THE COURTS.

Supplementary Proceedings—Important Question.

AN IMPECUNIOUS RABBI.

The Building Laws—How They Are Evaded.

In the matter of the child Mary Ellen, rescued from ill treatment, and whose grandparents are supposed to be residing in London, Judge Lawrence yesterday decided that, the child's relatives not having been found, she should be sent to the Sheltering Arms, where Mary Ellen now is.

Yesterday Louis Barrero was charged before Commissioner Shields with manufacturing cigars without having given the necessary bond required by law. He was held in $1,000 bail for examination.

The case of Mlle. Leoni Juvin, who is charged with having smuggled about fifty silk dresses from France into this port, was to have been examined into yesterday before Commissioner Shields; but in consequence of the illness of the defendant, who is confined to her bed in Ludlow street Prison, the matter went over till Tuesday next, at two o'clock.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

A new and interesting point was decided in Supreme Court, Chambers, yesterday before Judge Donohue, in the suit brought by the First National Bank of Middletown, Conn., against Charles Barnum. The decision was that Mr. Barnum's having submitted to be examined "on supplementary proceedings," without objection, gave the Court jurisdiction, and though it turned out in the course of the examination that his residence was in the Second Judicial district, still no objection having been made until this appeared, and defendant being sworn without objection, the rule that all supplementary proceedings be had in the district where defendant resides, does not apply, and the proceedings will be retained in this district.

AN IMPECUNIOUS RABBI.

Moses Diment, a Jewish rabbi, was imprisoned by Police Justice Wandell for abandonment of his wife, Liebe. The wife was present, but her testimony was not reduced to writing. Defendant admitted that he had not contributed to his wife's support, and the Justice, hearing from a third party that the man was poor, ordered him to pay $4 a week and be committed until he gave $300 bail. The wife took out a habeas corpus for the husband's release, through Philip Levi, on the ground that she did not want to compel him to support her or be put in prison; that he is poor and a rabbi out of employment, and that there was no testimony taken in writing and no record of conviction filed with the County Clerk. The case was argued yesterday, and Judge Donohue decided to-day that the Supreme Court can review abandonment cases on the question of jurisdiction by the magistrate, and, on the facts, discharged the prisoner on the ground that the magistrate had no jurisdiction.

THE BUILDING LAWS EVASION.

Gustav Weid, against whom Judge Daly, in the Common Pleas, issued an injunction to prevent his building a ball room with a brick foundation eight inches thick instead of a stone one twenty inches thick, appeared in Court yesterday and said the premises were leased to his son-in-law, and he sent him the injunction. The son-in-law stated he sent the paper to Mr. Hopper, the builder, but he only pushed on the work. Mr. Gedney, counsel for the Department of Buildings, urged the necessity of enforcing the law. Judge Daly said this was an aggravated case. Cases of this kind chiefly occurred among the Germans. They shift the responsibility from hand to hand on the ground of want of understanding. The Germans, he added, are usually very intelligent, but they seem to think that coming to our free country they can disregard its laws. The matter was adjourned to Monday to give Weid an opportunity to produce Mr. Hopper.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.

DECISIONS.

By Judge Lawrence.

In the matter of Mary Ellen.—Having given to the testimony in this case the fullest consideration in my power I have come to the conclusion to send the child to the Sheltering Arms, subject to the further order of the Court.

By Judge Donohue.

Phillips vs. Langley.—Motion granted.
Matter of Dimand.—Memorandum.

COMMON PLEAS—SPECIAL TERM.

DECISIONS.

By Chief Justice Daly.

Vail vs. Vail.—Divorce granted.
Murray vs. Walsh.—See memorandum.
Gorman vs. Kamak.—Motion denied.
In the matter of the final accounting of N. Dane Ellingwood.—Reference ordered.

THE TOMBS AFTER CHRISTMAS.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY OFFENDERS DISPOSED OF IN ONE DAY—A MOVING AND PITIFUL KALEIDOSCOPE OF FORTY FRENZIED AND FRESCOED FACES.

The day after Christmas Day at the Tombs Police Court is a day without equal in all the other days of the year. For there are on that day so many repentant people and here and there a guilty person to stand before the bar of the Court, not knowing how they came there, and whose brains have been wool-gathering so long that they have nothing to say, or had they it would not be said.

The blank and dreary station houses, with their stone walls and whitewashed surfaces and blackly-painted bars, have, during the early morning succeeding Christmas Day, vomited forth so many hideous spectacles that the inside inclosure of the court in which the prisoners are contained, with its noises and its odor, resembles a Gehenna and not a court pen. At an early hour of the morning Judge Murray is on the bench, willing to hear every one, but determined to despatch all who may come before him in as short a time as may be possible, with due regard for the demands of justice tempered with mercy.

"A DREARY GEHENNA."

The Tombs is at any time a dreary place, but in the merry Christmas hours, when the streets and squares and shops are radiant with evergreens and lamps and the glitter of ornaments and the fresh colored paints of children's toys, then is the heart sad as the poor wretches stand up to plead for an hour's mercy and for permission to join those from whom they have foolishly wandered.

The watch sheet is very full this morning, and during the day it seems that no less than 160 arrested persons have been brought to this Court, an instance of activity and labor that has never before been known at the Tombs Police Court. Here are no less than thirty persons, brought the night previous by a police captain, and twenty-six men from a disorderly house in Bleecker street, who were arrested after midnight in the midst of an idiotic carouse. Some of them are thieves, but not proven so, for they have not been caught in any act, and this class have the peculiarly glassy and shifting eyes that are without reliability or endurance.

Judge Murray informs the policemen in attendance that it is time to bring them all up and they huddle together as if they were sheep stricken by a plague, suddenly. There are two young girls here who have good looking but bad faces and they answer to the names of "Kitty" and "Flora Anybody." There is also a proprietor named Unger, who has by some chance acquired the title of Captain. He kept the saloon in question and he has rather an insignificant and uncertain look. The resort which he kept is one of the vilest kind and yet he is quite pathetic in his pleading. Judge Murray, believing that the proprietor should know the character of his guests better than any of the party, decides quickly in his case and says:—

"PITY THE POOR PROPRIETOR."

"I think that I shall hold him in default of $1,000 bail. Let the clerk take his name and offence down; I shall hold him." At four o'clock, when the Court closed, he had not received bail for the accused. Then came the turn of all the medley party who were taken after midnight. They had various excuses; but some of them seemed honest enough people and had little to say in their defence, and to these the Judge spoke severely and yet in the way that they should hear. They were each fined $10 and permitted to go about their business with an admonition. "Kitty" and "Flora Anybody" were permitted to go after their friends and companions had paid a fine of $5 for each of them. The crowd of sympathizers who had been sitting in Court all day, sensibly and almost imperceptibly diminished as the prisoners were fined, the fines handed over to Mr. Heimburger or Mr. Rockwell, the clerks, or to Mr. Cooney, the chief clerk. And as they went out they stood on the stone steps and discussed unto each other what fools they had made of themselves and wondered if Christmas Day had been ordained for such foolish people as they had manifested themselves to be in a Police Court. Judge Murray told one of them:—"I believe that you are not a thief, and you have not the looks of a thief, but I fine you $10 for being in very bad company."

POLICEMEN AND PEANUTS.

Later in the day there is an intermission, and, during that time the police court is so lonely and desolate that it seems a fit place to gather in bats and owls. A woman with apples and peanuts ventures in and stares from the door vacantly, and the policemen in attendance is looking at her quite as vacantly as she looks at him. There is a bustle presently, preparatory to the entrance of the judge, and a good many small politicians take off their hats and endeavor to look as obsequious as possible. A number of drunken women, whose brows are branded into the signature of ineffable despair and degradation, are sitting in the pen and one of these poor forgotten wretches, whom it is impossible to place in the scheme of life, has a sudden fit and start, and in an instant she pours forth a torrent of blasphemy and ribaldry that is as terrific and unceasing as the flow of Niagara. She seems to be well acquainted with the detailed antecedents of every policeman's life who is present in court, and she does not hesitate to tell him "all about it." This female *ribaud* has had, no doubt, spots in her life tender and true and womanly, but her hour has come, and Judge Murray writes a small piece of paper full and she receives a sentence of six months on Blackwell's Island, which to her is an act of charity and beneficence.

A TRICK WORTHY OF CARTOUCHE.

There is a very aggravated case of watch stealing which now comes up, and the man is named Harding. On the 6th day of November this man, Harding, who is reputed to be of very bad character, met a man named Frederick Cochrane, and, as Cochrane was drunk enough to be fraternal with every one, he immediately made a bosom friend of Harding. A carriage ride was proposed by the victim with great enthusiasm, and was accepted by Mr. Joseph Harding in the same spirit. Mr. Cochrane and Mr. Harding rode and they rode, and they rode everywhere, and, unlike the Ancient Mariner, they had several drops to drink. Mr. Cochrane had a fine double case gold watch, valued at $130, and when he woke up he found carriage, watch and Harding gone off together. Mr. Cochrane became soberly indignant, and found, as many a man has found before, that his drunkenness was used as a means to rob and betray him. Detectives Reilly and Williamson were placed on the track of the treacherous Harding, but he could not be found. Some thought he had gone to Canada, others to Europe, and still others thought that he had gone to those islands in the sea, under palm trees, where Kalakaua reigns over his coffee-colored subjects. But Mr. Harding had a mind of purest ray serene and a genius of giant power. Finding that he was in danger of being captured and dealt with he took the watch to the pawnbrokers, Simpson, Green & Co., No. 181 Bowery, and pledged it to a clerk with the Sclavic name of Widoiska, who came and testified to the fact yesterday. Then Mr. Harding, thinking that there is no place so safe from search as the close vicinity of New York, made a complaint against two women of bad repute that he had been induced to visit a panel house in Wooster street and was there robbed by the two females. The women were locked up and Mr. Harding, the innocent victim of a foul conspiracy, was sent to the House of Detention, after having succeeded in playing a trick worthy of the august fame of Cartouche. Of course no detective would think of looking for a watch stolen in the House of Detention, and Mr. Harding was quite safe and the detectives sadly bothered for a while. But on Thursday last the trial of the two women for assumed panel theft came on in the Court of General Sessions, and Mr. Harding had to appear as a witness whether or not. As soon as he appeared it was found that he could not testify, and he was arrested for the robbery of Mr. Cochrane's watch and was taken before Judge Murray, who said to him:—

"Harding, this case is so clear that I shall hold you in $2,000 bail to answer at the General Sessions for the offence. There cannot be any doubt about such a case as this, as far as I have seen the evidence."

Mr. Harding went down looking daggers, and imagining that it would be a blissful thing indeed if he could make the jury believe, when he gets to the Court of Sessions, that he was in reality the District Attorney and argue the case with them.

"THREE BURGLARS BOLD."

Three burglars, named Frank Clark, Michael Maroney and Frank Burke, were arraigned on a charge of having robbed a man named Solomon Shayer, whose store is at No. 88 Bowery, of $300 worth of clothing. The store was burglariously entered, and part of the clothing was found in a second hand shop kept by a Jewish dealer named Cohen in Baxter street. Judge Murray held the three alleged burglars in $2,000 bail each.

A young man, named Bailey, with a sharp but not unpleasant face, was brought up by another Jewish dealer, who accused him of having stepped into his shop with a brass ring, which he had concealed, and, asking for another ring, a gold one, a number of rings were shown him. The dealer asserted that he had substituted a brass ring for the gold one which was shown him; but the young man spoke so frankly and seemed so solid that Judge Murray said to him:—

"This is rather a delicate matter. This man Bailey states that he had one ring, which is evidently not a gold one, and that he went in to buy another plain gold ring, very similar to the one he had, for his wife. I shall give him the benefit of the doubt, as I see no proof against him."

"POOR MARTHA MURPHY."

Suddenly there came out of the crowded space of the court a pale and faded but respectable lady in black, whose face was bedewed with tears and who was sobbing bitterly. By her side was a little girl of ten or twelve years of age, whose face was also red with weeping and whose long braided hair hung down on her back like the young and forlorn Gretchen—Goethe's ideal. It was mother and daughter, and they were sorrowing for a girl, the sister of the child and the daughter of the mother, who had forsaken the straight and only path for the crooked and indefinite one. The poor lost girl was named Martha Murphy, and she had been arrested for fighting and disorderly conduct. Judge Murray has a kind heart under a stern and quiet manner and he said to the poor mother:—

"Madame, I do not wish to detain your daughter, I am sure. You may take her home and try and reform her. I hope you may be able to do so, and I will be very glad that you have succeeded."

CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

There was another case, and an amusing one, and that will end this chapter of the Tombs history for the day after Christmas. A hard looking case named Greenwald, who keeps a cigar store in City Hall place, was accused of beating, kicking and rattanning a small atom of a boy, who was so young that he could not tell his name.

Judge Murray—What have you to say to this, Mr. Greenwald? I understand that you are a cigarmaker? Why did you beat this poor child?

Herr Greenwald—Vell, Shoodge, I haf much droobles mit dish bolicemans. He meddles bery much mit my pishness. Shoodge, I don't hurt dish poy; he ish all here now.

Police Officer—Judge, this man is no man at all. I allowed him to go inside of his store after I saw him bate his boy, and he rose his fut to hick him, and, of course, I felt bad, and I wanted to knock him down myself, and when he got inside of his shore he said I couldn't take him, and, of course, then I took him out right away.

A handsome young fellow was called as a witness and gave his name as Henry S. Murray. This young gentleman said that he did not see the last part of the trouble, but he thought that Mr. Greenwald had not behaved like an honorable man.

Judge Murray—Mr. Greenwald, I shall fine you $10. You must not behave so cruelly to small children. If they do wrong then you must call an officer.

Mr. Greenwald stated that he would appeal to a higher court, but the police officer simply took his $10 and advised him to go home. This ended the chapter of Tombs history for the day after Christmas.

FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET COURT.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

Before Judge Otterbourg.

Frank P. Shepherd, now of the House of Detention, charged William Gill, of No. 328 East Twenty-first street, with robbing him of $50. About two o'clock yesterday (Saturday) morning Shepherd entered a saloon on First avenue, between Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth streets, and had a stew of oysters. After paying for the same he left, and was followed out by several men, among whom was Gill. The latter, assisted by his comrades, took his money from him by force. Gill was held for trial in default of bail.

A CHRISTMAS DAY ROW.

John Kaber, of Fifty-eighth street and Seventh avenue, became involved in a row with Patrick Green, a neighbor, on Christmas Day, and was so badly beaten that he was unable to appear in court till yesterday afternoon. He then entered his complaint against Green, who was held in $500 bail to answer.

ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO ROB.

Thomas Burke, No. 417 East Fourteenth street, while sitting in Duffy's liquor store near Twenty-third street, in Third avenue, on Friday evening, was approached by one James Kelly, alias Scully, who attempted to rob him. Burke swears that he caught Kelly's hand in his vest pocket, and, on remonstrating, received a severe cuffing from Kelly. The accused was held for trial.

THE SCANDAL.

ANOTHER TILT BETWEEN COUNSEL IN THE TILTON-BEECHER SUIT—ARGUMENT ON APPEAL TO BE HEARD ON MONDAY.

The season of peace, plenty, happiness and good will to all men does not, it would appear, exercise a very beneficent influence over the spirits of the legal gentlemen who have been charged with the high and responsible duty of vindicating the litigants in the great scandal suit of the period—Tilton vs. Beecher. Shortly after ten o'clock yesterday morning Judge McCue took his seat on the bench of the Brooklyn City Court, and Judge Neilson also, though not presiding, occupied a seat near his judicial contemporary. Then there filed into the hall of justice General Tracy and Counsellor Shearman, counsel for the reverend pastor of Plymouth church, Mr. Beecher, and Messrs. Beach, Pryor and Morris, the legal advisers of Theodore Tilton, the plaintiff. Formal salutes were interchanged between counsel in court. The attendance in the gallery was unusually slim, the people, as a local legal luminary remarked, desiring "a rest for the holidays." The object of the assemblage of counsel was in compliance with the order of Judge McCue commanding the plaintiff's attorney to appear and show cause why they should not comply with the order of the Court granting a bill of particulars to the defendant setting forth the particular times and places at which the alleged acts of adultery were committed between Mr. Beecher and the wife of the plaintiff.

Mr. Shearman, on the opening of Court, said that, although the plaintiff had appealed, he had obtained no stay of proceedings, and they had been unable to come to any agreement as to the time of hearing the appeal. He then read the stipulation which had been served on Mr. Tilton's counsel, which has been heretofore published. Mr. Shearman said the counsel expected for the appeal were present, and on his side it was desirable that the bill should be promptly argued and disposed of. They proposed to go to trial with or without the bill of particulars.

Mr. Beach was not aware that the stipulation alluded to had been served. From the affidavit upon which the present order to show cause was granted it appeared that in an interview between Mr. Shearman and himself an attempt had been made to agree upon a time for the argument of the appeal. Mr. Shearman was informed by him that he had an engagement which would occupy this week, so that attendance at the General Term would be difficult. The affidavit also showed that at the interview he (Mr. Beach) told Mr. Shearman that he could argue that appeal on the coming Monday. In fact, he had not seen any of his associates in this case until that morning, nor had he seen his client; hence he was not prepared to enter upon the argument of the appeal before the General Term. While he was anxious to expedite the disposition of this motion in all its forms for a bill of particulars, and while it was apparent to the Court that the plaintiff has been solicitous of reaching the trial of this cause at as early a day as possible, he was not disposed to be driven into any argument of any motion or the trial of any case. The only knowledge he had that the order to show cause was granted was derived from the public prints, and they did not contain any allusion to the circumstance that there had been a stipulation proffered at the time of the serving of these papers. The motion of counsel for defence regarding this order was most extraordinary.

Mr. Shearman said he supposed this was only a preliminary discussion and he was not going to enter into a lengthy reply.

Judge McCue asked Mr. Beach whether some day next week would be convenient to have the matter heard, to which the counsel replied that he would make no suggestions, and should not enter into any stipulation in regard to this motion. As to the decision His Honor might make upon this order to show cause, if it was satisfactory they would obey; if it was not they would endeavor to rectify it.

Mr. Shearman remarked the counsel (Mr. Beach) was the senior counsel in the cause. On their side (the speaker's) the younger gentlemen associated with him always let him see every paper. They informed him of every motion, of every step that is taken in the case, and they did nothing without his advice. The learned gentleman on the other side complained that he never knew anything of what was being done. He never sees a copy of the papers. It is true he is never consulted as to anything that shall be done, and that was a sufficient answer to all his complaints that his proposition of Monday had not been taken.

Mr. Beach retorted sharply, saying, "The gentleman will allow me to correct him. As a matter of fact, which he is asserting out of the papers, and in all its length and breadth, in all its details, in every syllable which the gentleman has uttered upon that subject, he is utterly incorrect and untrue."

Mr. Shearman explained his position, and Mr. Beach again spoke, and the debate was continued for several minutes, until the latter appealed to the Court, asking whether His Honor would permit any such imputation on the counsel, "that they are dishonorable and violated their stipulation."

Mr. Shearman, smiling benignly and addressing the angry counsel for Tilton, said:—"You are not dishonorable, sir. No gentleman is so far from being dishonorable."

Judge McCue suggested that the defendant's counsel withdraw this order to show cause. The counsel for Mr. Beecher then said they would withdraw the order, and they would accept the affidavit as a bill of particulars.

The counsel finally withdrew and consulted as to a stipulated time for arguing the appeal from the order of Judge McCue directing a bill of particulars. It was agreed that the argument should be made at eleven o'clock A. M. on Monday next. The time of trial will then be decided upon. Judge Neilson declined to order a new panel of jurors for the event, as a panel had been ordered at a great expense to the county at the present term and he would wait until it was decided when the trial would proceed.

THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS.

ORGANIZATION OF THE NEW BOARD IN A QUIET WAY—ISAAC H. BAILEY PRESIDENT AND TOWNSEND COX SECRETARY—ACTION CONCERNING W. M. TWEED.

The new Commissioners of Charities and Correction have been taking it very easy so far as the assumption of their important duties is concerned. On Christmas morning Mr. Bailey and Mr. Cox dropped into the offices at the corner of Third avenue and Eleventh street for about twenty minutes, shook hands with Mr. Laimbeer and the chiefs of the department, and went home again to enjoy the holiday. The agreement was that they should meet yesterday morning at Mr. Cox's office, No. 51 Exchange place, with a view to a permanent organization of the Board. At that hour the representatives of the press were waiting for the new Commissioners, but they had probably overslept themselves in consequence of the Christmas celebration, and when they had all put in an appearance and were ready to hold their first meeting it was past one o'clock in the afternoon.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

The meeting was a very brief one. The first thing done was to elect Mr. Bailey President. Mr. Cox was then elected Secretary. Mr. Donnelly was not elected to any office, but seemed to bear the misfortune with wonderful resignation.

Mr. Bailey, after a short informal discussion between the members of the new Board, brought to their attention the case of

WILLIAM M. TWEED.

It will be remembered that a prisoner by that name is now in the Penitentiary on Blackwell's Island, and that he has been granted certain indulgences on account of which the old Commissioners were removed by Mayor Vance. Mr. Bailey alluded in a telling speech to the letter from the Governor to the late Mayor, and to Mayor Vance's letter of removal, setting forth the illegal privileges enjoyed by Tweed—that he did not wear the usual prison dress, that he occupied quarters outside the prison, that he took his meals at the Warden's residence, &c.—and gave it as his opinion that it was the duty of the new Board to give this matter their grave consideration. He thought that these indulgences must cease, being in violation of the law and showing an undue discrimination in the treatment of the prisoners in the Penitentiary. Messrs. Cox and Donnelly agreed with Mr. Bailey, and strict orders will now be given to reduce Tweed to the grade of the ordinary criminal in the Penitentiary and to allow him no privileges which are not granted to his companions in misfortune. There seemed to be the greatest feeling of unanimity in regard to this subject, every one of the Commissioners being evidently determined to uphold the law and the disciplinary rules governing the prison, and not to relax the rigor of prison life one jot in the case of William M. Tweed.

THE EMPLOYES TO BE OVERHAULED.

The next subject which came before the Board was that of the number of employés in the department, and it was suggested that the new Board should have a complete list of their names, salaries, the nature of their duties, &c. This suggestion was adopted.

THE QUESTION OF SUPPLIES

being taken up, it was agreed that important changes would have to be made in order to render impossible the recurrence of such "errors" as caused the removal of the old Commissioners. Stringent rules will be adopted, by which the purchase system will be placed beyond every possibility of abuse, either in the direction of dishonesty or extravagance. In connection with this subject it was also suggested to increase the facilities for storage on Ward's Island. The meeting then adjourned.

In the afternoon the office of the Commission presented

A FUNEREAL QUIETUDE.

Everybody was waiting for the new Commissioners, of whom the officials had only caught a glimpse thus far on Christmas Day, and for a moment, at an early hour in the morning. Of course the employés were all quaking, and the query, "Whose head will go off first?" seemed to be uppermost in everybody's mind. Commissioner Laimbeer had a carriage ready to drive the new Commissioners to the various institutions in order to present to them their subordinates. The hour at which they were to be at the office was three, but it was almost five before they arrived, and by that hour Mr. Laimbeer's patience was very near being exhausted. When the first of the new Commissioners did arrive he was in excellent company, for behind him entered

OUR JOLLY MAYOR-ELECT,

who looked as good-natured as a Mayor-elect ought to look. Soon Mr. Bailey's hilarious voice was heard as he entered the room and exclaimed, "Well, Mr. Mayor, how are you?" Then Mr. Donnelly arrived, and then came a procession of political notables. Mr. Jackson S. Schultz came in company with Mr. Theodore Roosevelt and Judge Brady's arm was linked in that of Dr. Austin Flint, Jr. Then there was great jubilation within and much laughter, Mr. Bailey's stentorian notes rising clearly above all others.

A BRIEF MEETING

was held, at which the report of the bookkeeper was read, showing that the appropriation for 1874 was $1,324,345, the expenditures $1,209,695 97, and that the balance remaining to the credit of the department on December 26 was $123,685 03. Quite a number of applications for offices were received and placed on file. At about six o'clock the Commissioners left the scenes of their first official triumphs and went home to dinner. To-day they will probably visit several of the institutions under their charge and examine more minutely into the workings of the department.

COMMISSIONER DONNELLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

Your comments on the political merits of our newly-appointed Commissioners of Charities and Correction are not, on the whole, correct. Mr. Donnelly has never been a merchant, except that of a retail liquor dealer, as silent partner; he has never been out of politics; for the last twenty years has always managed to hold some little sinecure; has done well in that respect under the Tweed ring. If a man of wealth, no doubt it was made during the war, since he followed the army for that purpose. A CONSTANT READER.

BOARD OF ALDERMAN.

THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE—A DISCUSSION ON THE ONE MILLION DOLLAR APPROPRIATION—IS THERE A JOB IN PROSPECT?

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held yesterday, with President Flanagan in the chair.

The resolution of condolence, passed by the Assistant Aldermen in relation to the death of their late associate, Henry A. Linden, received the concurrence of the Board.

Some merriment was created by members calling for a report of the King Kalakaua reception committee. Alderman Morris suggested that the gentlemen should at least report progress. Alderman Gilon stated that His Majesty expressed himself very much pleased with the reception he had received in New York. At two and a half o'clock on Monday next he will visit the Mayor, and the heads of the different departments are notified to be present.

Alderman Morris called attention to the number of champagne bottles which were disposed of on the balcony of the hotel at the serenade. To this Alderman Koch retorted by remarking that if Mr. Morris was present more champagne would have been disposed of.

Matters began to look serious, when Alderman Billings put an end to the unseemly discussion by inquiring whether it was a meeting of the Board or a social gathering.

THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE.

Alderman Cooper here called up the general order in relation to the Brooklyn Bridge. This order provides for the payment by the city of $1,000,000 for the finishing of the bridge, and the last clause directs the Comptroller to issue bonds for the amount. Alderman Cooper's motion was to pass the first part of the resolution and strike out the clause in relation to the Comptroller.

Alderman Gilon offered an amendment making provision for the appropriation as specified in the general order.

Alderman Cooper could not see any force in the substitute. He had examined the law in relation to the matter, and found that it was all right. A majority of the people of New York wanted the bridge, and the time would come when this city and Brooklyn would be joined in one municipality. Then we would have a dozen bridges instead of one.

Alderman Reilly wanted to know how much had already been expended upon the bridge.

Alderman Gilon thought about $4,000,000 or $5,000,000.

Alderman Reilly was told by a practical engineer it had cost ten times that amount.

Alderman Koch thought there was no person present who would give fifty cents for a thousand dollar bond of the bridge. The names of those voting for the appropriation should be printed in black and red, so that the people could know who were in favor of the swindle.

The motion to strike out the clauses as to directions to the Comptroller was then carried as follows:—

YEAS—Aldermen Flanagan, Cooper, Falconer, Koch, Monheimer, Ottendorfer and Van Schaick.

NAYS—Aldermen Billings, Gilon, Lysaght, Morris and Reilly.

The resolution, as amended, was then carried—9 to 3—the three in the negative being Aldermen Koch, Morris and Ottendorfer.

The legality of this action is questioned by various parties. A rule of the Board exists that where a question comes up as to appropriation of money it requires a two-thirds vote to pass. But the directory clause to the Comptroller as to the issuing of bonds being stricken out, it is claimed that this matter does not come under the head of appropriations and a majority vote will answer the purpose. The Court will, no doubt, ultimately have to pass upon it.

Alderman Morris contends that the money will be expended for the use of individuals and not in any way applied to the building of the bridge. In proof of this position he cites the second section of an amendment to the act of 1867, incorporating the Brooklyn Bridge Company and passed by the last Legislature, as follows:—

Whenever any private stockholder of the New York Bridge Company shall give his assent to this act by an instrument in writing, signed and acknowledged by him so as to entitle it to be recorded, and the same shall be duly recorded in the office of the Registers of the city and county of New York and of the county of Kings respectively, the directors to be appointed under the provisions of this act, on behalf of the cities of Brooklyn and New York, are hereby authorized to purchase the right of any such private stockholder in the same company, which right shall be determined by the amount paid by each of said stockholders, together with the interest on the same from the time of payment, and to provide for the payment thereof upon such terms as they may be able to agree upon.

The Board adjourned after the transaction of other unimportant business.

BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN.

This Board met at four o'clock yesterday, President Strack in the chair. The resolution from the Aldermen as to the Brooklyn bridge was handed in for concurrence, but laid over under the rule.

Should the matter not pass both Boards before the 1st of January, it is understood the constitutional amendments will prevent the appropriation. Hence the anxiety of those interested in the undertaking.

FIRE DEPARTMENT TROUBLES.

Several of the recently discharged firemen yesterday went before the Commissioners of Accounts to give information relative to purchases by the Fire Commissioners for the department. Mayor Vance has conversed with one of the salary brokers on the subject of the custom of purchasing firemen's unearned salary accounts, and it is believed he still has the acts of the Commissioners under consideration. A report gained currency yesterday that it is probable two of the Commissioners will be removed by Mayor Vance, who is said to have consulted with Mayor-elect Wickham on the subject.

PROBABLE HOMICIDE IN NEWARK.

A GERMAN PRETZEL OF MORE CONSEQUENCE THAN A LIFE.

On Christmas night Charles Kearney, George Bourdette, Andrew Meyer and a number of other youths, mere boys, were enjoying themselves raffling for beer and pretzels, in the saloon of a man named Seeoerger, of No. 247 South Orange avenue, Newark, when a squabble arose about a pretzel. It seems Meyers won one but declined giving "satisfaction," and left the saloon in a hurry. He was followed by Kearney and Bourdette, who tried to wrest the pretzel from him. A serious scuffle ensued, in the course of which Meyer was stabbed in the stomach and hit on the head with a stone. The latter inflicted an ugly wound and the knife a dangerous one. Yesterday Kearney was arrested. He is charged with throwing the stone. Last evening Bourdette was arrested. He confessed using a knife, but declares he did it in self-defence. He was held to await the result of Meyer's injuries. Meyer is now in St. Michael's Hospital. But slight hopes of his recovery are entertained.

AVERTING A CALAMITY.

When, several years ago, the democrats of Newark won a majority of two in the Common Council and it was expected that there would be made a general sweep of the city offices, a tremendous crowd filled the Common Council Chamber and bore so heavily on it that reasonable fears were entertained that the floor would give way. The ceiling of the floor below did give way, and caused a precipitate adjournment of the Police Court. Upon examination the building was found to be very weak, and new iron pillars were introduced. Next week the new Council meets, with a democratic majority, so that a clean sweep of the city offices is inevitable. An immense crowd of spectators is anticipated and in order to prevent any danger therefrom the proper authorities are taking timely steps to strengthen the building with new additional iron columns. The building is pretty old and was used for a hotel before being purchased by the city.

BURGLARIES.

It was reported yesterday morning by Captain Burden, of the Twelfth precinct, to Superintendent Walling that on Christmas night burglars got into the house of Mr. Henry J. Welch, No. 243 East 128th street, and stole from it jewelry and other articles valued at about $75. The purloined property is described as a set of coral jewelry (earrings and breastpin) and a pair of opera glasses mounted with silver and pearl. No clew is had to the thieves. They entered the dwelling through the means of false keys.

Burglars broke into the store of Jacob Levy, at No. 153 South street, on Christmas night, and abstracted about $500 worth of clothing. The police of the Fourth precinct have no clew as to who the successful thieves are.

MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

TRAVERS.—On Christmas Eve, in this city, Mrs. AMEROSE TRAVERS of a son. All well.

WINTERBURN.—Tuesday, December 22, of a son, CHARLOTTE HUTCHINGS, wife of George William Winterburn.

ENGAGED.

WOLFENSTEIN—WOLFSON.—Miss REBECCA WOLFENSTEIN, daughter of Philipp Wolfenstein, of this city, to Mr. LEOPOLD WOLFSON, of San Antonio, Texas.

San Antonio papers please copy.

MARRIED.

CORSA—McLEOD.—On Wednesday, December 23, at the residence of the bride's parents, by the Rev. B. DuBoise, JOHN D. CORSA to ANNIE E. McLEOD, both of High Bridge, New York. No cards.

CRANDALL—CAIRNS.—On Christmas Day, Major GEORGE WATERMAN CRANDALL to Mrs. SADIE VANDERBILT CAIRNS, all of this city.

LANGHOME—SWINTON.—On December 10, by the Rev. Dr. S. D. Burchard, at the Thirteenth Street Presbyterian church, FRANK C. LANGHOME to KATE M. SWINTON, both of this city.

SCHATZ—NUDANICH.—ADAM E. SCHATZ to IRENE THOMISINA, second daughter of Francis Nudanich, all of this city.

San Francisco papers please copy.

WILLIAMS—KINNISON.—On Wednesday evening, December 23, 1874, by the Rev. William H. Johnson, WARRINGTON B. WILLIAMS to CARRIE A. KINNISON, both of Brooklyn, E. D. No cards.

WEISKOTTEN—STAHR.—At Bethlehem, Pa., December 15, 1874, by Rev. F. W. Weiskotten, ERNEST E. WEISKOTTEN, of New York city, to Miss EMMA STAHR, of Bethlehem, Pa.

DIED.

BARRETT.—In Jersey City, on Saturday, December 26, SARAH JANE, wife of Emerson M. Barrett, aged 58 years.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend her funeral, on Monday, December 28, at two o'clock, from her late residence, 12 Essex street, Jersey City.

BOLES.—On Thursday, December 24, Miss MAGGIE BOLES, in the 21st year of her age.

Relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of her mother, Mrs. Ellen Boles, No. 229 East Forty-sixth street, on Sunday, the 27th inst., at one o'clock.

BRODRICK.—Suddenly, on Friday, December 25, MARY BRODRICK, aged 71 years.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, at two o'clock, Sunday, 27th inst., from her late residence, No. 36 Cherry street.

CAMPION.—On December 26, ELLEN, wife of Thomas Campion, aged 29 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are requested to meet her remains at the Atlantic street ferry, Brooklyn, on Monday, December 28, 1874, at half-past twelve P. M., from thence to the Cemetery of the Holy Cross for interment.

CONKLIN.—In Brooklyn, on Saturday, December 26, 1874, SARAH ANN CONKLIN, widow of the late W. D. Conklin, of Cornwall, N. Y., in the 61st year of her age.

Relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Tuesday, December 29, at one o'clock P. M., from Friends' Meeting House at Cornwall, N. Y.

Elmira and Newburg papers please copy.

COOK.—On Friday, December 25, Miss MARY COOK, aged 71 years.

Funeral service this (Sunday) afternoon, at four o'clock, at her late residence, No. 231 West Thirteenth street. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

COWAN.—On Thursday, December 24, after a severe illness, WILLIAM J. COWAN, in the 38th year of his age.

The relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from his late residence, No. 128 Wooster street, on Sunday, 27th inst., at one o'clock, without further notice.

DAVIDSON.—December 22, at two o'clock P. M., in this city, JAMES C. DAVIDSON, aged 50 years.

The friends of the family and members of Huguenot Lodge, No. 881, F. and A. M., are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from his late residence, Vanderbilt's landing, Staten Island, at ten o'clock A. M., Sunday, 27th inst. The remains will be interred at Greenwood. Carriages will be awaiting the friends on the arrival of the boat due at South ferry, New York, at 12:45 P. M.

DICKINSON.—In Jersey City, of membranous croup, on December 24, EDWARD CHARLES, aged 5 years and 19 days; also, on December 26, EDALINA, aged 8 years, 6 months and 2 days, son and daughter of Edward C. and Ellen Dickinson.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend their funerals, on Monday, December 28, at one o'clock, from the residence of their parents, No. 218 Bay street, Jersey City.

DRYER.—On Saturday evening, December 26, CAROLINE DRYER, mother of B. A. Dryer.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of B. A. Dryer, 347 West Fifty-fifth street, on Monday morning, at ten o'clock.

New Orleans and Harrisburg German papers please copy.

EVENS.—On Friday, December 25, 1874, MARGARET EVENS, beloved wife of Henry Nole Evens, in the 23d year of her age.

The funeral services will take place at her late residence, No. 146 West Eighteenth street, this day (Sunday) at half-past one o'clock P. M. Friends are invited to attend.

FITZGIBBON.—In Brooklyn, on Saturday morning, December 26, MARY A., relict of Michael Fitzgibbon, in the 82d year of her age.

Relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of her son-in-law, H. G. O'Hara, 41 Fourth avenue, on Monday, 28th inst., at ten A. M. Funeral services at St. Augustine's church, corner Fifth avenue and Bergen street.

FRENCH.—On Friday, December 25, MARY, wife of Michael French, aged 31 years.

The relatives and friends of the family, also those of her father, Richard Delap, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from her late residence, 1,546 Third avenue, corner of Eighty-seventh street, on Sunday, December 27, at one o'clock P. M.

Dublin papers please copy.

GALLERDETT.—At Mount Vernon, on Saturday, December 26, 1874, R. H. GALLERDETT, aged 63 years.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, at St. Paul's church, East Chester, on Tuesday, December 29, at two o'clock P. M.

GOODMAN.—On Friday, December 25, of consumption, JAMES GOODMAN, in the 42d year of his age.

The members and friends of the family and members of the Lodge of Strict Observance No. 94, F. and A. M., are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from his late residence, No. 336 Hudson street, on Sunday, December 27, 1874, at half-past one o'clock P. M.

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