THE STATE CAPITAL.

Misappropriation of the Sinking Fund.

The Kings County Charities Commissioners.

The Canal Board—Confirmations by the Senate—Resignation of Mayor Thacher.

ALBANY, Jan. 28, 1874.

The session in both houses was remarkably dull to-day, and very little of interest transpired beyond the ordinary routine. In the Senate this morning Mr. Coe introduced an act to amend the act to constitute the

KINGS COUNTY CHARITIES COMMISSIONERS.

By it the Commissioners are constituted a corporation, and retain their management of the county institutions, subject to the control of the Board of Supervisors. They are made trustees of all the property in their possession and liable to the county as such. They have power to appoint and remove subordinates, except storekeepers, but are not allowed to enter into any contract for the expenditure of money, except to pay employés, unless especially authorized by the Board of Supervisors. All articles for the support of the poor are to be supplied by the Supervisors. They are required to make upon the 1st of July a detailed statement of all supplies that have passed through their hands during the year, and also an estimate of what will be required for the coming year for the relief of the poor, for salaries and for expenditures upon the property under their charge, and the Supervisors will then determine what part of such requisition is necessary.

They are required to advertise for ten days in the Corporation newspapers and award the contract for supplies or for doing the requisite work to the lowest responsible bidder or bidders, who shall give adequate security for the faithful carrying out of the contracts.

Additions, repairs or alterations shall be furnished at the discretion of the Supervisors upon the requisition of the commissioners.

All outdoor relief is to be furnished from depositories by the storekeepers in kind and not in money nor by orders on dealers, except as to the article of coal, which shall be produced by contract and supplied by orders on the contractors.

All articles drawn for the support of the institution or for outdoor relief shall be upon orders from the commissioners on the storekeepers, which orders the storekeepers shall return as vouchers to the Board of Supervisors.

The votes of at least three commissioners are required for the exercise of any of the functions.

The Board of Supervisors is required to raise annually the amount it may deem necessary for the support of the poor, but not to exceed in any one year $550,000.

No member of the Board of Commissioners of Charities or of the Board of Supervisors nor any subordinate shall be personally, directly or indirectly interested in the purchase or sale of supplies or articles required or used under the provisions of this act.

Every pauper inmate of the institution under charge of the Commissioners of Charities whose age and health will permit, shall be employed in getting out or breaking stone, cultivating the grounds, repairing the property, or manufacturing articles required for the use of the institution, or in such manner as may be profitable.

In case any should refuse to perform the work required of them they may be discharged, or placed under such restrictions as the commissioners may deem proper.

Vagrants may also be committed to the Almshouse by magistrates, and there held the same as they now are to the Penitentiary or County Jail.

CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

The Senate, in executive session to-day, confirmed the following:—As Agent of the Indians in Western New York, Henry H. Hawkins, of Silver Creek; as Trustee of the State Asylum for Idiots, Frederick D. Huntington, of Syracuse.

THE CANAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS.

The Canal Board will probably make their appointments to-morrow.

RESIGNATION OF MAYOR THACHER.

Mayor Thacher has resigned. This is in accordance with the stipulation entered into with Mr. Judson.

Message from Governor Dix—The Comptroller's Statement—The Money Expended in Payment of Appropriations—A Clear Violation of the Constitution—Expenditure in Excess of the Revenues of the State—The Unpaid Taxes.

ALBANY, Jan. 28, 1874.

Governor Dix to-day transmitted the following message to the Legislature:—

STATE OF NEW YORK, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, ALBANY, Jan. 28, 1874.

TO THE LEGISLATURE:—

I have the honor to transmit herewith a communication from the Comptroller in regard to the sinking funds set apart by the constitution and sacredly pledged to pay the interest and redeem the principal of the State debts. I cannot too strongly commend the facts and suggestions contained in this communication to your attention. They concern the proper administration of the financial department of the government and the preservation of the good faith of the State toward the public creditors. I have referred to this subject in both my messages to the Legislature, and more particularly in the one which I had the honor to make to you, at the commencement of your present session, in the financial statement presented to me when I was preparing it. The aggregate amount of the several sinking funds was set down, $15,594,901 05. On inquiring in what manner the funds had been set apart as required by the constitution, I found that nearly two-thirds of the amount

EXISTED ONLY ON PAPER,

and that the moneys belonging to them had been used in defraying the current expenses of the government, in direct violation of the constitutional requirement and of the plighted faith of the State. The communication of the Comptroller explains the manner in which this failure to fulfil a high constitutional obligation has been caused, and points out the only mode in which the obligation can now be complied with. I do not doubt that it is his duty, under the higher law of the constitution, to invest all moneys raised by taxation for these funds as rapidly as they come into his hands, instead of expending them to meet legislative appropriations, and to leave the latter unpaid until other means are provided for them. In my first annual message I assumed that, as sinking funds were, in their nature,

A SOLEMN PLEDGE OF FAITH TO CREDITORS

for the payment of debts due them, to borrow money on the credit of those funds for other purposes, to make them subject to any other pledge, or make even a temporary use of the moneys or securities of which they consisted, was a clear violation of the pledge originally given. Further reflection has confirmed my confidence in the correctness of this conclusion. Some years ago there were uninvested moneys belonging to the capital of the general fund debt sinking fund, and these moneys were used to meet current expenditures. Since that time the Legislature, in repeated instances, authorized the Comptroller to invest surplus moneys belonging to the capital of the sinking funds in taxes thereafter to be collected, and to apply these moneys to meet appropriations made by the same act. An investment in a tax does not convey a very definite conception of the financial measure intended in plain terms. It is an expenditure of money to be replaced at a future time by taxation; but, in point of fact, when the authority to invest was given to the Comptroller in the instances referred to, there were no surplus moneys in existence to be invested or expended, and the result has been that the

PRINCIPAL OF THE SINKING FUND HAS BEEN INVADED

and consumed, as already stated. The largest deficiency is in the sinking fund of the county debt. This debt was contracted under section 11 of title 7 of the constitution. The sinking fund to extinguish it was created by chapter 325 of the Laws of 1865, and the money provided for it became, by virtue of the section referred to, applicable to the repayment of the debt, and "to no other purpose whatever." Like the sinking funds of the general and canal fund debts, it is inviolable, and can only be invaded and consumed through an infraction of the constitutional requirement. The act (chapter 448 of the Laws of 1867 amending that of 1865) requires the Comptroller to invest the proceeds of the annual tax authorized to be levied for this sinking fund from time to time, as it can be judiciously done on the bonds authorized to be issued under that act, or in any of the stocks issued by this State or the United States. The requirements of the constitution setting apart the sinking funds for the payment of the State debts and the requirements of the law in regard to the county debt and sinking debt are in accord, and a failure to make the investment prescribed by the latter would involve a violation of both. I make the suggestions with entire confidence in your earnestness to take such measures as may be necessary to maintain inviolate the faith of the State, and to relieve the financial department of all embarrassment in meeting public obligations both of an ordinary and an extraordinary character.

JOHN A. DIX.

The Comptroller's Statement.

STATE OF NEW YORK, COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Jan. 26, 1874.

To His Excellency JOHN A. DIX, Governor:—

I called the attention of the Legislature to my annual report, submitted at the beginning of the present session, to the general fund and bounty list of the State and the condition of the sinking fund intended for their payment at maturity, for the creation of which provision is made in the constitution of the State. I deem it a matter of so grave importance to the proper administration of the financial department of the government of the State as to justify me in alluding to the subject more in detail in this special communication to you.

THE GENERAL FUND DEBT NOW OUTSTANDING

amounted on the 1st day of January, 1874, to $3,988,526 40, payable as follows:—On demand, $30,443 76; July 1, 1875, $900,000; July 1, 1876, $800,000; at pleasure, $2,258,082 63. The bounty debt at the same date amounted to $20,815,000, payable April 7, 1877. The general fund and bounty debt amounts in the aggregate to $24,803,526 40. Provision was made for the creation of a sinking fund for the payment of the general fund debt in the second section of the seventieth article of the State constitution, which provides that "the principal and interest of the said sinking fund shall be sacredly applied to the payments of said debt." The whole amount required to take up and cancel said general fund debt has been contributed and paid into the treasury under said section and article of the constitution, but the moneys so contributed for the establishment of this sinking fund have been

DIVERTED FROM THEIR LEGITIMATE PURPOSE

and expended in payment of appropriations made by the Legislature, nominally in anticipation of taxes from year to year, and the same cannot be invested until such taxes are paid into the Treasury. The bounty debt was created to meet certain expenses of this State incurred in the suppression of the late rebellion, in pursuance of chapter 325 of the Laws of 1865, under the authority contained in the eleventh section of the seventh article of the constitution of the State, which is in the following words:—"In addition to the above limited power to contract debts, the State may contract debts to repel invasion, suppress insurrection or defend the State in war; but the money arising from the contracting of such debts shall be applied to the purposes for which it is raised or to repay such debts and to no other purpose whatever."

There has been assessed and should have been paid into the treasury at the present time, to the credit of the Bounty Debt Sinking Fund, the sum of $9,790,072 24. There is, in point of fact, invested at this time to its credit, and now in the custody of the Comptroller, the sum of $2,772,444 09, of which amount $3,220,200 was invested during the year 1873, leaving a balance to be invested, when the same is received into the treasury, from taxes assessed and not yet paid, as of January 1, 1874, of $7,017,628 15. Add to this the amount due the General Fund Debt Sinking Fund, already paid into the treasury and expended in anticipation of the taxes as above stated, $3,988,526, making the

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE TO THESE SINKING FUNDS,

and not yet invested, $11,006,154 55. Although this large amount stands as a deficiency in these sinking funds it is largely made up of unpaid taxes, as will appear below. The appropriations made by the Legislature had so far exceeded the revenues of the State from year to year, and so far trespassed upon the money which should have been invested in these sinking funds, that a tax of three and a half mills on the dollar of the assessed valuation of the property of the State, amounting to over $7,000,000, was authorized by the Legislature of 1872 to meet the deficiencies then found to exist in the treasury. $4,700,000 thereof was for the General Fund Deficiency and $2,500,000 for deficiencies in the canal fund. The latter sum has been paid over by the Comptroller to the Canal Department in full. Four million six hundred thousand dollars of said three and one-half mill tax yet remains uncollected, principally from the counties of New York, Kings, Westchester, Schuyler, Wayne and Ontario, and when paid will be placed to the credit of said sinking funds—to wit, $4,600,000. There is yet unpaid of the general tax for the same year $1,500,000. There has been anticipated and used in payment of

APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE NEW CAPITOL,

asylums, &c., of the tax authorized in 1873, $1,500,000. Cash in bank, December 31, 1873, $1,000,000; deficiency yet existing in the treasury, which must be made good by taxation, $1,500,000, making a total of $11,000,000. This sum of $11,000,000 should have been raised, paid into the treasury and invested in bonds of the United States or State of New York for the sinking fund, as required by the constitution and laws under which such debts were authorized to be created; but a large portion of it has been diverted and used to pay extraordinary appropriations made by the Legislature, and a still larger portion is provided for in the deficiency tax and other taxes which will not be collected and reach the treasury within a year from the present time. In addition to the amount already authorized as above stated, there will be contributed to the bounty debt sinking fund, from the two mill tax levied annually for four years, from 1873 to 1876, both inclusive, a sum which will be ample to

PROVIDE FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THE DEBT

at maturity if no further inroads are made upon these funds. But it should be borne in mind that the proceeds of the tax levy for 1876 will not reach the treasury under existing laws until after April 7, 1877, when the bounty debt matures. Provision should, therefore, be made in advance to meet this contingency. In view of the present condition of the treasury, as set forth in this statement, and of the large appropriations heretofore made and paid in anticipation of the receipt of taxes levied to meet them, which has brought great embarrassment to this department, it is submitted whether it is not the imperative duty of the Legislature to provide means to

PAY APPROPRIATIONS AS THEY MAY BE AUTHORIZED

without further encroachment upon the sinking funds constitutionally devoted to the redemption of the State debt. Such a diversion is in direct violation of the constitution, and if the policy of investing these sinking funds in unpaid taxes is continued from year to year the Finance Department will be constantly embarrassed, and when the debt matures in 1877 the money will not be in the treasury, for the reason that, as at present, a large amount will be used to pay appropriations in anticipation of taxes which cannot be made available until about a year after the debt falls due. In view of these facts, I shall regard it as my duty to obey the mandate of the constitution and invest the proceeds of taxes and other sums due the sinking funds as rapidly as they reach the treasury in the securities as authorized by law. All the facts presented in this communication are substantially given in my recent Annual Report. I think it advisable to repeat them in this condensed form, to the end that they may be submitted to the Legislature should it seem to you to be proper, accompanied by such suggestions as you may think it expedient to make in relation thereto. NELSON K. HOPKINS, Comptroller.

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

ALBANY, Jan. 28, 1874.

Colonel DE KAY, military secretary to the Governor, appeared and presented a communication from the Governor, accompanied by the report of the Comptroller relative to the sinking funds set apart by the constitution to pay the interest and redeem the principal of the State debt. Referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. BOOTH presented the annual report of the trustees of the Astor Library.

A communication from the secretary of the Regents of the University informed the Senate of a vacancy in said Board.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. McGOWAN—To amend the laws permitting corporations to change their names.

By Mr. WELLMAN—Relative to serving citations on minors and special guardians; directing that in proceedings of administrators and executors, on final settlements, minors shall be served with citations and special guardians appointed on the proof of wills, and in no other way.

By Mr. WOODIN—To amend the law relative to the equalization of State taxes.

By Mr. SELKREG—To enable towns and cities to refund moneys expended in furnishing substitutes during the late war.

By Mr. BOOTH—To incorporate the Cotton Exchange Trust Company, and naming as first corporators Frederick Benezan, John S. MacAuley, Simon Stern, David Ullman and others. Capital stock, $500,000, with power to increase it to $2,000,000. Agencies may be established in any city or town of the State, and goods received on storage or deposit and money advanced thereon.

By Mr. COE—Relative to the

COMMISSIONERS OF CHARITIES IN KINGS COUNTY,

placing that body entirely under the control of the Board of Supervisors, taking from them power to make contracts or purchase supplies, the Supervisors to appoint storekeepers, who shall have charge of all supplies and furnish them on the requisition of the commissioners. No more orders on grocers will be issued except for coal; the commissioners to report to the Supervisors each July a detailed statement of the expenditures of the previous year; the commissioners to employ the inmates of the public institutions at such labor as may be proper, and magistrates are given power to commit vagrants to the Almshouse in the same manner as they are now admitted to jail and the Penitentiary.

REPORTS.

Mr. FOX, from the Committee on Cities, reported favorably on the bill to incorporate the Butter and Cheese Exchange Company of New York.

Mr. WOODIN, from the same committee, reported favorably on the bill to provide for filling in certain low lands in the city of Brooklyn.

BILLS PASSED.

The supplementary act relative to the incorporation of religious societies was passed.

The following bills were

ORDERED TO A THIRD READING.

To incorporate the New York Club.

Authorizing County Courts and Courts of Sessions to summon additional petit jurors the same as Circuit Courts and Courts of Oyer and Terminer.

Mr. Woodin's resolutions offered yesterday requesting our representatives in Washington to vote for the bill now before Congress relative to providing arms and equipments for the whole body of

THE MILITIA OF THE UNITED STATES

were taken from the table and adopted.

The bill to provide for the payment of certain

BONDS OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK

was passed, with an amendment providing that no bonds shall be issued without the affirmative vote of three members of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.

ALBANY, Jan. 28, 1874.

Mr. COUGHLIN presented a petition of the real estate owners and residents of the Nineteenth ward of New York city asking that

THE EAST SIDE BOULEVARD,

which now stops at Fifty-seventh street and East River, be continued through and along Fifty-seventh street to Fifth avenue.

A communication was received from the

STATE WORKINGMEN'S ASSEMBLY

asking for a hearing relative to matters of interest to workingmen. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The Governor sent in a communication showing how the sinking funds have been trenched upon in violation of the constitution.

The constitutional amendments were received from the Senate, and on motion of Mr. PRINCE were placed before the House, where they belonged.

BILLS REPORTED.

By Mr. EASTMAN—To authorise the Common Council of the city of Utica to borrow and disburse money for city purposes and collect taxes to pay the same.

On motion of Mr. CHADWICK this bill was read and passed.

By Mr. LINCOLN—To charter the Silent Safety Railway Company.

By Mr. LYNDE—Fixing times for town meetings.

By Mr. BOSTWICK—Authorizing the city of Rochester to borrow money to complete a public school.

Much time was consumed in acting on propositions to appoint supplemental officers for the House, which resulted in appointing those only which were regarded as imperatively necessary.

Mr. BATCHELLER introduced

THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BILL,

with the rate of taxation left blank.

EFFECT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ON CANALS.

A communication was received from the Attorney General stating that, if the proposed constitutional amendment relative to canals was adopted, it would not limit appropriations by the Legislature for new work or repairs.

Adjourned.

NATIONAL GUARD DIFFICULTIES.

The Quarrel About the Centre Street Armory—Orders and Counter-Orders—Indignation Meeting of the Officers of the Ninety-sixth Regiment—The Eleventh Regiment on the Warpath.

The unseemly disputes between the Ninety-sixth and Eleventh regiments, N. G. S. N. Y., have attracted a good deal of attention in the community and been the cause of much regret generally, especially among the admirers of our citizen soldiery, who wish to see the militia completely fill the object of its organization—that of proving itself a bulwark to the nation and showing an example of discipline and obedience worthy of imitation.

A meeting of the officers of the regiment was held in the house of the chief of the regiment, No. 122 Delancey street. Colonel Stauf declined to say anything to a reporter of the HERALD about its proceedings, maintaining that it was only a private gathering of a few friends. It, however, transpired that the reunion was being verified for the purpose of sending a delegation to Albany to confer with the Commander-in-Chief. Colonel Stauf and some of his officers consider themselves as having been badly treated and "lied against." They think that the orders recently issued can only have the effect of breaking up a good regiment. The officers, who are very much incensed against Major General Shaler, deny having disobeyed any orders received through the proper channels. They assert that the report of their having taken forcible possession of the Centre street Armory is untrue. Neither is it a fact that the regiment had 150 men in the armory for the purpose of retaining possession at all hazards. Colonel Stauf, Lieutenant Colonel Hemmer and other officers of the regiment say that while the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution on the 12th inst. asking their corps to vacate the armory in dispute, they at the same time passed another ordering suitable quarters to be found for them. This was not done, and as the Ninety-sixth had no place to march to they were unable to leave their new billet in Centre street.

The following official documents that have been handed in for publication will give the reader an idea of the correspondence passed between the several military authorities concerning this matter:—

GENERAL ORDERS—NO. 8.

HEADQUARTERS NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT, SECOND BRIGADE, N. G. S. N. Y., NEW YORK, Dec. 10, 1873.

The regiment will assemble in full uniform for inspection by the Brigadier General commanding at half-past seven P. M., at the Regimental Armory, Nos. 291 and 293 Bowery, on Tuesday, 23d inst., 1873. By order of

Colonel STAUF, Commanding Ninety-sixth Regiment.

Upon assembling the regiment General Funk was on the ground to review and inspect it, and subsequently issued the following order, after which the regiment marched to the new armory. This was after General Funk had received the keys from Supervisor Kehr. The General put the regiment in possession of the new armory. The following is the order:—

SPECIAL ORDERS—NO. 69.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, NEW YORK, Dec. 23, 1873.

Colonel Andrew Stauf, commanding Ninety-sixth regiment, National Guard, State of New York, will at once, upon receipt of this order, march his command to the new armory now unoccupied, corner of Grand street and Centre Market place, and take possession of said premises for the use of his command as an armory.

He will cause the State and county property in the possession of the Ninety-sixth regiment to be removed from the premises Nos. 291 and 293 Bowery, now occupied by his command as an armory, at once, and place it in the new armory designated, and report his compliance with this order in writing to these headquarters without delay. By order,

Brigadier General AUGUSTUS FUNK.

GEO. T. SMITH, Lieutenant Colonel and A. A. G.

Colonel Stauf received the following order on the 14th inst.:—

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, N. G., S. N. Y., NEW YORK, Jan. 14, 1874.

COLONEL—I am directed to furnish for your information and guidance the following copy of the resolutions passed at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors, held on the 12th inst., relating to the occupancy of the Centre Market Armory by the regiment under your command:—

Resolved, That the present occupation of Centre Market Armory by the Ninety-sixth regiment, without any authority from this Board of Supervisors, is a standing insult to the said Board; and, further, be it

Resolved, That the Major General commanding the First division, N. G., S. N. Y. be and he is hereby instructed to remove the Ninety-sixth regiment from the Centre Market Armory.

In conformity with the spirit of the second resolution the Major General commanding directs that you cause said armory to be vacated without delay, and report your action thereon in writing to these headquarters on or before the 20th inst. Very respectfully,

CARL JUSSEN, Lt. Col. and A. A. D. C.

To Colonel ANDREW STAUF, commanding Ninety-sixth regiment N. G. S. N. Y.

It will be seen by the foregoing order that five clear days were allowed to the Ninety-sixth regiment wherein to evacuate their new quarters. On the day in which the order should have been complied with Colonel Stauf addressed the following official communication to Lieutenant Colonel Carl Jussen:—

HEADQUARTERS NINETY-SIXTH REG'T, N. G., S. N. Y., NEW YORK, Jan. 20, 1874.

Lieutenant Colonel CARL JUSSEN, A. A. D. C. First Division:—

COLONEL—I am in receipt of your communication dated January 14, inst., in which you copy resolutions of the Board of Supervisors directing the Major General commanding the First division to cause my regiment to vacate their armory, and also your instructions directing me to vacate the armory without delay, &c. In answer I have to say that I am unable to vacate the armory, having no other to occupy, and being responsible for the State and county property for which I have given bonds to the amount of $30,000. Appreciating full well the necessity of obeying the orders of my superior officers, I must confess my inability to obey this order, because of its impossibility. If the Major General commanding will give me the order to stack my arms and property in the street, and thereby relieve me of all responsibility and loss, I will at once obey. I would respectfully call his attention to the fact that I cannot return to the armory lately occupied by me, the same having been condemned by the Inspector General, State of New York, and Brigade Inspector for the last five years, and unsafe for military, as the lease has expired, and a reoccupancy on my part would bind me and make me responsible for the payment of its rent, which he certainly cannot mean by his order.

Respectfully submitted,

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. STAUF,

Colonel commanding 96th regiment Infantry, N. G. S., N. Y.

The armorer of the Ninety-sixth regiment states that when Colonel Jussen knocked at the door for admittance there were no persons in the armory but himself and son, who is a drummer in the same corps. He says that he is still in possession of the new armory, but will have to vacate it, together with all the property of the regiment, public and private, on Monday next.

Just at this moment the martial sound of approaching drums was heard. Presently it was ascertained that the music emanated from a company or more of the Eleventh regiment, who beat and marched past the door of Colonel Stauf (on the sidewalk). This seemed like bravado and was calculated to produce a breach of the peace, especially as some of those who were in the procession used insulting language at passing the house of Colonel Stauf.

Both regiments are composed principally of Germans.

THE ERIE AND OSWEGO CANALS.

BUFFALO, Jan. 28, 1874.

The Board of Trade, at a meeting on 'Change to-day, reaffirmed its policy in relation to the Erie Canal, adopted in 1872, as follows:—Complete the Erie and Oswego canals according to the original policy of the amendment to the constitution of 1854, and carry out the laws enacted for that purpose by removing the bench walls and all other obstructions so as to make the canal full seventy feet wide and seven feet deep from Buffalo and Oswego to Albany, and complete double locks as per contract west of Syracuse. The Board also asked the Legislature to pass the Funding bill recommended by the Chamber of Commerce of New York city, in order to put the funds in proper shape to improve the canal and make it practically a free canal or as near so as possible.

THE SIAMESE TWINS.

Application to Compel an Inquest.

Judge Cloud Declines to Take Action in the Matter.

PHILADELPHIA PHYSICIANS MOVING.

GREENSBORO, N. C., Jan. 28, 1874.

While the medical profession at the North are endeavoring to raise the funds necessary to purchase the bodies of the Siamese Twins a strong effort is being made here to compel the State authorities to hold the necessary legal inquest which the mysterious death of at least one of the twins demands. Dr. Richard K. Gregory to-day telegraphed to Judge Settle, of the State Supreme Court, as follows:—

GREENSBORO, N. C., Jan. 28, 1874.

Judge THOMAS SETTLE, Raleigh, N. C.:—

The Siamese Twins have died from an unknown cause, and a post-mortem examination is positively refused to be allowed. In behalf of science and the laws of our State may I ask that you will use your influence with Judge Cloud to issue an order to the Coroner of Surrey county, North Carolina, compelling him to hold an inquest over the bodies, at which a post-mortem examination shall be made. If he will grant the order will you please send it to me by express to-night? Very respectfully,

R. K. GREGORY, M. D.

P. S.—Answer by telegram.

Mount Airy, Surrey county, is in the judicial circuit of the Superior Court in which Judge Cloud presides.

In reply to the above telegram Dr. Gregory received the following:—

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 28, 1874.

Dr. R. K. GREGORY, Greensboro, N. C.

Judge Cloud declines to take action as requested.

THOMAS SETTLE,
Associate Justice Supreme Court.

In the meantime the bodies, as already reported in the HERALD, owing to the improper manner in which they were "boxed up," are approaching, if they are not now in, an advanced stage of decomposition, and if something is not done at once it will soon be impossible to have the proposed autopsy.

Philadelphia Physicians Off to Mount Airy.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 28, 1874.

To-morrow morning Dr. Pancoast, with several other leading physicians of this city, will leave for Mount Airy, N. C., to make an examination of the remains of the Siamese Twins. A letter was expected to-day from Dr. William Hollingsworth, of Mount Airy, but it did not come. The physicians are now going without any advices.

Dr. Pancoast is very reticent about the affair, but it is believed that satisfactory arrangements for an autopsy have been completed. The physicians will hardly reach the home of the Twins before Saturday morning.

Additional Medical Observations on the Twins.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

SIR—Having repeatedly examined the Siamese Twins during the early years of their public exhibition I beg to state the conclusions to which I then arrived, and which have been, I think, confirmed by their death:—

First—One *placenta* supplied them with blood from their mother when *in utero*, and one umbilical cord and one set of umbilical vessels conveyed this blood to and from each of their hearts before birth. This is proved by their having but one navel or place where the umbilical vessels entered their bodies, and that on the anterior aspect in the centre of their connecting ligament.

Second—The one umbilical vein which conveyed the pure blood of the mother from the *placenta* to both children *in utero* entered a common *vena cava* or large vein in the centre of the connecting ligament, which common vein, passing through the ligament into the body of each child, conveyed the blood through the liver to the heart of both children.

Third—The blood, after circulating through each child and becoming impure, was returned through the descending aorta and common iliac arteries to the two internal iliac arteries of each child, which, uniting in the centre of the connecting ligament, formed two iliac arteries common to both children, which poured the blood into the two umbilical arteries of the umbilical cord which conveyed it to the *placenta* to be purified by the mother's lungs.

Fourth—At the birth of the twins the destruction of the umbilical vessels in the umbilical cord did not and could not destroy the blood vessels common to both children passing through the connecting ligament with which the umbilical vessels had been connected *in utero*; consequently the hearts of the twins remained directly connected by one large vein and two arteries during life.

This is proved by the arterial pulsations perceptible in the track of the vessels through the connecting ligament and by the unison of their heart beat when both were in health, which was observed by Dr. Warren and every other careful medical examiner when they first arrived in this country, and is not disproved by the statement of Dr. Hollingsworth, because the increased action of one when sick or excited would not perceptibly influence the action of the heart of the other in a normal state and unexcited.

Fifth—The heart of Eng, although he was the larger of the two, was smaller, weaker, or not as well developed as that of Chang. This is frequently observed in twins. Consequently Eng could not long survive the separation from his brother or his death, as he required the help of the stronger heart of Chang to supply or keep up the circulation of his blood. This is proved by the feeble beating of the heart of Eng when compared with that of Chang; so the immediate fainting of Eng when the flow of blood between their hearts was obstructed by compressing the connecting ligament in Paris to test the safety of their being separated, and by the plethory of the cutaneous blood vessels of Chang giving him a dark appearance, and the paleness of Eng showing a want of strength in his heart to throw the blood to the surface, or the lack of a sufficient supply of blood, which he had heretofore received from Chang, at the time of their death.

Sixth—Their connecting ligament was composed in the upper and thicker part by the ensiform cartilages of their sternums uniting and held together with very strong ligaments next below the three large blood vessels above described, with their fascia and connecting tissues, enveloped also in strong ligaments, all supplied with the small nerves and blood and other vessels necessary for the life, growth and strength of the ligament; the whole surrounded by a very tough thick skin.

Seventh—That the difference in the excitability, temper, temperament or moral or intellectual powers of the twins is no argument against the connection of their hearts, as the blood is simply the menstruum or medium through which nourishment is supplied to the system, and has no influence over the brain, the nerves or any other organ of the body in a state of health other than to convey the food prepared by the digestive organs for their nourishment.

Eighth—That the Siamese Twins were separate, distinct human beings, each possessing an accountable, immortal soul. That they would live united to a respectable age, would die if separated at any time, and that when one died the other would speedily follow—Eng sooner than Chang—were the deliberate conclusions to which most of the physicians in this country and in Europe arrived who carefully examined them during the first years of their public exhibition.

It is very desirable that a post-mortem examination may decide these important questions and that such examination may be obtained for the benefit of pathological science.

A. J. CHADSEY, M. D.

NEW YORK, Jan. 28 1874.

"When Doctors Disagree."

NEW YORK, Jan. 27, 1874.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

You will doubtless bear me out when I observe that, since the good old days of Adam and Eve, whenever anything has happened there have been numberless wise heads to exclaim, "I told you so!" When I asked leave to express my opinion relative to the Siamese Twins I did not expect to incur the wrath of any man possessing natural common sense, let alone a "professional." In this, however, it appears I was mistaken, seeing that one James W. Hale, of No. 69 Wall street, has come forward to defend both his idea of medical science and English all at the same time by wrongly quoting my words and attributing the "English" to me, and exclaiming, "I told you so!" to prove his own skill. According to his own words, some fifty-nine years ago he had the honor of studying the twins very closely, and these honors crowded in on him so rapidly that he "had the honor of stating to the Royal Society of London that he did not believe that one could live two hours after the death of the other." Excuse the English; it is Mr. Hale's, not mine. And yet, for all this, one did live considerably beyond two hours after the death of the other. Alas! alas! some men outlive their predictions as well as their usefulness; but would Mr. Hale have lived ten minutes after sustaining a shock similar to that which poor Eng had to endure for two long hours? Dr. Warren's statement, to which Mr. Hale refers, fully sustains my assertion, that, had the ligature been severed immediately after the death of Chang, Eng's life would have been saved; so also does the statement of their family physician. Leaving Mr. Hale to ponder over his antiquated lore and past honors, I still adhere to my first statement, no matter who neglects his medical learning for bad English.

Respectfully,

T. M. DE HYLTON, M. D.,
No. 218 East Thirty-eighth street.

N. B.—I write in great haste; therefore, depend on Hale to make this readable, and hope he will not storm. DE H.

BROOKLYN YACHT CLUB.

Annual Meeting—Election of Officers for the Ensuing Year—Miscellaneous Business.

The annual meeting of the Brooklyn Yacht Club was held at its rooms, No. 26 Court street, last evening, Mr. P. W. Ostrander, President, in the chair, and Mr. William T. Lee Secretary. The attendance was very gratifying, nearly every yacht owner in the organization being present, besides many members residing at a distance, among the latter being Commodore K. C. Barker, of the Detroit Yacht Club.

Following the calling of the roll and reading of the minutes, Mr. Gilbert L. Haight, chairman of the Board of Trustees, submitted their report. It contained but little of public interest, excepting that portion relating to the change of quarters by the Club, and before the meeting adjourned the Board, in conjunction with the President, Treasurer and Secretary, were authorized to use their discretion in obtaining rooms suitable for the transaction of business. The Treasurer, Mr. John M. Sawyer, submitted his annual report, from which was gleaned that the Club had enrolled on its books seventeen schooners, forty-four sloops and five steam yachts.

It was then announced by President Ostrander that inasmuch as the Club had made the present the period for the annual election of officers it was incumbent that all those still holding positions under the old order until April next had better now resign to prevent difficulty in the future. This suggestion was promptly acted upon, and such officials who had not previously sent in their resignations did so and they were accepted.

The election of officers for the ensuing year being in order the following were unanimously chosen:—

Commodore—Jacob Voorhis, Jr.
Vice Commodore—John S. Dickerson.
Rear Commodore—Robert Dillon.
President—P. W. Ostrander.
Secretary—William T. Lee.
Treasurer—Chauncey M. Felt.
Assistant Secretary—George G. Dunning.
Measurer—John M. Sawyer.
Fleet Surgeon—Samuel Hall, M. D.
Judge Advocate—James Oakey.
Trustees—G. L. Haight, J. J. Treadwell, J. H. Dimon, H. S. Wood, Rufus Hatch, William B. Nichols, John T. Barnard.
Committee on Membership—Charles L. Franklin, William M. Ringwood, Thomas Fry, M. D.
Regatta Committee—H. Baragwanath, J. A. Braham, Ernest Wendt, Samuel Hall, M. D.

The question of changing article 2, chapter 4 of the bylaws relating to the dues was then taken up, and, upon a unanimous vote, it was agreed that "each member shall pay an annual due of $20 at each annual meeting," instead of $12 as heretofore, but that "this shall not take effect until after the month of April next," as the contract before entered into by the Club with the members would be binding until that time.

The Club then adjourned to partake of a generous collation, after which happy speeches were made by many of the gentlemen present.

A GREAT BOON.

Life-Saving Stations and Weather Signals to be Established Between Cape Hatteras and Cape Henry.

FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 26, 1874.

One of the most important measures for the benefit of commerce passed by the last Congress is the establishment of life-saving stations on the Virginia and North Carolina coast, between Cape Henry and Cape Hatteras. This is a bleak, almost uninhabited neck of land, over 100 miles in length, and which, until within the past year, has been entirely destitute of lights, except at Cape Hatteras and Cape Henry. Before the war a lighthouse was established on Body Island, a dangerous strip of land, about seventy miles south of Cape Henry. It was destroyed during the rebellion, and was not replaced until last year. There will be eleven of these life-saving stations erected, and they will be properly equipped and manned at the earliest possible moment. The contractor has commenced work upon them, and will have them all completed during the coming summer. In connection with these life-saving stations General Myer, Chief Signal Officer, is having a telegraph line built from Norfolk to Cape Henry, and thence down the coast to Cape Hatteras. The line is already completed sixty miles south of Cape Henry, and will be finished to Cape Hatteras by the 1st of February. This will serve a double purpose, as it will display storm signals to passing vessels, and in case one is driven ashore assistance from Norfolk can be promptly summoned, and thus its value is almost incalculable. It is a well known fact that from two to three vessels go ashore every year within a short distance from Cape Henry light, the brig Mary Rice, of Baltimore, being the last victim. Why this should be so seems to be a mystery; but the general impression prevails here that if vessels would not hug the shore so close, in order to avoid the pilot boats cruising off the Cape, they would not get into trouble so frequently.

In consequence of the stringent retrenchment measures adopted by the present Congress it is feared that work in the Engineer Department at this place will have to be suspended at the close of the present month, and a material reduction of the force in the Ordnance Department will probably take place about the same time. The Engineer Department is preparing the north redoubt of the fort to receive seven fifteen-inch guns, which will command the channel for five miles below, and the Ordnance Department is changing some fifteen-inch gun carriages and adding air pressure cylinders to check the recoil, and it is hoped the work may be continued.

DEPARTURE OF CHARLES BRADLAUGH.

The well known English political agitator, Charles Bradlaugh, who came to this city from London about six months ago, yesterday returned to Europe by the Cunard steamship Java. A small party of gentlemen, with whom Mr. Bradlaugh has acquired an acquaintanceship during his stay in this country, visited the Java to bid him farewell. Mr. Bradlaugh is an aristocratic democrat, for during his stay in this city he has stopped at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, and he took passage on a vessel where tickets in the cabin call for a very high price. Before his departure from the Fifth Avenue Hotel a handsome cane was presented to him by some members of the trade societies, who were chiefly of the English nationality. Short addresses were made, and the recipient and the donors parted in a state of excellent good humor. Mr. Bradlaugh goes home to contest the election for the borough of Northampton, for which contest writs have already been issued. Mr. Bradlaugh is reported to have declared to some of his newly made friends in this city that the leaders of the workingmen's movement in America were very fanatical and that they were tainted with socialistic infamies, and that they had refused to listen to him as to what should be done to further the social progress of the workingman. It is rumored that the mission of the famous agitator to this country has been a total failure, and that the proceeds of the sales of tickets for his lectures have been exceedingly small.

AN IMPUDENT LOTTERY MAN.

Attempts of a Candy Operator to Override the Law in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 28, 1874.

For several days past a popular lottery has been running upon Chestnut street, under the name of the Peaslee Candy Company, similar institutions having been rather successfully conducted in almost all the leading cities of the Union, the city of Boston being the last place the company hailed from. The company have been doing an immense trade since they have been here, the vicinity immediately surrounding their place of business being crowded with factory girls and the laboring classes generally to such an extent as to block up the sidewalk and preclude travel