous but useless dodging of the main question he advises Mayor Hall to "treat with Mr. Connolly as Comptroller." Needless is Mr. O'Gorman's polish to the end that such a course will avoid "the continuance of that public excitement and sense of insecurity." How absurd it is to speak of allaying public excitement! The giant will not be

ALLAYED BY FINE SENTENCES

or compromises, and as soon as the news was spread that O'Gorman's answer to Hall, for all its periods, meant no the excitement culminated. The loud defiance which was ringing in the Mayor's ears must have borne a more significant tone when he received a letter from General McClellan declining the office which he wished to hand over to him. Friends were raising up for Connolly, not that they believed him better than the others, but that there seemed, in the phrase which came to everybody's mouth, even his own, a desire to make him the scapegoat of Tammany's sins. Mayor Hall must have felt

TERRIBLY ISOLATED

yesterday, as in all the curses upon Tammany, there was one in each for his head. The meeting of the Council of Seventy took place, and that body with one voice approved the appointment of Mr. Green, and drew up resolutions to that effect, which they presented to that gentleman. Now comes the point where all the interest centres in the announcement by the Comptroller that there are greater rogues than he, and that, so far as he is concerned, he will make restitution for all he can be proved to have taken, and that all others who have shared in the spoils and now wish to bury their shame in his ruin

MUST FALL ALONG WITH HIM.

This announcement once made and this determination once taken the end is clear. Deputations of citizens may wait upon Mr. Tweed and express a ridiculous confidence, Mr. Tweed may affirm until he is hoarse that Peter P. Sweeny is wise for keeping in the background, Mayor Hall may fortify himself behind his position; but if Connolly lets out the facts of combined fraud (and none can speak more by the card on this matter than he), then the fortress of Tammany will have fallen like a house of cards. Confidence, background statesmanship and high position will be laid bare as the man who, in his desperation at the backsliding of his friends of the "Ring,"

TURNS STATES EVIDENCE

against himself and the others. Further evidence of the earnestness of this man, too "slippery" to be crushed easily, finds shape in the following, from the *Evening Post* of yesterday evening:—

It is whispered again among well-informed men that Mr. Connolly has already guaranteed the gentlemen who recommended Mr. Green against any betrayal on his part, by writing his resignation, addressed to the Mayor, and putting it in the hands of a small committee, consisting of ex-Mayor Havemeyer, Mr. Tilden and another, to be used at their discretion. This committee can then, at any time, make a vacancy in the Comptroller's office, if Mr. Hall will agree to appoint a man acceptable to them.

The rumor that Mr. Sweeny has been out of town for several days past is not true. That he has advised the Mayor to accept the situation is probable enough, but it comes rather late to save either. The feeling alluded to before as gaining strength in Connolly's favor takes still another form, but one easily understood, and as stupid as it is interested. A body of

THICK AND THIN SUPPORTERS

intend to have a torchlight procession over his confession. Why are they in such a hurry to bury him? Wherever information was to be found on the all-absorbing topic the reporters of the HERALD went in quest of it. The views of the Hon. Fernando Wood, which will be found in these columns, will be of interest, for Mr. Wood has passed through municipal storms of his own. He does not think that this difficulty will lose much to the party if the obnoxious men are promptly removed. He does not think that it will injure

THE CHANCES OF CARRYING THE STATE,

a wish which many would like to share with the white-haired Fernando. His cynicism of reform movements founded on his experience will be worth perusing. What took place at the various public departments, the headquarters of Hall, Tweed, Sweeny and Connolly will be found interesting reading of how coolly men can comport themselves

FIVE MINUTES BEFORE AN EARTHQUAKE.

Interviews with the various prominent men in the controversy will be found, all of their own feature of interest, with the voice of the rank and file of the citizens, who will have to foot the bills, no matter who wins.

Of first rate moment in this regard is the account of Mr. John Foley, of the Council of Seventy, and the citizens in whose name the injunction was demanded upon the city. He says the committee will not affiliate or coalesce with Mr. Connolly or any one else who can be proven to have shared in the city spoils. They do not except the Mayor, and all will applaud their firm resolve.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. JOHN FOLEY.

Important Determination of the Council of Seventy—Connolly's Confession and Vow of Revenge—His Offences Will Not Be Condoned.

So many conflicting stories of the action of the citizens' committees were afloat last evening, that to set matters right a HERALD reporter, out on the scent for latest news, resolved to call on the gentlemen whose untiring energy in behalf of reform mainly caused the present muddle in our local political affairs. Mr. John Foley was found busily engaged in the office of his store on Broadway, but nevertheless he received the representative of the HERALD with his usual courtesy, and asked him to be seated.

Mr. Foley, besides being a man of action, possesses extraordinary conversational powers, and he was not slow in displaying them to the reporter. It is needless to say that the

CONVERSATION WAS MUTUALLY AGREEABLE.

"Glad to see you," said Mr. Foley. "Sit down and be comfortable."

"Thank you. How does the political situation stand now? There are all sorts of rumors floating about, but it is hard to get at the truth."

"Well, of course there is a good deal of mystery; but I can tell you, without violating any pledge, some news that will gratify the public."

"What! More about the Tammany row than I know already? Now, now, Mr. Foley!"

"Yes, I can! Just listen a moment and I'll show you. The Committee of Seventy met to-day and held a highly important meeting. Speeches were made endorsing Mr. Green, and offering the support of the committee in whatever action he might take to expose the frauds of the Ring and bring the guilty parties to justice. It was resolved, in the words of Judge Pierrepont, to meet law with law and force with force."

"IN DEFIANCE OF MAYOR HALL?"

"In defiance of anybody and everybody, acting outside the law. Hall is outside the law and has not a leg to stand on. He dare not impeach his confederate, Connolly, for the reason that if he did he would expose himself, and not himself only, but Tweed and Sweeny, the other members of the Ring. I believe, as Horace Greeley believes, that Hall is mad. If he were not mad he would scarcely declare one day that he had no power to remove the Comptroller and the next affirm that he had. But it is characteristic of madmen to imagine other people insane. We fully expect to see him in the State Prison, with his confederates, soon."

"But, Mr. Foley," mildly suggested the reporter, "is not Richard B. Connolly now your confederate?"

"Not at all! We have

NO AFFILIATION WITH CONNOLLY WHATEVER.

He is equally to blame, but not more than the others, except, perhaps, Tweed. Connolly has offered the Committee of Seventy to pay back to the city, to the last cent, all the money he owes——"

"He will make restitution?"

"Yes; he will pay every cent. Oh, he will make full restitution. But he will do more. He has offered to submit statements which will criminate and send to prison Sweeny, Tweed and Hall."

"Has he done it or merely promised to do it?"

"I guess he has done it. The committee have the whole evidence in their hands."

"Then it is intended to save Connolly from the consequences of his crimes so that his rivals in the Ring may be punished as they deserve. Is that it, Mr. Foley?"

"Not by any means! There will be

NO COMPROMISE WITH CONNOLLY

whatever, or with any of the infamous Ring. My impression is that the whole four will have to go to State Prison."

"Then Connolly has not turned state's evidence exactly, but is so overwhelmed with shame that he is anxious to make restitution and abide the verdict of the courts in his case?"

"That's about it," answered Mr. Foley, and after nodding meaningly continued:—"Connolly won't go to prison, if he does go, without taking with him the rest of the gang."

"So, then, you think that the power of the Tammany Ring is effectually broken?"

"I am quite confident that it is. Look at the crowd. They are blundering about in despair, while we are preparing our case—the case of the citizens against them. They are utterly powerless. Hall is the worst off of the lot. For many years to my certain knowledge he was

LITTLE BETTER THAN A CLERK

for the other three of the Ring. When they wanted him they sent for him, and he had to come. He was a tool, but a willing tool. I am sure his pickings were light compared to those of the others; but that he had pickings we can prove. Good Lord! just think of the Chief Magistrate of the city, sworn to guard the interests of the people, signing away six millions of money to a lot of villains in a few minutes, without examining the papers he signed. And for nothing? Oh, pshaw!"

"But, Mr. Foley, you

MAY BE PREJUDICED

against the Mayor and the other city and county officers."

"No, sir; I'm not particularly. As a taxpayer and citizen I want to have a good government, and I believe and know the members of the Ring I have named to be a set of corrupt scoundrels. I am heartily glad that it was my action which initiated the movement against them."

After some further conversation the reporter withdrew, leaving Mr. Foley to the enjoyment of his private business affairs.

THE COMMITTEE OF SEVENTY.

Meeting in the Chamber of Commerce—Ex-Judge Pierrepont's Remarks—Resolutions in Support of Mr. A. H. Green—A Committee Presents Them—Speeches by Chairman Stebbins, Comptroller Connolly and Ex-Mayor Havemeyer.

About forty members of the now famous Committee of Seventy assembled in the meeting room of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday, shortly after twelve o'clock, and at once proceeded to business. Mr. Henry G. Stebbins, President of the Seventy, occupied the chair. After the usual warning that all present who were not members of the Committee would be required to withdraw, reports of the several sub-committees were read and approved. A member then addressed the meeting in

A SHORT SPEECH,

and proposed the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That we congratulate the citizens and taxpayers of the city of New York upon the appointment of Andrew H. Green to the office of Deputy Comptroller for the assurance it gives of an honest and intelligent administration of the finances of the city in the immediate future.

Resolved, That if the Mayor, in his recent request for the resignation of Mr. Connolly, was actuated by a desire to fill his place by a man of fitness and fidelity he could not have made a happier choice than the selection of Mr. Green, so well known to the community for his spotless integrity and able and honest management of the public trusts heretofore confided to him.

Resolved, That we call upon all good citizens, by their moral support, to sustain Mr. Andrew H. Green in his present position as guardian of the public funds of the city.

Resolved, That the Committee will aid Mr. Green pecuniarily and by counsel to the extent of our power in all lawful ways to retain the position in which, fortunately for the people, he has been placed in this trying epoch of our municipal affairs.

The resolutions were duly seconded.

Ex-Judge EDWARDS PIERREPONT then rose and said that he supported the resolutions. It was necessary that the action of the Comptroller should be sustained by the Committee. He had nothing whatever to say for Mr. Connolly nor any of his confederates of the Ring, and he had no intention of asking for him any particular consideration; but is voluntary action in submitting his accounts to the scrutiny of the committee of citizens and his readiness to answer questions deserve favorable mention. Especially was his action, in appointing Mr. Andrew H. Green,

AN HONEST DEMOCRAT

and a gentleman, to act for him pending investigation into his conduct worthy of remark. The condition of the city and county finances had long warranted decided action on the part of the citizens, for every department was well known to be outrageously corrupt. The peculations of the Ring were evidently flagrant, and were such as to call for instant investigation and remedy. Andrew H. Green, he continued, has always been a man whose integrity was unquestioned and in whom for years the people have had the most implicit reliance, so far as his honesty and probity were concerned. With them we, too, are satisfied, and he is just the man who should have the investigation of the city accounts. No politician, be he lawyer or merchant, can take any exception to his being

DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

because of his character—that is beyond cavil. Again, Mr. Green has always been identified with the dominant party, the democrats. Therefore, no objection can be raised to his appointment on the ground of his politics or because of his being a republican. After all, and more than all, he is an honorable, upright gentleman, from whom a truthful report may be expected. We must sustain him in his position at all hazards. If the Ring attempt to remove him by law we must meet and combat them with law. If they are determined to effect his removal by force we are prepared and will use force to protect him. We will meet

LAW WITH LAW AND FORCE WITH FORCE.

Loud cheers followed this last remark of the speaker.

The resolutions were then passed amid applause. Then Mr. Barrett observed that, inasmuch as the advice of Mr. Havemeyer to Mr. Connolly and Mr. Green seemed to have been solely a personal matter, it were just as well to appoint a committee of five from this Committee to wait upon Mr. Green and Mr. Connolly, to notify each of the purport and passage of the resolutions sustaining Mr. Green's appointment.

A COMMITTEE OF FIVE

gentlemen was then appointed to wait upon Mr. Green and present the resolutions. It was composed of the following named gentlemen:—Myer Stern, Edward Pierrepont, Jackson S. Schultz, Robert B. Roosevelt and Thomas A. Ledwith, and on motion the President, Vice-President and Secretary were added—Henry G. Stebbins, William F. Havemeyer and Roswell D. Hatch.

The meeting then adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.

The committee immediately started for the Comptroller's Office to present these resolutions to Mr. Green, and on their arrival there they were cordially received by that gentleman.

SPEECH OF MR. STEBBINS.

Mr. STEBBINS, the chairman of the committee, in presenting the resolutions, spoke in substance as follows:—

Mr. GREEN—I am entrusted with the gratifying duty of presenting to you the resolutions passed this day at a meeting of citizens who represent the meeting held at the Cooper Institute September 4, and known as the Citizen Committee of Seventy. These resolutions and the action of the committee to-day have grown out of your late appointment as Deputy Comptroller, and the very deep interest felt by your fellow citizens in your selection for

THE RESPONSIBLE DUTIES

of that office. It is a source of great satisfaction to me personally, knowing you as well as I do, to be made the medium of stating to you the cordial and earnest unanimity with which these resolutions were passed, testifying, as they do, to the high opinion entertained by your fellow-citizens of your great ability and unimpeachable integrity, demonstrated in many important and highly onerous public duties. Nothing, I am sure, would have been more grateful to you had you been present and witnessed these unqualified evidences of the estimation in which you are held by men of both political parties.

EX-MAYOR HAVEMEYER'S REMARKS.

Mr. HAVEMEYER then took the floor and said that he had known the Comptroller, Richard B. Connolly, for many years, and he for one did not believe that he was the only or the biggest rogue in the Ring. From the highest to the lowest they had

ALL HAD THEIR "RAKE"

from the city treasury and the biggest share did not fall to the lot of Mr. Connolly. When the explosion occurred the Comptroller went to him (Havemeyer) immediately for advice and he (the speaker) proffered advice, with the condition, however, that, whether palatable or otherwise, Connolly should accept and act upon it. The latter, having unlimited confidence in his friend, agreed, and the advice given was to appoint Mr. Andrew H. Green as deputy, with the powers of the chief, as already known. The Comptroller expressed his utmost willingness at the time to do this and seemed to have much less

FEAR OF AN INVESTIGATION

than some other members of the Ring. And while Mr. Havemeyer did not endorse Richard B. Connolly as a perfectly honest man, he was willing to leave the financial interests of the city in his and Mr. Green's hands pending this investigation, and he was not willing to see him made a scapegoat of to shield greater rascals. Mr. Green was also complimented by the speaker.

SLIPPERY DICK'S CONFESSION.

While this little speech was being delivered the Comptroller (who had been absent when the committee entered his office) came in and heard the closing remarks and promptly responded. He said he did not consider himself immaculate, but he knew and believed that there were

BIGGER ROGUES THAN HE

about the City Hall. They had tried to shield their own rascality by throwing him overboad; but he had no idea of allowing himself to be made the scapegoat for the sins of Tammany. He acknowledged he had sins enough of his own to bear, and he sometimes felt scarcely able to stand up under the burden; but he would not go under without taking with him some of those who are now trying to get rid of him. He was ready and willing, he said, to hold his ground and to abide the result of the investigation of the citizens and taxpayers' committees, and would not shirk such punishment as the law might impose upon him. He cheerfully offered the fullest and freest access of the committees to all the books and vouchers of his department.

At the close of

THE COMPTROLLER'S REMARKS

Mr. Green briefly replied to the spirit of the resolutions which the committee had presented. It is understood that Mr. Green has mastered the combinations of all the safes in the Finance Department, and taken ample precautions against another theft of vouchers during his administration.

The Committee of Seventy desire the representatives of the press to understand that the refusal to admit them to its sessions does not arise from any discourtesy to themselves or their papers, but rather because the premature publication of much of their proceedings would naturally and inevitably tend to defeat the very objects of the investigation upon which they have entered. The secretary or his assistant will always most cheerfully furnish the press with any news of interest to the public and not detrimental to the committee's investigation.

On this action of Mr. Connolly the *Evening Post* has the following:—

At the close of these proceedings Comptroller Connolly entered the room. In conversation with the committee he said he had been obliged to ask for advice. He went to a friend—ex-Mayor Havemeyer—and not to an enemy. Mr. Havemeyer asked him if he would follow his advice if he gave it. He told him he would. He said, "Appoint Andrew H. Green your deputy, and then throw open your office for investigation." He had followed that advice. There were men in the city government who wished to destroy him to save themselves. He did not propose to be sacrificed to save any one, and the citizens should know all the workings of the office, and who were interested in them.

THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

The Joint Investigators Have a Field Day—Two of Them Speak of Deputy Comptroller Green—Warren and a Mysterious Ledger—John Hardy, of the High Joint, Interviewed.

The recent turnover of political parties seems to have thrown the

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE,

composed of Aldermen and citizens, into the shade, and not one of them yesterday was disposed to be a "shadow." At an early hour yesterday morning a representative of the HERALD "threw himself around loose" in the "Latin quarter" of the new Court House, which, it is claimed, has cost millions of money. At that time not a veteran of the investigating committee was present, although, allegorically speaking, it was learned that William A. Booth, the chairman of the "high joint," had been there at an earlier hour, and had issued his orders for the day.

In the rooms of the Supervisors, where the committees are supposed to meet, the only persons found were Fullerton, McGowan, King and other attachés, who were later reinforced by Captain Young, the fat boy, who fills the position of Secretary of the Board of Supervisors. In response to queries the answer came—

"Don't know anything about this committee, do you?"

"Yes; I know that Booth was here this morning. Where is he now?"

An attaché was in the act of answering, when an Alderman slipped into the breech, and,

DRAWING UP HIS PUGILISTIC FISTS,

said, mildly,

"The committee are at work."

"What committee?" asked the reporter. "Do you speak of the high joint or the 'subs.'"

"I speak of all. They are all at work—have been at work all day, and will remain at work until after the election."

"Until after the election?" queried the reporter, "what do you mean by that?"

"That this excitement will not terminate until after the November election, when all will be quiet. That is seven weeks hence. It will then be satisfactory to all parties who are good democrats."

Another Alderman was sitting with his feet resting upon the cushions of the new Court House, and up to this time had maintained a happy neutrality.

The reporter ventured to ask the Alderman of the Joint High Commission—

"It is said that

GREEN, OF THE PARK COMMISSION, IS AN HONEST MAN.

He it is who succeeds Storrs as Deputy Comptroller. It is strange that none of the papers say aught against him."

The quiet Alderman at once jumped from his seat and seizing a morning two cent paper of no reputation in the community exclaimed:—

"Read this."

The reporter, who had read it, asked the Alderman to read it, and he read it.

The other Alderman laughed and remarked:—

"Green's an honest man. I tell you he has made money ever since he has been in public life. When I was a youngster—I am now nearly forty years old—Green was a school trustee in the Fourteenth ward. He was a good trustee; but when he became a Park Commissioner he used his vote for a purpose, and his

THREE VOTES COST THE CITY THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

He is a pretty man to be Comptroller. I don't ask you to take my word for Green's record; take the official reports of the Park Commission. He is a sweet fellow to throw dirt at Sweeny."

Later in the day, after Ledwith, James O'Brien, Havemeyer and many others had bored Green and Booth's high joint and "subs" could not be found, at 3:45 Warren, the expert of the high joint, and a light-haired youth repaired to one of the wings of the Comptroller's office and were ushered into the presence of

A VENERABLE FATHER OF FINANCE

named Bostwick, who had the custody of certain ledgers. For fifteen minutes Warren, the light-haired hero, who will be referred to hereafter, and Bostwick were engaged in examining the ledgers. Bostwick turned over the leaves, Warren made memoranda and the light-haired youth looked on and said nothing. A HERALD reporter was near by and observed that as Bostwick turned over certain leaves the light-haired youth suddenly put his hand down and

TWO PAGES WERE TURNED BACK.

Between the folds of the ledger were found a half sheet pasted in, which Warren, the expert, carefully scanned, to the discomfiture of Bostwick, who possibly was not aware of the

SUB-PAGES INTERPOLATED IN THE LEDGER

they were admiring.

Later in the day the HERALD reporter had pleasant chats with various Aldermen of the committee and other political lights, and finally, finding that Booth and all the citizens of the committee could not be found about the Court House, as a *dernier ressort*, repaired to the office of ex-Alderman John Hardy, clerk of the High Joint Committee.

"Hardy, I have been hunting the high joint to-day," said the reporter. "You are its clerk; do you know anything?"

"Nothing," said Hardy, looking very wise.

"In that event, may I say that I have had a hint that Booth and the high joint have, in view of recent complications, decided to

QUIT AND MAKE NO REPORT

until after the Committee of Seventy, who have just gone in, with Tom Ledwith as the rear guard, show their hands?"

Hardy, clerk of the "high joint," left his chair suddenly and exclaimed,

"Sir, it is a mistake."

"Then," said the reporter, "may I ask where the members of that committee are?"

"All about," said Hardy, "at work—have been here all day."

"But," ventured the reporter, "I have been here all day, and with the exception of yourself, Pearsall and certain Aldermen, I have seen none of them."

"They were here, nevertheless," said Hardy. "Warren has been at work all day."

"Yes, Warren has been at work. He is always at work. But, Hardy, can you tell me who that light-haired gent, who searched the ledgers of Mr. Bostwick, and detected a pasted page, is?"

Hardy, who up to this time was remarkably noncommital, at once left his chair and said:—

"Remain here, and I will go and see Bostwick and find out."

Hardy left the reporter took Hardy's seat, and twenty minutes later Hardy returned and announced that the only man who was in the presence of Bostwick, with Warren, as far as he could learn, was Mr. Kennedy, President of the Bank of Commerce. It is problematical that Mr. Robert Lennox Kennedy, of the Bank of Commerce, was the light-haired youth who found in Bostwick's ledger the sub-page.

But to return to the active work of the committee. All the sub-committees were in session yesterday, but each member of them positively refused to divulge the secrets of what had transpired inside. It is a little singular that the high joint, whose members had proclaimed last week that an "open session" would be held on Monday, did not meet, and that after announcing an open session for Wednesday, at two P. M., Clerk Hardy was yesterday instructed by citizen Booth to announce that the "open session" will occur on Thursday, at two o'clock P. M. When Thursday comes it is very likely that a later day will be set for divulging the work of the Investigating Committee.

AT THE COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE.

General Absence of Excitement—Story of the Feline Visitors—Interview with the Comptroller—"Little Mac" with "a Head on Him."

The difference between yesterday and the day before was something wonderful to note in the offices in the Department of Finance. Behind the partitions there were not so many clerks as usual. None had been discharged, but there were not so many attending to the business. That they were not present was very evident. The portly Storrs was not at the office till late in the afternoon, and the County Bureau and Stock Department were comparatively deserted. The outside delegations were also very slim and there was nothing like the excitement or crowds of Monday. True there were a few members of the St. Patrick Mutes on hand. Counsellor Callaghan was around and had an eye to business. Captain Dolan was also around; his mustache was as long or longer than usual, but the massive blackthorn which he sported on Monday was not to be seen. The unusual scarcity of attendants and hangers-on was accounted for by the fact that they were

ATTENDING FUNERALS—

some at the funeral of Stock Clerk Dyckman's daughter and others at the funeral of Judge Stuart, whose efforts had probably saved many of themselves or their friends from the cells, if not the gallows. Early in the morning, however, Comptroller Connolly and Mr. Green were on hand and attending to business. A HERALD reporter had an interview with Mr. Connolly in the County Auditor's Bureau shortly after noon. The Comptroller stood consulting with County Auditor Lynes, and although looking somewhat anxious was nevertheless quite pleasant. His profile resembled that of Washington perhaps more than ever, and he carried himself with a nonchalance most extraordinary in view of the exciting and troublous incidents connected with the situation. When he had completed his interview with Mr. Lynes he granted the HERALD reporter an audience and the following conversation took place—

"Well, Mr. Comptroller, how is it to-day?"

"Oh, elegant, sir, elegant. We are here you see attending to business and afraid of nothing."

"Have you seen General McClellan's views in regard to his appointment?"

"Yes, I have. I think its solid."

"A great many people discredit it, don't they?"

"Oh, I don't know. I don't see why they should. McClellan is no fool."

"Has there been anything unusual going on in relation to the situation?"

"No; nothing. There has been no attempt made to get us out, and I don't think there will be any."

"Whom do you suppose the Mayor will appoint now, since General McClellan has declined, if he will appoint anybody?"

"I don't think he will try it."

"What do you think of the committee which met last night?"

"Oh! that's all right; that will go ahead."

"Are you in with it?"

The only answer to this was a knowing wink of the left eye, which seemed quite impressive behind his gold-bowed spectacles.

"Is there anything I can say for you more than has already been said?"

"No, only that we are attending to business."

"What about those documents that it is said Mr. Green furnished the committee with?"

"We have placed all the documents, books, papers and everything else at the service of the committee."

"What about that consultation it is said you had with Judge Barrett and others in relation to preparing charges against Hall and Sweeny and others?"

"Oh, nothing. The newspapers get up a good many things that I don't know about. Charley (turning to Charles Underwood O'Connell), did you tell him about the cats? Just tell him that; it's a good story."

Bidding the reporter good day he withdrew. Then Mr. O'Connell, brushing out his neatly trimmed beard and striking a position, related as follows

THE STORY OF THE CATS:—

"Once upon a time—a few nights ago—there was a cat—a black cat—black as the ace of spades. The office was closed, and we were here at work, straightening things up, when, what should we see but a big black cat jump through that hole in the pane of glass (ponting to the hole the "burglars" made). She came in with a bounce and a kitten in her mouth, and she came around inside here and left the kitty—we didn't know where. We looked upon it as a "voucher" of her respectability, and did not interfere with her. She went out again as she had come, but without the kitten, and shortly returned with another; and, then again, another, and another.

MORE VOUCHERS

of her fidelity to her offspring. Where she came from we do not know; whither she went we know not; but she is still around the office pursuing the even tenor of her way. Nobody interferes with her, and she interferes with nobody. I am not superstitious, but the Comptroller regards it as an omen of good luck."

ANOTHER FUNNY EPISODE

occurred yesterday morning. Mr. Cleveland, one of the bookkeepers, started to go for lunch. In size and stature he resembles General McClellan. He has a handsome aquiline nose, an elegant mustache, a clear, piercing eye. He has a bad scar on his forehead, where he has been nursing an elegant boil. (Evidence of corruption in the Comptroller's Office.) One of the miniature Gallowglasses who lined the hallway said, "there goes

LITTLE MAC, WITH 'A HEAD ON HIM.'

He's just been up to see Green and Connolly, and they've laid him out." Doctor Fleming was seen rushing into the office, pulling his nobby side whiskers in nervous style, and he must have been sent to fix up Little Mac's wounds. This, of course, was enough to start a crowd after him. The bootblacks caught up the cry and persisted in asking the gentleman if he did not want a shine. They ran ahead of him, stared into his face and alarmed him considerably. He struggled through, however, not knowing how great a hero he had been made in a few minutes.

CALLERS ON THE COMPTROLLER

were many, and included a number of leading merchants and others who are in sympathy with the Committee of Seventy. A delegation from this committee called during the afternoon and presented to the Comptroller an address and resolutions, which may be found in another column.

Chief Clerk Justus Storrs was engaged during the day in preparing a roll of the attaches of the office, the duties and salaries, and laid it before Mr. Green, at whose request it was compiled. Beyond this nothing more than ordinary occurred during the entire day.

AT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.

The Mayor "On Exhibition"—General McClellan Declines the Proffered Post—Opinion of Corporation Counsel O'Gorman—Mayor Hall Virtually Yielding to the Situation.

Mayor Hall appeared at his office at the usual hour looking as hearty and happy as ever he did. He wore a bran new suit of check stuff, a check shirt and a necktie of check silk. It was noticed that the tiles in the City Hall corridors, over which he wended his way to the office, looked more checkered than usual. Might all these be considered physical emblems of the political situation? Contrary to usual custom the doors of the Mayor's office were thrown wide open, and visitors passed in, were listened to and disposed of, in old-time business manner. When the HERALD reporter called the "member from Sligo" was awaiting his time to interview the Mayor, and inside the inner room was Michael Madigan, member of Parliament, from the First district. Michael had in company with him a venerable young man. They interviewed the Mayor briefly; and the gentleman from down town being assured by the Mayor that it was all right, withdrew. A conversation then took place as follows:—

"I see, Mr. Mayor, you are keeping open house to-day?"

"Yes; I was said to be crazy, and all that, so I thought I had better place myself on exhibition for a day or so. People need not be afraid to come near me, because you see I am

IN FULL CHECK"

(alluding to his habiliments). At this two or three who were in the room smiled aloud.

"What do you think of that interview with McClellan published in the English newspaper this morning?"

"I never read that paper—that is, I have not read it in over seven months. I don't do it on principle."

"Well, it says that General McClellan told you he would not take the position, and that he approves of the appointment of Mr. Green and eulogizes him as a most excellent man for the position."

"I expect a letter from General McClellan every moment now in relation to the affair, and also an opinion from Mr. O'Gorman."

"Suppose McClellan should refuse to accept, will you appoint somebody else?"

"I don't know."

"William R. Travers, William R. Travers, he is the man," broke in the member from Sligo.

"Why," said Mayor Hall quietly, "is he your broker?"

"Oh!" said Sligo, "he's a splendid man for the place, and if I had the giving of it I would give it to him."

At this juncture the following letters from General McClellan and Richard O'Gorman were handed to the Mayor. He scanned them over and then handed them to Mr. Cardozo to be given to the reporters.

GENERAL M'CLELLAN'S LETTER

is as follows:—

NEW YORK, Sept. 18, 1871.

Hon. A. OAKEY HALL, Mayor of the city of New York:—

DEAR SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th inst. conveying to me the very flattering offer of the Comptrollership of this city.

While I would willingly render a service to the public, were it in my power in an emergency like the present, nevertheless a due regard to my public and private duties at this time compels me to decline the appointment. With my sincere thanks for the compliment you have paid me, I am, very truly, yours,

GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN.

CORPORATION COUNSEL'S OPINION

is as follows:—

TO HON. A. OAKEY HALL, MAYOR:—

MY DEAR SIR—I regret that my absence from the city on Monday has prevented my seeing you as you desired. I have since then carefully examined the cases, opinions and memoranda submitted by you as affecting your future action in the matter of the office of Comptroller of the city of New York. It seems to me that you should be governed in the matter more by considerations of expediency and sound policy than by those merely of strict legal rights or power.

Even on the assumption that you possess the power to remove a person holding that office, or that a vacancy unquestionably existed and that a new appointment made by you be primarily upheld by the Court, there is nevertheless, as you inform me, an antagonistic claimant who would have the right to appeal from the decision of a single judge against it and who would no doubt prosecute such appeal.

The law's delay is proverbial, and during the progress of the litigation, at a very critical period of the financial condition of the city, already complicated by one lawsuit and injunction, there would be presented the indecorous spetacle of two persons claiming to be entitled the office of Comptroller, each advised to defend his own claim and contest that of his rival. From this state of things great confusion would inevitably ensue, and great damage to the city treasury and to the public creditors, who would be seriously and not unreasonably dissatisfied at the delay which would be sure to occur in the payment of just and legitimate claims.

If it had been your desire to bring about the accession of a new incumbent into the office of Comptroller, you seem to me to have exhausted every legal expedient that could have suggested itself for that purpose, even at the risk of some apparent inconsistency.

Under all the circumstances, therefore, and with the opinion of the eminent jurist, Charles O'Conor, before me, I cannot advise you to take any step that would lead to complicated and mischievous litigation.

The refusal of General McClellan to accept the position of Comptroller, of which I am informed, is an additional reason for such a conclusion on my part.

Legal discussion might, as you intimate, bring up questions of law which you think could not have been presented to Mr. O'Conor's consideration. Among them I select from your memoranda these:—Whether the Comptroller, having powers and duties conferred on him by many general laws other than the laws of 1870 and 1871, commonly called the charter, and as a member of various committees can transfer these powers and duties to a subordinate by virtue of a section in an act which may be regarded as a "local act," or whether that section may not possibly be unconstitutional in so far as it permits the Comptroller to relinquish not only charter powers but all other powers, or whether an abdication of all functions beyond and embraced in the charter may not, *ipso facto*, amount to a resignation and create a vacancy.

These and various other questions suggested to me are no doubt open to discussion, and it is, I think, probable that a legal contest in this matter would present novel and important considerations as to the law of implied resignation, vacancy and removal; in addition to those which the eminent jurist to whom I have referred may have thought it necessary to advert in his opinion.

But, returning to the question of expediency and sound policy, which I think of most importance in this case, and laying aside these legal questions for the present, as head of the law department I now advise you not to make another appointment, to withdraw your notice to the various departments and to treat with Mr. Connolly as Comptroller.

If you do not think him as entitled to fill the office *de jure*, by treating him as Comptroller at least *de facto*, you will adopt a course which is, in my opinion, necessary to prevent financial difficulties, complications, and the continuance of that public excitement and sense of insecurity which a prolonged legal controversy in this case would inevitably intensify.

It should be borne in mind, also, that long before that controversy could be determined a new Legislature will have assembled, who will then be able more calmly and deliberately to consider any matters connected with this case which may be properly submitted for their consideration. I remain, my dear sir, yours faithfully,

RICHARD O'GORMAN.

Scarcely had this been read and copied when another came from the Corporation counsel in relation to

FERRETTING OUT THE FRAUDS

by process of law. The letter was immediately answered by the Mayor, and from the correspondence it will be seen that the Corporation counsel and the Mayor play a sort of battledore and shuttlecock business with the question. The correspondence is as follows:—

LAW DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF COUNCIL TO THE CORPORATION,
CITY OF NEW YORK, Sept. 19, 1871.

Hon. A. OAKEY HALL, Mayor, &c.:—

MY DEAR MAYOR—Since the decision of Judge Barnard, in Foley vs. the Mayor and Others, in which he gave a quasi judicial sanction to the rumors which have been rife in this city, of gross extravagance in some of the bills presented by various contractors, and paid to them out of the funds of the city, it has seemed to me proper and necessary that some effective legal steps should be taken by the Corporation to recover these moneys if sufficient evidence of fraud can be obtained to sustain action. I have been so incessantly occupied for the last few days in attending to official business—writing opinions, &c.—which has accumulated during my absence in court, on the Foley case that I have not been able to devote my mind specially to the question; but I think it a question of pressing importance, and I beg to call to it the attention of you as chief executive officer of the city, and to ask you for your instructions in the premises.

Yours faithfully, RICHARD O'GORMAN,
Counsel to the Corporation.

The following is the Mayor's response:—

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, CITY HALL,
NEW YORK, Sept. 19, 1871.

MY DEAR SIR—You are the head of the Law Department. Yours is the full discretion to bring any action at law which you deem it best to commence for promoting the good name or better prosperity of the city, or of its treasury. And I have such entire confidence in your judgment and experience that I leave the matter within that discretion. I know that you will do your duty, when you have ascertained it, regardless of such consequences as fall outside of duty's sphere. Very truly, your obedient servant, A. OAKEY HALL, Mayor.

Mr. RICHARD O'GORMAN, Counsel to the Corporation.

The letters having been disposed of the interview was renewed.

"Do you intend, Mr. Mayor, to accept Mr. O'Gorman's opinion as binding?"

"Well, General Grant accepted Attorney General Akerman's advice when he didn't believe he was right."

"Then we are to understand