RECORDER HACKETT.

How His Charge Affected the City Fathers.

COLONEL ROBERTS RAMPANT.

He and His Friends Find Themselves in the Minority.

The Aldermen were yesterday occupied during almost their entire session with a discussion of the attack made upon them by Recorder Hackett in his recent address to the Grand Jury as to the passage of ordinances giving permission to obstruct the streets and sidewalks. It was generally understood that the City Fathers would strike back at the Recorder in speech and resolution, so that the outside lobby filled up the vacant seats long before President Roberts called the Board to order. Among those who occupied seats in the chamber were Police Commissioners Nichols and Smith, ex-Register Jones, Commissioner Gilon, ex-Alderman Tuomey, ex-Alderman Simonson, Commissioner Howe and others.

THE FIRST SHELL.

The ball was opened with the introduction by Alderman Reilly of the following preamble and resolutions:—

Whereas it is desirable that all encroachments and obstructions upon the streets and sidewalks should be removed in order that the streets and sidewalks should be devoted exclusively to the purposes of public thoroughfare for which they were specifically dedicated and intended; and whereas it is provided by section 17 of the charter of 1873 that the Common Council shall have power to prevent encroachments on and obstructions of the streets, highways, roads and public places, not including parks, and to authorize and require the Commissioner of Public Works to remove the same and to make, continue and repeal such ordinances and resolutions as may be necessary to carry this power into effect; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Commissioner of Public Works be, and he is hereby requested and directed to report to this Board all encroachments on and obstructions of the streets and sidewalks now existing, whether authorized by any ordinance or resolution of the Common Council or not, including stoops, houses, areas, courtyards, bay windows, stands and all other encroachments or obstructions whatsoever, and that in making this report the said Commissioner of Public Works commence with the Fifth avenue, Broadway and Park avenue, in order that these most important streets and avenues may be the first released from encroachments and obstructions.

Resolved, That in view of the importance of relieving the streets and avenues from encroachments and obstructions the Commissioner of Public Works be requested to give the foregoing resolutions his immediate and personal attention, and that he shall report at the next meeting of this Board all the encroachments and obstructions he may by that time have ascertained to exist, in order that the Common Council may be enabled at the earliest possible opportunity to make or to continue in force such ordinances and resolutions as may be necessary to prevent the encroachments and obstructions which may be found to exist and to authorize the Commissioner of Public Works to remove the same.

Alderman REILLY supported his resolutions in a vigorous speech. He alluded to the recent charge of Recorder Hackett to the Grand Jury on the subject of encumbering the streets.

THE SITUATION.

Alderman SLEVIN contended that the Common Council had full power to regulate the streets and the traffic thereon. If the law in this matter had been properly construed by Recorder Hackett all the courtyards, stoops, areas and bay windows in the city should be removed. The Common Council, being a legislative body, could not be indicted.

Alderman WASHNER remarked that the city charter made it the duty of the Commissioner of Public Works to remove obstructions from the streets. If that gentleman had attended to his duty instead of interfering with the business of other people the present difficulties might not have arisen.

A motion to refer Alderman Reilly's resolution to the Committee on Streets was carried by a vote of 11 to 7.

RESOLUTION OFFERED.

The next act in the drama was a bitter attack by preamble, resolution and speech by President Roberts upon Recorder Hackett. Mr. ROBERTS called upon Alderman Pinckney to take the chair. He then introduced the following:—

Whereas various rumors of a painful character have lately been circulating in regard to the physical and mental condition of John K. Hackett, which, if true, would disqualify him for the proper discharge of the duties of a judicial officer, and require his temporary or permanent removal from the office of Recorder; and

Whereas, in corroboration of said rumors, he is reported in the newspapers as having addressed to the Grand Jury, on the 6th of this present month, the following language, and in the manner and temper as described by said newspapers:—

"When the Grand Jury came into Court Recorder Hackett arose and addressed them in animated terms substantially as follows:—

"I charged you last Monday in regard to the obstructions on public streets. It was then my impression that the Mayor had vetoed the action of the Board of Aldermen in reference to licensing booths, stands, &c., deeming it contrary to law. Since that time they have rioted in their power and decided the law and the action which I ventured to take. But, gentlemen of the Grand Jury, I am going to teach the Board of Aldermen a lesson (with much emphasis). I am going to test the question whether they can legally allow such obstructions to exist. I am going to lay before you the necessary evidence of a violation of the law, so that you may see how they overrule the charter of the city, and if you deem them guilty of a willful neglect in obeying its provisions, I will give them every day and every hour which the law will permit (loud applause, promptly suppressed by the officers);" and

Whereas such a charge from the Bench, so despotic in character, so contemptuous of constitutional rights of a legislative body, so untrue in its statement of fact, and so intemperate and extra judicial in its threats, shows very clearly that John K. Hackett must be laboring under mental infirmities of so serious a character as to demand prompt and thorough investigation, to the end that the laws may be enforced, justice properly administered and the judiciary respected; be it therefore

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Board of Aldermen to inquire into the mental and other qualifications of John K. Hackett for the position of recorder, and to ascertain if he is not incapable, for the reasons heretofore given, to properly discharge the duties which devolve upon the Recorder, and to report the result of their investigations to this Board.

POWERS OF THE BOARD.

President ROBERTS supported his resolution in a speech, of which the following were the three principal points:—

1. The right of the Board of Aldermen to grant permits for stands.

2. The alleged misstatement of facts by the Recorder to the Grand Jury; and,

3. That the Common Council, as a legislative body, is not amenable to criminal proceedings for the passage of laws within the scope of its duties and powers.

As to the Common Council, President Roberts said they have always exercised the right to license stands where it did not interfere with public travel or was not objected to by the adjoining premises. He quoted section 17 of the charter of 1873 in proof of this right. Mr. Roberts then attacked the character of Recorder Hackett, whom he named "the Cromwell, who threatens not only to disperse this Board, but to send us to prison between drinks." He concluded by saying:—"The real question at issue is, Has a judge the power to criminally indict and punish with fine or imprisonment a municipal legislature, the elected representatives of a free people, for the passage of laws within the scope of their duties and power?"

Alderman WASHNER said that the Recorder had been guilty of a breach of judicial decorum in using the extra judicial language attributed to him.

Alderman MORRIS hoped that the resolution would not be adopted, as he was of the opinion that the Board had no power to order such an investigation. He considered, too, that the Recorder had no power over the Board of Aldermen. It might as well be claimed that the Legislature could be indicted by a Grand Jury for passing an unconstitutional law. The question of lunacy was a very intricate one, and he did not think the Aldermen capable of determining whether or not the mind of Recorder Hackett was affected at the present time. The medical faculty were oftentimes very much at sea as to solving such a problem. "Ninety-nine per cent of the community," continued Alderman Morris, "would consider us asses if we passed such a resolution."

Another short speech was delivered by President Roberts in advocacy of his resolution and the necessity of its passage.

THE RESOLUTION LOST.

After some further remarks from Messrs. Washner and Reilly the resolution was put to a vote with the following result:—Yeas—Aldermen Roberts, Bennett, Foster, Guntzer, Hall, Kiernan, Phillips, Sauer and Sheils. Nays—Aldermen Gedney, Jacobus, Lewis, Morris, Perley, Pinckney, Reilly, Slevin, Ehrhardt and Washner. Aldermen Carroll, Biglin and Keenan were absent. Three Tammany members—Slevin, Washner and Lewis—voted against the passage of the resolution.

During the call of the roll Alderman Gedney explained his negative vote by stating that he did not consider the Board of Aldermen a proper place to initiate such an investigation.

Alderman Morris contended that the proper course rested with members of the Bar, who might apply to the Governor in the matter.

LAID OVER.

A motion was then made to reconsider the vote by which the resolution was lost. This motion was carried. The resolution was next laid over, so that it can be called up again at the next meeting of the Board.

MORE VETOES.

Mayor Ely sent in six vetoes of various resolutions passed at previous meetings of the Board authorizing the erection of stands in different parts of the city. These vetoes went over under the rule.

A parting shot was given by Alderman Reilly in the introduction of a resolution giving permission to Henry Busch to erect a coalbox in front of his place of business at No. 53 Rutgers street. Alderman Bennett also followed suit by moving that a certain butcher be permitted to erect a meat rack on his premises. Both resolutions were laid over for future consideration.

The Board soon after adjourned.

RECORDER HACKETT'S VIEWS.

A HERALD reporter called on Recorder Hackett yesterday afternoon to obtain his views on the action taken by the Aldermen. The Recorder was on the point of leaving his Court when accosted by the reporter, but courteously stopped to give his interlocutor a hearing. In reply to the reporter's inquiries, the Recorder said that he knew nothing of the action of the Aldermen, as he had been busily engaged in his Court all day, but that he did not care what action they had taken or might take. He was resolved to do his duty. The Recorder further said that he did not deem it becoming to express his views through the medium of an interview, but would do so in the proper way in his charge to the Grand Jury. If any one was desirous to hear what he had to say in reference to the Aldermen he could come to his court today, where he would say all he had to say about them.

LEGAL GRADUATES.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES OF THE LAW DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

The commencement exercises of the class of 1878 of the Law Department of the University of the City of New York attracted a very numerous and brilliant audience to the Academy of Music last evening. Chancellor Howard Crosby presided, and on the stage were John Taylor Johnston, General Franz Sigel and Park Commissioner Lane. After some introductory selections by Damrosch's orchestra one of the graduates, Frank Joseph Walsh, delivered an oration on "The Code Napoleon and the New York Revised Statutes," which he held up to public admiration as masterworks of jurisprudence. Mr. Frank Seaman Martin delivered the next oration on "Negotiability in Its Application to the Modern System of Credit." Mr. Martin was presented by one of his classmates with a gorgeous basket of flowers. The orchestra played the "Thousand and One Nights" waltz, by Strauss, after which Mr. William George Oppenheim spoke on the "Law of Necessaries with Reference to Married Women." Bonnets, feathers, laces and ribbons, he facetiously said, were excluded from the category of necessaries in an English divorce case by Lord Abinger. Mr. Oppenheim was also the recipient of a handsome bouquet, after which the band played Schubert's "Serenade." George William Horton presented his estimate in "The Chancellor in English History," followed by the band playing Keler Bela's "On the Beautiful Rhine." James Brooks Dill, A. B., of Yale College, spoke of the blessings of the law and the "Right to Defend the Wrong."

The committee read the report on the prizes and awarded the first prize of $250 to John Edward Swanstrom for an essay on "Negotiability: Its History and Relation to the Modern System of Credit." The second prize of $100, for the best oral examination, was awarded to Burton Thompson Beach, and the third prize of $100, for the best written examination, to J. K. Shipherd, A. M. The committee say in their report that the standard of this Senior class in equity, jurisprudence and real estate law was higher than that of any of its predecessors. The following named graduates then received diplomas from Chancellor Crosby:—

THE GRADUATES.

Wesleyan University.

Arnold, Emil. Beach (A. B.), Burton Thompson.
Ayers, Donald Fraser.

Yale College.

Clark, Fred. Ketchum. Heath, Henry.
Conover, John Livingston. Hennessy, John Richard.
Deane, Jr., Geo. Bartch. Herrman, Moses.
Dill (A. B.), Jas. Brooks. Horton, George William.
Elliott, George Frederick. Humason, Virgil Pettibone.
Eppley, Francis Marion. Huntting, Joseph Reed.
Ferguson, John Henry. Johnston, Albert T.
Forrest, Michael McLarty. Johnston (A. B.), Colles.

Princeton College.

Joseph, Herman. Logan, William James.
Kattenstroth, John Henry Martin, Frank Seaman.
Kohn, August. Martin (A. M.), Winnifred Robert.
Levy, Michael.
Lilliendahl, Henry Theo.

Oberlin College.

McCarty, George Dieter Phelan, John Joseph.
McLaughlin, Joseph A. Rhodes, Wm. Parsons.
McEachran, Dwight B. Ripton, Benj. Thomas.
Moses, Julian Edward. Hugo, Joseph Schleier.
Oppenheim, Wm. George. Shipherd (A. M.), Jacob R.
Perry, Edwin Newton.

Harvard University.

Steckler, Charles. Van Dyke, James Cole.
Steele, John Albert King. Wallace, George.
Steinhardt, Benjamin. Walsh, Frank Joseph.
Swanstrom, John Edward. Wensley, Robert Lyttle.
Titus, George Francis. Winslow (A. B.), Wm. R.

MASKED BURGLARS.

AN UNWELCOME NOCTURNAL VISIT TO THE RESIDENCE OF AN EAST NEW YORKER.

A daring case of robbery was reported to the police of East New York yesterday morning by a resident of that village. The victim of the outrage was Matthew Tostivan, who resides with his wife and family in a neat little house on Cypress avenue, near the Jamaica Plank Road, a sparsely built up locality. Mr. Tostivan and his wife retired about eleven o'clock on Monday evening last, and had been in bed about an hour and a half when Mrs. Tostivan was aroused from sleep by feeling a hand on her face. She was about to scream when a man addressed her in a subdued tone of voice and told her that if she moved or attempted to make any outcry he would blow her brains out. In order to impress upon her that this was not an idle threat, but that he was prepared to carry it into execution, the villain presented the muzzle of a pistol at her head. There was a light burning faintly in the room by which Mrs. Tostivan detected the presence of a second man, both ruffians having their features partially masked with black dominoes. The fellow who addressed her demanded the surrender of her money. She gave him her pocketbook, which contained $29. After examining the contents of the purse the thief said, "That is not all the money. You have got more here and we must have it." They then raised up the pillow from beneath the head of the terrified woman, and there they found $125 in greenbacks, and a gold watch and chain belonging to her. The robbers then took up the clothes of which Mr. Tostivan had divested himself before going to bed and leisurely examined the pockets, turning them inside out. In the pataloons pocket they secured $5, making their booty in cash $150 in all. The robber who took the watch and chain then approached Mrs. Tostivan and handed her back the watch, saying "she could have that, as it was of no use to them." The men then made good their exit, going by the rear door on the lower floor.

Mr. Tostivan awoke while the thieves were in the bedroom, but as it was useless to attempt to eject the armed robbers, who had threatened violence if interfered with, he remained quiet until they had departed. He is a boss mason and had been employed in the construction of the new House of the Good Shepherd. Last week he received in payment for his work a bill amounting to several hundred dollars. The police who are engaged in working up the case are of the opinion that the robbery was perpetrated by persons who knew of the fact that Mr. Tostivan had received this money, and were also aware that he kept it in his house. The description given of the burglars is a meagre one. Mr. Tostivan says that one of the men is about five feet eight inches in height and the other about five feet six inches. They both wore dark clothes and black slouch hats, which latter they kept down well over their faces, so as to conceal their features as much as possible.

TELEGRAPHIC FACILITIES.

A meeting of the members of the Produce Exchange was held yesterday in the rooms of the Board of Managers, No. 33 Pearl street, to consider the subject of telegraphy. Mr. W. A. Cole occupied the chair, and a committee, consisting of Messrs. Cole, Livermore and Dailey, reported that they had conferred with the officers of the Western Union Telegraph Company, and, in their opinion, it was advisable to consider the cost of a private line.

Mr. R. W. Daphley presented a statement as to the cost of a line between this city and Chicago, in which he claimed that five wires could be put up for $500,000. The price of messages to Chicago and intermediate points averaged fifty cents, and he thought that this could be reduced to thirty-five cents by having their own wires.

Mr. E. R. Livermore estimated the number of messages sent from the Produce Exchange daily at 1,200.

Mr. Samuel Dailey made a motion that a committee be appointed to look into the matter, and to find out what such a line would cost. This committee will be announced in a day or two.

Mr. Cole, the President of the Exchange, informed a HERALD reporter that there had been a great deal of talk lately among the members about this private telegraphic line, and he thought it best to call them together in order to learn their views. If any new line is started it will not be under the management of the Exchange, but will have to be run by private parties. They have no fault to find with the Western Union Company in regard to their charges. For a monopoly they have treated the members of the Exchange very fairly, not having raised the prices since the consolidation with the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company.

TELEGRAPH POLE OBSTRUCTIONS.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Alderman Bennett at yesterday's meeting of the Board and referred to the Committee on Streets:—

Whereas the Bowery, Pearl street and many other of the principal thoroughfares in this city are now and for some time past have been encumbered with unused telegraph poles laid lengthwise in the gutters on both sides of the streets, which are not only an impediment to the free uses of the carriage way, but interfere seriously with the cleaning of the streets and gutters by the Street Cleaning Bureau; be it therefore

Resolved, That the attention of the Commissioner of Public Works be and is hereby called to the encumbrances alluded to, and that he be and is hereby instructed to take such special measures as may be necessary to relieve the traffic in these streets from the annoyance caused by these unauthorized encumbrances.

AN OPERATOR'S TROUBLES.

Henry L. Martin, an operator in the Western Union Telegraph Company, at the corner of Third avenue and 124th street, yesterday caused the arrest of Washington Cooper, a clerk in the same office. The complainant alleges that on Sunday night he saw Cooper slyly and unnoticed, as he (Cooper) supposed, take from the money drawer a package containing $8 75. Detective Clark arraigned Cooper in the Harlem Police Court, and despite his earnest protestations of innocence Judge Wheeler committed him for trial at the Special Sessions. The prisoner was handsomely dressed, and lives on Alexander avenue, near 144th street.

TEUTONIA SAVINGS BANK.

MEETING OF EXCITED DEPOSITORS LAST NIGHT—A MASS MEETING TO BE HELD.

The third meeting of the depositors of the Teutonia Savings Bank, avenue A, was held last evening in Concordia Assembly Rooms, Mr. Kleinau acting as chairman. The meeting was quite full, and considerable spirit manifested.

A committee had been appointed at a previous meeting to see that a satisfactory person was appointed receiver of the collapsed institution. After a report from them considerable discussion ensued upon whether a new committee should be appointed or the old one retained.

A depositor wanted a new committee. The trustees had been telling a heap of lies about the affairs of the bank and he wanted the whole matter thoroughly sifted. He complained of the political aspect the case was taking.

Martin Lom said the workingmen were at fault in not having better safeguards thrown around savings banks. They should elect proper men to the Legislature. When a savings bank breaks the trustees should be held responsible.

Mr. Bass referred to the necessity of raising funds for the prosecution of their examination into the affairs of the bank. A lawyer would have to be employed, experts for searching the books engaged, and other expenses incurred which the committee could not feel it incumbent upon them to bear.

A proposition was made to tax each depositor a shilling on each $100 he had deposited. Some doubt was expressed as to the feasibility of collecting a tax of this kind from 4,000 individual depositors.

Mr. Rasenberger wanted the laws relating to savings banks amended. It rested with the workingmen to secure that end by sending proper men to Albany.

Mr. Ringelman averred that most of the trouble to the depositors arose from their adopting the recommendation of a certain church in making their deposits in the Teutonia Bank. (Applause.)

On Motion of Mr. Dauscha the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That the savings bank laws of this State should be so amended that no one man shall have the exclusive power of appointing a receiver without a hearing from a committee of depositors.

Mr. Tamson, of the committee, said that now a receiver had been appointed it was a useless waste of time and money for the depositors to contend any longer, as the receiver would do as he pleased, no matter what action they might take. He therefore moved that the meeting adjourn *sine die*.

This was negatived, and a motion to retain the old committee (Mr. Tamsen retiring) was carried. The committee was empowered to call a mass meeting on Sunday next, and the meeting adjourned.

IMPORTANT WILLS.

CONTEST IN THE SURROGATE'S COURT OVER THE WILL OF PATRICK DICKIE.

In the Surrogate's Court yesterday an adjourned hearing was held in the contested will case of Patrick Dickie. Mr. S. P. Nash and Mr. R. Robinson appeared for the executors, and Mr. Andrew Boardman and Mr. Louis L. Delafield for the contestants.

Mr. Boardman opened the case for the contestant, Mr. Edward Dickie, a son of the testator, who is not a beneficiary under the will, his portion being given to his son, E. P. Dickie, and one of the grounds of the contest was that the property was tied up under trust conditions. The testator, Patrick Dickie, was a native of Scotland, came early in life to America, and carried on a drug store in Broadway. He was very economical and industrious; his earnings he invested in real estate, and those investments proved very fortunate, he having leased property in Canal street at an almost nominal rent in 1867, and which brought him in an enormous rental. This property was afterward sold when the leases fell in, and Mr. Dickie failed to purchase it. This preyed upon his mind, and he became a changed man. He was despondent and feared that he should want money to buy bread with. This became so marked that in August, 1874, an application was made by his family for a commission in lunacy, and he was declared a lunatic. He was worth $400,000 in personal property, and as an evidence of the mental condition of the testator Mr. Boardman said that he placed this property in the hands of a stranger, a man whom he had only known for about six weeks, and it was subsequently taken from this person by process of law. It was shown in these proceedings that Mr. Dickie was not responsible for his actions by the testimony of the officers of several banks, who said they had known him to draw checks for $30,000 when he only wanted $30, and that they paid him one dollar bills instead of thousand dollar bills, and with those he was quite satisfied. He had made six or seven wills, all of which he had ordered to be destroyed. It was only necessary to cross him in his purposes for him to proceed to make another will. Mr. Boardman said that this question of competence the contestants now pressed, and in the summing up he proposed to show that the will was defective in consequence of its alienating powers.

Mrs. Helen D. Adams was then called and testified that she was the daughter of Patrick Dickie; that he was born in 1793, and left six children; that he retired from business at fifty years of age; she testified to the condition of her father's mind after the sale of the property, as described in the address of counsel; he suffered from a want of sleep and became so absent-minded that he forgot frequently that he had taken a meal and would ask for a meal after he had partaken of it and say that he had not had his breakfast or dinner, as the case might be.

The hearing was adjourned until this morning at eleven o'clock.

THE MONEYPENNY WILL.

In the Surrogate's Court yesterday a hearing was given in the contested will case of Mr. Robert Moneypenny. Mr. James Moneypenny, brother of the deceased, was called and said that he resided in Williamsburg; he was not one of the contestants in the case. About seven years ago a brother of the witness died, and Robert Moneypenny, the testator, was present at the funeral of his brother and was intoxicated at seven o'clock in the morning of that day, and was also intoxicated more or less during the day. Witness only saw deceased twice after that day. Two years previously Robert had made a will in which witness was made an executor under that will, and which was made between 1860 and 1865; he did not know who drew the will; Mr. William Moneypenny, a brother of the testator, said that the latter began his habits of intoxication about the year 1865, and he was generally intoxicated when witness saw him, the effect of which was that he increased in flesh and weighed about three hundred pounds; in judgment of witness he was not fit to carry on business at the time he gave it up and to the time of his death; did not hear of testator's marriage to the lady now claiming to be his wife until the contest over the will commenced. The further hearing of the case was adjourned until to day at three P. M.

CHARLES MORGAN'S WILL.

The petition for the probate of the will of Mr. Charles Morgan was presented yesterday at the Surrogate's office. The will itself will not be deposited in the Surrogate's office until the day set down for hearing, which is the 3d of June. It is a very brief document, leaving his wife sole executrix, and giving her power to dispose of his property as though he had died intestate. Mrs. Mary J. Morgan says in her petition that she is the sole executrix under the will of Charles Morgan, and she gives a list of the heirs and next of kin. They are the petitioner (Mrs. M. J. Morgan), Frances E. Quintard, wife of George W. Quintard; Marie Louise Whitney, wife of Charles A. Whitney, of New Orleans; Richard J. Morgan, only surviving son of the testator's son, Charles W. Morgan, who died before the testator; Laura Louisa Morgan and Montague Morgan (an infant of fourteen years) and William Henry (also an infant), all three children of Henry R. Morgan, another son of the testator, who also died before him; Henry Wilson Harris and Marie Louise Harris, both living with their mother, Emma Harris, at New Bedford, Mass., being children of Charles Morgan Harris, son of testator's daughter, Emily Ann, wife of J. G. Harris, both of whom died before the testator, and Henry Harris Wilson, son of Emily Frances Wilson, daughter of Emily Ann Harris.

DELAWARE AND HUDSON.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company was held yesterday to elect officers for the ensuing year, Mr. Joshua Coit, of New Haven, occupying the chair. The attendance was very large, proxies for more than one-half the stock voting. In answer to questions put to him by the shareholders Mr. Thomas Dickson, the president, stated that, although the price of coal was low, there was an advance of $1 on the price of last year; the net gains of the railroads of the company for the quarter ending the 31st of March were $95,000; mining had been decreased 35,000 tons and sales of coal 70,000 tons, as compared with last year; the sales expected for the year amount to 2,024,000 tons; the interest paying debt of the company has increased $275,000 in the last eighteen months. The present price of coal shows an increase, and there is a prospect of still further advances.

The following ticket was unanimously elected:—Board of Managers—Abiel A. Low, Robert Lenox Kennedy, James M. Halstead, Legrand B. Cannon, George Cabot Ward, James Roosevelt, James R. Taylor, Thomas Dickson, John Jacob Astor, Thomas Cornell, Levi P. Morton, J. Pierpont Morgan, Robert S. Hone.

President—Thomas Dickson, Scranton, Pa.

Assistant President—Robert M. Olyphant, New York city.

General Manager—Coe F. Young, Honesdale, Pa.

Treasurer—James G. Hartt, New York city.

Secretary—George L. Haight, New York city.

PETROLEUM EXCHANGE.

The annual election of officers and directors of the Petroleum Exchange was held yesterday at No. 84 Beaver street. The following gentlemen were elected:—President, William Jay Ives; First Vice President, H. C. Onlen; Second Vice President, C. Roudebush; Treasurer, Henry M. Curtis; Secretary, Samuel F. Strong. Directors—H. C. Onlen, C. Roudebush, F. A. Barsily, Livingston Roe, Nicholas Mohlen, G. H. Lincoln, E. B. Woodward, H. M. Curtis.

DREW THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

COMMENCEMENT WEEK—MEETING OF TRUSTEES—ALUMNI ANNIVERSARY.

The commencement exercises at the Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J., are at their height. The meeting of the trustees was held yesterday afternoon. In the evening the alumni anniversary was celebrated at the Methodist Episcopal Church, near the Seminary, with appropriate exercises, and afterward the members of the alumni society and their friends enjoyed the annual dinner in the college building, at which many toasts laudatory of the seminary and all connected with it were given and responded to. To-day, at nine o'clock, the annual love feast will take place, and examinations will be held from eleven A. M. to five P. M. At two o'clock the business meeting of the alumni will be held. The regular commencement exercises will begin to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

At the meeting of the trustees Bishop Simpson, president of the Board, occupied the chair. According to the report of the treasurer $50,000 had been added to the endowment fund during the year, making the total amount now about $170,000. The expenditures were about $18,000. A deficiency of $3,747 in the current expenses was promptly met by the trustees. The number of students was reported to be at the maximum, all the rooms in the college being filled. The number of graduates this year will be thirty-three. An election was held for those members of the Board of Trustees whose terms will first expire and they were all unanimously re-elected, after which the meeting adjourned.

At the alumni anniversary Mr. D. B. F. Randolph, president of the society, conducted the services. They were opened with the hymn, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," after which Dr. S. M. Vernon led in prayer. Miss Anna King, of Morristown, next sang Gounod's "Ave Marie." Mr. Randolph then in a few remarks introduced the Rev. Henry Graham, of the Troy Conference, the orator of the evening. That gentleman delivered an address on "The Bible Compared with Other Books."

Rev. S. W. Gehrett, of the Philadelphia Conference, read the historical essay of the evening, relating the progress of the society during the year.

The church was well filled, a great many lady friends of the incipient ministers being present, besides a sprinkling of village beauties.

After the benediction the alumni and their friends proceeded to the college building, where the annual dinner was served. The toast "Drew Theological Seminary" was responded to by Dr. J. F. Hurst, president of the institution. He referred to the rapid progress made during the year in adding to the endowment fund, which now reaches $170,000. He said the alumni had always taken great interest in the stability and progress of the Seminary, although they were scattered all over the world. The present week closed the first decade of its history of which none of its friends need be ashamed.

"The Trustees" was the next toast, responded to by the Rev. C. H. Fowler, D. D. Mr. H. E. Warner, of the Senior class, answered for "The Graduates," while Mr. Joseph Reed, of Trenton, responded for "The Alumni."

REFORMED EPISCOPALIANS.

Late on Monday night the Reformed Episcopalian Council adjourned *sine die*. Previous to this the subject of electing bishops was, after discussion, laid over till the next council. A committee from the English branch of the Church, asking to be allowed to form a general synod there similar to the one here and to be given authority to revise the Book of Common Prayer, was received, and, after an eloquent advocacy by General S. L. Woodford, the following resolutions were adopted:—

Resolved, That the Reformed Episcopal congregations in the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland are hereby authorized to form a General Synod there, to be elected upon a basis similar to that of the General Council, and that the said General Synod be and is hereby empowered to frame and revise the Book of Common Prayer for use in such congregations as shall be under its jurisprudence, provided that the Protestant and evangelical principles of this Church as set forth in the Declaration of Principles be maintained therein and retained as found amended.

Resolved, that three commissioners be appointed by this Council to confer with three commissioners from said General Synod, to prepare and report such changes in the offices and organic law of the Church as may be necessary to secure to the congregations in each country their own more immediate self-government.

The following Commissioners were appointed:—Bishop Samuel Fallows, General Stewart L. Woodford, of New York, and Herbert B. Turner, of Brooklyn.

MISSIONARY MEETING.

The fourth anniversary of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America was held yesterday afternoon in the chapel of the Collegiate Church, on Fifth avenue and Forty-eighth street, Rev. Dr. Ormiston presiding. The secretary's report was read and gave an encouraging account of the progress of the missionary work in India. The treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of $2 999 31; receipts, including interest, $16,988 76; disbursements, $4,390 08; in treasury for mission in Japan, $4,905 22. The receipts showed an increase of $2,487 over last year. The following Board of Directors was elected for the coming year:—

Mrs. Jonathan Sturges, Mrs. P. D. Van Cleef, Mrs. E. P. Terhune, Mrs. G. L. Vanderbilt, Mrs. J. P. Cumming, Mrs. Peter Donald, Mrs. T. W. Chambers, Mrs. David Cole, Mrs. T. B. Romeyn, Mrs. E. Westervelt, Mrs. William Ormiston, Mrs. Isaac L. Kip, Mrs. S. B. Stewart, Mrs. A. L. Cushing, Mrs. G. D. Hulst, Mrs. W. J. R. Taylor, Mrs. W. R. Duryee, Mrs. James Bowne, Mrs. George S. Bishop, Mrs. Henry V. Voorhees, Mrs. Charles S. Hegeman, Mrs. Joseph Scudder, Mrs. A. A. Raven, Mrs. Henry Camden, Mrs. A. B. Duryee, Mrs. Eleanor Bergen, Mrs. J. H. Polhemus, Mrs. Margaret M. Leverich, Mrs. Mary A. Campbell and Mrs. E. K. Hallock.

Mrs. Jonathan Sturges was elected president. After the business of the meeting had been transacted the Rev. Dr. Chamberlain, of India, delivered an address, in which he showed the condition of the women in that country. Dr. Bishop, of Orange, delivered an address after Dr. Chamberlain.

NEW YORK ORPHAN ASYLUM.

The seventy-second anniversary of the New York Orphan Asylum Society was held yesterday afternoon in the chapel of that institution, Seventy-third street and the Boulevard. After an opening hymn by the children Rev. Fredrick Courtney read the annual report, which showed that during the year forty-three orphans were admitted, thirty boys and thirteen girls discharged, two boys and one girl died and one boy ran away. The present number of inmates is 121 boys and seventy-one girls. Only two deaths occurred and no serious illness visited the asylum during the year. The expenditures were $42,091 29 and the receipts $41,729 72. Cash on hand, April 1, $1,077 89.

COFFEE PARTY.

The annual coffee party for the benefit of the Hahnemann Hospital will take place at the Twenty-second Regiment Armory, on Fourteenth street, near Sixth avenue, to-morrow afternoon and evening. Music, dancing, flowers and refreshments are the inducements held out to tempt the nickle sixpence. In the afternoon an entertainment for children will be given. The officers are:—Mrs. Jonathan Sturges, Honorary President; Mrs. Gordon W. Burnham, President; Mrs. William Hageman, Treasurer; Mrs. E. G. Bartlett, Secretary. Executive Committee—Mrs. W. H. Neilson, Mrs. W. H. White, Mrs. Samuel Swan, Mrs. C. F. Chickering, Mrs. Josiah M. Fiske, Mrs. Salem H. Wales, Mrs. E. Guernsey, Mrs. Clark Bell and Mrs. Bainbridge Clark.

JERSEY CITY CHARITY HOSPITAL.

The proposition to close the Charity Hospital at the foot of Washington street, in Jersey City, was the subject of discussion at the hospital yesterday afternoon between the Boards of Police Commissioners, Finance and Public Works. The appropriation had been cut down to such a ridiculously low figure for the ensuing year that very little would be left for the support of patients after paying the attendants, city physicians and Health Inspector. After a thorough inspection of the institution the members of the different boards were fully convinced not only of the need of an additional appropriation, but also of the necessity of a change of location as soon as the present building can be sold. President Mullins, of the Board of Finance, intends to call the attention of the Board to the question at the next meeting, and if that Board does not meet the exigency the Police Commissioners will close the hospital.

THOMAS GORMAN FREE.

Thomas Gorman, of No. 232 East Seventy-seventh street, was shot by Officer Bernard Murtha, of the Twenty-eighth precinct, about six o'clock on the evening of May 3, in front of Gorman's residence. Gorman was taken to the Roosevelt Street Hospital in an ambulance, and remained there under treatment until last Sunday night, when it was charged that his friends had planned to secure his escape, as Officer Murtha had already preferred a complaint against him. Late Sunday night Gorman was removed to the Fifty-ninth street station house, and was arraigned before Judge Kilbreth on Monday morning on a charge of assault and battery on Officer Murtha. Judge Kilbreth gave the case a very careful examination, and was most particular in inquiring how much provocation the officer had to cause him to use his pistol. He not only elicited the fact that some of Gorman's companions boasted that he could not arrest him, thereby arousing the officer's professional pride, but also that he (the officer) had fired three shots promiscuously amid a crowd of people sitting on their stoops at that time in the evening. The magistrate in giving his decision said that he considered that the officer had grossly exceeded his duty, and that, considering that Gorman was guilty of nothing more than disorderly conduct, there did not seem to be any necessity of using a pistol. Furthermore, said His Honor, "If, under the circumstances, as I understand them from these witnesses, you had killed this man, officer, you would in all probability be indicted for murder. However, as this charge of assault on the officer is still not proven one way or another, I will hold the prisoner for trial at the lower court."

Counsel for prisoner then begged of the magistrate to make the bail as light as possible, as his client was still suffering from his wound and ought not even at present to be out of his bed.

"I will fix the bail at $100," said the Judge, which was immediately furnished by a widow lady residing contiguous to Gorman's residence.

MERCANTILE LIBRARY.

ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS LAST EVENING—THE READING ROOM CHANGES AND THE PROPOSED NEW BUILDING.

The annual meeting of the members of the Mercantile Library Association was held in the upstairs salesroom of the Messrs. Leavitt, in Clinton Hall, last evening. The attendance was not large. William H. Guion, Jr., president, occupied the chair, and read the fifty-seventh annual report. The report was received and adopted despite an attempt to have it thrown open to discussion, a motion to that effect being decided out of order. The report of the Treasurer was also read and accepted, as were those of the President and Treasurer of the Clinton Hall Association. In his annual report Mr. Wilson G. Hunt, president of the latter association, announces his resignation, to date from to-day.

An amendment to the constitution, by which clerks may be admitted as members for three months instead of six, which has heretofore been the minimum term of membership, was moved by Mr. Wetmore and adopted. In Mr. Guion's report the action of the association in altering the library and reading room was defended and explained at some length, and this report, as before stated, was adopted in spite of an effort to throw the matter open to discussion. In the course of a few remarks by Rev. Dr. Bellows, who addressed the meeting at the invitation of the President, exception was taken to this summary quieting of protest against the action of the officers of the institution. Dr. Bellows said that the gentleman who had entered his protest had reason and good sense on his side in wishing to throw the report open to discussion. The management of all institutions, he continued, will bear watching, and there is danger when an annual meeting is so slimly attended by active members that the management will fall into the control of a few persons, whose government may be conducted on a narrow rule of conduct. Free investigation and free comment should not only be permitted but encouraged. Dr. Bellows thought that the room now occupied by the Messrs. Leavitt should be added to the present space of the library, even though some sacrifice would have to be made. He hoped that when a new building was erected it would not be so costly a one as to burden the institution with a heavy debt. Mr. H. N. Camp was the next speaker, and he urged, in behalf of the Clinton Hall Association, the great necessity of erecting a spacious iron fireproof library building at an early day. The present edifice, with all its contents, might be destroyed by fire at any time. The fund is already $73,500, and it will soon be so largely increased as to make the erection of the necessary building possible without the probability of running into debt. Mr. Benjamin H. Field said there need be no delicacy about appealing to the merchants of the city again for assistance. He had never known the future to look so bright since he had been in business. Mr. M. C. D. Borden also spoke, and Mr. E. H. Jenny entertained the meeting with reminiscences of the library and its course of lectures years ago.

A RESOLUTION OF CENSURE.

The following resolution, "based on the deportment of the managers of the institution for several years past, particularly with regard to the arrangements of the reading room," was then introduced by Mr. Foshay:—

Whereas it is the sense of the voting members of the association that the Board of Directors has shown marked disregard and even contemptuous disrespect of the members of the association, generally for a few years past, and especially during this last year, in destroying the comfort and advantages of the reading room; therefore,

Resolved, That the said Board deserves the severe censure of this association.

The resolution was condemned by one gentleman as insulting to the Board, and not being seconded, was not considered, despite the earnest protest of its originator, who appealed to the meeting, which supported the ruling of the Chair. Another gentleman then moved that the thanks of the association be tendered to the Board of Directors for the earnest, careful