OUR SCHOOLS.

An Important Decision of the Board of Education.

PUPILS NOT TO BE "GERMANIZED."

The Commissioners of Education met yesterday, the president, Mr. William Wood, presiding. The question of teaching German in all the schools was finally settled yesterday by a very decisive vote, the report against it being sustained by thirteen Commissioners out of eighteen. And not only is the German language thus doomed to a restriction in the schools, but it is said by some that the next step on the part of some of the Commissioners will be to oust that study from the schools altogether. But this is not by any means likely to be done, for between the radicals—one set wanting to Germanize the schools, the other to blot out the German—there is the sensible majority, who believe that the people have a right to German and French in the schools if these studies will tend to improve pupils' minds and not interfere with, but subserve the study of English. It is also stated on good authority that the two Commissioners, Traud and Klamroth, intend, at an early day, to move the abolition of the German language in all the classes in all the schools, this being intended to show the little esteem German citizens entertain for the boon of the German classes in the Grammar schools. Should Messrs. Traud and Klamroth attempt to make

THIS FLANK MOVEMENT.

They will assuredly be again doomed to even a greater defeat than they sustained yesterday; for the majority of the Board voted not because they desired to oppose Messrs. Traud and Klamroth, but because they believed that it was proper to allow pupils in the three higher classes of the grammar schools to study German or French if their parents had any desire that they should do so. As the Board thought yesterday that this was proper to do, it is not likely that these same gentlemen are going now to stultify themselves by making this fight an entirely personal one, and a fight altogether unworthy of the high office they hold. There was a general feeling of relief yesterday when the question was settled. It has hung over the meetings of the Board month after month as a heavy weight from which harm might come if it were not kept fixedly in its proper place, and none the less so on account of the not unseldom threatening on the part of some as to danger in the future, uncertain in its magnitude. There is no doubt the matter was involved in a number of little educational intrigues, which, though small in themselves, were serious enough to be embarrassing outside of the Board of Education. The hall was crowded during

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

yesterday afternoon, and both Commissioners and audience paid marked attention to the proceedings. Eighteen members were present, and after the reading of the minutes, Commissioner Klamroth arose and said he wished to make a personal explanation.

At the last meeting, on the 19th of January, he was called to order by Commissioner West, and in the dispute which arose some words passed between them. It was reported in one of the papers that Commissioner West had said that if Mr. Klamroth would not retract his remarks in the Board he would turn him out of the Board. Commissioner West, on being questioned, denied having made such a remark, but said he would make him answer outside of the Board.

President Wood said he had not heard any remarks of the kind made on the day mentioned.

After some routine business was gone through with the question of the day was brought up on a previous resolution of J. Grenville Kane regarding the long standing report concerning German in the public schools. Several communications were read, of which the following is

A SPECIMEN PETITION.

TO THE HONORABLE THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:—

GENTLEMEN—The undersigned committee, by authority of the central organization of Taxpayers' Associations of the city of New York, would respectfully beg leave to represent to your honorable body as follows:—

It is with us no uncommon interest that we have followed your discussion of the question relative to the teaching of the German language in our public schools, and the arguments used before you, pro and con, have provoked several interesting debates at the sessions of your organization.

Whatever difference of opinion may have at any time existed in the minds of any of your delegates as to the minor details for the successful carrying out of the German course as now provided by your bylaws, nevertheless we are unanimously of opinion, duly and officially expressed, that the retention of your existing bylaws having reference to the teaching of German would assuredly be a lasting benefit to those of the scholars availing themselves of the course.

We do not wish to reiterate the reasons so often repeated to you during the last twelve months, such as that our vernacular being founded on and in large part formed out of the Anglo-Saxon, a thorough knowledge of the German would materially aid in mastering and fully comprehending the English language, besides other arguments more or less pertinent and convincing. Our sole object in thus intruding upon your time and attention is to acquaint you with the sentiments of a large portion of your tax-paying community on so all important a topic, and which furthermore causes the city an expenditure of a certain sum of money. We would beg leave to urge that while we shall at all times strenuously oppose all needless expense and extravagance of every kind in the administration of the affairs of our city or of any of its departments we are ever ready and willing to do all in our power to advance the interests of our public school system, being well assured that on that bulwark in a great measure rests the future of our country. Our public schools shall always have our pecuniary and moral support, and, far from begrudging the amount necessary to further the proper introduction and maintenance of the study of German as a part of the ordinary studies of our children, we are and always will be ready to assume our share of the responsibility in order to insure the successful carrying out of your rules, when the same tend to promote the interests of our educational system.

We would, therefore, respectfully, yet earnestly, ask you to retain the study of German, as at present provided by your bylaws, and to suffer no change to be made therein which would curtail the advantages now enjoyed by those wishing to undertake the study of that language. Very respectfully, yours,

F. SIGEL, Vice President and Chairman.

C. J. MEHRLAS, Secretary.

EDWARD J. H. TAMSEN, A. LEESON, Dr. AUGUST HERMANN, } Committee.

THE FORMULA OF PETITION.

A number of other communications from over thirty different German societies, headed by the following resolutions were read:—

Whereas the debates in the two last meetings of your honorable Board have shown that the teaching of the German language in our public schools does not meet with the approval of the majority of your honorable Board, be it for the reason of an apparent economy or for the reason of animosity against the German Americans; and whereas we cannot be led to believe that a number of high-minded and educated men as your honorable Board consists of would willingly and knowingly drive thousands and thousands of children out of our public into our sectarian schools, thereby strengthening the present movement for the support of the latter out of our public funds; and whereas we deem it our duty to correct the entirely erroneous presumption of some of your members, as if the masses of the German-American citizens were not deeply interested in this question, while you can scarcely find one out of each hundred who would not rise with a cry of indignation if your honorable board should enact, as is now threatened by the pending motion before you.

Now, therefore, we respectfully petition your Honorable Board not to degrade our public schools, the present pride of our nation, by denying what the public schools of almost every great city on the European Continent grant, viz.—the instruction in another besides the mother language, and by rejecting such motion to show to the world that the Board of Education of our metropolis stands above all other on the one question of the true welfare and thorough education of our youth.

The following are the names of the societies:—Allemania Mannerchor; Fidelitas Deutscher Corps; Tuesday Bowling Club; Arion Quartet Club; Singing Society Abt Schuler; New Yorker Sangermunde; Mannergerong Verein; Deutsche Quartet Club; Agoniz Scientific Association; Grand Lodge I. O. F. S., of I.; Dr. Kane Lodge U. O. B. M.; Germania Sterbekasse; New York Liederkranz, Goethe K. U. V., No. 1; New York Kugel Association, Handel Society, Isachar Widow and Orphan Benevolent Society, Sibuberth Mannerchor, German Machinists Association, German Citizens, Teutonia Union Verein, Bund der Freidenker, Importers and Merchants of Grand street and vicinity, German Engineers' Society, Union Showcase Maker Verein; Merchants of Lispenard street; E. P. Gleason Manufacturing Company; Abarbanel Lodge No. 92, I. O. B. B.; Typographia No. 1. All these communications were ordered to be placed on file.

AN IMPUDENT DOCUMENT.

Another communication from the Independent German Association of the Eighth Assembly begins with the following sentence:—

"The adoption of foreign languages, and especially the German language, in the regular course of instruction in our public schools is savagely attacked through the narrow mindedness and national prejudices of a majority of the members of our highest Board of Education before it has been allowed a fair trial, but we propose to show that instruction in foreign languages, and especially in German, should be highly appreciated by Germans as well as by all other nationalities in this country;" and concludes as follows:—"The Mayor, who has at present the power of appointing the School Commissioners, is primarily responsible for appointing such members as will endanger our public schools, and we have resolved to support only such candidates in future as will lend their influence for the benefit of our public schools, and whom we know to be enlightened and upright friends of the most liberal development of our public school system.

HUGO GORSCH, President.

JOHN C. BOECHEL, Treasurer."

This was rejected at once by the majority of the Board as an improper and impertinent communication.

COMMISSIONER FULLER'S REMARKS.

When the long list of petitions had been disposed of Commissioner Fuller addressed the Board. He said that he had made up his mind to say no more on this question of the German in our schools, but the action of the Germans in sending to the Board all these petitions and communications had caused him to change his mind. As far back as January, 1874, this question was before the Board. A good deal of bad blood had been occasioned by this question; but why? It was because the Germans had advocated their views in an offensive manner. Mr. Fuller then read from the City Superintendent's report for 1860, in which it was explicitly stated that the introduction of the study of German in the public schools was detrimental to greater proficiency in the English branches. He believed in having German or French taught in the Normal College or the College of the City of New York, but not in the public schools. German should never have been introduced into our public schools. By and by at the rate we were going on we would have German taught in the schools first, then English and next French—the French last, of course. We would not submit to the constant warning that we should lose 20,000 German children if we took the German teachers out of the schools, nor to such communications as that which appeared in the HERALD yesterday, signed by taxpayers representing $15,000,000. We meant to Americanize our schools, and not to Germanize them, nor would we be dictated to by any foreign element, by any class or creed. We wanted no special legislation, and woe to any class or sect that tried to injure our public schools. The holding up of votes to us would not bully us. Mr. Fuller then explained that in Germany the public schools, so called, were in fact pauper schools, the parents of children who are able to pay being obliged to pay. In conclusion he stated that three-fourths of even the Germans themselves were opposed to the German in the schools as the Board had been petitioned for it, and certainly nine-tenths of Americans were strongly in opposition and equally resolved to protect our school system at all hazards. There could not be two great national languages among us at the one time, and the American language, which was the commercial language of the world, should be sustained.

COMMISSIONER MATTHEWSON'S VIEWS.

Commissioner Matthewson then said:—The schools are in the hands of the people and are the people's property, and we can with safety leave them to the people. In no competitive examination between the schools have the children of German parentage ever led the van, but go into the German districts and see who carries off the palm in English studies. One-third of the children going to school in the city are of German parentage, and they ask for German in the schools as a representative portion of the community. But from eighteen to twenty per cent only of the pupils ever reach the three higher grades, and therefore but eighteen per cent of the pupils will ever have the great advantage of learning what is now one of the most useful acquirements. But to return to the original question, the people will defend the public schools and not the Commissioners of this Board.

After some remarks from Commissioner Beardslee, the President here stated that a committee had called on him on the 31st of January to ask for a postponement of the question for some time, but he thought, as it had been in abeyance since June 2, 1875, it was time it was disposed of.

Commissioner Matthewson—What are the names of that committee?

The President directed the Clerk to read them out. They were Moritz Ellinger, Julius Bien, William Steinway, Theodore G. Glaubenshilé, J. H. Fascher, Dr. H. Gercke and Oswald Ottendorfer. Commissioners Klamwrth, Traud, Wetmore, Beardslee, Matthewson.

The original report was then taken up in sections and voted on.

Commissioner Wilkins then moved the previous question, which was Commissioner J. Grenville Kane's resolution to bring up the report.

Commissioner KLAMROTH—I hope the gentleman will excuse me for five minutes and that he will not apply the gag law.

Another Commissioner then moved to adjourn.

Commissioner KLAMROTH—Can we not postpone this matter for the present?

Commissioner WOOD—The previous question is in order.

It was put, and carried by a vote of 13 to 5.

SEC. 39.—Teachers of vocal music, drawing, French and German shall be classified as special teachers. No salary paid to a teacher of vocal music or drawing in a grammar or primary school, or to a teacher of French or German in a grammar school, shall exceed the rate of $1 75 per hour for the time actually employed in instruction.

Adopted by a vote of 14 to 4.

SEC. 79.—Amend section 79 so as to read as follows:—Sec. 79. The City Superintendent, under the direction of the Committee on Teachers, shall be authorized to license teachers specially to give instruction in French or German in each of the three highest grades of the grammar schools, and the number of recitations in each of the grades pursuing the study of either of these languages shall be four, of twenty-five minutes each per week, and no pupil shall be permitted to pursue the study of more than one of these languages at the same time.

Adopted by a vote of 13 to 5.

SEC. 76.—Whenever the parents or guardians of at least thirty pupils attending a grammar department shall desire the introduction of French or German the trustees of the ward shall introduce the study of such language in said department, but no child shall be compelled to study German or French contrary to the wishes of its parents or guardians, expressed either personally or in writing, and whenever the average attendance of pupils engaged in the study of French or German in any department shall fall below fifteen for the period of three months such study shall thereafter be discontinued in said department.

Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee on Course of Study and School Books, to report at the next or succeeding regular meeting of the Board a course of instruction in the French and German languages which shall comprehend, in three divisions, such a course of French and such portions of the course of German given under section 81 as shall by them be deemed suitable for the instruction in French or German of the third, second and first grades of the Grammar Schools.

Adopted by a vote of 14 to 4.

The whole report was then put before the Board and was adopted by the following vote:—

YEAS—Commissioners Place, Baker, Goulding, West, Caylus, Kane, Halsted, Walker, Fuller, Kelly, Dowd, Wood, Wilkins, Nocs, Wetmore, Traud, Klamroth, Beardslee and Mathewson—19.

After the German question was settled, much to the general satisfaction of the Board, the financial statement of the Board of Education for the year 1875 was read and adopted, as also a number of other communications from over thirty different societies.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE YEAR 1875.

Resources.

Amount apportioned for "Public Instruction" by Board of Estimate and Apportionment		$3,583,000
Amount retransferred by Board of Estimate and Apportionment from the fund of 1874		70,000
Total		$3,653,000

Payments.

Expenses of compulsory education		$14,350
Support of the Nautical School		22,497
Salaries of teachers in ward schools		2,235,751
Salaries of janitors in ward schools		121,018
Salaries of teachers and janitors in normal schools and college		82,539
Salaries of teachers and janitors in the evening schools		89,456
Salaries of teachers and janitors in the colored schools		40,568
Incidental expenses—Current repairs, clerks to trustees, &c.		54,516
Expenses of the Board of Education—Stationery, advertising, repairs to hall, printing, &c.		18,853
Employés of the Board of Education—Salaries, superintendents, clerks, &c.		78,171
Fuel for all the schools		87,889
Gas for all the schools and the hall of the Board		14,562
Workshop—Wages and materials		1,506
Pianos and repairs of		4,755
Depository account—Books, maps, stationery and general supplies for all the schools		162,843
Rents for school premises		51,555
Expenses Normal College and schools—		
For scientific apparatus and chemicals	$2,553	
For current repairs, printing, stationery, &c.	3,309	
For storm doors	470	
		6,333
Expenses of evening schools, printing, &c.		1,850
Expenses of colored schools, current repairs, &c.		627
Total		$3,089,647
Site on Seventy-fifth street, in Nineteenth ward		6,000
Erecting buildings		7,000
Altering and repairing buildings, special		83,845
Furniture and repairing, special		29,955
Heating apparatus and repairing, special		51,533
Total		$3,267,981
Corporate schools apportionment for 1875, as per reports of Finance Committee of 21st April and June 16 (folio pages 289 and 446)		103,000
Total		$3,371,094
Balance with the Comptroller		$281,906

DECEMBER 31, 1875.

Appropriations for the year 1876 by the Board of Education, viz.:—

For salaries of teachers with grammar and primary schools	$2,265,000
For salaries of janitors of the grammar and primary schools	123,000
For salaries of professors and others in the Normal College	84,000
For salaries of teachers in the evening schools and janitors of	110,000
For salaries of teachers in the colored schools and janitors of	40,000
For salaries of superintendents, clerks and other employés of the Board of Education	78,000
Total	$2,700,000
For books, maps, slates, stationery and general supplies for all the schools	$180,000
For fuel for all the schools and the hall of the Board of Education	95,000
For gas for all schools and the hall of the Board of Education	18,000
For rents of school premises	55,000
For pianos and repairs of	5,000
For workshop, wages and materials	1,500
For incidental expenses and current repairs to buildings, furniture and heating apparatus by the ward trustees, including compensation for clerks of boards of trustees	59,000
For Normal College and Training School for supplies, printing, furniture repairs or for fitting up buildings, furniture and apparatus	7,000
For evening schools for incidental repairs, stationery, printing, &c.	1,500
For colored schools, for incidental repairs, stationery, printing, &c.	1,000
For incidental expenses of the Board of Education, for repairs to hall, and for printing, advertising, stationery, &c.	20,000
For the enforcement of the act entitled, "An act to secure to children the benefits of elementary education," passed May 1, 1874	22,000
For support of the Nautical School, established by act of the Legislature, passed April 24, 1873	35,000
Total	$3,200,000
For corporate schools, State apportionment, per acts of the Legislature	103,000
Total	$3,303,000
"For purchasing, leasing and procuring sites and erecting buildings, furnishing, altering, &c., &c.," "set apart and reserved"	$350,000

Commissioner Goulding moved the following preamble and resolution, which were referred to the Committee on Normal College:—

Whereas public attention has been called to a certain text book, published by authority of the Board of Education of the city and county of New York, known as "Literary Selections for the Normal College," which contains a passage at 459, commencing "Corrupt as the Church of Rome was;" and whereas the same may be deemed offensive to the religious sentiments of a large section of our community and prejudicial to the efficiency of the common school system by impairing public confidence in the broad and liberal principles upon which that system was established and is now conducted: therefore,

Resolved, that the text book known as "Literary Selections for the Normal College of the City of New York," and now in use in that institution, be and it is hereby expunged from the list of text books, and its further use in any college or school under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education of the city and county of New York is hereby prohibited.

After the transaction of some routine business the Board adjourned.

THE CONTEST BETWEEN COMPTROLLER GREEN AND THE BOARD—WHO HAS THE RIGHT TO DISTRIBUTE SALARIES.

A discussion has arisen between Comptroller Green and the Commissioners of Education relative to the dispensing of funds for expenses of that department. Yesterday the following correspondence, bearing upon the subject, was given out for publication:—

PRESIDENT WOODSON TO THE COMPTROLLER.

OFFICE CLERK OF BOARD OF EDUCATION, NEW YORK, Jan. 20, 1876.

Hon. ANDREW H. GREEN, Comptroller, &c.:—

SIR—I forward herewith a certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 19th inst. by the Board of Education, making a requisition on you for funds to be applied by the Board in payment of the obligations incurred by it. This action was taken in conformity with the opinion of the Counsel to the Corporation, recently submitted to this Board and to yourself, to the effect that this Board is legally the controller of the funds apportioned for the purpose of public instruction. Please inform me at what date the money asked for will be deposited with the City Chamberlain. Very respectfully, &c.,

WILLIAM WOOD, President of the Board of Education.

COMPTROLLER GREEN TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT, COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE, CITY OF NEW YORK, Feb. 1, 1876.

TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:—

I have carefully considered a communication from the President of the Board of Education, dated 20th January, and the opinion of the Counsel to the Corporation alluded to therein. The latter refers to certain decisions relative to the respective liabilities of the city and the Board of Education or College of the City of New York, as controlling the opinion. Without these supposed decisions it is quite apparent, from a reading of the opinion, that the Counsel to the Corporation would be unwilling to sustain the ground taken by the Board of Education as expressed in their resolution, which is enclosed in your communication. On examination it appears that those decisions are not upon the direct point involved in this resolution of the Board of Education. As this subject relates to an annual expenditure of more than $3,500,000, and the existing course of proceeding in the audit and payment of claims incurred by the Board of Education has been pursued for nearly three years with the acquiescence of all parties, and as a departure from this course would be subversive of a system which was intended to reform, and has to a great degree already reformed, the previously existing irresponsible and loose methods prevailing in the affairs of the city, I should feel a very great reluctance to assent to any change, unless it was very evident that the law required it; and as the Board of Education, or at least some of its members, seem to desire to have the system changed by an application to the courts, I shall facilitate any action to procure an adjudication that will settle the question both for the Board of Education and the Finance Department at the earliest possible day; and meantime, in order that no inconvenience may accrue to teachers and others having claims, will continue in the usual manner to pay their salaries and claims when certified to me by the Board of Education. Respectfully,

ANDREW H. GREEN, Comptroller.

ADULTERATED MILK.

A BATCH OF SPOILERS OF THE LACTEAL FLUID MULCTED IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

Twenty-six milk dealers were tried yesterday in the Court of Special Sessions before Justices Duffy, Bixby and Wandell. The charge against them was that they had adulterated the milk they sold. Messrs. Hastings and Colonel Prentice appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Board of Health, and Messrs. Waener and Lawrence conducted the defence. The first case called was that of Francis McCarman, of No. 122 Mott street. Officer Gardner testified that he examined the milk sold at the place in Mott street and that the lactometer showed it to be but eighty degrees, or twelve degrees below the required standard. The witness, however, failed to prove that the accused had any proprietorship in the shop where the milk had been sold, and the case of Francis was dismissed. Then Frank Lubban, of No. 10 Oak street; John Haase, of No. 284 Mulberry street, and John Jaeger, No. 81 Norfolk street, pleaded guilty to the charge, and were mulcted in the sum of $50 each. In the case of John Juechler Officer Gardner testified that he had tested the milk found on the defendant's premises; it registered eighty-eight degrees on the lactometer, the temperature being fifty degrees Fahrenheit; he took the sample, bottled, labelled and delivered it to Professor Waller for analysis.

Professor Charles F. Chandler, President of the Board of Health of this city, was the first scientific witness examined. He said that after careful analysis and repeated experiments he had decided that the lactometer is an infallible test of the quality of milk. He gave a detailed account of the method adopted by the Board of Health for testing milk, describing the lactometer and the gradations under which the milk was tested. He showed that the milk produced by the cows in the vicinity of New York, and from which the supply is generally taken, ranged as high as 129 degrees by the lactometer, whereas the milk sold by the accused was as low as 88.40, several degrees below the limit fixed by the Board. The lactometer used by the Board of Health was more favorable to the milkmen by ten degrees than the one used by themselves for the purpose of testing milk received from the producers.

Professor Henry Morton, President of the Stevens Institute, explained his experiments with the lactometer, which, he said, is a hydrometer graduated to measure the specific gravity of milk; the standard adopted by the Board of Health of 1,029 of the hydrometer, as compared with 100 of the lactometer, is the standard. Milk that ranged at the standard of 88 degrees on the lactometer at the temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit, could not be pure, and must have been mixed with some adulterating substance. He had never known pure milk from a healthy cow that would range lower than 100 on the lactometer used by the Board of Health. To secure a correct test the thermometer and the lactometer were generally used together, and reasonable care was also required. If several cases of milk taken from healthy cows should range less than 100 it would destroy his faith in the instrument.

The witness was closely cross-examined as to the conditions under which milk of a lower range than 100 might be produced from an apparently healthy cow, and stated that impurities might arise from the accidental mixture of foreign substances with the milk through carelessness, but with proper care pure milk would range higher than 100.

Professor George F. Barker, formerly professor of chemistry in Yale College, but now of Philadelphia, described the method of finding the specific gravity of pure milk from the cows by using the hydrometer and the lactometer, and said that an indication of 1,029 degrees on the hydrometer is equal to 100 degrees on the lactometer. Each instrument must be tested separately to give accurate results. If any sample of milk should stand below 100 degrees on the lactometer such milk could not be pure.

Officer Gepson testified that he had received instructions from the proper authorities connected with the Board of Health, which enabled him to use the lactometer correctly. He had tested nine or ten samples of pure milk, and the lowest specific gravity of any of them was equal to 102 degrees.

Professor Elwyn Waller, formerly of Harvard University, testified that he possesses a special knowledge of chemistry and understands how to make a test for pure milk; the evidence given by the scientific gentleman who had preceded him agreed with his own experience; the lactometer of the Board of Health is a sure test for the pressure of water only; if the lactometer showed less than 100 degrees specific gravity the milk so tested would not be pure; if at 50 degrees Fahrenheit the lactometer showed a sample to range below 100 degrees this would be proof positive of the undue pressure of water. Here the witness went into a description of the component parts of pure milk. Dr. Waller stated that in last September he visited several dairies in Orange county and made a number of tests with the lactometer; he had experimented with samples of milk from eighty-five or eighty-six cows, and the lowest grade indicated by the lactometer was 102 degrees; milk from Alderney cows had also been tried and none of it registered a lower degree of specific gravity than 102.

Casper Goldmann testified to the publication in three daily newspapers of the ordinance under which the prosecution was made. A copy of the law, certified by the secretary of the Board of Health, was admitted as evidence of the existence of the law.

The defendant (Juechler) testified that he received the milk without knowing what it contained.

John Meyer, who sold milk to the defendant, testified that he did not adulterate it.

The Court found the defendant guilty of the charge, and sentenced him to pay a fine of $100, with costs—an order which he promptly obeyed.

When the other milkmen who were present heard the decision in Juechler's case, they resolved to plead guilty and get off on a fine of $50 each. The names of those who availed themselves of this privilege are:—John Rohs, No. 522 Ninth avenue; John Jaeger, No. 81 Norfolk street; Henry G. Meyer, No. 756 Tenth avenue; Martin Brunings, No. 129 Ninth avenue; Henry Brinkerman, No. 879 Third avenue; Michael Schroeder, No. 96 Oliver street; Martin Joost, No. 413 Greenwich street; Peter Hays, corner Seventh avenue and Twenty-sixth street, and Frederick Hencken, No. 330 Eighth avenue.

MOODY AND SANKEY.

The alterations necessary for the proposed religious meetings to be held in this city by Mr. D. L. Moody and Mr. Ira D. Sankey, are almost completed. The building at the corner of Twenty-sixth street and Fourth avenue will be thrown open for inspection this evening at eight o'clock, when a full rehearsal of the choir will take place.

THE CONVERTED ACTRESS.

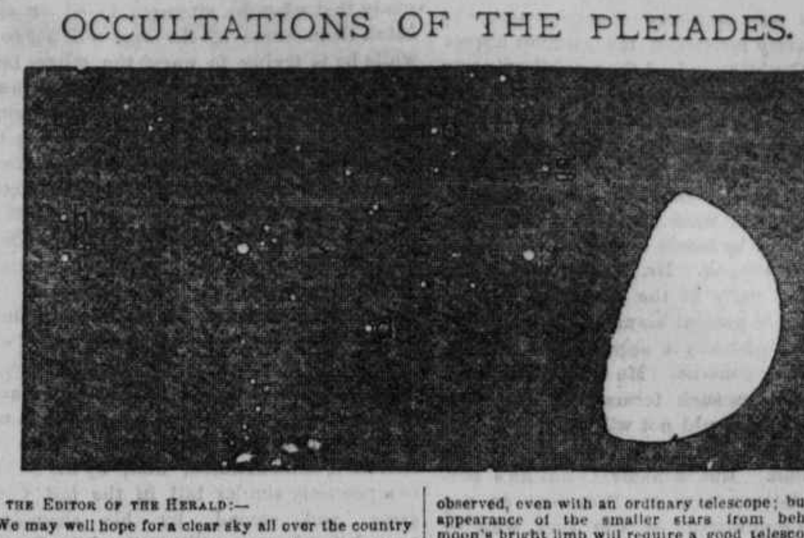
TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

I am very sorry to see that the HERALD, as well as other journals of New York, when speaking of the lady evangelist, Mrs. Lowery, invariably use the expression, "converted actress." Surely the time has gone by when actors were considered as any worse than other people. You never speak of a converted milliner or dressmaker, or of a converted doctor, lawyer or shoemaker, or even of a converted editor, though I presume there have been such. Why, then, select a profession of which no more orderly citizens can be found, to speak of as though they were specially criminal? Converted burglar or converted thief, if you will, but do not include actors in your category of people who need be considered as especially wicked. Respectfully yours,

J. B. R.

NEW YORK, Jan. 31, 1876.

OCCULTATIONS OF THE PLEIADES.



TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

We may well hope for a clear sky all over the country this evening, for otherwise we shall lose the opportunity, which may not again occur in a lifetime, of witnessing the phenomenon, under its most advantageous circumstances, of the occultation of the principal stars of the Pleiades. The above diagram represents the phenomenon at 9h. 26m. 50s., when it is predicted that the bright star *b* will disappear behind the dark edge of the moon. The dark line, dimly seen, passing from the moon's centre toward the opposite corner of the diagram, represents the direction of the moon's motion, and the stars in its path will successively disappear with a suddenness which will be all the more startling if the eye is fixed upon the star and the bright portion of the moon is kept out of the field. In order that the moon may not be too bright it is desirable that it should not be too near the full. On the other hand, in order that the occultations may be visible over a large extent of country, it is necessary that it should not be too near the new. Occurring in February we have the happy mean between these two extremes, and even the hour of the day is so nicely adjusted that, while on the Pacific coast, an hour earlier would have caused the daylight sadly to interfere, on the Atlantic coast an hour later would have brought the moon so near the horizon that the later contacts would have been lost. Let me first give some idea of the reasons which induce astronomers to look upon the occultations of the Pleiades under such circumstances as this evening with peculiar interest.

In navigation it is necessary that the position of the ship should be known both in longitude and in latitude. The latitude is easily obtained from the meridian altitude of any known star, because the direction of the axis of the earth is fixed, but the longitude is obtained with difficulty, the meridian of Greenwich, from which the longitude is reckoned, as well as the meridian of the observer, being in motion at the rate of about 1,000 miles per hour. It is easy to determine the position of any meridian among the stars, which is the local time. But the difficulty is to determine on any other meridian what is the local time at Greenwich. The most accurate means of determining the longitude of distant stations is by telegraph signals. If, at 5h. 0m. P. M., local time in New York, a signal by the cable indicates that it is 9h. 56m. P. M. at Greenwich, we know that our longitude is 4h. 56m. west of Greenwich. When, as at sea, there are no means of direct signals, a chronometer is relied upon to give Greenwich time. If the chronometer ran with accuracy, the sea captain, on arriving in New York, would find that his chronometer indicated 9h. 56m. when the City Hall clock indicated 5h. 0m. But no chronometer runs with perfect accuracy, and a century or two ago they were far less reliable than now. As a check upon the chronometer, the changing place of the moon among the stars has been generally resorted to. The motion of the moon being thirteen degrees per day or more than half a degree an hour, sea captains observe "lunar distances," the apparent distance of the moon from the larger fixed stars along its path and obtain from the nautical almanac the Greenwich time at which the moon is predicted to be at the observed distance. It is true that the moon would not appear in exactly the same place among the stars at the same time, as seen from two different stations, but this difference, from parallax, as well as the smaller difference from the refraction of our atmosphere is allowed for in the calculation. These corrections reduce the observed position of the moon to its position as "supposed to be seen from the earth's centre." We should most naturally suppose that from the earth's centre the moon could not be seen at all, but this expression, which has been made the subject of much criticism, refers to its position as it would be seen from any point on the line between the moon and the earth's centre.

This method is not sufficiently accurate for the needs of astronomy, and it is common to employ the method of moon culminations, which gives the moon's place as nearly as it can be measured in the telescope. The time of the moon's passing the meridian is accurately observed, and also that of a neighboring star. From the latter the local time is known or verified, and from the former the local time at Greenwich may be obtained by computing at what Greenwich time the moon would be in the observed position among the stars. A great advantage of this method is that as both the star and the moon are observed in the meridian, neither refraction nor parallax affect their position in right ascension, and consequently no correction has to be applied to reduce the observations to the earth's centre.

It is obvious that at the instant when a star is occulted by the moon its distance from the moon's centre is exactly one-half of the moon's diameter. As a bright star disappears behind the dark limb of the moon with suddenness it is easy to obtain the distance of the moon from the star with as much accuracy—with no other instrument than a sextant, with which to obtain the local time, and a small spyglass, with which to observe the occultation—as it can be obtained with the transit or meridian circle of the observatory by the method of moon culminations. Occultations of stars by the moon have, therefore, long been a favorite means of determining the longitude even of fixed observatories.

Were the moon a perfect sphere or a perfectly regular spheroid, probably occultations would have retained their pre-eminence, notwithstanding the additional complication of the computations. But when a star happens to be obscured by a lunar mountain before its time, or when it happens to descend into a lunar valley at the edge of the disk and remains visible too long, in either case there is an inaccuracy in the result. In the former case there may be an uncertainty whether some terrestrial cause may not have caused the too early disappearance; but in the latter case, if the time is certainly known, we can only refer the cause of the visibility of the star to a depression in the disk of the moon itself.

If the moon always turned precisely the same face toward us we might determine on what parts of the moon's limb the mountains or the valleys were to be found, and make allowance for them, although it would be a slow process and require very many observations; but the difficulty is immensely increased, almost beyond the limits of possibility, when we take into consideration the libration of the moon, so that the mountain which to-day occults a star may to-morrow have been carried either beyond the edge of the disk or brought so far toward us as not to project at all. For the motion of the moon is not like that of the ball representing it in the orrery, rigidly fastened to a wire and compelled to keep the same face toward the earth; but the moon is freely poised in space, and appears to swing back and forth like the rolling of a ship. This is its apparent motion with respect to the earth, arising from its varying orbital velocity, combined with a perfectly uniform velocity of rotation. When the moon is near us and moving most rapidly, the western side comes more and more into view, and in the opposite part of its orbit, while moving slowly, the eastern side comes more and more into view. Before corrections can be applied for the lunar mountains or valleys their exact positions and dimensions must be ascertained, and then it must be also ascertained in precisely what stage of libration they are upon the moon's limb. So hopeless has it seemed to undertake this that I am not aware that it has yet been attempted.

The chances of error are much diminished when several contacts are observed within a few hours, and especially when the moon passes centrally over such a group of stars as the Pleiades. The hastening of one contact by a mountain will be counterbalanced by the delay of another by a depression, so that the average result will be very nearly the same as if there were neither mountains nor depressions. There are other advantages scarcely less important. Astronomy has not yet reached such a position that predictions can be as accurate as observations. The moon may be at the time of the occultation a little further east or west than was predicted; it may be a little further north or south; it may be a little further from us or nearer to us, varying its parallax and apparent semi-diameter; and its motion in longitude, in latitude, and radially, may be somewhat different from that predicted. If a sufficient number of observations are made all these inaccuracies of prediction can be corrected by the observations, and eliminated. When the moon was last traversing this group, nearly twenty years ago, large numbers of observations were made by officers of the Coast Survey and by others. When a phenomenon so interesting in itself as an occultation is repeated a dozen or twenty times in succession it will always and necessarily attract sufficient attention to secure the requisite observations.

In the annual report of the United States Coast Survey for 1855 Professor Peirce calls special attention to the occultations of the Pleiades, which were then to occur, and gave the formulæ by which they could be used "for correcting the lunar semi-diameter, the mutual positions and changes of position of the stars of this group, for testing and correcting the formulæ of lunar parallax, for determining the irregularities of the moon's limb, and, finally, for correcting the longitudes of the places of observation." The whole group of stars whose places were accurately determined by Bessel consists of fifty-three, of the ninth magnitude and brighter. Of these thirty-one will be occulted in New York city, furnishing sixty-two contacts to be observed. The disappearance behind the dark edge of the moon may be easily observed, even with an ordinary telescope; but the reappearance of the smaller stars from behind the moon's bright limb will require a good telescope and a previous knowledge of the time and place at which the reappearance will take place. The place can be learned from the above diagram, and the time for New York city is given in the following table. It will be observed that several times during the occultations there will be two or more contacts so nearly together that it is uncertain which will first occur. It so happens that in each case, in this city, it is probable that the immersion of the one star will occur before the emersion of the other. The principal star, Alcyone, Eta, is indicated in the table by A, and in the diagram by the Greek character resembling *n*.

Star.	Immersion.	Emersion.	Star.	Immersion.	Emersion.
g	9:46	10:26	p	10:43	11:43
b	9:27	10:38	22	11:01	11:20
1	9:42	10:51	24	10:50	11:50
3	9:47	10:57	A	10:44	11:46
4	10:11	10:49	27	11:11	12:05
6	10:05	10:56	29	11:19	12:13
c	10:23	10:50	f	11:36	12:21
7	9:57	11:21	h	11:33	12:28
8	10:10	11:13	31	11:42	12:31
9	10:11	11:14	32	11:48	12:34
d	10:15	11:06	33	11:38	12:37
10	10:20	11:21	35	11:52	12:45
11	10:20	11:24	36	11:54	12:47
13	10:36	11:26	37	11:58	12:50
15	10:41	11:42	39	12:23	12:53
18	10:42	11:43			

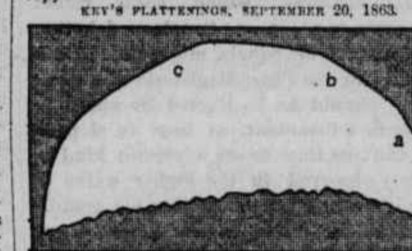
For any other place within one or two hundred miles of New York city, a correction must be applied for the difference of longitude, and also for the difference of latitude, which may be obtained for the principal stars from the following table, the result being the local time:—

	Immersion.		Emersion.	
Star.	Diff. 1 deg. Lat. N. Min.	Diff. 1 deg. Lon. W. Min.	Diff. 1 deg. Lat. N. Min.	Diff. 1 deg. Lon. W. Min.
g	2.7	5.6	3.8	4.3
b	0.0	5.5	1.2	4.9
c	7.0	6.0	8.0	4.0
d	2.3	4.7	0.7	5.2
A	1.4	4.8	0.5	4.6
f	2.5	4.1	0.4	4.8
h	1.6	4.3	0.4	4.4

For example, Boston is 1¾ deg. north and 8 deg. east from New York. The star *g* will disappear in New York at 9h. 45.8m. Adding 4.0 minutes for the difference of latitude and 16.8 minutes for the difference of longitude, the disappearance at Boston will be at about 10h. 6.6m. But *c* will only be occulted a short distance to the north of New York, the limit passing nearly through Hartford, Conn., and Kingston, N. Y., so that there will be no means of determining with reasonable accuracy the time when it will disappear at any given place, except by careful computation. The times for the smaller stars shown upon the diagram and for the seven stars to the left of *h* and *f* may be estimated from the above data with sufficient accuracy to observe the immersions; but the immersions of these smaller stars can only be well seen with a large telescope.

I have already referred to the effect of mountains and depressions upon the moon's edge. Attention has recently been called to remarkable depressions in the moon's western limb, near the Equator, to which have been given the name of the discoverer. In the monthly notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, vol. 24, No. 1, Rev. Henry Cooper Key announces his discovery, and furnishes a diagram, of which the following is a copy:—

KEY'S FLATTENINGS, SEPTEMBER 20, 1863.



The letters *a*, *b* and *c* stand opposite to the middle of the depressions respectively.

His observations were made with an unsilvered twelve inch glass speculum on September 20, 1863, at about six P. M., before the sun had set. He says:—"I had no sooner focussed the telescope (power 120) than I was astounded at observing that the limb of the moon was entirely out of shape; that it was, in fact, irregularly polygonal, as if several large segments had been cut off the spherical limb—not the terminator. Of course I at once changed the eye piece (using powers of 85 and 203) and looked to see whether the instrument was out of adjustment, but the cause of this extraordinary appearance was clearly not in the telescope." This drawing was made from recollection on the following day. He estimates that the largest depression extended across more than 35 deg. of latitude, and in the centre was at least twenty-five miles below the general level of the moon's surface. At about eight P. M. on the 20th he saw the flattenings with an eight inch silvered glass speculum; but they were so much less evident than with the larger instrument that he felt satisfied that he should not have noticed them had he not already seen them. On September 25, with the exception of a comparatively faint trace, the flattenings had entirely disappeared, and during the following lunation, in October, he could only detect the slightest trace of them. So far as I am aware this completes his testimony.

The next witness is Rev. T. W. Webb, the author of the well known little volume, "Celestial Objects for Common Telescopes," who saw the depressions several times in September and October, 1863. He tried them with the micrometer, and the immediate presence of the wire proved beyond the possibility of doubt that they were actually flat; one was a little concave. He considered the flattenings very extensive, but makes no estimate of the arc or of the depression.

The next reference to the subject I find in No. 9 of the same volume. W. Lasrell, on May 21, 1864, observing the moon with a nine inch speculum and a power of 199, "was immediately struck with an unusually irregular outline of the moon's limb, and was reminded of a rather startling diagram—that given above—he had seen in a paper by the Rev. Henry Cooper Key." But the depressions that he saw were on a very different part of the moon and very much less in dimensions, not extending over more than about 11 deg. of latitude.

After twelve years of silence the subject is called up by Mr. Marth, who asks that observations may be made on October 14 and 15 and on November 11 and 12, with the special object of verifying or contradicting the existence of these depressions. The December number of the *Astronomical Register* gives the result of such observations. Mr. W. R. Birt, on November 3, 4 and 5, saw the flattenings and took measures, indicating that at that time they extended from 5 deg. north to 9 deg. south latitude, an arc of 14 deg. Another observer says that for 12 deg. of lunar latitude the limb did not deviate from the straight edge of the bar. On the 12th of November Rev. Mr. Key saw them with an achromatic of 1¾ inch aperture, and says:—"The limb in these places, each of them extending for several hundred miles, was as straight as a micrometer web, and if similar straight surfaces had extended round the whole moon her form would have been a very decided dodecahedron, and not a circle."

At the time of the original discovery the moon's libration was 3 deg. 6 min. west. I do not take the libration in latitude into account, because, as Proctor has shown, libration in latitude would not affect the apparent position of an object on the moon's equatorial limb. Although a difference of libration in latitude might cause some difference in the appearance of a depression extending over 10 deg. or more, this would be lost in comparison with the difference caused by a slight change in the libration in longitude. On November 3, 1875, the libration was 4 deg. west; on the 4th, 5 deg. 2 min. west, and on the 5th, 6 deg. 2 min. On November 11 the libration was 4 deg. 7 min. west and on the 12th 3 deg. west. Comparing the observations, either Rev. Mr. Key has enormously exaggerated the magnitude of the depressions or he has seen them under better circumstances than other observers. His estimate, in 1863, of an angular extent of 35 deg. agrees well with his drawing and also with his last remark in 1875; for one line of a dodecahedron would be about 36 deg., and if we assume a typographical end, and that "dodecagon" was intended, it would still be 30 deg.—two or three times the extent seen by others. This estimate of a depression of twenty-five miles corresponds with an arc of about 25 deg. It will be seen, too, that all the other observers had a libration greater than 3 deg. 6 min., and that Mr. Key, on November 12, had a libration of 3 deg. It would seem, therefore, that although the flattenings may be seen with a libration from 3 deg. to 6 deg. west, the most favorable time to see them is when the libration is 3 deg. to 4 deg. west. On January 6, when the libration was 5 deg. 3 min. west, I saw the flattenings without difficulty, but they certainly did not exceed 10 deg. or 12 deg. in arc, and did not present a "startling" appearance.

The next favorable opportunity to see Key's flattenings will be on February 3, or within a day or two of that time. At the time of the occultations of the Pleiades the libration will be 4 deg. 2 min. west, gradually diminishing, until at noon of the following day it will be the same as on September 20, 1863. During the occultations we shall not only have a favorable opportunity to verify the discovery by direct observation, but to apply the test of an occultation, and probably more than once. Several of the principal stars of the Pleiades will be occulted nearly centrally, and it is likely that some of them will reappear behind the flattenings. Probably at different localities in the United States different stars will have their reappearance accelerated by the depressions. Should the weather be favorable for the observation of the occultations of the Pleiades in many localities a comparison of the results may give us more exactly than it could be obtained by any other means the configuration of the depressions at the stage of libration of the moon at which the occultations occur. The nicety of this test will be apparent with a moment's consideration. If the arc included in the greatest depression were 35 deg., and if the contour were perfectly straight, the central depression would be fifty miles. But we will assume the depression, as estimated by Mr. Key, twenty-five miles. Now, the moon will pass over its whole diameter, 2,162 miles, in about seventy minutes. So that it will pass over about thirty miles per minute, or twenty five miles in fifty seconds. Such a phenomenon as the reappearance of a star fifty seconds before it is due is, so far as I am aware, unprecedented. Reducing the arc one-half reduces the depression one-fourth. An arc of 12 deg. or 14 deg. would make the depression six or eight miles. Even the more moderate estimates, founded upon measures, and at a stage of libration certainly not more favorable than during the occultations, would hasten the reappearance of a star which happened to reappear at the middle of the greatest depression by twelve to sixteen seconds. Of the thirty-one stars occulted at New York city, there are eleven which will reappear on that portion of the disk where the flattenings were seen, and which will have their reappearance more or less hastened from this cause. We may, therefore, hope, from the observations of this evening, to learn more exactly the form of the moon's surface at this important point than is now known.

HENRY M. PARKHURST.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3, 1876.

NEW YORK YACHT CLUB.

FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF THE YEAR—THE OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED.

The New York Yacht Club will hold its first general meeting of the year this evening, at its rooms, Madison avenue and Twenty-seventh street. The business set down to be transacted is of an important nature, and promises to produce considerable excitement. Besides the reports of committees that will be presented and the miscellaneous business that may come up during the evening, officers for the ensuing year will be elected. The result of the election is looked forward to with interest, as scarcely within the history of the club has there ever been such determined yet good natured rivalry between candidates and their supporters as is at present observed. Two tickets have for several days been industriously circulated among yacht owners and the claims of each candidate have been fully set forth. The tickets are as follows, and they are given as they were made public:—

For Commodore, William T. Garner; for Rear Commodore, J. J. Alexandre; for Secretary, Charles A. Minton; for Treasurer, Sheppard Homans; for Measurer, A. Cary Smith; for Regatta Committee, Gilbert L. Haight, Henry Steers and G. S. Winston, M. D.; for House Committee, Fletcher Westray, W. Holly Hudson, C. Alfred Grymes, N. D. White, W. H. Pendleton, Beverly Robinson, Jr., D. T. Worden; for Committee on Admissions, William H. Thomas, F. W. J. Hurst, A. S. Hatch, J. Kearney Warren, H. M. Morris.

The other is styled the "regular" ticket, and is—for Commodore, George L. Kingsland; for Vice Commodore, J. Nicholas Kane; for Secretary, William B. Bend; for Treasurer, Sheppard Homans; for Measurer, A. Cary Smith; for Fleet Surgeon, L. de Forest Woodruff, M. D.; for Regatta Committee, William Krebs, Henry Steers, G. S. Winston, M. D.; for House Committee, Fletcher Westray, N. D. White, George L. Jordan, W. Holly Hudson, C. Alfred Grymes, H. N. Alden, J. O. Proudfit; for Committee on Admissions, S. Nicholson Kane, A. S. Hatch, Philip Schuyler, H. M. Morris.

It will be noted that the "Garner" ticket has no candidate for Vice Commodore and the "Kingsland" ticket none for Rear Commodore. These nominations will be made to night, the places having been left open intentionally. It will also be observed that on the "Garner" ticket the candidate for Fleet Surgeon has also been omitted.

There are about sixty votes that can be cast, but it is not probable that more than forty-five will be polled this evening. The present bylaws require each vote to be personally deposited by the yacht owner, as the day of proxies is now passed. Among the proposed new members that will come up for election are Count Edmund Batthyany, Rear Commodore of the Royal Albert Yacht Club, owner of the fast cutter Kriemhilda, and Prince Maffeo Schiarra, of the Royal Italian Yacht Club, owner of the schooner Sappho. It is understood that during the coming season both of these foreign craft will visit American waters.

HANDBALL AND RACKET.

An interesting match, between Messrs. Cook, the former champion of the United States, and T. Norton, and Messrs. D. Millan and M. Landy, the best three in five, came off yesterday, at McQuade's court, and was witnessed by a large concourse of people. At the conclusion of the fourth game the match, owing to darkness, was postponed till Monday next.

To-day M. Landy and D. Madden play a match against D. McCarthy and Joseph Sullivan, the best three in five; the stakes being $50 a side.

The single-handed match between J. Nelson and D. Madden, played yesterday, at the Madison street court, resulted in favor of Nelson.

The match between the base ball players, Nelson and Anthon and Messrs. Cook and Laudy (the former the late champion handball player of the United States), excited considerable interest. It resulted in favor of the former.

To-day Messrs. Lenihan and Gleason play against Messrs. Barry and McGrath, the best two in three.

CURIOUS SUICIDE.

A PROMINENT JEWISH LADY HANGS HERSELF.

A painful case of suicide by hanging occurred yesterday morning in the family of a well-known and highly respectable Jewish merchant, living at No. 246 West Thirty-sixth street.

The unfortunate victim was the wife of the senior partner of the large clothing firm of Henry Sulzbacher & Co., doing business at No. 39 White street. At ten o'clock yesterday morning Mrs. Sulzbacher went into the kitchen and gave directions to the cook, Margaretta Dingman, about the dinner. Shortly afterward she began peeling apples, saying that she would assist in making the pudding. At a quarter before eleven she turned to the servant and directed her to go up stairs and make fires in all the rooms. The girl obeyed and was gone an hour. When she returned to the kitchen she saw her mistress hanging by the neck to the kitchen door, lifeless. The servant hastened to call neighbors, and in a few moments returned with Mrs. Mena Kauffman, of No. 242 the same street, who hastily cut down the body, which was still warm, but life was extinct. The rope by which the unfortunate woman had hanged herself was a piece of ordinary clothes line, which she had fastened to the door by passing it over the upper hinge and then closing the door. A small stool was found near the door, upon which she stood while committing the fatal deed. In a few moments after the discovery an officer of the Twentieth precinct was notified and he promptly telegraphed word to the Coroner's office. Word was also sent to the husband of the deceased. At five P. M. Coroner Croker and Deputy Coroner MacWhinnie arrived and at once empanelled a jury.

The following testimony was taken:—

Margaretta Dingman sworn:—Mrs Sulzbacher was my mistress; last saw her alive this forenoon at a quarter to eleven, when she was peeling apples in the kitchen, and appeared to be in usual health; she was a sufferer from want of sleep and headache, but she did not complain of any this morning; Mr. and Mrs. Sulzbacher have always lived happily together; I never heard deceased say that she would take her life; she did not drink. Witness then described how she found the body as above.

Mrs. Mena Kauffman testified to cutting down the body.

Mr. Henry Sulzbacher, husband of the deceased, testified:—I last saw my wife alive this morning at about half-past seven o'clock; I went out at that time to go to my business; for the past week or so my wife had complained of nervousness; about two weeks ago I was obliged to give up my business, as it did not pay; since then my wife has not been able to sleep, being apparently much worried about it; she complained of pain in the back of her head; we always lived peaceably together; she was a temperate woman; heard of her death about two P. M., first receiving a despatch that she was sick, but on arriving home I found her dead; she was thirty-five years old, and was born in Bavaria; she never received injury of any kind; she had been in this country seventeen years; we had three children.

The house in which the unfortunate lady resided is an elegant brown stone front and furnished in a very costly style.

AN ALLEGED ELOPEMENT.

The story published by a morning paper that the Earl of Dunraven had eloped with the daughter of Dr. Rowand, an eminent physician of Quebec, and was concealed in this city, has turned out to be utterly without foundation. It was stated that the Earl had made his conquest in an incredibly short space of time, as he had only arrived from England a few weeks ago, and he was described as a bachelor and quite a veteran in the art of captivating the fair sex. The truth of the matter is that the Earl has been stopping at the Brevoort House during the past week in company with Miss Sophie and Miss Minnie Rowand, the daughters of Dr. Rowand, of Quebec, who is his intimate friend. The party have been the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Murray Nairne, of West Thirty-fourth street, who gave an entertainment in their honor on last Monday night, at which some of the most prominent ladies and gentlemen of the city were present. On being called on by a reporter the Earl expressed his astonishment at the report, and said he had never read anything that contained so many falsehoods. Instead of being a bachelor he is married and has a family, who are in England at present, where he will soon rejoin them. He left Quebec some days ago and took charge of the two daughters of his friend Dr. Rowand. The Earl is somewhat indisposed and has been confined to his room for some days. On Tuesday evening he was the guest of Dr. Nairne at a farewell dinner previous to his departure for his home in Ireland, after which the whole party went to the Charity Ball.

FIRE IN GUTTENBERG, N. J.

At an early hour yesterday morning a fire broke out in the residence of Mr. John Nolton, on the Dalleytown road, at Guttenberg, N. J. The house, which was of wood and two stories in height, soon fell a prey to the flames. A considerable portion of the furniture was saved. The loss is reported to be $3,500.