THE SINGER WILL.

Extraordinary Disclosures at White Plains Yesterday.

A LATER TESTAMENT DISCOVERED.

Startling Admissions by the Executor.

The contest over the estate of Isaac M. Singer, deceased, is still being persistently carried on by Mrs. Mary Ann Foster, whose claim, as widow of the testator, was disallowed in the Surrogate Court of Westchester county last January. Within the past few days counsel for the claimant has made discoveries of an extraordinary character, embodying the existence of a later will than that of 1870, which was admitted to probate by Surrogate Coffin; also the fact that the English widow was married to Singer under an assumed name, which renders the ceremony void under the law of England, besides other ugly developments reflecting on the executor, his counsel and the Surrogate.

It will be remembered that the will of 1870 contained a clause which reads as follows:—"All the rest, residue and remainder of my estate of which I shall die seized or possessed, both real and personal, of every kind and nature whatsoever, and wheresoever situated, and whether now in my actual possession, or which I may hereafter purchase or acquire, I divide for the convenience of distribution, and to indicate the proportion of the same I give to each, into sixty equal parts or portions; and I give, devise and bequeath and direct my said executors to apportion and pay those several parts, or portions as follows." In the petition for the probate of this will (now on file in the Surrogate's office at White Plains) David Hawley, the sole surviving executor, makes oath that it is the last will and testament of the testator—such oath being taken before Surrogate Coffin. Mrs. Foster sought to intervene as the widow of Isaac M. Singer on the probate of this document, claiming that the legacies bequeathed to Isabella Eugenia Singer in lieu of dower and right of dower would be void in the event of the establishment of Mrs. Foster's claim to be the wife and widow of the testator. The Surrogate's decision was rendered January 10 against the validity of her claim and in favor of the English widow. An appeal to the Supreme Court was promptly taken from this decision, which was argued at the last General Term of that Court at Poughkeepsie, and is now awaiting decision. Several actions have been instituted in the Supreme Court by Mrs. Foster to enforce her dower right in the valuable real estate of which the testator died possessed, situated at Yonkers. One of the principal issues in these actions, and upon which the causes turn, is whether Mrs. Foster was in fact the wife of Singer. Since the case was closed before the Surrogate, Mr. Van Pelt, counsel for Mrs. Foster, has been indefatigable in probing the transactions in connection with the will and the estate in England to the core, and from which the following facts result:—

Mr. Hawley, the executor, who had been the attorney and agent for Singer in this country during the last few years of his life, was sent for in July last to go to England. The testator was then lying very low, with no prospect of recovery. From

CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

transpiring between Mr. George B. Woodruff, agent for the Singer Manufacturing Company in London, a Mr. Eastly, solicitor, at Torquay, England, and Mr. Hawley, the following extracts are taken. On July 12, 1875, Mr. Woodruff wrote to Mr. Hawley as follows:—

Important.—Now I come to a question that I have all along pressed so strongly as serious under the law in this country. It being shown that there was collusion when Mr. Singer and Madam (the English widow) were married, and by which she was married under an assumed name, in law they were not married at all, hence I am told it must be set out in the trust deeds and wills, the time and place when married and the name under which Madam was married, and possibly describing her further as the daughter of so and so.

On the same day (July 12, 1875), the solicitor wrote to Mr. Hawley as follows:—

I have had an interview with Mr. Woodruff this afternoon, and by his desire write you to-day:—(1) That the trust deed will only pass the property which the grantor, Mr. Singer, was possessed of at the time of executing it. (2) That it is quite open for Mr. Singer to make a will whereby he shall bequeath all his real and personal estate in England, upon trusts similar to those contained in the deed. (3) The effect of such a will will be, that assuming the deed to be valid and effectual, so far as regards the property which Mr. Singer was possessed of at the time he executed it, probate duty will be payable only on the personal property acquired since the execution of the trust deed, and which does not pass under it; and assuming the deed, for any reason, to be invalid, Mr. Singer's property will, nevertheless, pass in the direction contemplated by the deed, but probate duty will in that case be payable on the whole of his personal property. (4) The will should confirm any existing wills, so far as they relate to property other than real and personal property in England. I arranged with Mr. Woodruff before writing this to have my opinion confirmed or corrected by the conveyancer at the equity bar, but as he has left his chambers, and time presses, I write without waiting for his opinion. I will see him to-morrow, and if my opinion be not confirmed I will telegraph you.

Under the same date the same solicitor further wrote to Mr. Hawley:—

In conversation to-day Mr. Woodruff mentioned to me that there might be some question raised as to the present Mrs. Singer being the lawful wife of Mr. Singer, and consequently, also, as to the

LEGITIMACY OF HER CHILDREN

by him. In England a marriage in a false name, with the knowledge of both parties, would be valid or invalid, according as it might be celebrated by license or by publication of banns. In the latter case the marriage would be void. Assuming that there is any doubt upon the subject, it is very desirable so to describe Mrs. Singer and her children as that their identity cannot be questioned—as for instance, to describe Mrs. Singer as the daughter of such and such persons; as the person referred to in such and such deeds, and to describe the children in some particular way, having the same object in view, avoiding by all means describing them as a class by the generic name of children.

Under date of July 13, 1875, the same solicitor further wrote to Mr. Hawley:—

Referring to my letter to you of yesterday's date, I have had an interview with my conveyancer, who confirms my opinion upon all points. But it occurred to me that such opinion might be modified upon a perusal of the deed itself, as it may contain covenants to grant or assign, or licenses to seize after acquired estate, which might have some effect, though it is doubtful how far such provisions would affect the object with which the deed was made. I might have added at the end of third proposition contained in my letter, after the words "personal property," the words "in England."

Under date of July 16, 1875, the same solicitor further wrote to Mr. Hawley:—

If for any technical reason the parties are not, according to our law, husband and wife it may be that any settlement concerning property here would be set aside as being founded upon

AN IMMORAL CONSIDERATION,

namely, concubinage. A will identifying the individual parties to be benefited is, from this point of view, important.

In pursuance of the suggestions just given, and for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of a trust deed, executed in 1873, and preventing the property conveyed by the trust deed, if the same was set aside, and the subsequently acquired property—amounting to millions of dollars—from passing under the will of 1870, in which all the legatees therein named (and Mrs. Foster also on the establishment of her claim) would participate, the latter will was executed. It seems to have been a part of the programme of the managers of the estate to advance the interests of the English branch to the detriment of the legatees in this country, for the execution of the last will has been kept a profound secret until its existence was discovered by Mr. Van Pelt, after the decision of the Surrogate. Mr. Hawley, as executor, in his petition for the probate of the will of 1870, as being the last will, states that the said will relates to both real and personal estate, the value of which, in the opinion of the petitioner, would not exceed the sum of $9,000,000; and his inventory, filed with Surrogate Coffin, embraces assets in this country alone to the amount of $8,000,000. No mention whatever is made of any property in England. It now transpires that while Mr. Hawley was procuring the probate of the will of 1870, as being the last will made by the testator, his co-executor in the will of July last, one Dr. Pridham, in Torquay, was doing like service on the other side in reference to the last mentioned testamentary document.

In the action at present pending in the Supreme Court, and instituted to enforce Mrs. Foster's right of dower in the Yonkers property, Mr. Hawley was yesterday examined as a witness by Mr. Van Pelt, in Supreme Court, Chambers, at White Plains, before Justice Dykman.

The following is a copy of the testimony of Mr. Hawley, taken yesterday, as copied from the record:—

Q. What is your occupation? A. Lawyer.

Q. You were acquainted with Mr. Singer in his lifetime? A. Yes, sir.

Q. In what relation did you stand to him during the last few years of his life? A. I was his agent and attorney.

Q. Where did he reside the last few years of his life? A. At Paignton, in England.

Q. Did you draw a will for him in the month of July last, before his death? A. I can hardly say that I drew the will, but I may have drafted portions of it. I was consulted with regard to it.

Q. Was that will executed by Isaac M. Singer? A. I understood it was.

Q. Were you present at the time of its execution? A. I was present.

Q. Did you bring that will to this country with you when you returned? A. I did not.

Q. Did you bring a copy? A. I did bring a copy; it was an ordinary copy.

Q. Where is the copy? A. I have it at home.

Q. Are you an executor in that will? A. I was named as an executor.

Q. Who were the subscribing witnesses to it? A. Mr. Castaway was one and two nurses.

Q. What was the date of its execution? A. It was on the 14th day of July, 1875.

Q. Who was the other executor named in it? A. Dr. Pridham.

Q. Does this will of July 14, 1875, devise any property which would otherwise have passed under the will of 1870? A. We did not consider that it did.

Q. Who do you mean by we? A. Myself and Mr. Eastby, the solicitor at Paignton, in England.

Q. Have you a copy of the trust deed? A. I have a copy of it.

Q. Did you inform the Surrogate of Westchester county of the existence of this will of July 14, 1875, when you applied for the probate of the will of 1870? A. I told him that there was another will, relating entirely to property in England.

Q. Did you show him a copy of it? A. I don't think I showed him a copy.

Q. Did he ask to see it? A. I think not.

Q. Are you certain that he did not see and read the copy of the will of July 14, 1875? A. That would be my impression; he paid very little attention to it.

Q. Did he ask no further questions? A. I don't remember that he did.

Q. Did he not ask you to produce the copy, so that he could see for himself? A. I have no recollection of it.

Q. Who else did you show it to? A. Mr. O'Conor, Mr. Carter and Mr. Porter; these gentlemen were my counsel.

DAVID HAWLEY.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of May, 1876. J. O. PYNNAS, Justice Supreme Court.

It is apparent that the last will was to be suppressed, because whatever property it devised was taken out of the operation of the will of 1870, and the amount thereby exclusively given to the English widow and her children would amount to millions of dollars. The effect of the discoveries above stated may lead to the ultimate rejection of the claims of the English widow.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

England has had an epidemic of musical bees.

Ole Bull will likely give concerts in Paris next winter.

Marseilles has had "Ivan IV." done up in operatic form.

Mlle. de Belocca was at Gilmore's Garden last evening.

"Pique" has entered its sixth month, and its 200th night is near.

Bijou Heron will have a benefit at Booth's Theatre on the 1st of June.

The death of *Concordia* deprives London of one of its ablest musical journals.

Miss Sara Jewett has left the Fifth Avenue Theatre to join the Union Square company.

Bret Harte will have a new comedy brought out at the Union Square Theatre about August 21.

M. Louis Dachauer produces Gounod's oratorio, "Tobias," at St Ann's Church this evening.

"Julius Cæsar" will be played this week at Booth's Theatre. Saturday night will see its 150th representation.

Mr. P. S. Gilmore has created a marked sensation at the Centennial Exhibition by his military band concerts.

Mr. T. M. Hughes as the Merry Minstrel and Miss Eva West will be among the features at the Globe Theatre this week.

Signor Gayarre, the tenor, has disposed of the rival claims of Gye and Mapleson this season by starting for South America.

Mr. Harry Stanfield, a young American tenor, has been offered a flattering engagement for La Pergola, Florence, next season.

George Rignold has gone to California. Mrs. Rignold (Miss Marie Brabrook) sailed for England yesterday on the Germania.

A London critic says that Mlle. Varesi is physically unqualified for the position of prima donna, through insufficiency of vocal power.

"Humpty Dumpty" is still on the wall of the Olympic and shows no intention of falling from his elevated place in the popular esteem.

Mrs. Isabel Stone Hall, of Boston, a very talented singer, who has been studying in Europe for some time, will return to America next month.

The majority of the English composers are writing or bringing out symphonies and cantatas of welcome to the Prince of Wales after his Indian tour.

Mr. William Davidge has his benefit on Saturday night at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, when "The Serious Family" and "Pocahontas" will be repeated.

The charge for an orchestra seat on Nilsson nights at Her Majesty's Opera, London, is twenty-five shillings, about $7 in our currency. Yet people grumbled here at $4.

The manuscript of Senhor Gomez, the Brazilian composer, who is engaged on a work for the Centennial, by command of the Emperor, will be ready probably in June.

Lawrence Barrett will play Henry V. for the first time at McCullough's California Theatre, San Francisco, the night after Jarrett & Palmer's fast train reaches that city.

"Conscience" maintains its hold on the public favor, and will keep the stage till further notice. Miss Marie Wilkins, who does much for the comedy portions, will have a benefit on Friday evening.

A burlesque polka, by Offenbach, in which the orchestra hiss, sing, laugh and whistle, in addition to their playing, was the principal feature in the programme at Gilmore's Garden last night. This evening the price of admission will be reduced to fifty cents, and will continue so during the summer.

"Brass" will be produced at the Brooklyn Theatre this week, with Mr. George F. Rowe as Walton Stray, supported by Miss Rose Wood and a company composed of members of the Union Square and Park theatres. On the 29th of May Mr. Rowe will appear in Newark, taking "Brass" on a short tour, which will end in Providence on the 2d of June.

The London *Choir* speaks thus of Rubinstein's playing of Beethoven's Sonata, opus 53, at the Philharmonic concert in that city:—"Such a magnificent performance of this great bravura composition we have never heard; remarkable not merely for the power and energy in the delivery of the grander passages, but for the delicacy and finish in other parts, deep feeling in the *adagio* and balance and finish of style."

The bright and brilliant season at Wallack's Theatre will close on Saturday evening, and the last six nights of "How She Loves Him" are therefore announced. Mr. Wallack will take this charming comedy and his whole company to Brooklyn next week, and will be succeeded then at his own theatre by Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Florence, who will produce the "Mighty Dollar," with new scenery and an excellent cast."

At a *soirée musicale* given recently at the Salle Herz by M. Lancellotti, pianist of the Princess of the Asturias, Mlle. Adriani, a young American girl, was much applauded for the rendering of her part in the duo from "Don Juan" and the air from the "Marriage of Figaro." Mlle. Adriani was born in Wisconsin, but has studied in Italy and France. She has a sweet, strong voice, and gives promise of making her mark on the operatic stage at no distant day.

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" will be produced at the Park Theatre to-morrow night. The play has been revised, and Slavin's Georgia Colored Minstrels are engaged to give effect to the old-fashioned plantation scenes. Mrs. Howard, who created Topsy, will assume that singular and amusing character. Mr. Kunkel will play Uncle Tom and Mr. Howard St. Clair. Bijou Heron will represent Eva. Glessing's panorama of the Mississippi River will be exhibited. The prices of admission to the Park have been materially reduced.

Miss Fanny Davenport, who has developed brilliant powers in the last two years, will receive a benefit at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, on Wednesday afternoon. She will play Rosalind, in "As You Like It," a strong contrast to her somewhat sombre *rôle* in "Pique." Mr. Lawrence Barrett will play Orlando; Mr. E. L. Davenport, Jaques; Mr. Fisher, Adam; Mr. Harkins, the Duke; Mr. Davidge, Touchstone; and Miss Sydney Cowell, Audrey. This splendid cast will have the additional attraction of Mr. Castle's singing of the music.

Mr. Charles R. Thorne, Jr., will have a benefit on Thursday afternoon at the Union Square Theatre, when a performance of unusual attractions will be offered. "The Hunchback" will present this admirable actor in one of his most powerful performances and one very different in its nature from the parts he has played this season. Sir Thomas Clifford will give Mr. Thorne splendid opportunities for the display of his dramatic abilities. The cast includes all the leading members of the company, with Mr. Frederick Robinson as Master Walter, Stuart Robson, Burroughs, Morris, Montgomery, Vining Bowers, Mathews, Becks, Wilder and Quigley. An important event will be the appearance of Mrs. Chase, of Boston, as Julia. This lady, who is known to the public as Miss Ida Jeffreys, made a very excellent impression by the grace and refinement with which she interpreted a small *rôle* in "Forrest," and there has been a general desire to see her in some more important part—a wish which Mr. Thorne has gratified. Helen will be played by Miss Ida Vernon. Mr. Thorne will no doubt have an audience worthy of the exceptional merit of the performance and his own position on our stage.

MAURICE STRAKOSCH AND BELOCCA.

NEW YORK, May 16, 1876.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

I read with much amusement the interview your reporter had last Sunday with Mr. Maurice Strakosch in regard to the sudden termination of the very brief opera season. I will not venture to criticise the very plausible argument advanced by Mr. Strakosch as the cause of Mlle. Belocca's failure—viz., the inflammation of Mr. Tom Karl's liver. My object is not to call the public attention to Mr. Strakosch's enigmatical discourse, but to take exception to his very "disinterested" remarks about Mesdames Titiens and Trebelli-Bettini.

It was my good fortune to hear both these ladies together, during the last London season, in some of their renowned impersonations, and I must in justice say that these artists were then in the full possession of their unrivalled powers and drawing crowded houses. Whether they may possibly have deteriorated in six months to the extent Mr. Strakosch's inuendoes would infer I cannot say; but the fact that Her Majesty the Queen especially selected these artists to sing at the reception of the Prince of Wales on his return from India (Nilsson and Patti both being in town at the time) is sufficient answer. This statement is not prompted by any interest in Titiens or Trebelli, but simply that they should not suffer an injustice unchallenged.

Apologizing for encroaching on your valuable space I subscribe myself VERITAS.

OBITUARY.

JULIA MATHEWS.

A despatch was received in this city early yesterday morning from the West announcing the death of Miss Julia Mathews, the well known *opéra bouffe* singer and actress. Miss Mathews was a daughter of Frank Mathews and a niece of the celebrated comedian, Charles Mathews. She was born in London, England, and was early trained for the stage. Her first appearance was made on the boards in London, but she soon afterward went to Australia with her parents, making her début there in Sydney, where she proved a perfect success, and she soon became the colonial star in such *rôles* as Gertrude, in "The Little Treasure." After a while, however, she began a series of successful impersonations of leading *rôles* in opera comique, and when Offenbach's productions in *opéra bouffe* began to gain popularity she returned to England and during a period of ten years successfully impersonated such characters as La Grande Duchesse, in which she created quite a *furore*. She also played the principal character in "Barbe Bleue," "La Belle Helene," "Letty, the Basket Maker," Madame Lange in "La Fille de Madame Angot," and other pieces of a similar nature. Last August, through the agency of Mr. Samuel Colville, Miss Mathews was induced to visit this country, together with a full troupe, and play English versions of *opéra bouffe* at Wallack's Theatre. The engagement was not altogether a successful one, for the troupe did not appear to take with the New York public. While here she suffered considerably from rheumatism, which she attributed to the climate. Her medical adviser advised her to take repose and a change of scene, but she steadily refused to follow any such advice. Subsequently she played in Brooklyn and Philadelphia, the troupe breaking up in the latter city and the majority returning to England. After this a new company was organized and has played, with varied success, through different parts of the country. All in all Miss Mathews was a fairly good actress and sang with much vivacity and spirit. The news of her death will be received with regret by many of her admirers.

REV. GEORGE PECK, D. D.

A telegram from Scranton, Pa., under date of the 20th inst., reports as follows:—Rev. George Peck, D. D., the pioneer of Methodism in this region, and brother of Bishop Jesse Peck, died here to-day in his seventy-ninth year. Deceased became a preacher at the age of eighteen, and came to this vicinity to spread the Gospel when the site for Scranton City now stands was a complete wilderness. He was the author of many works, including a history of Wyoming Valley, and in 1848 was elected editor-in-chief of the *Christian Advocate*. For several years past he has held relations as a superannuated minister with the Wyoming Methodist Episcopal Conference.

FUNERAL OF MR. HENRY COIT.

The funeral of Mr. Henry Coit, said to have been the oldest of the New York merchants, as he commenced business here in 1812, took place yesterday from his late residence. The funeral services were performed at the Fifth avenue Presbyterian church, by Rev. Dr. John Hall. The remains were interred at the Marble Cemetery, in Second street, in the family vault.

DECORATION DAY.

The Executive Committee of the Memorial Committee appointed by the posts of the Grand Army of the Republic to manage the ceremonies of decorating the graves of the soldiers, "blue and gray," who fell during the late war, have established their headquarters at the rustic cottage on the north end of Union square. Officers will be in attendance there from nine A. M. until nine P. M. every day, except Sunday, to receive and give receipts for plants and flowers. Names of donors will be forwarded in the reports to be made to the Commander-in-Chief.

The usual services on the evening of Decoration Day, May 30, will be held in the Academy of Music, New York. The oration will be delivered by the Hon. Roscoe Conkling.

A circular has been sent to all the public schools asking for donations of flowers, and stating that memorial services will be held at the Academy of Music, the proceeds of which will be applied to the creation of a Home for Disabled Soldiers and Sailors.

The committee of arrangements of Post 79, Grand Army of the Republic, in charge of the decoration of Washington's monument, are now engaged in erecting the skeleton of what will be when completed a "floral temple of liberty." It is being erected around the monument, is to be forty feet high, supported by thirteen columns, to represent the thirteen States. The columns will be decorated with wreaths and flowers, and the whole structure will be surmounted by the cap of liberty. The estimated cost attending the erection and its preservation until the Fourth of July is estimated at $1,000. On the night of the 3d of July it will be elaborately decorated with the flags of all nations, and at night on the Fourth it will be illuminated. On the morning of the 30th inst. it will be finished and inaugurated. The ceremonies will consist of vocal and instrumental music and addresses by prominent citizens. Alderman Joseph C. Pinckney, of Post No. 79, is chairman of the Executive and Finance Committee, having the arrangements in charge, to whom contributions may be sent. The Commander of the Post, John H. Brady, No. 58 Third avenue, will also acknowledge all contributions.

The old soldiers are doing all they can by the use of their money and their time to help keep green the memory of those who gave their lives that the Republic might live. They want flowers and plants. The finance committee have issued a circular to the public, asking all the people to join with them personally or by material aid in contributing toward the founding of a Soldiers and Sailors' Home, where old and disabled soldiers and sailors can be properly cared for, and calling attention to the destitute condition of many of them at present.

Post James C. Rice, 29, Commander James S. Fraser, will join the Brooklyn Posts in decorating the grave of Admiral Farragut, in Woodlawn Cemetery, at daylight on the morning of the 30th.

The Veteran Corps, Sixty-ninth regiment, on Decoration Day, will decorate the graves of soldiers at Calvary Cemetery. They ask that friends of the buried soldiers will send the locations of graves, and all are requested to send flowers to the armory or to any of the officers of the command.

RUFUS HATCH'S WARNING.

GOULD'S DETERMINED OPPONENT CALLS ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE TO INVESTIGATE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY'S AFFAIRS.

The following is the copy of a letter sent yesterday by Mr. Rufus Hatch to the President of the Stock Exchange:—

NO. 17 BROAD STREET, New York, May 17, 1876.

TO THE PRESIDENT NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

DEAR SIR—I am informed that the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company have given notice to the New York Stock Exchange that they will, on the expiration of thirty days from the date of their notice, issue $5,000,000 of additional stock of the Atlantic and Pacific Company, thereby increasing the amount of their stock to $15,000,000. As a stockholder in this corporation, and as a member of the New York Stock Exchange, I respectfully protest against this additional issue of stock.

First—They have no legal right to make this issue without the consent of all the stockholders, which they have not obtained.

Second—Even if the company had the right to increase its capital, it has no right to sell the shares below par.

Third—The Atlantic and Pacific Company's stock is now selling nominally at about seventeen cents on the dollar, and few, if any, shares could be sold even at that price.

Fourth—The company is insolvent, as shown by the statement of the President, made on April 26, 1876.

Fifth—The company is controlled by Jay Gould, and a majority of the directors act entirely in accord with him.

Sixth—Jay Gould and his confederates, being largely short of Western Union Telegraph stock, have several times used this corporation to depress the price of Western Union stock, which is a solvent company, and in which the members of the Stock Exchange and their customers are largely interested, by reducing the tariff for telegraphing below the price at which it can be done and pay expenses, that they may profit largely by the decline in the price of Western Union stock.

A full investigation by the Law Committee of your Exchange will show that a conspiracy exists among Jay Gould and his confederates, who are officers and directors of the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company, and who have been and are largely short of Western Union stock, as above, to injure the business of the New York Stock Exchange and all investors in incorporate companies. I would respectfully suggest that such immediate action be taken as will protect the members of the Stock Exchange from this and similar frauds which have been heretofore so often perpetrated upon investors, customers and correspondents of members.

Yours respectfully, RUFUS HATCH.

HYDROPHOBIA IN NEWARK.

A WHOLE FAMILY AFFECTED—ONE MEMBER DIES.

A week ago a black Spitz dog, belonging to Mr. Louis Sorhagen, of No. 263 Norfolk street, Newark, returned home after an absence of three weeks. It snapped and bit in a strange manner. The family consisted of Mr. Sorhagen, his wife and three children, Charles, the eldest, undertook to pacify the dog and was slightly bitten in the hand. His oldest sister, Henrietta, was also bitten in the heel of the right foot, as was also Maggie the youngest child. Subsequently Mrs. Sorhagen, her husband, their horse and another dog were bitten. The Spitz was finally chained, but was found dead the next morning. Until last Thursday, however, no alarm was felt, but then the eldest girl, Henrietta, began to act strangely. Three doctors were called in, but she died early yesterday morning in great agony, the undoubted victim of hydrophobia. She was buried yesterday afternoon. The other members of the family are terribly alarmed and in mortal dread of sharing the same fate, but so far they have given no signs of being affected.

AN INFAMOUS SWINDLE.

THE STORY TOLD BY EIGHT POLISH IMMIGRANT FAMILIES—ACTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF EMIGRATION—DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT OF THE CUNARD AGENT.

Early yesterday morning eight Polish families, comprising twenty-nine persons, arrived at Castle Garden from Boston and asked the Commissioners of Emigration for food and shelter.

A representative of the HERALD spoke to the families referred to and gathered the following details of their stories:—"We came from Trzcinicy, district of Jasto, province of Galicia, Austria. We intended to emigrate to Rio Janeiro, Brazil, because of letters from our friends there telling us we could better our condition by going to that country. We were told that on our arrival at Hamburg we would receive free tickets to Brazil. So we went to Hamburg with our families. All the money we had was in Austrian florins. We had about 500 florins each. (The Austrian florin is equal to forty cents). At Hamburg we went to the office of the Cunard Steamship Company, Messrs. George Hirschmann & Co. The agent there told us to change our money into German money. We did so. Then he told us to put all the money we had down on his table and he would give us transportation to Rio Janeiro, Brazil. We put all of our money on his table without counting it. He swept all of it into a drawer and then gave us tickets to New York. We supposed that Rio Janeiro was just close to New York and we could walk there in a few hours. Instead of sending us direct from Hamburg to New York he sent us to Liverpool and thence by the Cunard steamship China to Boston. We landed in Boston Friday night and were put on the train for New York and arrived this morning. None of us have a cent. Hirschmann & Co. took every piece of money we had. None of us have had anything to eat for nearly two days."

Mr. Jackson, Secretary of the Emigration Commissioners, sent a messenger to the Austrian Consul to learn what he would do for the unfortunates. He replied:—"They were landed at Boston, Mass., and are properly under the charge of the Austrian Consul at that port. I prefer not to interfere with his business." Mr. Francklyn, the agent of the Cunard line, was also appealed to, but without avail.

The following letter was then sent to the Department of Public Charities and Correction:—

CASTLE GARDEN, New York, May 20, 1876.

GEORGE KELLOGG, Esq., Superintendent Out-door Poor:—

Eight Polish families, landed yesterday at Boston, per steamship China, came to New York by railroad and are now in Castle Garden. They are entirely destitute and unable to purchase food or lodgings. We noticed Mr. Franckelyn, the agent of the Cunard Line here, but he declined to aid them. As they landed in Boston we have to refer them to your department for aid, but before doing so suggest that they be furnished by your commission with return transportation to Boston by to-day's boat. Please inform me by bearer of your decision. Yours, respectfully,

H. J. JACKSON, Secretary.

In answer to the above the Commissioners of Charities and Correction sent to Mr. Jackson free passes for the party to Boston by the Stonington line steamer, on which they left last night. One of the party was made the bearer of a letter from the Commissioners of Emigration to the Austrian Consul at Boston, setting forth the facts of the case and asking him to investigate the case, and, if possible, obtain redress for the unfortunates. The party were furnished with a full supply of rations by the authorities at Castle Garden.

HENRY C. BOWEN'S RECORD.

Mr. Henry C. Bowen will be publicly excommunicated this morning from the membership of Plymouth church, the Moderator, Mr. Edgerton, making the announcement from the pulpit. Mr. Bowen was one of the first members of the church, the brief list of which, at the time of organization, is as follows:—

Messrs. John T. Howard, Henry C. Bowen, Lucy Maria Bowen, Jira Payne, Eliza Payne, Rachel Knight, Richard Hale, Julia Hale, Alpheus R. Turner, Louisa Turner, Benjamin Burgess, Mary Burgess, Charles Rowland, Maria Rowland, John Webb, Martha Webb, Eli C. Blake, John F. Morse, Rebecca Morse, Mary Cannon and David Griffin.

Of these only Mr. Howard, Mary Burgess, John Webb, Martha Webb, Mr. Blake and Mr. Morse remain. Charles Rowland was excommunicated in 1852. Mr. Bowen filled at different periods the positions of trustee, superintendent, deacon and member of the Examining Committee, and ten members of his family are now in good standing on the books of the church.

SHIPPING NEWS

OCEAN STEAMERS.

DATES OF DEPARTURES FROM NEW YORK FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE.

Steamer.	Sails.	Destination.	Office.
Bothnia	May 24	Liverpool	4 Bowling Green
Frisia	May 25	Hamburg	61 Broadway
Maas	May 25	Rotterdam	50 Broadway
City of Berlin	May 27	Liverpool	15 Broadway
The Queen	May 27	Liverpool	69 Broadway
Victoria	May 27	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green
Goethe	May 27	Hamburg	61 Broadway
Oder	May 27	Bremen	2 Bowling Green
Amerique	May 27	Havre	55 Broadway
Utopia	May 27	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green
Idaho	May 30	Liverpool	29 Broadway
Abyssinia	May 31	Liverpool	4 Bowling Green
State of Pennsylvania	June 1	Glasgow	72 Broadway
Suevia	June 1	Hamburg	61 Broadway
England	June 3	Liverpool	69 Broadway
Celtic	June 3	Liverpool	37 Broadway
Bolivia	June 3	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green
Main	June 3	Bremen	2 Bowling Green
St. Laurent	June 3	Havre	55 Broadway
Russia	June 7	Liverpool	4 Bowling Green
Gellert	June 8	Hamburg	61 Broadway
Rotterdam	June 8	Rotterdam	50 Broadway
Spain	June 10	Liverpool	69 Broadway
Adriatic	June 10	Liverpool	37 Broadway
City of Chester	June 10	Liverpool	15 Broadway
Alsatia	June 10	Glasgow	7 Bowling Green
Neckar	June 10	Bremen	2 Bowling Green
France	June 13	Havre	55 Broadway
Nevada	June 13	Liverpool	29 Broadway
State of Virginia	June 15	Glasgow	72 Broadway
Pommerania	June 15	Hamburg	61 Broadway
City of Richmond	June 17	Liverpool	15 Broadway
Italy	June 17	Liverpool	69 Broadway
Hammonia	June 22	Hamburg	61 Broadway
Britannia	June 24	Liverpool	37 Broadway

ALMANAC FOR NEW YORK—THIS DAY.

SUN AND MOON.			HIGH WATER.		
Sun rises	4 39		Gov. Island	eve	6 36
Sun sets	7 15		Sandy Hook	eve	5 51
Moon rises	morn	3 00	Hell Gate	eve	8 21

PORT OF NEW YORK, MAY 20, 1876.

ARRIVALS.

REPORTED BY THE HERALD STEAM YACHTS AND HERALD WHITESTONE TELEGRAPH LINE.

Steamer City of Berlin (Br), Kennedy, Liverpool May 11 and Queenstown 12th, with indse and 1,041 passengers to J G Dale & Co. May 13, lat 50 10, lon 28 30, exchanged night signals with White Star steamer Baltic, bound E.

Steamer Cleopatra, Bulkley, Charleston May 17, with mdse and passengers to J W Quintard & Co.

Steamer Albemarle, Gibbs, Lewes, Del, with mdse to the Old Dominion Steamship Co.

Steamer Harrisburg, Worth, Philadelphia, with coal to the Reading RR Co.

Bark Collector (Nor), Olsen, Liverpool, 54 day, in ballast, to C Tobias & Co. Is anchored at Sandy Hook for orders.

Bark Eliza G Milligan (of St John, NB), Mitchell, Liverpool, 53 days, in ballast, to Haney & Parker. Is anchored at Sandy Hook for orders.

Bark Unico (Ital), Schiaffino, Lynn 48 days, in ballast to order.

Bark Hirunde (Nor), Upland, Havre, 45 days, in ballast, to master. Is anchored at Sandy Hook for orders.

Bark Tjomo (Nor), Larsen, Bordeaux 38 days, in ballast to Louis Teten. Is anchored in Gravesend Bay for orders.

Bark Principe de Napoli (Ital), Smyrna Jan 10, with licorice root to order; vessel to Funch, Edye & Co. Passed Gibraltar April 15.

Brig Marena, Handy, Leghorn 64 days, with marble to order; vessel to Marcus Hunter & Co. Passed Gibraltar April 5.

Brig Excelsior, Mayor, of and from Bermuda 60 days, with produce to Leagerstt & Co. May 16, lat 35, lon 68, saw a vessel, apparently a bark, waterlogged and partly burned; had been but a short time in that condition; 18th, 160 miles SE of Sandy Hook, spoke bark Balearry (Br), from Iquique for New York.

Schr Kocheko, Jasper, Messina 64 days, with fruit to Baring Bros; vessel to F Talbott & Co. Passed Gibraltar April 5.

Schr Freddie C Ebbett (Br), Veal, Mayaguez 11 days, with sugar to Haney & Parker.

Schr Pacific (Br), Ewart, Guantanamo 15 days, with sugar to Brooks & Co; vessel to master.

Schr Annie L Palmer, Lewis, Baracoa 10 days, with fruit to T I Madge; vessel to I R Staples.

Schr Lavinia Bell, Aldridge, Baracoa 10 days, with fruit to Gomez & Pearsall; vessel to R J Wenberg.

Schr Flora Woodhouse, Lowery, Jacksonville 7 days, with lumber to Drew & Buckl; vessel to Warren Ray.

PASSED THROUGH HELL GATE.

BOUND SOUTH.

Steamer City of New Bedford, Fish, New Bedford for New York.

Steamer Galatea, Walden, Providence for New York.

Steamer Bolivar, Geer, New London and Norwich for New York.

Schr Mary C Arnold, Arnold, New Haven for New York.

Schr C P Shultis, Providence for New York.

Schr Romeo, Grinnell, Norwalk for New York.

Schr Sunbeam, Lynch, Hartford for New York.

Schr Helen F, Jones, Clinton, Ct, for New York.

Schr Favorite, Clark, New Haven for New York.

Schr Sterling, Ball, Bridgeport for New York.

Schr John Griffith, Griffith, Bridgeport for New York.

Schr W H Card, Card, Franklin, Me, for New York.

Schr Cleero, Jones, Bridgeport for New York.

Schr Jos E Potts, Phillips, Port Jefferson for New York.

Schr Idaho, Jameson, Fall River for New York.

Schr Samuel L Crocker, Thrasher, Taunton for New York.

Schr Brunette, Rich, Searsport, Me, for New York.

Schr Marietta Hand, Goldsmith, Providence for New York.

Schr Reading Rit No 50, Houton, Norwich for New York.

Schr Wm F Burden, Adams, Providence for New York.

Schr Jas M Hayes, Arnold, Providence for New York.

Schr Minnie Stitt, Jennings, Providence for New York.

Schr E A Stevens, Smith, New Haven for New York.

Schr Maggie Todd, Howard, Calais for New York.

Schr David Sprague, Sprague, Block Island for New York.

Schr Isle of Pines, Legg, Providence for New York.

Schr Horizon, Leet, Fall River for New York.

Schr John D Buckalew, Barker, Hartford for New York.

Schr Helen Augusta, Caswell, Portland, Ct, for New York.

Schr J L Curtis, Curtis, Providence for New York.

Schr James Lynch, Hartford for New York.

Schr Belle Seaman, Steelman, Hartford for New York.

Schr Garland, Lindsley, Branford for New York.

Schr Modesty, Nickerson, Plymouth for New York.

Schr Peerless, Smith, New Bedford for New York.

Schr Texas, Smith, New London for New York.

Schr Orion, Smith, New London for New York.

Schr Mary A Lovell, Hammond, Westerly for New York.

Schr North Star, Beckwith, Georges Banks for New York.

Schr President, Bradley, Mystic for New York.

Schr Venus, Pendleton, Boston for New York.

Schr Gen Sheridan, Foote, Portland, Ct, for New York.

Schr Elizabeth Dehart, Dehart, Wiscasset, Me, for New York.

Schr W P Phillips, Hawkins, Edgartown for Philadelphia.

Schr Silas Brainerd, Millard, Portland, Ct, for New York.

Schr D Kahn, Warren, Jamesport, LI, for New York.

Schr E Waterman, Hinckley, New Bedford for New York.

Schr Empire State, Beebe, Georges Banks for New York.

Schr Joseph Rogers, Rogers, Portland, Ct, for New York.

Schr Flyaway, Knox, Warren, RI, for New York.

Schr Robt Smith, Smith, Portland, Ct, for New York.

Schr Warren Gates, Smith, Millstone Point for New York.

Schr Telegraph, Hall, Thoma