# RELIEF FOR THE POOR.

#### THE TYRANNY OF LANDLORDS. -----

What the Landlord Thinks of it-Why not Associate and Build ?-- Who are our Landlords ?

To the Editor of the New-York Daily Times : "Avaricious," " hard-hearted," "villainous," "cruel," "tyrannical," "overreaching," are the epithets too frequently bestowed upon that unfortunate class of our citizens known as landlords to escape notice. At a meeting recently held in the Park, the following resolution was adopted :

"Resolved, That poor families living in the City, who are unable to pay their rents during hard times, shall not be turned out of their homes by avaricious landlords or their agents, and also that a Committee be appointed to carry the above into effect."

A stranger in our land would naturally infer, from the universal tirade against landlords, that they were a portion of our community at enmity with all others. Is it so? Are they not to be found in all professions-lawyers, ministers, physicians, mechanics and laboring-men? Are not the taxes paid by them the main support of our City Government? Are they all wealthy? Not so-many a landlord may be found in this City whose property is mortgaged for all or nearly all its value-many a widow and orphan are dependent on their rents for their support; and are they not as justly entitled to their income as the mechanic is to a payment for his labor? We are frequently informed that nearly all the earnings of the poor man are required to pay the grinding landlord. This is not so. The poorer classes of our community agree to pay liberally, and that is all they do perform. Some pay, it is true, but the majority change their residence monthly. Store and house rents, we will acknowledge, have been exorbitantly high in our vicinity for the past three years-but what has caused the high rates? Have not the mechanics who have erected the buildings demanded and received enormous wages? Has not all building material been high ? Landlords have certainly been the source from which the house mechanic has obtained his increased wages. It will be universally conceded that houses must be built, and as a consequence there must be landlords, unless all can own their domicils, which would indeed be an advantage; but that is, from the organization of society, out of the question. Admitting, then, that there must be that tyrant, the landlord, why should he not demand as much rent as he can obtain, and insist on its payment? The mechanic will not labor for a dollar per day, if he can get more-the merchant disposes of his goods to the highest bidder-all professions seek to make all they can, honestly. Why should not the landlord? It is contended that exorbitant rents ruin the tenants-the premises become vacant-and the owner, not content with a reasonable rent, re ceives nothing. So be it. If the landlord manages injudiciously, he suffers the consequences, as he should. We object to promulgating the idea, now so generally entertained, that the demands of a landlord are more unjust than that of the merchant for his wares, the Editor for his paper, the lawyer or physician for his fee, or the mechanic for his wages We have been induced to make these remarks, from reading the resolution referred to above, as having been adopted at a recent meeting of the working men. Would it not be far better for the Committee appointed to carry that resolution into effect-and by so doing, set the laws at defianceto devise some more honorable means to relieve their wants? Let the carpenter, mason, plumber, and other house mechanics, associate together and erect houses for their own occupation, to free themselves from those tyrants, the landlords. To this proposition, it will be said, that men destitute of means cannot do so if they desired it. But it is practicable, as we will endeavor to show. Vacant lots for improvement can now be purchased at reasonable prices, with a small cash loan from the owner to aid in building-he securing himself for his land and cash advances by a mortgage on the prop erty conveyed. Dealers in building materialsnow dull of sale-will gladly furnish them on a long credit, securing the ultimate payment by a second mortgage. All this might be accomplished by a proper organization of house mechanics, and it would certainly be far better for them than to remain idle, as they would thus save themselves from eject\_ ment by avaricious landlords from premises they now occupy. Our wealthy citizens would far better contribute to an association formed to help themselves, than to support them in idleness. Other employment than building houses might be found if proper means were adopted by our City authorities, or by a united concert of our citizens,-such as building sewers, repairing wharves and public buildings, regulating streets, &c. There is work enough to be done in this City to afford employment for thousands of our mechanics, and it would certainly be far more satisfactory to the laboring man to be enabled to earn his bread than receive it as a charitable donation. Let the wheels once more be set in motion and we shall have less complaints of hard times, and the working man will not be urged on by demagogues to resist our laws as a means of re-POOR LANDLORDS. lieving their distress.

funds to say whether City Bonds could not raise the cash even in these hard times; and the interest on the bonds is met by the interest on the capital loaned to the property holder, or paid to the

In this way the City will lose nothing-the property holder will lose nothing, and the poor may gain employment.

There may be objections to this scheme,-but to what scheme may there not be? Let the good it has be balanced against any minor objections. This should generally be our rule in choosing. CHARITY.

### Sub-Letting Houses and Ejecting Tenants. To the Editor of the New-York Daily Times :

In your paper of the 29th ult. appears an article upon "House-renting by Tenants," by your correspondent "P. M. G."

His reflections are upon the system of sub-letting and ejecting upon three days' notice; and he advises the adoption of the mode followed in New-Orleans, in which city one month's grace is given. The statute of the State of New-York has abolished "distress for rent." All legislation upon the subject has been in favor of the tenant. Payment of rent is a matter of no greater obligation than is that for any commodity. Three days are deemed reasonable time wherein to elect to pay or to move. The advantage is in favor of the tenant, as he can gain time and his rent free for three days.

The system of sub-letting doubtless involves many hardships. The middle man frequently grows rich from his profits.

But does the tenant buy from the retail grocer or dry goods dealer at the same prices for which they respectively buy from the wholesale merchant? Experience teaches the capitalist that though the rent of tenement property appears at first blush to be large in proportion to the outlay, the wear and tear depreciates the property so much that the investment nets little over legal interest. Leases made May 1, 1854, prior to the financial change in affairs, generally provide a rent beyond the present relative value of property. But these contracts were made by the parties thereto without knowledge by either, of rise or fall. The associations now being formed by tenants, by which they conspire against the demands of the landlord, are as well injudicious as subversive to public policy.

# New-Pork Daily Times, Friday, Ianuary 5, 1855.

New-Pork Paily Simcs, Friday, January 5, 1855.

# NEW-YORK CITY.

English Folicy in America-Lecture by Dr. McElheran.

A lecture on "English Policy and the Anglo-Orange and Black Garrison in America " was delivered last Wednesday evening, in the Stuyvesant Institute, by Dr. MCELHERAN. The audience was excessively large, and exhibited its approbation of the lecturer's sentiments by repeated bursts of Celtic enthusiasm. The learned lecturer had acquired, a year or two ago, much celebrity in English literary and scientific circles by his ability in the field of Ethnological research, and by a slang-whanging controversy with the London Times on the question as to the relative social and intellectual superiority of the Anglo-Saxon and Celtic races-a controversy in which his friends claimed for him, and the public generally seemed disposed to concede, that he had beaten the "Thunderer" at its own weapons. His lecture last night was devoted to an exposition of what he conceived to be fully up to \$40,000. the workings of English policy in the effort to destroy Republicanism in America. He contended that the guiding motive of the oligarchy that controls the English Government and directs English diplomacy, was a principle made up of hatred to Republicanism and of a selfish and paganish expediency-that their policy was to keep the other civilized nations in an endless broil by exciting religious bigotry and setting race against race-that in the United States the instruments by which they were endeavoring to bring about the destruction of the Constitution were the Abolitionists and the Know-Nothings-that they were laboring to surround this country with a web of English colonies The Consolidated Stage Company in Court. and hostile nationalities; and that the moment England ceased to derive profit from her com-

W. BALLARD was tendered the nomination for President. Of course there will be the usual excitement on election day. The opposition ticket has not yet been nominated, but will probably be headed by Mr. GEORGE C. WOOD. To-night Hon. GEORGE P. MARSH will deliver an address at Clin ton Hall, on Turkey and the Eastern Question.

Mr. Leggett and the Empire City Bank. We suffered the contradiction by Mr. THOMAS J SLOAN of our report of this affair in the TIMES of Tuesday, to pass to the public yesterday without comment, with its offensive epithet of false, in order that our reporter might make further inquiry in regard to the circumstances communicated to him in the first place. We are now assured that LEG GETT's liabilities, in one shape or another, to the broken bank of which he was a Director, even exceed the sum stated in our report, and that he has involved his principal surety to a very large amount -the figures repeated to our reporter yesterday are

#### Launch.

A ship of about 1,000 tons burden, full build, called the New-Orleans, was launched from the shipyard of WILLIAM H. WEBB, foot of Sixth-street, East River, yesterday morning. The New Orleans is owned by Messrs. STANTON & THOMPSON, of this City, and will be engaged in the New-Orleans freighting trade. She is to be commanded by Capt JOHN L. RICH, late of the ship Toulon, under whose supervision she has been built.

A suit was brought in the Marine Court yesterday, before Judge PHILLIPS, by the Consolidated

#### Important Decisions in Equity. UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT .-- JAN. 3. Before Judge Bette.

INJUNCTION-RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE COLLECTOR-PARTIES-FALSE PRETENCES-ALIENS.

Jean C. O. Raleau vs. Pierre L. Bernard, Eugene Terray and Heman J. Redfield .- The complainant, a native and subject of the Kingdom of France, files a bil and prays an injunction against the defendants, and also that the Collector be decreed to act as a Receiver, or for the appointment of one for the safe keeping of the property which is the subject of the suit.

Bernard, one of the defendants, is alleged in the bill to also an alien. Terray it is charged is a citizen of the United States, and Redfield is United States Collecter of this Port and is proceeded against in that capacity.

The two first named defendants appear and oppose the Arthur Bassett. motions upon voluminous depositions. For the Collector it is objected that he is not amenable to the action in this mode of proceeding-his acts, as charged, being purely official, and within the plain scope of his authority. And it is insisted that the suit cannot be maintained against Bernard and Terray because they are both aliens. The averment of the bill as to the citizenship of Terray cannot be countervailed in this mode. The fact of his alienage should have been pleaded, particularly as he is resident in the United States, and transacting business there, so as to raise the presumption that he is citizen. An issue upon the fact would obtain a judicial decision in a way to entitle either party to an appeal, and the Court, where the matter is not indisputably clear, will not attempt to dispose of that point upon affidavits, and on the hearing of an interlocutory motion. I consider the Collector only a formal party and unne cessarily joined in the action. His possession of the property is strictly official, and the tenure and conclu sion of that possession is fixed by statute. Where ther is no allegation that he is acting wrongfully and witho authority of law, individuals have no right to interfer with and control his official acts so as to subserve clair and interests personal to themselves alone. It would the against the public convenience and the spirit of the rev enue laws to allow a collector, at the instance of privat suitors, to be made a garnisher of imports coming his hands, or to have the public warehouses constitute depositories of private property, pending litigations b tween opposing claimants to it. When goods entered for the payment of duties have fulfilled the requirements of law, the authority of the Collector over them is ter minated, and he is bound to deliver them over in conformity with the documentary title filed in his office. After that delivery, individuals pursue their legal claims and remedies against the goods according to law, and ample means are secured them to have the goods so placed as to answer their rights. If all the other parties to the action were aliens, it is clear this Court could not take cognizance of it. The party, plaintiff or defendant must be a citizen of the November last. United States, and that must appear upon the record (2 Peters' R., 176.) Joining an alien with a citizen will not affect the jurisdiction, especially if he is not a material party, (47 Rule Sup. Court in Equity, 10 Wheat., 152; 11 ib., 103 7 Peters, 252; 8 ib., 532,) and I do not regard the objection well taken in this case, because the plaintiff's case rests upon a right to arrest these goods from Terray, who, upon his own showing and that of Bernard, is owner of them, as against the latter. If he is able to support his allegation that Terray purchased them knowing of the fraudulent conduct of Bernard in obtaining them from the plaintiff, or had notice of such fraud, he will hold them subject to the same legal and equitable remedies that could be enforced against the property in the hands of Bernard. The only fact which supports the title of a purchaser from a fraudulent holder is that he acquired them bona fide, and without notice of the wrongful possession of his assignor (13 Wendell, 570 : 1 Hill, 311 ; 3 John R., 235; 8 Cowen, 238; 23 Wendell, 372; 1 Paige, 492.)

Brooklyn and Williamsburg, and Town of Bushwick-(pursuant to sect. 15, title 10, of City Charter)-Backhouse, Huntley, Troutman.

The Board then went into Executive Session, and elected the following officers :

Health Officer-Matthew Wendell.

Keeper of City Hall and Messenger-Moses Abbott. Sealers of Weights and Measures, Western District-William Utter, Thomas Pettit, John B. Brower, Sealers of Weights and Measures, Eastern District-John Powell, James Smith.

Clerk Justice Smith's Court-Edward C. Morehouse Clerk Justice Curtis' Court-Zachariah Voorhis. Clerk Justice Biackley's Court-Thomas H. Appleton Bell-Ringers, Western District-Joseph Montross, Lewis De Bevoise, Smith U. Cox.

Beli-Ringers, Thirteenth Ward Tower-Edward Wade, John Jackson, Bell-Ringers, Sixteenth Ward Tower-Wm. H. Ward,

Clerk of Markets-Peter J. Van Dyne.

Inspectors of Meats, Western District-James Titus, Valentine Carman.

Inspectors of Meats, Eastern District-Robert Reynolds, John Coffin.

Ordinance Clerk-William S. Osborn. Inspectors of Pavements, Western District-Hicks Post, Samuel Doxey

Inspector of Pavements, Eastern District-John Mont-

Pound Master, Western District-Lewis Nichols. Assistant Keeper of City Hall-James Abbott.

Year's Expenses of the Brooklyn Fire-Department.

The following have been the annual expenses of the Fire Department of the city of Brooklyn, as shown by the yearly appropriations of the Common Council, from 1835 to 1854, inclusive :

1.1	Country nom	
0	1835 \$8,050	1845\$5,000
t	1836	1846 8,500
e	1837	1847 6,750
8	1838	1848
e	1839 9,000	1849
-	1840 6,000	1850
9	1841	1851
0	1842 6,000	1852
d	1843 5,000	1853
-	1844 6,000	1854

Calm representations of their cases will usually insure a fair hearing.

"Supply and demand" is the great regulating principle, and applies as well to the money market as to the renting of houses. A new year dawns upon us, and whether we may be landlord or tenant, let us remember the existing legal as well as moral rights of the community

A Country Where the Times are Not Hard.

DUBUQUE, Iowa, Wednesday, Dec. 27, 1854. To the Editor of the New-York Daily Times :

Nothing could be more discouraging than the tone of your "Money articles" for a long time past, unless it be, for a stranger, to walk from Trin ity Church down Wall-street to Pearl-street. Hard times ! Hard times !

Let me for a moment show you another picture. Dubuque is rich ! Dubuque is fat and lazy ! Let a stranger drop in here and he would see every face a picture of good nature and self-satisfaction. We have got enough to pay our debts without any trouble, and real estate does not fall a dollar. Mechanics are in good request, and labor is at a premium. We are a hard money people. We have no Banks of issue in this State, and no special charters. Every man has an equal chance at every thing. By the Statutes, a deed need only embrace about twenty words, beside the description of the property; and a short P. S., by a Notary Public, finishes it off. Sovereigns pass current here at \$4

merce with this country, the moment her exports to these shores ceased to overbalance her American imports, she would enter upon a war with the United States. He strenuously advocated the necessity of protection to home manufactures, and of discountenancing the importation of British goods, as a means not only of relieving our present em- \$108 damages bi rrassments, but of preserving the integrity of American Republican institutions. These positions, enlarged, commented upon, and illustrated, formed the body of his lecture. Interspersed with a variety of Irish jokes, original versifications, and occasional flights of Irish oratory, they made up a discourse that elicited vehement applause, and so pleased his audience that at the close a Committee was unanimously chosen to make arrangements with him for the delivery of a series on the same, or kindred subjects

#### Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber of Commerce met yesterday at 1 o'clock. P. PERIT, Esq., President, in the Chair. The question of the Usury Laws elicited some observations as connected with the remarks and suggestions touching the same appearing in the Governor's message. With a view of preparation to meet objection anticipated in the Legislature against the proposed measure of repeal, the subject was referred to a Special Committee with instructions to report a suitable memorial for the Chamber, to be considered at a special meeting. A communication was read from Mr. MERRITT NIBLO'S. on the subject of the increase of reciprocal ex changes between the United States and Canada. The President thought the matter worthy most attentive consideration. The contiguity of the two countries and the yearly large increase of Commerce between the two, called for the adoption of

new measures commensurate with the growing importance of the increase of exchanges. Referred to a Special Committee to report at the next meet-

Mr. BLUNT presented a report on improved signal flags, recommending their adoption by the Mercantile marine of the United States for the use of vessels employed in the merchant service. The report was adopted.

No further business of importance was transacted. The Case of the Schooner Geo. H. Town-Mr. JOHN A. MACHADO, whose name we mentioned the other day, as charged with fitting out the schoonor George H. Townsend, seized on suspicion of being intended for a slaver, has produced to us a mass of evidence too long to be published in our columns, viz. : manifest of cargo, bills of lading, letters, orders for goods, affidavits of himself, his confidential clerks, lawyers, ship brokers, captain and officers of the schooner, Missionary passengers, &c., &c., which seem to us to free, not only the ves\_ The farmers have splendid crops this year, and get sel and cargo, but Mr. MACHADO and his business from all suspicion in relation to Slavery, and we are happy to be able to state that on the production of the same to the District Attorney, he promptly The Sub-Treasury does not seem to be enough allowed the master to proceed to sea with his vesof a balance power. Let me suggest another for sel and cargo on his own nominal bond alone, withthe country generally, viz. : that no bank notes be out even an examination of the vessel or cargo. issued hereafter of a less denomination than \$10. Mr. MACHADO it appears resided as a merchant at 1854 is no 1837. The people are well off all over | Sierra Leone for the ten years before, establishing himself in this City, where he has now been sevif you wonder where the precious metal goes to, eral years successfully engaged in business with after allowing for foreign export, just come this way | the Anti-Slavery ports of Sierra Leone, Gambia and Liberia, and is as little likely to be engaged in Now, Sir, if this true description of one section the Slave-trade as any other respectable merchant among us.

Stage Company against the owner of a butcher's cart for damages sustained in consequence of reckless driving. A horse belonging to the Stage Company had a leg fractured. Verdict for plaintiff-

#### Another Attempt to Murder.

A negress, MARTHA HOLCOMB, on Monday night, attempted to murder her husband, who is a cook at POOLE's restaurant in Broadway. She saw her husband in company with another colored woman named ELIZABETH DRAYTON; went to her house for a knife, and returned to the place in Church-street where she found the parties together, and plunged the knife into the man's body. She then went to the Fifth Ward Station-house and informed Capt. CARPENTER of what she had done. The husband's injuries proved slight, and he refused to appear against her. So MARTHA was discharged.

The persons employed at the St. Nicholas Hotel and Carlton House have had pleasant balls this season. NIBLO's has been engaged by the Astor House employés for a similar entertainment on the 17th inst.

The "Veterans" will celebrate the anniversary of the Battle of New-Orleans by a Ball at

The Mayor to the Police Captains. Mayor Wood addresses the following circular to the Police Captains, enclosing the orders to the men which we published on Wednesday :

MAYOR'S OFFICE, NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1855. SIR: I enclose to you, through the Chief of Police, certain instructions to the men under your command, to which I ask your attention. You will see that every requirement is complied with, and that the results be reported every day to the Chief, at his office, in your usual morning returns. I will also take this occasion to ask of you the most rigid adherence to the rules and regulations governing the Department, and to express the hope that discipline will be observed without relaxation in your district. Discipline can only be maintained by a regard to the smallest requirements of the service it requires the compliance with every order, however trivial or apparently unimportant; it recognizes no right in a subordinate to judge the practicability or propriety of any direction issued by a superior officer. You must be responsible for every dereliction of duty by the force under your command, for it rarely occurs that an efficient and faithful Captain does not make efficient and faithful men. You will see that in your Station-house the apartments are always cleanly; that your books are correctly and regularly kept, and that no games are played for money, or profanity permitted; that religion and politics be entirely excluded from discussion; that loud talking and quarreling be prevented, and that order, decorum and attention to public duties be strictly re-Very respectfully, FERNANDO WOOD, Mayor. To Capt. -----, of ----- District.

The allegations of the bill, unless disproved, very probably afford a right to the plaintiff to arrest this property in the hands of Terray, if a bona fide purchaser, as the false pretences charged against Bernard, as the means by which he obtained possession of them, may amount to a felony. (3 Barbour, S. C. R. 20: 14 Wendell, 31.) The case made by the bill is sufficient, in my judgment, to require the defendant to file his answer before he can prevent the arrest of the property to stand in pledge, to respond to the title of the plaintiff. When the answer comes in, the Court can determine whether the injunction shall continue to final hearing. A provisional injunction until the further order of the

Court is awarded pursuant to the prayer of the bill, and the parties do not agree as to the custody of the property, a motion may be made by the plaintiff for the appointment of a proper Receiver.

#### Decree accordingly For complainant, Mr. P. Y. Cutler and Mr. Morrogh for defendants, Mr. C. B. Smith and Mr. Crafts.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT-Jan. 4 Before Judge Ingersoll.

The Court was occupied this morning with the case of George W. Beavers vs. The Steamboat North America, which was commenced yesterday.

The libelant sues to recover the damages occasione to a barge which he owned, by a collision with the North America on the night of June 11, 1853.

#### Brooklyn Taxes.

Through the courtesy of the Collector of Taxes and Assessments in the City of Brooklyn, A. M WOOD, Esq., we are enabled to give a statement o moneys received in that office during the year 1854, and also the amount received on the taxes of 1854, the receipts of which commenced on the 2d of

The whole amount received for taxes and assessments during the year 1854, was .... \$1,017,905 85

Receipts on the taxes, &c., of 1854, all received since Nov. 2..... 477,174 85 The largest amount received on any one day was \$89,182 12, and the least was \$1,135 09.

#### Financial Affairs of Williamsburg.

The indebtedness of the city of Williamsburg is as follows :

and was an and the second second		
ermanent Bonds	\$128,719 29	1
		1
	Village, 1851 10,000 00	100
Cemporary Bonds.	City, 1853 69,200 00	1
Cemporary Bonds,	City, 1854 40,000 00	1
Total Indebtedi	ness\$268,509 68	3
The Board of ]	Finance made appropriations for	
he service of the	year ending 31st December, 1854,	,
o-the amount of	\$116,258 35; and warrants were	

drawn amounting to \$141,078 30, thus leaving a deficiency or overdrafts to the amount of \$33,996 85.

On New-Year's Day the Jurors in the Kings County Circuit Court, and Court of Oyer and Terminer, presented to Mr. GERARD M. STE-VENS, Deputy County Clerk, a magnificent gold watch. The Sheriff and Constables of Kings County also presented him with a silver tea set, and the Jurors in the Court of Sessions presented Mrs. STEVENS with a gold watch.

The Teachers of Brooklyn have in contemplation the organizing of a Teachers Association, and a resolution has been adopted by the Board of Education, granting them the use of a room.

**NEW-JERSEY**.

The total assessment in Jersey City last year was \$82,539 64

#### Work for the Poor-A Proposal. To the Editor of the New-York Daily Times :

Let me say a word now in reference to their getting employment. This is our present great want. This satisfies them, and it, in a measure, will relieve others. But how is this work to Where is the capital? Who can afford be had? it? It strikes me that the following plan answers such questions-at least that it will show how work may be given to thousands of the poor for several months, during which the greatest pressure of the times will be felt.

If there is anything human, certain it is that our City must grow northward. Streets must be opened and put in order, beyond the limits at present built up. It is also well known that all such streets must undergo a great amount of preparation, grading, sewerage, paving, &c. No lots can do without this work. They are scarcely marketable otherwise. Property holders must pay for it, and it is to their interest to do so; when it comes at the right time, and they can afford it. But even below the present improved limits of the City much of tackets; and I need hardly add that I shall be pleased to the City. this work is to be done. Thousands of hands and a vast amount of money are here to be employed. Now the laborers are willing and glad to find work at present, at half the wages they asked the last year. So that the present cost of this work to the property holders, who must ultimately pay for it, would be but half what it would have been last year. If their lots were marketable now, and at former prices, they would expect this expense. But what difference will it make to these property holders if this work is done now, and they are not called on to pay for it until two or five years hence, (should the hard times last that long.) when their property has recovered its value, and when the money market is easy? It will be as easy for them then to pay it as it would have been during last year's prosperity. Besides, even when the interest for these two or five years, is added to the present cost of the work, the expense may be less to the property holders, because the work is done so cheaply now ; so that the property holder will be benefited. But who is to pay the laborer ?--- who will advance the capital for two or five years, and what security will be given for its return? The answer is ready. The City. The City has the control of the matter. By taxes and assessments it can be sure of a repayment of the capital it now expends in paying these poor men for their work, together with the interest on it. But is the City burdened with cash? If not, we would leave it to any second-rate jobber in the | at the extensive Reading Forge, Pa.

90, which keeps them in the country. In spite of "Hard Times," the farmers from

Ohio, Pennsylvania and New-England pour in here, and Uncle Sam takes in at the Government Office here about \$175,000 to \$200,000 a month in American gold.

As I said before, our circulation is gold and silver. Our merchants buy mostly for cash, and sell from \$25,000 to \$80,000 each per annum. Our Banks issue no paper, but are Banks of discount. good prices in specie. Consequently we are all rich out here, and calmly witness your spasmodic efforts at the East.

the West. Every man has gold in his pocket, and and you will find it.

of this country will make any of your financiers feel encouraged, and prevent them from believing so absurd an idea, that we are all going to the ----why, our purpose is accomplished. HOPE.

Benefit of the Poor at Barnum's Museum. To day's gross receipts at the Museum are to be devoted to the benefit of the Poor, as per the following

AMERICAN MUSEUM, NEW-YORK, Dec. 29, 1854. Robert B. Minturn, Esq., Treasurer of the New-York Association for Improving the Condition of the

DEAR SIR: I have been for some years a member of your Association, and have had an opportunity to appreciate the value of its public services. With its three hundred and sixty-one "visitors" scattered through our City, who personally inspect the claims and alleviate the distress of every deserving individual, to whose case their attention may be directed by any contributor to the revenues of your benevolent Institution, it is manifest that all funds entrusted to your care will be judiciously applied, and always in quarters where relief is most necessary. I am persuaded, therefore, that thousands who are in doubt as to the best mode of distributing their charity, would gladly aid you in your good work if made familiar with the practically humane operation of your Association. Feeling this truth, and conscious that your power of doing good can only be limited by your resources, permit me to aid, in some degree and encourage others to aid your means of effectual action by tendering you the entire gross receipts of the American Museum on the day and evening of Friday, Jan. 5, 1855. On extraordinary occasions, as much as \$3,000 have been received at the Museum in a single day and evening, Even more might be realized if the public should choose to second your philanthropic efforts on this occasion. would request that you place a proper agent at the door, during the proposed benefit for the Poor, to receive the supply tickets to any and every person whom you may appoint to dispose of them. Yours, truly,

## The New-York Sketch Club.

The regular meeting of this Club on Saturday being the last before New Year's, was one of more than usual interest. There was a large attendance of members, whose contributions to the entertainment of the evening were rich in that innocent mirth which befitted the occasion and the season. The host of the night was JOHN MCLENAN, Esq., the well-known artist. The subject for sketches was "Autumn." We noticed some very fine designs by Messrs. F. A. CHAPMAN, TAIT, D. C. HITCH-COCK, HART, BRUSH, BLAUVELT, Mrs. GREA-TOREX, and Miss KYLE. There were two by CAFFERTY, each excellent. The German artist, Herr CLEANWORK, contributed a splendid painting. After supper had beeu discussed, Messrs. R. D. HOLMES and CHARLES GAYLOR delivered speeches complimentary to the host. .W. W. FosDICK read a poem on "Winter"-one of the most beautiful things we have ever listened to. Then, when so ciality became still more the element of the evening, songs were sung by Messis. CAFFERTY, GAYLOR. UNDERHILL, KYLE, HITCHCOCK, BOYLE, and others. Mr. SCHERPF delighted the company with his piano-forte playing. Mr. T. B. THORPE (the "Bee Hunter,") made one of his comic speeches, and Messrs. HOLMES and UNDERHILL were amusing with their imitations of Western oratory. Among the best fruits of the evening's entertain ments was Mr. JOHN SAVAGE's song of "St. An thony." Altogether, it was a pleasant and profitable rennion of artists, authors, and men of liberal education and pursuits. There is no better Club in

Conclusion of the Investigation-Mr. Keen Honorably Exonerated.

The following report was presented in the Board of Aldermen on Friday evening:

The Committee on the Almshouse Department, to whom was referred the petition of ISAAC BRITTAN with charges of official misconduct against JOSEPH KEEN, Warden of the Penitentiary on Blackwell's Island, respectfully report

That your Committee, in a full investigation of said charges, held ten meetings, and examined in all thirtyfour witnesses.

Your Committee would state that they delayed the investigation of this matter in order to procure the evidence taken before the Recorder, and they regret that in consequence thereof they are unable from want of sufficient time to present in detail the evidence produced before them, and to review the principal points in this case as fully as its importance demands.

In justice to Mr. Keen, your Committee must state that on the charges of his having had improper intercourse with females on the Island, and of his having received and not accounted for moneys taken from deceased convicts, no proof was presented to your Committee

As to the other charges, several Governors of the Almshouse were examined, and testified that the using of the vegetables from the garden on the Island by Mr. Keen was done with their knowledge and consent, and that keepers and others having families there are allowed the same privilege ; and as to the beef, that Mr. Keen is permitted to employ as many prisoners as domestics as he may think necessary, to be fed from the prison supplies of meat, &c.

The average number of these domestics is from twelve to twenty; which number will not be considered too. great when it is known that upwards of forty keepers oard with him.

It was also proven that at the time E. Z. C. Judson, better known as "Ned Buntline," was permitted to invite a number of his friends to witness the presentation By him of a gold watch to Mr. Thomas Baker, on which occasion spirituous liquors were drank, the Island was under the charge of Mr. Redabock, Deputy Warden, Mr.

The barge was in tow of the steamboat Belle, with some fifteen or twenty others, and was coming down the river between West Point and Magazine Point, and the North America was going up having two barges in

The allegations as to the position, course, speed, lights, &c., of the various boats are in conflict, each party alleging neglect in the other. For libelant-Messrs. Owen, Betts and Vose. For claimants-Messrs. Sandfords and Porter.

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SUPREME COURT-CIRCUIT-Jan. 4. Before Hon. Justice Morris. ILLEGAL LEVY-DAMAGES.

Foote vs. Carnley, late Sheriff, &c .- The complaint of the plaintiff in this case shows that an execution was issued against one Voorhies in favor of one

belonging to the plaintiff, and sold them at public auction by virtue of this execution. Damages are claimed The defence set up is that the levy was legal, and the

property belonged to Voorhies at the time. For plaintiff, John O. Robinson. For defendant, A. J. Vanderpool and J. T. Brady.

SUPERIOR COURT-TRIAL TERM-Jan. 4. Before Slosson, J.

PROMISSORY NOTE-USURY. Nichols vs. Morange.-This was an action brought n a promissory note for \$75. The note was endorsed by Mr. Morange. The defendant set up the plea of usury. Mr. H. H. Morange most ably argued the case for the defence, but as he was unable to prove the defence set up sufficiently to the satisfaction of the Court, His Honor directed the Jury to find for the plaintiff for the full amount of the note and interest claimed, amounting to

For the plaintiff, Mr. Gilbert. For the defendant, H H. Morange

Gunter vs. Catlin.-The Jury in this case, after short deliberation, returned a verdict for the plaintiff, assessing the damages at \$1,016 79 and costs.

> COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS. Before Hon. Recorder Smith.

Yesterday this Court made another [effort organize, but the attempt was unsuccessful. The roll of the Grand Jury was completed, and the Petit Jury, being called, answered to their names, while those who were so inclined gave the stereotyped excuses. The Court was then adjourned-it being understood that the new Recorder would deliver his charge to the Grand Jury at the next meeting. The Court-room is under3 going repairs-a fact which must partially excuse delay.

# LONG ISLAND.

Breeklyn Common Council-Standing Com-

#### The Funeral of Mr. Sears' Child-The Murder.

NAUGATUCK, Conn., Monday, Jan. 1, 1854. Yesterday the funeral of the child of Mr. SEARS was attended at the Methodist Church by Rev. Mr. PERKINS, of Waterbury. A large and sympathizing congregation was present, "mourners all, for a common wrong," as they listened to the sublime words of the Gospel, "Let not your hearts be troubled,-ye believe in God, believe also in me." It was a very sad ending of the year, and as they gathered about the remains of the innocent victim, all joined in the fervent prayer of the cler The Sheriff levied upon 77,000 cigars, as is claimed, gyman, that the perpetrator may be brought to speedy justice; and many joined in the rest of the petition, that even as Christ forgave his murderers so this one may yet have this bloody guilt washed from his soul. The last rays of the sun fell upon a troubled multitude, as they slowly left the church. None in Naugatuck will forget the last week of 1854.

> The box in which the money was placed was found yesterday morning a little north of the centre of the town, where it had been placed the preceding night, and no effort made to conceal it. It was evidently done to mislead suspicion, but with no success. The murderer will yet be found, if human means can accomplish it. Officers, aided by a committee of the citizens, are at work night and day. Gov. DUTTON has issued a proclamation offering \$100 in behalf of the State for the detection of the culprit.

> The deed was undoubtedly done earlier than at first supposed, perhaps as early as 12 o'clock. Mrs. SEARS saved her life by drawing the bedclothes over her head, and even then the villain attempted to eut her throat by cutting through the coverings. There is no doubt but that he is here in our midst to-day.

> The excitement is intense in the town. Against the persons mentioned in my last no evidence sufficient to warrant a belief that they are guilty has been obtained.

Mrs. SEARS is recovering. The robbery was committed, perhaps, before the murder, and her testimony may yet be made reliable. The town is full of rumors, some of which are not worth giving, and the giving of some of them would defeat the ends

P. T. BARNUM. OFFICE, No. 39 Bible House, Dec. 30, 1854. To P. T. Barnum, Esq.:

DEAR SIR-In reply to your communication of yesterday, I am instructed to say that the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, will most gratefully accept your generous offer of the "entire gross receipts of the American Museum, on the day and evening of Friday, Jan. 5, 1855, and promptly distribute the proceeds among the destitute, with all the careful discrimination and economy which this system of relief effectually se-

To your suggestion that we appoint an agent to receive the tickets, &c., I would only remark, that having no less confidence in your integrity than in your benevolence, you will please make such arrangements in regard to them as your own judgment approves. In behalf of the Board, very truly yours,

No. have not a support the support

R. M. HARTLEY, Secretary.

ROBBERS ARRESTED .- In Saltfleet, Canada West, two men stopped at the house of a farmer named DEAN, and after partaking of his hospitality, robbed him of some money and clothing, and decamped. Mr. DEAN aroused the neighbors, who gave chase and captured the ungrateful rogues; and at last accounts they were safely lodged in Hamilton jail. They are supposed to have been connected with the gang of men who murdered Mr. NEIL at Cayuga.

THE NEW STEAM FRIGATES .- Regulations are completed for all the large forgings, cranks, shafts, &c., in the machinery for the new steam frigates building at the Washington Navy Yard. The department assigned ANDERSON's Works at Richmond, Va.,-and the same work on the two steamers constructing at the Gosport Yard is to be done

## New-York Geographical Society.

The regular monthly meeting of the Geographical Society was held on Friday evening, at the Society Rooms, New-York University-Rev. Dr. HAWKS, President, in the Chair. After some unimportant business by the Council, a paper of considerable interest was read by Mr. EDMOND R. SMITH, upon the Arauconian Indians of Chili, South America. Mr. SMITH was attached to the United States Astronomical Expedition which went to Santiago in 1849, and spent three years among the people of whom his paper treated.

# New-York Historical Society.

At the last meeting of the Historical Society, the following officers were elected for 1855 : President, Hon. LUTHER BRADISH; 1st Vice-President, Rev. THOMAS DE WITT; 2d Vice-President, FREDERIC DE PEYSTER ; For. Cor. Sec., Rev. EDWARD ROB-INSON; Dom. Cor. Sec., Rev. SAMUEL OSGOOD; Recording Sec., ANDREW WARNER; Treasurer, WILLIAM CHAUNCEY; Librarian, GEORGE H. MOORE. It was resolved to appoint a Committee of five to memorialize the Legislature for an appropriation of \$15,000 in aid of the erection of a fire-proof building for the use of the Society.

Mercantile Library Association. The annual meeting of this Association will take place on Tuesday next, and the election for officers on the 16th. At a meeting of the members held last week nominations were made, and Mr. FRANK

Keen being at Niagara Falls, where he had gone to recruit his health, after a severe attack of palsy or

As to the charge that Mr. Keen allowed John S. Austin, a prisoner, to leave the Island when he pleased, the contrary was proven to be the fact, and that strict orders were given to keep sald Austin within the prison grounds; and although some of the keepers granted him favors, it was done without Mr. Keen's knowledge. It was admitted that a prisoner named Ryan, who was shot or drowned while atempting to escape, was buried without an inquest, the reason assigned being that the Coroner was notified but failed to come, and after wait-

ing four days the body was obliged to be buried. It was shown that Mr. Keen has frequently entertained Ministers, Grand Juries and others, visitors to the Island, at his own expense, and the Governors to his faithfulness and integrity consider the use of the vegetables from the garden as a partial offset to this expense. Mr. Richard S. Williams, one of the Governors for nearly five years, says that he has had more to do with Mr. Keen than any other of the Governors, having visited the Island two or three times a week, and during all that time had no fault to find as to his management and integrity

In conclusion your Committee would report that the majority of the charges are very frivolous and amount to nothing; and as to the others, the evidence is so scanty and unreliable, that your Committee do not feel justified in making any extended remarks in regard to them ; and on some of the charges, besides those already spoken of, no proof whatever was given. Your Committee, after a very patient and full hearing of the testimony, while they admit that he may have committed errors in judgment, fully exonerate Mr. Keen from the charges of official misconduct brought against him as Warden of the Penitentiary on Blackwell's Island, and dismiss the THOMAS CHRISTY, JOHN KELLY.

Committee on Almshouse Department

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

COURT CALENDAR .... FRIDAY. UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.-Nos. 6, 19,

26 to 33. COMMON PLEAS.-Nos. 46 to 61.

SUFREME COURT SPECIAL TERM .- Nos. 29, 41, 42, 54, Ralphs, Barnard, Whiting. 55. 57 to 69.

SUPREME COURT CIRCUIT .- Nos. 2687, 2595, 2680, 1971, 2982, 1665, 2851, 1178, 1177, 1181, 1188, 950, 732, 1016, 1191, 1193, 1194, 1196 to 1200. Part II.-Nos. 2705. 2771 to 2754.

SUPERIOR COURT .- Nos. 57, 100, 125, 133 to 138, 140 cher. to 143, 145, 145, 146, 148, 149, 151 to 169, 171 to 175, 14.

# mittees for 1855.

The following Standing Committees of the Common Council of Brooklyn have been appointed for | of justice.

On Laws and Applications to the Legislature-Sparks, Capwell, Atwater, Baker, Wardwell.

On Opening Streets, Avenues and Parks-Crowell, Davis, Capwell, Eames, Bergen. On Grading and Paving of Streets and Avenues-

Oakley, Blank, Backhouse, Bennett, (Eighth Ward,

On Finance-Huntley, Pell, Fowler, Troutman, Back-

On Assessments-Fowler, Campbell, Eames, Bannen, Barnard.

On Public Sewers, Culverts and Grades-Pell, Masters, Mulcahey, Davis. Ralphs.

On Railroads-Ralphs, Wardwell, Crowell, Sparks, Bennett, (Eighth Ward.) On Public Lands and Buildings-Bennett, (First

Ward.) Campbell, Eames, Whiting, Crowell.

On the Fire Department of the Western District-Fancher, Eames, Linskey, Huntley, Davis, Baker.

On Stages-Maerz, Masters, Luyster, Leverich, Gard-

On Police-Masters, Ralphs, Whiting, Troutman and Ciayton

On Water-Wardwell, Bergen, Fowler, Blanck and Bennett (Eighth Ward.) On Printing-Cleyton, Cunningham, Leverich, Maerz,

Oakley

On Wells and Pumps-Campbell, Cashow, Mulcahy, Baker, Eannen.

On Claims against City of Brooklyn prior to 1855-Backhouse, Capwell, Atwater, Mills, Barnard. On Claims against the late City of Williamsburg-

Atwater, Linskey, Sparks, Ralphs, Eames. On Claims against the late Town of Bushwick-

Troutman, Blanck, Luyster, Davis, Maerz. On Supplies and Expenses of Departments-Walsh.

Cunningham, Fancher, Mills, Cashow, On Gas-Davis, Pell, Clayton, Linskey, Oakley.

On Lamps-Cashow, Gardner, Maerz, Cunningham,

On Ferry and Water Rights-Bergen, Fowler, Baker, Fancher, Bennett, (First Ward.)

nett, (Eighth Ward.)

On Public Cisterns-Blanck, Wardwell, Gardner, Whiting, Mulcahy.

On Markets-Leverich, Gardner, Oakley, Mills, Fan-

THE MISSING SCHOONER FOUND .- We learn from the Salem Journal that the schooner Atlantic, of Salem, which ran ashore on Cohasset rocks a few days since, and as soon as the terrified captain and crew had succeeded in reaching the land, turned about, much to their astonishment. and sailed off before the wind on her own hook, without a word of adieu, has been picked up at sea by a Provincetown pilot-boat, and taken into Provincetown harbor. Her larboard bow was badly chafed when she struck, and she had leaked a little, so that her cargo of corn was somewhat damaged. She sustained no very serious injury, however, and will be ready to sail for Salem when ordered. The Atlantic is owned by R. W. ROPES & Co., of Salem.

THE ALLEGED MAIL ROBBERY .- We learn from Concord, N. H., that the wife of Dr. Howe, who was arraigned for stealing from the mail, was discharged from custody on the 26th, after a lengthy examination. Her daughter had previously been discharged from arrest, and was used as a witness by the Government. Her evidence, however, did not tend to criminate her mother. The only evidence against her was that she admitted she opened the mail at the time it was alleged the letter was lost. It is the prevailing impression in Concord that the evidence produced against Dr. Howe at the time of his examination was not very strong.

THEILLING INCIDENT .- The danger of placing ignited charcoal in a closed room was thrillingly ilustrated in the family of Mr. WM. DAY, residing in Danbury, Conn., on Tuesday. Two young children were placed in bed at an early hour in the evening, and a vessel containing coal was left in On Schools, Arts and Sciences-Capwell, Sparks, the centre of the room, through a misapplied solicitude for their comfort. Before the hour for retiring On Hospital-Mills, Huntley, Crowell, Walsh, Ben- of the family, they were startled by sounds of agony proceeding from the room occupied by their children, and upon hastening to them they were found nearly suffocated with gas. By this timely rescue and a vigorous application of restoratives, On the Property and Assets held by the Cities of they were both saved from a horrible death,