

AFFAIRS OF THE DISTRICT.

Remission of Interest on Assessments for Opening Sixteenth Street.

The Attorney Holds the Commissioners Cannot Change a Decree of Congress—Estimates of Board of Charities—Vice in Poolrooms.

At the instance of Commissioner Ross, the question of the remission of interest on certain special assessments against lots 27 and 28, finally continued July 25, 1901, was finally decided by the subdivision of Washington Heights, was referred to the Attorney for the District for his opinion. Yesterday the opinion was submitted. It appears that the property was assessed for the widening of Columbia Road and Sixteenth Street. It also appears that Mrs. Mary L. May, the owner of the property, called at the office of the collector last July and offered to pay the bills, but was not allowed to do so, because the bills had not been made out. The Attorney's opinion reviews the verdict, award, and assessment of the jury, and the proceedings of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and says:

"On September 30, 1891, the assessment bills against the above mentioned parcels of land were served on the owner, who expressed her willingness to pay the same, but objects to the charge of interest from July 9, 1891, inasmuch as she was prepared to pay in July, but could not do so because the bills were not ready."

"The provision that these assessments shall be payable with interest at the rate of 4 per centum per annum from the date of confirmation until paid, is a provision which is found in the several acts of Congress of June, 1890, directing street condemnations."

"The provision in the acts of March, 1891, on the subject of assessments for benefits was that they were to be collected as special improvement taxes have been collected since February 20, 1871, and shall be payable in equal (annual) installments, with interest at the rate of 4 per centum per annum until paid."

"Special improvement taxes in the District are collected under the provisions of the appropriation act, approved August 7, 1891, which provided that interest should be charged at the rate of 8 per centum per annum from the date of service of notice on all amounts which shall remain unpaid at the expiration of sixty days after the service of notice of such an assessment."

"While as a matter of law, there is no necessity for a further notice of assessment imposed in a court proceeding upon the property owners cited into court, yet it is quite proper that such a provision respecting interest in the acts of June, 1891, is at once impracticable and unjust. These assessments made by the court, and yet there is, and should be, no authority to collect, or any of its officers to receive payment."

"Furthermore the order finally confirming the verdict, award, and assessment, is subject to appeal within twenty days, and in point of fact appeals were taken in several of the condemnation cases, so that it is not only impracticable, but impossible for the court to pay an assessment immediately upon the final confirmation of the award; as a consequence there is and would be, a delay in the payment of the interest upon the assessment. The practical situation is one that should be remedied, and can only come through further legislation by Congress."

"The Commissioners are not at liberty to disregard an unequivocal act of Congress, however much they may disapprove of it, and hence they are not at liberty to them that its provisions were impracticably imposed."

"I have the honor, therefore, to suggest that you recommend to Congress that the provision respecting the charge of interest on all the street extension condemnations cases be changed, so that interest will be chargeable only from and after sixty days, or some longer time, after the final confirmation of the awards in such cases; and that there be refunded to the property owners who have paid interest in excess of what is provided in the acts of Congress for such period."

Lieutenant Byrnes, of the Second Police Precinct, submitted a report to the Superintendent of Police some weeks ago relating to a complaint made by a barber shop conducted by John A. Hyder at 1523 Seventh Street, and another pool room at 1523 Seventh Street conducted by Albert Hinton. Lieutenant Byrnes reported that these places were a nuisance and a source of disorder and that they invited boys and young men in numbers to the detriment of the good order of the neighborhood."

The cases were reported upon by the Assessor and about that time additional facts were brought to the attention of the Commissioners through papers presented by Mason R. Richardson, giving evidence of the good character of the men engaged in the business and that steps had been taken to eliminate the principal objections that Lieutenant Byrnes had urged."

The matter was again referred to Lieutenant Byrnes, and he reported the result of a personal interview with the proprietor of the pool room and the barber shop and stated that he would do away with the barber shop and would conduct a legitimate business. The lieutenant thought if the complaint should be made the ends of good order would be subserved."

In transmitting the papers to the Commissioners Major Sylvester added the following: "The complaint is being made to make some concessions in getting rid of the barber shop and that Hinton, the proprietor of the pool room, is out of business. There is no question that poolrooms have been the breeding place for a great many vicious and worthless among the growing boys of the community, and I am opposed to them on general principle. There is no connection with well-regulated billiard parlors, hotels, or clubs where boys under eighteen years of age would be prevented from participating in the games."

"If such places are to be maintained, and there is a law which provides for a license therefor, it seems to me that they should be licensed on business streets, pervasion of the police, and not in residential neighborhoods. I am in favor of an assessor to the residents, resorts for gambling, and leading places for the man or woman."

In passing upon the matter Commissioner Ross, who has direct supervision over the Police Department, expressed his opinion that Mr. Hyder should be given a trial under the assurance he has made, and he moves that such report be communicated to Lieutenant Byrnes. This the Board has approved."

The Commissioners yesterday resumed the case of the petition of S. M. Jones, agent for Rebecca Maddox, for the discharge of the tax for 1901 against lots 28 and 29, block 2, Clidchester. The case was acted upon by the Commissioners several days ago, when it was decided to accept the principal of the collection of taxes and interest. Yesterday the following report was submitted on the case by the Assistant Assessor:

"After consideration of my former report on this case, the collection of taxes and interest was remitted, and in view of the Attorney's opinion upon similar cases, it would appear that the doctrine of the innocent purchaser would apply. The facts are that a loan was made on the faith of a certificate, and a deed of trust was given as security, which operates as a transfer of the property to the lender, to be held by said trustee until the debt is satisfied and conveyance of the fee title is made to the borrower."

"It is of the opinion that this case comes within the provisions of the act of July 13, 1892, relating to tax sales and taxes, and it is therefore recommended that the collection and recovery of the tax mentioned be barred as to a purchaser subsequent to the issue of the tax certificate dated June 26, 1892."

This report the Commissioners have adopted. Frequent complaints have reached the Commissioners of the noise made by the steel tanks used in the collection of garbage. These complaints began to come

In soon after the apparatus was placed in use. For some time little attention was paid to them, but soon there was such a volume of protests that the authorities set about for means to avoid the noise. It was finally decided by the company under contract to remove the garbage that a device containing a rubber buffer could be placed on the tanks, so as to stop the noise complained of. The device was perfected by the contractor, and a few weeks ago 5,000 of them were ordered to fit out the tanks of the company. For some time the tanks were worked riveting the "anti-rattlers" on the tanks, and within a short time they will have fitted all of the company's tanks with them."

Some days ago William T. Mahoney, watchman in the Fire Department, applied for leave to retire on a pension of \$50 per month. The application went through the regular course and Mahoney was appointed by the Board of Fire Surgeons. Yesterday Chief Dutton forwarded the papers to the Commissioners with the following report:

"Watchman Mahoney was appointed a private in this department November 22, 1878, and was reduced to the position of watchman March 1, 1899. He was injured in the line of duty on more than one occasion, and is now reported by the Board of Surgeons to be unfit for further duty. The records of the department show that Mahoney has been found guilty of violating the rules governing members on five different occasions. It is true that in each instance he was punished for his misconduct, but it is not sufficient, in the department to be conducive to the maintenance of discipline to starve a man who has done his duty. The maximum amount allowed by law, \$50 a month, and it is, therefore, respectfully recommended that Watchman Mahoney be retired on a pension of \$40 a month, the retirement to take effect October 31, 1901. Commissioner Mahoney has approved the recommendation and has forwarded the papers to his associates."

W. Clarence Duval, of 225 F Street northwest, has entered protest against the proposed extension of the alley in square 162. Mr. Duval states that the alley in question upon Tennessee Avenue northeast, and is important to the seven substantial brick houses on Tennessee Avenue. He declares that the shutting up of the alley, as he expects, would work a hardship to the property mentioned.

The question of maintaining this alley has been before the Commissioners in one form or another for the last two years. The alley in question is not a public alley, and petitions and correspondence heretofore have been in the line of requests that the alley be opened as a public alley. This the Commissioners have declined to do, and have recommended that the alley be kept private. The Commissioner has approved the recommendation and has forwarded the papers to his associates."

James J. Lampton recently requested the Commissioners to take steps to have trees planted on Mintwood Place, between Eighteenth and Nineteenth Streets northwest. The ground for the request is that the locality has been much improved of late by the erection of new houses, and that to keep pace with other parts of the District shade trees should be growing there.

An investigation was made of the locality by the Superintendent of Parks and the Commissioner of Public Works. A report was submitted to the Surface Division. Captain Newcomer, in forwarding the report, stated that the applicant should be informed that the wood place at present is only 46 feet wide, and that it is not possible to plant trees there unless the building line and the road are widened to the width of the applicant's proposed alley.

The Commissioner has approved the report of Mr. Duval's letter and will take no action. James J. Lampton recently requested the Commissioners to take steps to have trees planted on Mintwood Place, between Eighteenth and Nineteenth Streets northwest. The ground for the request is that the locality has been much improved of late by the erection of new houses, and that to keep pace with other parts of the District shade trees should be growing there.

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PIANO SPECIALS.

Here is an opportunity to SECURE A BARGAIN that you will probably never have again. We name a few only. CHICKERING Upright Piano; magnificent instrument; been rented out, but is as good as the day it was made. \$350. HALETT & DAVIS Upright Piano; used only a short time. \$250. MARSHALL & WENDELL Upright Piano; a little shorn, but in excellent condition. \$250. PEASE Upright Piano; taken from a renting stock. \$200. OTHERS too numerous to mention. These prices are CASH, and no exchange.

SQUARE PIANOS.

Which we have taken as part payment on new instruments. CHICKERING, STEINWAY, and different makes, at prices from \$25 upwards, on TERMS TO SUIT.

ORGANS.

At all prices, on easy monthly payments. We will be pleased to have you call and see the goods, and talk the matter over. PIANOS TUNED, REPAIRED, MOVED, PACKED AND SHIPPED. Music and Musical Instruments of All Kinds. Sole Agents for the VICTOR TALKING MACHINE AND BERLINER GRAMOPHONE. The most satisfactory automatic instrument of the kind ever invented. Awarded the GOLD MEDAL at the Pan-American Exposition.

John F. Ellis & Co., 937 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. CHICKERING PIANO ROOMS.

TELEPHONE MAIN 1111.

PROGRESSIVE EUCHRE PARTY.

Much Interest Manifested in Union Veterans' Benefit. Judging from the number of tickets which have been sold, and the numerous prizes donated for the progressive euchre party to be given at National Rifles Army, Tuesday evening next, it is evident that the party will be a successful success from every point of view. The euchre party is given by the Union Veterans' Union, for the benefit of the general relief fund, a virtual charity entertainment, and those in charge feel as they do at present indications that it will be one of the most successful euchres that has been given this season. Those who attend will find every convenience and comfort awaiting them, committees having been appointed some time ago to prepare for the event and to lead every possible aid toward making it a success.

The list of prizes to be given the successful players is long and varied, and includes many articles of high value, ornamental as well as useful. The list includes watches, musical instruments, articles of gold and silver for the table and toilet, and in fact, goods representing almost every branch of the retail trade. It is the intention of the committee to try their skill against the "so-called" luck of the storage euchre player at a progressive party.

SUNDAY REVIVAL MEETING. People's Mission Inaugurate Services at the Bijou Tonight. This evening at 7:30 o'clock the People's Mission will inaugurate, in the Bijou Theatre, a series of winter Sunday evening revival meetings.

The Rev. Small, ex-chaplain of the United States Volunteers, the well-known Southern evangelist, will preach at this first service. Special music for the occasion has been provided. Mr. Small has been delivering addresses during the week at the mission and the crowds that gather to hear his sermons exceed the capacity of the rooms. The inauguration of the service of the Bijou meeting will be a grand affair.

The Commissioners yesterday authorized the following items of public work through the Engineer Department: That catch basin be constructed at the southeast corner of Twenty-third and N Streets northwest, at an estimated cost of \$6, chargeable to the current appropriation for main and pipe sewers. That catch basin at the northeast corner of Fourteenth and T Streets northwest be constructed at an estimated cost of \$20, chargeable to the current appropriation for main and pipe sewers.

That the time for the completion of contract No. 2201 with the H. Allen grading Illinois Avenue is extended thirty days without penalty. That the west, between Sixteenth Street and a point 200 feet east thereof, be resurfaced at an estimated cost of \$12, chargeable to the current appropriation for repairs to streets, avenues, and alleys.

That the east, between Sixteenth Street and a point 200 yards of H. Collins street at 25 cents per cubic yard be accepted. That the water main between One-half and First Streets southwest, at an estimated cost of \$20, be accepted.

E. J. Taylor, of 1207 Koonske Street northwest, has written to the Commissioners, commending the action of Andrew J. Walter, of Engine Company No. 11, in putting out a fire at his residence recently. Mr. Taylor commends the publication of the account of the fire in an evening paper, which gave to the policeman who reported the fire the credit of extinguishing it, and to the fireman who put it out. Mr. Taylor shows that it was one of the firemen of company No. 11 who put it out.

The Commissioners yesterday ordered C. J. F. Peirce, who was temporarily transferred from Inspector in the Water Department at \$90 to Inspector in the Engine Department at \$1 per day, August 15, 1901, to resume his former position.

John B. Brady, Inspector of Buildings, has recommended, and the Commissioners have approved the same, that the proposal of Pavarini & Greer for the construction of the new fire truck at Hook House F, of the Fire Department, be accepted.

FUNERAL OF A. W. BINGHAM. Pallbearers Selected From Fellow Postoffice Clerks. Funeral services over the remains of Albert W. Bingham, one of the oldest officials of the Postoffice Department, and a well-known and respected citizen of this city, were held from his late home in the Franklin Place, Fourteenth Street northwest, yesterday afternoon, commencing at 2 o'clock. The burial was in the Rock Creek Cemetery. The pallbearers, chosen from among his fellow-employees in the Postoffice, were: George D. Scott, William M. Mooney, Charles W. Colcher, Thomas Thompson, George W. Smith, and Alex. Gray.

River Steamers in Collision. COLLISION, N. Y., Oct. 12.—Near New Hamburg, on the Hudson, the heavy fog, the steamer Dean Richmond, bound south, and the Mary Powell, en route from Newburg to Albany on an excursion trip, came in collision. There was some alarm felt by passengers on both boats, but so far as can be learned here the damage to either boat was slight and both were able to proceed. The steamer Saratoga was delayed by the fog and landed her passengers here.

"Insured Shoes." For Boys and Girls, 95c; for Women, \$1.95. Both styles are INSURED to give satisfaction. You can't fall to be pleased with them. 922 to 928 Seventh Street and 706 K Street.

Monday Brings You These. The opportunities offered to Monday shoppers may not be here again in just the same way. Each day has its store news, ever changing as the pulse of popular demand gives inspiration to the store's doings. Every item is fresh, up-to-date, timely, and every price is a fleeting chance that you may just as well take advantage of. Read on for good news.

Charming Millinery at Moderate Prices. At \$4.48 We have combined the utmost grace and style it is possible to work into a ready trimmed hat at a moderate price. Nothing is stinted in the trimming—best materials are used—latest style ideas are carried out, and the result is a line of ready-to-wear hats of which we are proud. No Hats compare with them at less than \$6 to \$8.

Ready-to-wear Hats. Ready-to-wear Hats are the crowning feature of our popular Millinery Department. Both stiff and soft effects are shown in high and low trimmings to suit the face. Many of these are exclusive with us, and the product of our own workrooms. No store is better equipped to meet your ideas in ready-to-wear Millinery. If you have an eye to economy you will find ready-trimmed styles here that compare favorably with hats that cost twice as much elsewhere. Our prices are astonishingly low. Hats for which others charge \$3 to \$6 are here at \$1.50 to \$3.

Domestics for Monday. 100 pieces of Heavy Unbleached Canton Flannel; good weight; heavy fleece; a splendid value for Monday—yard—75c. 65x90 Lockwood Sheets, full size for 3 bed; hand-torn and ironed; deep hem and extra good—20c value at—25c. 200 pieces of the newest Parisian Waist Plaquette in a variety of patterns of stripes, Polka Dots, and figures; a large assortment of the regular 1 1/2 size; grade four—yard—95c. 500 pieces of Outing Cloth in stripes and checks; heavy weight; suitable for shirts and children's wear; for Monday—yard—65c. 65x90 Lockwood Sheets, full size for 3 bed; hand-torn and ironed; deep hem and extra good—20c value at—25c. 200 pieces of the newest Parisian Waist Plaquette in a variety of patterns of stripes, Polka Dots, and figures; a large assortment of the regular 1 1/2 size; grade four—yard—95c.

Lace Curtains. The best chances you have had to buy this season. Upholstery Department, Third Floor. 200 pairs of Nottingham Lace Curtains, 3 1/2 yards long and full width; a good quality pattern; choose from Monday at the astonishing price of—50c. 250 pairs of Nottingham Lace Curtains, 3 1/2 and 3 3/4 yards long; heavy worked patterns; \$1.25 grade; for a pair—98c. 100 pairs of genuine imported Irish point and real Tangle Lace Curtains, 3 1/2 yards long; special grade for—\$3.69. 200 pairs of English and American Nottingham Lace Curtains, 3 1/2 yards long, 54 to 60 inches wide, in a range of patterns that are exact counterparts of Brussels set, tambour, Irish point, etc. Arabesque patterns, 3 1/2 yards long, 54 to 60 inches wide, in a range of patterns that are exact counterparts of Brussels set, tambour, and Irish point, and Brussels net—\$1.69. 250 pairs of Nottingham Lace Curtains, 3 1/2 and 3 3/4 yards long; heavy worked patterns; \$1.25 grade; for a pair—98c.

Dress Trimmings. The Notion Department makes special efforts on your behalf for Monday. Along with the Dress Goods, these Trimmings will be in demand, and Monday's prices are economically lowered. Best F. P. White—8c. 50c. and 40c. large bones—box—25c. 100c. 5-yard piece—25c. Mohair Braids—5c. New girl, silver, and enamel Dress—7c. New Velvet and Silk Trimming Buttons, 8c. 34-yard pieces of Black and Colored Bouteche—19c. Braids—3c. Colored Stiffening—3c. length—3c. Sc. Smith Best—2c. Needles—2c. 50c. and 40c. large bones—box—25c. 100c. 5-yard piece—25c. Mohair Braids—5c. New girl, silver, and enamel Dress—7c. New Velvet and Silk Trimming Buttons, 8c. 34-yard pieces of Black and Colored Bouteche—19c. Braids—3c. Colored Stiffening—3c. length—3c. Sc. Smith Best—2c. Needles—2c.

GOLD FOUND ON A FARM. Residents of Enon, Ohio, Interested in the Discovery. SPRINGFIELD, Oct. 12.—There is great local interest in the gold find at Enon, this county. The interest is intensified by the report of the assayer, which showed the yellow metal in the Brownstone to assay at the rate of \$50,000 per ton. The ore was found on the farm of Charles Wilkerson, a prominent Moorehead township farmer. Mr. Wilkerson bought it but a short time ago. He at once employed men to put it in good shape generally. Among the number was Sam Long, an old-time Western gold miner. One of the pieces of stone found was assayed with such a remarkable result that David Simon, a jeweler who did the work, found \$14.25 worth of the precious metal in a piece the size of a man's fist.

Just Received. Another small invoice of Diamonds, which we have mounted up in rings. One assortment consists of Solid Gold Ring set with a full-cut brilliant diamond. Worth \$6, for \$3.50. Callisher The Jeweler 917 Penna. Ave. N.W.



Mme. Yale's HAIR TONIC. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: It affords me great pleasure to call the attention of the public to Mme. Yale's Excelsior Hair Tonic, which is the first and only remedy known to chemistry which positively turns grey hair back to its original color without dye. It has gone on record that Mme. Yale's wonderful woman chemist—has made this most valuable of all chemical discoveries. Mme. Yale personally endorses its action and gives the public her solemn guarantee that it has been tested in every conceivable way and has proved itself to be the ONLY Hair Specific. IT STOPS HAIR FALLING IMMEDIATELY and creates a luxuriant growth. It contains no injurious ingredients. Physicians and chemists invite you to analyze it. It is not sticky or soft, youthful, fluffy, and keeps it in curl. For gentlemen, it removes dandruff, and little grey, streaked grey, entirely grey, and with bald heads, it is especially recommended. MANUFACTURED ONLY BY MADAME M. YALE, 189 Michigan Boulevard, Chicago. SPECIAL PRICE on Madame Yale's Hair Tonic 79c. S. KANN, SONS & CO.

777 BREAKS UP STUBBORN COLDS. As the Cold numbs your fingers and toes, so taking Cold numbs your vital organs, causing weak heart action, difficult respiration and torpid liver. A few doses of "777" restores the checked circulation, sends the blood coursing through the veins, restoring every organ to its normal condition, and the Cold is "broken up" and passes off of necessity. "777" is a small vial of pleasant pellets that just fits the vest pocket. At all druggists 25 cents, or mailed on receipt of price. DOCTORS' BOOK MAILED FREE. Humphreys' Homeopathic Medicine Co., corner William and John Streets, New York.