ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH CALAMITY

The Treacherous Walls Viewed and Condemned by the Coroner's Jury.

ARREST OF BUILDING INSPECTORS.

Funerals of the Victims To-Day---Requiem Mass for the Dead.

DANGERS TO PUBLIC ASSEMBLAGES.

Narrow and Twisting Stairways to Check and Be Choked by Panic-Stricken Crowds.

DOORS OPENING INWARDLY.

How Churches and Theatres in New York and Brooklyn Provide for Safe Egress.

Through all the day yesterday excited and sympathetic throngs still haunted the vicinity of the distressing accident at St. Andrew's church in Duane street on Thursday evening. Lines of policemen guarded the spot, preventing the curious crowd from venturing too closely to the unsupported walls which have already caused the death and cruel maiming of so many persons. Every voice in the crowd earnestly canvassed the causes of the disaster or queried as to where the responsibility rests, and whether there was still danger remaining while the walls were allowed to stand. All expressed the tenderest sympathy and the liveliest sorrow for the victims who are suffering from, and the bereaved who lost friends beloved in, that appalling disaster. Early in the day Mayor Wickham visited and examined the buildings.

THE JURY VIEW THE DEATH TRAP.

At ten o'clock the jury summoned by the Coroner on the previous day met at the Sixth precinct station house. On their faces was that expression of intense seriousness which betokens the occurrence of a distressing event. Accompanied by Coroner Eickhoff and Captain Lowery they went in a body to St. Andrew's church, where they made a close inspection of all parts of the edifice. The first object of interest was, of course, the east gallery, where the wall fell through the roof upon the heads of the unsuspecting worshippers, and where the stains of blood told yet plainly of the harrowing scenes that had been enacted here on that never-to-be forgotten Thursday evening. Other parts of the interior had a no less painful interest for those among the jury whose sensibilities had been excited by reading the story of the awful disaster, with all its sad details. There was a pew in which a woman was said to have been crushed; there was a door before which the panic-stricken throng had trampled a boy to death. Every part of the interior of the church had some such fearful story to tell, and it was evidently a relief to the minds of the more sensitive among the jury when they left the chamber of worship to ascend to the steeple. There they desired to obtain a good view of Shaw's building, and the general impression produced by it was that the contiguity of the narrow and tall overtopping store must have always been something of a danger to that low church edifice. The other side of the western wall—that next the church—was subsequently viewed from the roof of Sweeny's Hotel. It was evident at a glance that this wall was badly sprung from the bottom nearly to the top. It bulged out in the centre toward the church from six to eight inches. The jurors freely expressed the opinion that it was still a very dangerous wall, and might fall any day, in fact. Some of them undoubtedly hoped that if the wall "was likely to fall then and there," as some of the others had said, it would wait till they had left the vicinity.

THE WALL MUST BE DEMOLISHED.

When this inspection had been finished the jury adjourned to a room in the hotel, where they were sworn in by Coroner Eickhoff and told that the formal investigation of the causes of the disaster would be opened at the Coroners' office on Monday morning at ten o'clock. A few of the jurors, upon whom the view of the dangerous bulging wall had evidently made a decided impression, were loth to leave before warning the Coroner that measures should be taken to prevent another calamity. They thought it might topple at any moment, and Coroner Eickhoff promised that he would at once lay the facts before the Grand Jury. He said preparations had been made to begin tearing down the wall yesterday, but he had forbidden the execution of this design until the jury had obtained a correct view of the condition of the wall. He somewhat relieved their minds of further anxiety by saying that the tenement in the rear had been entirely vacated and that no one would be allowed to occupy it until the dangerous wall had been completely demolished. One of the jurors asked whether the Department of Buildings or the Fire Department were to blame, and the Coroner replied that it would be for the jury to decide who the guilty parties were. The jury was then discharged till Monday.

ARREST OF THE INSPECTORS.

Detective Dorsey, of the Sixth precinct, yesterday brought before Coroner Eickhoff William T. Croft and Nicholas Murphy, the district inspectors, for whom he had issued warrants on Friday afternoon. In explanation of why they had not appeared the day previous the inspectors stated that, being absent on business, they failed to receive the Coroner's notice in time. This explanation being satisfactory, the Coroner required them to give bail in the sum of $3,000 each to await the result of the inquisition which is to be commenced on Monday morning. Mr. Murphy, who lives at No. 60 Marion street, was bailed by Mr. William T. A. Hart, of No. 65 Prince street. Mr. Croft, who lives in Third avenue, also entered into bonds for his future appearance.

MEASURES FOR SAFETY.

As the jury had advised that the walls should be taken down, Coroner Eickhoff, in order to have their wishes carried out, subsequently addressed to Superintendent Adams, of the Building Department, the following communication:—

ORDER TO DEMOLISH THE WALLS.

CORONERS' OFFICE, 40 EAST HOUSTON STREET, NEW YORK, Feb 27, 1875.

WALTER W. ADAMS, Esq., Superintendent of Buildings:—

DEAR SIR—The jury which has been summoned by me to investigate the late disaster, after examining the ruins in Duane street, has asked me to order the walls of the building to be taken down, and I now request you to cause the walls of the building (Shaw's building), including the east wall toward Sweeny's Hotel, to be taken down immediately, proper precaution being taken in regard to the safety of the workmen thus employed, as said walls seem to be now in as dangerous a condition as they apparently have been heretofore. Respectfully yours,

ANTHONY EICKHOFF, Coroner.

CAUTION TO BE OBSERVED.

During the afternoon Coroner Eickhoff despatched Mr. Richard Cook, an attaché of his office, to Captain Lowery, of the Sixth precinct, with instructions to have the work of demolishing the dangerous walls prosecuted vigorously and with great care, in order that there might not be further loss of life. All tenants were removed from No. 15 City Hall place by order of the Coroner, and no one will be allowed to occupy it till the threatening danger from the overhanging wall is removed.

It was announced last evening that the devoted pastor, Father Curran, will this morning celebrate mass privately for his congregation in the basement, where he can do so safely, but will not for the present hold services in the body of the church.

Coroner Eickhoff stated that he was determined to make the inquiry of the most searching character, and from the complexion of the jury he had confidence in them sufficient to say that they would render no "whitewashing" verdict, but would be governed by the evidence.

AT THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT.

A reporter of the HERALD yesterday devoted some time to discovering the whereabouts of Superintendent Adams, Deputy Superintendent Dudley and other officials of the bureau. The Superintendent and his deputy could not be found. It was, however, ascertained that the Superintendent, Mr. Adams, had been at the office for a brief period yesterday. The Deputy Superintendent, Mr. Dudley, it was reported, was at the building, doing all he could to place it in a safe condition. Mr. Donaldson, the Secretary, was absent from his desk, and in this emergency the HERALD representative sought in vain for Mr. Mount, the messenger. Mr. Mount was absent, and in this crisis he boldly stalked into the law department, where Mr. Fred Gibney, the Attorney of the Board, was found on duty. Mr. Gibney could not tell when the chiefs or the Secretary would be present. He expressed delight at the fact that the proposed changes and improvements in the building had never reached the law branch of the department, thus relieving him of responsibility. He, however, stated that out of this accident in his opinion "good would come," and as proof of this he asserted that a number of house owners who had heretofore resisted the processes of the department, and were contesting them in court, called yesterday and expressed their desire to know in what way they could avoid such accidents as that at the church.

CONDITION OF THE INJURED.

Throughout the whole of yesterday an incessant string of visitors filed in and out of the Park Hospital. The friends of many of those who were injured at the Duane street disaster came laden with fruits and delicacies. Warden Hart was busy all day answering questions and allaying the fears and anxiety of afflicted mothers and sisters. During the morning a committee of the Ladies' Visiting Society, consisting of Misses Bingham, Merritt and Saunders, called and consoled the unfortunate victims of the disaster. Mr. James Meyer, of No. 45 Beaver street, donated many of his delicacies to the sufferers, and Alderman Lysaght sent in a new suit of clothes to little Dennis Haley, who was well enough when they arrived to put them on and go home. Miss Kate Hutton, whose head was so terribly bruised, is still in great pain, and notwithstanding the efforts of the doctors her condition does not seem to improve. Miss Mary Jane Martin is still very ill. Early yesterday morning she recovered consciousness, but the lease was short, as she relapsed into stupor before nightfall. The boy Splaine, whose scalp was cruelly lacerated, is very low. Patrick Lavelle, whose spine was injured, is not expected to live, his condition yesterday being very feeble. Miss Mary Keogh and Jerry Griffin were discharged, they being out of all immediate danger.

TO-DAY'S FUNERALS.

Thomas Feeny, aged fourteen, will be buried from No. 19 City Hall place.

Mary G. Conners, aged forty-seven, from No. 42 Park street.

Michael McCarty, aged forty, from No. 42 Park street.

Catharine McGinniss, aged fifty, from No. 22 City Hall place.

Rosa McGlinn, aged forty, from No. 13 Vandewater street. This woman leaves eight young children.

The interments will all take place at Calvary Cemetery, and the funeral processions will leave the respective residences at about two o'clock P. M.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

Upwards of $500 has already been subscribed by Messrs. Kennedy, Russell Morgan Jones, Jeremiah Murphy, George Middleton, Patrick Lysaght, Andrew H. White, Martin Keese, John H. Von Glahn, Roundsman Muldoon and others.

A meeting of the Tammany General Committee of the Second Assembly District will take place at Columbia Hall at two P. M. to-day, which is to be presided over by Mr. George Middleton, for the purpose of making a further collection of funds. It is estimated that the repairs to the roof of the church will cost from $5,000 to $6,000. Mr. Frank D. Heard, of the Bristol Hotel, has sent the HERALD $5 for the unfortunates.

MASS FOR THE DEAD.

Father Curran has given notice that a solemn mass of requiem will be celebrated in St. Peter's church, Barclay street, to-morrow (Monday) morning, at ten o'clock, for the repose of the souls of all those who died by the sad catastrophe.

OFFICIAL INSOLENCE.

An incident happened while the wounded people were being removed from St. Andrew's church on Thursday night which ought to be related if only to show that the "insolence of office" is not quelled in the breasts of some men even by occurrences which awaken generous feeling in those of all other people. When the debris of the Shaw building crashed through the roof of the church Mr. A. Villaroel, corresponding agent of the Chilean Exposition Commissioners, was about a block distant from the place of disaster. Guided by the sounds of tumult in the church he ran to that edifice. When he reached the western front doorway he found one of the doors bolted and the other only sufficiently ajar to permit one person at a time to struggle into the street. The crowd was crammed in the porch and on the staircases. A number of persons were upon the floor, being trampled upon. Mr. Villaroel instantly began to push the half-open door back and to help the people into the street. When the difficulties of egress at the western doorway was overcome Mr. Villaroel went to the other doors. He then assisted in carrying the wounded people from the church to Sweeny's Hotel. When he had been occupied in his Samaritan-like labors for some time, and was returning from the hotel to the church, when outside of the latter edifice he was met by a policeman, who asked him in a surly tone where he was going. Mr. Villaroel answered that he was going into the church to assist the sufferers. The insolent policeman responded that the sufferers would get along without the aid of Mr. Villaroel, and informed him that he had better move away. As other officers had seen him, and had helped him to carry the wounded to the hotel, Mr. Villaroel felt that he would not be treated so insultingly if some of them were called. One or two of them had already passed him through the lines. He began to explain to the surly officer; but blue coat would not listen, and insisted that he should move on quickly. To enforce his commands the policeman struck Mr. Villaroel across the right arm, and then urged him forward by poking at him with his club, the outraged gentleman not knowing what means to take in order to recognize his assailant at some time when he could have him punished for his rufianly conduct. The darkness prevented Mr. Villaroel from seeing the number of the officer.

During his labors at the church, Mr. Villaroel also met with a serious loss of property. He wore a long overcoat, in a side pocket of which he had a pocketbook, which was stolen, containing two promissory notes, each for $300, and memoranda relative to the coming Chilian Exposition. The notes were drawn by Antonio Montalva, and Lucas Cataldas, both of Carocoles, Bolivia. The lost memoranda are almost invaluable to Mr. Villaroel. It has taken a year to gather them, and it is impossible to duplicate them in time for them to be used.

ANOTHER MAN INJURED.

Yesterday afternoon, about half-past five o'clock, while a gang of workmen were employed in taking down the balance of the wall still standing at No. 21 Duane street, one of the men, named Daniel Costello, aged thirty years, and residing at No. 601 First avenue, was struck on the head by a falling brick and severely, if not fatally, injured. The wounded man was taken to the Park Hospital for medical attendance.

DANGER IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

THE MEANS PROVIDED IN CITY CHURCHES FOR EGRESS—DOORS THAT OPEN INWARD AND OUTWARD.

The dreadful calamity that occurred last Thursday evening in St. Andrew's church has naturally awakened public attention as to the safety of congregations who assemble several times weekly in the many hundred houses of worship in this city. The great peril that large bodies of people are exposed to in cases of sudden alarm by reason of the terror that seizes them when confined within buildings and their frantic efforts to escape has been attested on numerous occasions. The great necessity is to establish confidence, and there is no better means of attaining this end than to have it understood that the means of egress are ample and easy. With the view of learning what arrangements exist as to the facilities for reaching the street in the event of an entire congregation seeking immediate exit, representatives of the HERALD visited a large number of churches yesterday to obtain information on this important point. The result of their investigations so far is appended. It should be understood that where the outer doors move in the direction of the street the safety of the people, for very obvious reasons, is best secured.

ST. ANDREW'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

First in interest, in considering the foresight, or the neglect of it, as to the safety of people who assemble in large numbers for public worship or for other purposes, comes on the present occasion St. Andrew's church, where the recent disaster occurred. The venerable Father Curran cheerfully gave all the information requested, and took the opportunity to remark that he and his congregation felt under a deep debt of gratitude for the kindly consideration with which they were treated by the HERALD during their present severe affliction. The doors that admit people from the streets to the church open inward, but, after passing through the vestibule the doors swing outward—that is, give way before the people as they are leaving the church. The gallery stairways are eight feet wide and admit four people abreast passing at a time. Father Curran mentioned a circumstance related to him by Mr. Berrian, one of his parishioners. While that gentleman was in Rome he attended service in one of the churches of that city, and an incident occurred sufficient to create fright among the congregation. The people, however, remained entirely quiet, hardly removing their eyes from their prayer books. Soon the cause of terror was removed by the proper parties and no trouble of any kind ensued. Father Curran stated that had his people recollected the advice he had often given them on this subject the calamity of Thursday evening would not have occurred.

THE SOUTH REFORMED CHURCH,

corner of Fifth avenue and Twenty-first street, has three doors on the front, leading into the vestibule and swinging inward, whence two doors open into the audience room, swinging outward. The only gallery is over the vestibule, from which the stairs are about four feet in width. To the right and left of the pulpit are doors leading from the church, which could be made available in case of fire or other accident.

GRACE CHURCH,

on Broadway, between Tenth and Eleventh streets, has three doors leading into the vestibule and swinging inward. There are also two doors on the side toward Tenth street and two in the rear of the altar, one leading into the yard of the parsonage and the other into that of the church; all these swinging inward like those of the main entrance. There are no galleries, save the one containing the organ.

ST. STEPHEN'S (ROMAN CATHOLIC) CHURCH.

This spacious edifice extends from Twenty-eighth to Twenty-ninth street, and there are numerous entrances on both streets. The galleries stretching from either end are distinct and not connected. A space of ten feet or thereabout intervenes between them. The exterior doors move only inward, but the openings leading directly into the church swing toward the street. However, particular care is taken to see that during service the congregation shall have ample means of exit in case of necessity.

COLLEGIATE REFORM CHURCH,

corner Fifth avenue and Twenty-ninth street, has three doors constituting the main entrance, swinging inward; they stand open during the church service. The doors leading from the vestibule to the nave swing both ways. There are also two doors in the rear of the edifice. It is calculated in case of accident the building can be emptied in five minutes. The doors of the gallery also swing both ways. The stairs leading thereto are about six feet wide.

THE WEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

on Forty-second street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, has three doors opening into the vestibule, which swing inward. There are galleries on either side, the stairs leading to which turn some four or five times and are very narrow. In the rear of the audience room are the lecture room and the Sunday school room, to which a broad entrance way leads from the street, the only mode of egress.

CHURCH OF THE MOST HOLY REDEEMER,

situate on Third street, is one of the largest places of public worship in the city, and it must be said that the people—principally Germans—who attend it are exposed to great danger in case of a panic. All the doors open inward, and they are far from being sufficient in number. The gallery stairways are narrow, and the organ loft, still higher up, with still narrower stairways, is occupied on Sundays by several hundred children. To make the matter worse the Redemptorist Fathers fear incendiaries, and in fact the police are present frequently to watch suspicious characters. There is a necessity for immediate improvement in the means of egress from this really fine and imposing building.

THE SCOTCH PRESBYTERIAN

church, on Thirty-sixth street, near Sixth avenue, has three doors opening into the vestibule, swinging inward, and four leading thence into the audience room. The doors opening on the gallery stairs swing inward and are so narrow that no more than two persons can pass out at one time. There are also doors leading from the vestibule into the basement which might be utilized in case of accident.

FREE TABERNACLE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

on Thirty-fourth street, has three doors at the front swinging inwards. The doors from the vestibule to the audience room swing both ways. On either side of the vestibule stairs lead to the basement, in which is the lecture room. On each side of this are doors leading into the alleyways, generally used by the Sunday school children and those attending the meetings held during the week.

TRANSFIGURATION (ROMAN CATHOLIC) CHURCH.

Many years since the late pastor of this church (Father Trainor, deceased), fearing a possible panic among his congregation had all the doors arranged so as to move outwards. There are now three entrances on Mott street and two on Park street, besides two more in the rear, on either side of the altar. The stairways of the galleries are five feet wide. The Transfiguration seats 1,150 people. The seven openings mentioned, in connection with the prudent manner of hanging doors, make this place of worship safe for all who attend.

CHURCH OF THE HEAVENLY REST,

between Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth streets, on Fifth avenue, has a broad entrance, with double doors swinging inwards. As usual, the vestibule doors swing the other way. Means of exit also exist in rear of the building.

FIFTH AVENUE BAPTIST.

The entrance to this church is through heavy double doors swinging in, and thence from the vestibule through four doors, swinging out to the body of the church. From the vestibule on the right is a door leading to the lecture room, whence there is an exit upon Forty-sixth street through a heavy sliding door. There is also a door in the rear leading into the lecture room.

ST. JAMES' ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

This edifice has five entrances. The doors open outward, but in the centre the chief opening has doors that move on slides. This is a defect partly remedied, however, by the practice of having spacious and unimpeded means of egress during service in cases of emergency. The galleries are provided with wide stairways. The usual congregation is large, and, as the church only admits of one line of retreat in case of danger, some changes could easily be made for the better.

DR. CHAPIN'S CHURCH,

corner of Fifth avenue and Forty-fifth street, has three entrances to the vestibule from the street, the doors swinging inward, and the same number leading thence to the audience room. There is also a door on the Forty-fifth street side, to the left of the pulpit. The gallery stairs are broad, as are the doors leading to them.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

There are ample means of egress from this very fine edifice. The arrangements include the fullest facilities for people passing out to either Madison avenue or Forty-second street. There are at least ten doors, besides additional side passages for persons coming from the galleries, which are remarkably spacious. The choir occupies a singular position to the left of the altar, and close to one of the means of exit. The windows on either side of the aisles, the sills of which are but slightly elevated from the sidewalk, would in case of emergency permit ready access to the street.

DR. RILEY'S REFORMED CHURCH,

on Thirty-fourth street, near Eighth avenue, has three doors from the street to the vestibule, swinging inward, and the same number opening into the nave, swinging outward. The entrance from the lecture room in the basement is directly on the street and there are stairs leading to it from the vestibule above.

DR. LUDLOW'S REFORMED CHURCH,

corner of Fifth avenue and Forty-eighth street, has three entrances, the doors to which swing inward. The vestibule doors swing both ways. There are galleries on the side with swinging doors. The stairs, which are winding, are about five feet in width.

ST. TERESA'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

It must be said of this edifice, which is located corner Rutgers and Henry streets, that special pains have been taken by the pastor (Dr. Boyce) to provide against any such sorrowful occurrence as that which took place at St. Andrew's. The doors are so arranged that during divine service the church can be emptied in a few minutes if any unforeseen event should happen to cause sudden alarm. Numerous doors lead to the streets above named as well as to East Broadway, and there is a very commendable arrangement by which the people in the galleries can reach the open air without mixing with the occupants of the aisles as they quit their seats.

CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH.

corner of Fourth avenue and Thirty-fourth street, has doors liable to the same criticism as others before mentioned. They open only inward, but beyond the vestibule they swing on hinges. The inner ones have brass handles, which would lead one to suppose that all were constructed to open toward the people sitting in their pews. There are entrances on both thoroughfares, though, considering the dimensions of the building, hardly wide or numerous enough.

THE BROADWAY TABERNACLE,

corner of Sixth avenue and Thirty-fourth street, has four doors at the front and two on the side, all swinging inward. The vestibule doors swing outward. There are galleries on both sides, and the stairs leading therefrom to the vestibule are broad.

ST. MARY'S (ROMAN CATHOLIC) CHURCH.

The doors of this edifice all open outward on Grand street, and the same arrangement exists as to the doors going directly from the vestibule into the body of the church. There could hardly be any better arrangement made, so far as means of egress are concerned. The openings in the rear would, besides, aid materially in an emergency to allow a rapid and safe exit into Attorney street.

CHURCH OF THE SEA AND THE LAND,

located at the corner of Henry and Market streets, was built sixty years ago. The main doors of strong wood open inward, but after passing through the vestibule they turn toward the street. The former are always kept open when the edifice is occupied by worshippers, and there can be little danger to the congregation in case of alarm, so long as the sexton faithfully performs his duty. The galleries have four entrances, and there are full facilities of reaching both streets.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

corner of University place and Tenth street, has three doors at the front, swinging inward, while those in the vestibule, leading into the audience room, swing the other way. There is also a door to the right of the pulpit leading to Tenth street.

THE REICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

corner of Fifth avenue and Thirty-seventh street, has three entrances on the avenue and one on each side, all swinging inward. The inner vestibule doors swing outward.

CHURCH OF THE DISCIPLES

is capable of affording perhaps a greater number of sittings than any other in New York. It is mainly constructed of corrugated iron. There are but three entrances—two on Forty-fifth street and one on Madison avenue. The front doors open outward and are always unlocked, but they cover other equally substantial doors that move the contrary way. For a church so largely attended there should be, evidently, a greater number of passages from its interior to the street in case of sudden alarm.

ST. ANN'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The principal doors of this church open outward—the great precaution for safety in case of danger. There are means of egress by both Eleventh and Twelfth streets, the ground occupied by the church and school extending an entire block. The galleries are arranged on an admirable plan as to facilities for leaving them.

TEMPLE EMANUEL,

corner of Forty-third street and Fifth avenue, has five doors at the front swinging inward. There are also means of exit at the side, and the building can be emptied in a very short time.

CHRIST CHURCH,

corner of Fifth avenue and Thirty-fifth street, has three doors at the front swinging inward. The vestibule doors, of which there are three, swing outward. A small door to the right of the pulpit affords a means of exit to the street.

ST. GEORGE'S (EPISCOPAL) CHURCH,

situated at the corner of Sixteenth street and Second avenue, is provided with doors, all of which open outward, and the pastor, Dr. Tyng, seems to have given special attention to providing against panic or any hasty exit of the large congregation that regularly attend St. George's.

ST. PAUL'S (METHODIST EPISCOPAL) CHURCH,

located at the corner of Fourth avenue and Twenty-second street, is attended by a large and wealthy congregation. It seats 1,800 persons. There are three entrances on the avenue and two on the street. There are also free and ample side connections with the chapel. The main door, however, opens inward—that is, in the face of the people when passing from the church to the sidewalk. The galleries are well provided with the means of exit, and there are, besides, passageways from the chancel to the pastor's residence, which is distant but a few yards from the church.

IN BROOKLYN.

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE.

The main entrance to this building is on Court street, from which the parquet, orchestra stalls and family circle are reached by two flights of stairs about four feet wide. The only exit from the gallery is by this staircase. The people in the parquet can always pass out by the main stairways, or by a staircase on the opposite side leading to Remsen street. There is also another exit by way of the stage through the dressing rooms on a level with the ground on Remsen street. The capacity of the house is about 1,900, and this number of people usually can leave the theatre inside of five minutes.

THE PARK THEATRE.

The main entrance, which is about thirteen feet wide, is on Fulton street, and leads to the parquet, orchestra and dress circle by means of a staircase over six feet wide. The gallery entrance is also on Fulton street. Exit can also be made through a stage door in Adams street, which is level with the ground. There are besides two others, one leading from the orchestra stalls and one from the dress circle. The people from the gallery can also pass out through a gateway into the main staircase. The capacity of this theatre is about 1,800, and it is calculated that this number can be let out within three minutes.

MRS. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.

The exits from this public resort are peculiarly favorable. There are two exits on Johnson street accessible from the stage, also three which lead into the alley way on the east side of the theatre, which opens on Johnson street. These are accessible to the audience occupying seats in the dress circle, parquet and orchestra chairs. In addition to these there is the main entrance lobby, opening right from the parquet and orchestra chairs, and into which the main staircase from the dress circle descends. The staircases are all about ten feet wide, and it is calculated that a full audience could leave the theatre within five minutes.

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC,

in Montague street, is admirably provided with means of exit. The parquet opens into a lobby twenty feet wide. There are two windows on both sides of the building, through which people might pass in case of necessity; also three other doorways, two of which open directly from the auditorium to the street, and one of which can be reached from the stage. From the family circle there are two flights of stairs, one on either side of the house, which descend to the dress circle floor, from which in turn there are again two flights of stairs leading to the main lobby. There is also a passage from the dress circle floor through the Assembly Rooms to the street by a separate, wide staircase. Still another passage can be had into the Art Gallery, from which another staircase, nine feet wide, leads into the street.

THE OLYMPIC THEATRE,

on Fulton, near Hoyt street, was formerly a church. The exit is through a passage way from Fulton street sixteen or eighteen feet in width. There is no gallery. On both sides there are large windows opening upon open lots, which could be used for escape.

THE ATHENAEUM,

on Atlantic and Clinton streets, has an exit on Atlantic street from the parquet and gallery, also a small doorway opening to Clinton street. The main staircase is wide. The outer doors open wide against the wall and are always so kept. The inner ones swing both ways.

This arrangement appears to be the rule in all the above mentioned theatres.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH

fronts on Orange street, and has three entrances on this street. The outer doors here open inward and are at all times during service kept wide open. There is then a spacious lobby, which from the auditorium of the church is reached through four double swinging doors. There are also two doors leading through the lecture room into Cranberry street and one into an alleyway which extends to both streets. The Cranberry street outer doors open inward. The door upon the alley swings out. The inside doors are hung on swing hinges and can be opened either way. There is a gallery on each side of the church, which is reached from the main lobby on Orange street by staircases on either side, and by two stairways from the rear lobby. The capacity of Plymouth church is about three thousand people, and this number can be cleared out in less than ten minutes.

TALMAGE'S TABERNACLE,

situate on Schermerhorn street, has no back entrance whatever. The only way by which people can leave the building is through the three doors on Schermerhorn street, except by way of a small door opening into the vestry. The number of persons who can be accommodated in the building is estimated at 5,000. In case of fire or a panic there would be danger of loss of life from crowding.

DR. SCUDDER'S TABERNACLE,

on Hancock street, has three entrances on the front, the outer doors being, as in all Brooklyn churches, kept always open. The inner doors, leading from the lobby to the church, open both ways. There are no galleries in this church.

ST. ANN'S,

on the Heights, has only one doorway, which is reached by a high, steep flight of steps. The outer doors open inward, while the inner or lobby doors are swung on reversible hinges. In case of a sudden alarm it is calculated that great loss of life must necessarily be occasioned.

THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMS,

corner of Henry and Remsen streets, has two exits by means of wide doorways. The outer doors during service are kept open. The inner doors, opening into the body of the church, can be pushed either way.

OTHER CHURCHES.

About the same state of affairs exists so far as can be learned in regard to the other churches in Brooklyn. In none of them visited yesterday was there found to be any difficulty likely to result from a sudden emergency. The arrangements that are made appear to be the best that could be adopted under existing circumstances except in the cases previously noted.

PEDESTRIANISM.

WESTON AND JUDD'S PROPOSED LONG WALK.

At five minutes past twelve o'clock to-night E. P. Weston and J. R. Judd will commence their six days' walk at the Hippodrome. The former feels so confident of scoring the greatest distance in the specified time that he has allowed Judd a start of thirty-five miles. The articles of agreement, as signed by the men, are as follows:—

These articles of agreement are made the 10th day of February, in the year 1875, between J. R. Judd and Edward Payson Weston, whereby they agree to walk a race to be continued for six consecutive days, commencing in the first five minutes of Monday, March 1, 1875, and ending at midnight of Saturday, March 6, 1875.

It is furthermore agreed that both competitors abide by the ruling of the judges, who shall reserve their decision until the race is ended.

It is also agreed that the competitors in this race walk a fair heel-and-toe walk, and that either of the competitors departing from a fair gait shall be immediately warned by the judges, who may demand that the distance unfairly walked be walked over again, and the competitor refusing to comply with this order shall have the distance so unfairly walked charged against him as nearly as can be judged on the books in which the record of this race shall be kept.

It is furthermore agreed that the competitor who walks the greatest number of miles in the six consecutive days as above specified shall be declared the winner and entitled to receive the purse offered by Mr. P. T. Barnum.

It is furthermore agreed that Edward Payson Weston gives J. R. Judd thirty-five miles' start in this race, this distance of thirty-five miles to be counted as so many miles walked when the race is competed.

EDWARD PAYSON WESTON.
J. R. JUDD.

It is reported that members of the New York Athletic Club, New York Caledonian Club, New Jersey Athletic Association and other clubs will act as judges. It is to be hoped that some of the gentlemen connected with these well known organizations will consent to be present in such capacity. Under their supervision the performance will command attention.

FRIGHTFUL SUICIDE IN NEWARK.

The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, at the Orange street bridge, in Newark, was the scene, yesterday, of a most horrifying spectacle—the suicide, under appalling circumstances, of an unknown man. Between ten and eleven o'clock the stranger, a man about thirty-three years of age, slightly bald, with red mustache and goatee, was observed to pause near the track at the point named until the Chatham train came along, when he gave a sudden bound, threw himself under the wheels, and was literally made mincemeat of. His head was severed from his body all but a strip of flesh, and nearly every bone of the body was broken. Both arms were cut off at the elbows and his legs were nearly severed. The train was speedily stopped, the remains gathered up and taken to the Morgue at Newark, where up to last evening they had not yet been identified. The railroad track for a considerable distance was covered with the unfortunate man's blood. There was found on the person of the suicide a silver watch, $2 25 in money, a scrap of a HERALD on which was written, "Don't blame me Rong please;" a thick cord with a slip noose and a piece of a New York illustrated weekly paper, which contained a picture of a French suicide—a young woman who had destroyed herself in her house. This and the noose and the HERALD scrap leave no doubt of the deliberateness of the suicide. Probably he intended to hang himself, but seeing the train he changed his mind. Deceased had the appearance of a respectable mechanic. The motive of his rashness is thought to have been some trouble about a woman.

THE BOWEN OF CONTENTION.

Saturday Afternoon Talk in Brooklyn.

SPORTSMEN'S VIEWS.

Opinions of the Bar, the Bench and the Bowery.

The great question of the hour is, "Shall Henry C. Bowen testify in behalf of the plaintiff or the defendant?" A HERALD reporter called yesterday at various important sources of information and found that Mr. Bowen was really subpœnaed for the plaintiff. He called at Mr. Morris' office on Montague street, and Mr. Morris, the great engineer of the trial, whose information should be of far and wide importance, was not to be found there. The trouble of seeing the lawyers connected with the defence was difficult to a great degree.

The HERALD reporter went up to the luxurious region where General Tracy kept his office, rejoicing in brilliant Brussels carpets, in bronze chandeliers and plate glass windows. A Mr. Brodhead, a partner of General Tracy's, occupied the apartment, and he said to the reporter when asked, "Mr. Brodhead, does the defence intend to summon Mr. Henry C. Bowen?"

"I think it is highly improbable."

REPORTER—Has the plaintiff's side no intention of asking Bowen to be a witness in rebuttal or any other way?

Mr. BRODHEAD—The plaintiff has not considered it in that way.

GOING TO MR. TRACY'S.

The reporter of the HERALD went over to Mr. Tracy's house, No. 148 Montague street. It was a fine brown stone house, with a high stoop. The reporter sent up his card, and the servant returned with the information that Mr. Tracy was not at home.

THE ATMOSPHERE OF BROOKLYN

was surcharged with Beecher. Though no one knew where the happy pastor of Plymouth church was spending his afternoon, his case and the variety of circumstances—many of which might be romantic if the element of melancholia did not shadow them—were freely discussed everywhere. "Sports," it is noticeable—and this has been noticed for the first time—are beginning to make their bets on Beecher and Tilton in preference to putting down stakes on Goldsmith Maid and Mountain Boy. These gentlemen do not look upon the Plymouth business in the light of a scandal. They take a much broader view.

Beecher they look upon as a sportsman—a mighty hunter before the Lord, though not of the Nimrod type. This class of men like the best horse to win, and they believe in Beecher. Tilton they do not look upon as a first class trotter. They do not put faith in his legs, which are extravagantly long; but some fancy the shape of his chest, its breadth and compass, and the way he carries his head, which one gentleman at the Everett House last night declared to be the very style of Blair Athole. The bets have been running two to one against Tilton, owing to the aureola which the illustrious H. W. B.—now, by the way, read as "Hub"—has gathered around his head. Among sportsmen the facts of the case are entirely ignored. They are of opinion they know all about them, and that no more evidence is required. "Look for a needle in a bundle of straw," said one gentleman at the Fifth Avenue Hotel to a HERALD reporter. "Don't you think Beecher knew what he was about? Do you think he is a darned fool."

"Frustrate their knavish tricks, on Beecher our hopes we fix," said one enthusiastic pewholder of Plymouth church. "That's what Miss Prossa said in the 'Tale of the Two Cities,' and a sensible woman she was."

ABOUT LITTLE RALPH.

Throughout Brooklyn yesterday the news was spread that little Ralph Tilton was dying. The strange fascination of this case shows itself from this fact, that the illness and impending death of this boy should arouse such widespread interest. His paternity, as it will be remembered by the readers of the HERALD, was a subject of dispute between Beecher and Tilton, and forms still a disputed element in the case.

JUDGE WILLIAM FULLERTON.

Judge Fullerton was engaged on some important business when he received the card of the HERALD representative; but, waiving all other duties, he received the member of the fourth estate without delay. The journalist felt rather nervous, not being thoroughly *au courant* as to legal etiquette, and commenced the conversation with some anxiety.

HERALD REPRESENTATIVE—I have called, Judge, to see if you can throw some light upon the card published by Mr. Bowen, in which he states that, although he is anxious to testify, both sides are afraid to call him.

Judge FULLERTON—It is hardly professional to talk about any one connected with a cause at issue, but I do not mind saying that to the best of my knowledge Mr. Bowen has been placed in a false position.

HERALD REPRESENTATIVE—What is the objection that both sides appear to have against Mr. Bowen's testimony? Why is he not called to the witness stand?

Judge FULLERTON—I cannot understand what objection there can be to Mr. Bowen's testimony; in fact, our side, instead of having any objection to hearing what Mr. Bowen has to say, are going to invite him to the stand when we commence the rebuttal. We believe Mr. Bowen will tell the truth, and that is all we desire to put before the jury.

HERALD REPRESENTATIVE—Well, then, Judge, I can state on your authority that the counsel for the plaintiff have no objection to hearing Mr. Bowen's story?

Judge FULLERTON—Yes, sir, you can, as we feel that in all justice a hearing is due Mr. Bowen, and as we are confident he desires to speak the truth, it is our intention to give him the opportunity to explain his connection with the parties litigant.

HERALD REPRESENTATIVE—I am much obliged, Judge. Have you anything further to say that I can publish?

Judge FULLERTON—No, sir; brevity is the soul of wit.

The HERALD representative then bowed himself out and Judge Fullerton returned to his business.

GENERAL R. A. PRYOR.

A run up two flights of stairs, a knock at a door—"Is General Pryor in?"—"Walk in," and the HERALD representative found himself seated in front of the object of his search. General Pryor was deep in some legal work, but laying his book courteously on one side prepared to answer the questions that the HERALD representative was revolving in his mind.

HERALD REPRESENTATIVE—I have called, General, to obtain your views upon Mr. Bowen and his connection with the Beecher-Tilton case.

General PRYOR—I am sorry, sir, I cannot afford you any assistance in this matter, as I have not the pleasure of the gentleman's acquaintance.

HERALD REPRESENTATIVE—Have you any idea of the nature of the evidence that he desires to swear to?

General PRYOR—No, sir; and if I had I should not tell, as it might damage our case by such action.

HERALD REPRESENTATIVE—How long do you think it will be before Mr. Bowen is put on the stand by the plaintiff?

General PRYOR—I do not know whether he will ever be put on the stand, as it does not belong to my share of the work to furnish or consult upon the evidence. I devote my attention chiefly to the searching for legal authorities.

HERALD REPRESENTATIVE—What do you think, General, of the case, so far as it has gone?

General PRYOR—I cannot say, sir. I have not heard General Tracy's opening reading for the defence, as I have been sick for the last two or three days.

The HERALD representative then retired.

MR. WILLIAM M. EVARTS.

The ex-Attorney General was sitting at a small desk, writing, when the HERALD representative was ushered into his presence. He graciously motioned to a chair, and when the interviewer was comfortably seated stopped writing