

BROOKLYN READY FOR INVESTIGATORS.

Loyal League Has Prepared a List of Witnesses Opposing Union.

Greater New York Threatened by the Suspicion Which Senator Hill Expressed.

Still, Consolidationists Will Make an Imposing Showing Before the Committee To-day.

WHERE MAYOR WURSTER STANDS.

Favors Union on a Basis of Equal Taxation and Equal Benefits—Opinions of His Cabinet and Leading Citizens of His City.

The joint legislative committee to consider the question of Greater New York will meet in the Common Council Chamber of Brooklyn's City Hall, at 10 o'clock this morning.

It will hear abundant argument as to whether there shall be consolidation or a resubmission of the matter, for feeling is running high in Brooklyn. The advocates of the wedding of the two cities are active and enthusiastic in their advocacy of it, while those opposed to the union are most bitter in their fight against it.

The consolidation committee will make an imposing showing and will probably include A. Abraham, of Abraham & Straus; James Matthews, of A. D. Matthews & Sons; James McLaughlin, president of the Emigrant Savings Bank, this city; ex-Mayor David A. Boody, Edward M. Grout, Frank B. Bailey, president of the Title Guarantee and Trust Company; S. M. Griswold, president of the Union Bank; Colonel Sprague, president of the Sprague National Bank; Claus Doerscher, president of the North Side Bank; John G. Jenkins, president of the First National Bank; George W. White, president of the Mechanics' Bank; Darwin H. James, president of the People's Trust Company; William H. Hazzard, president of the Fulton Bank; Silas H. Dutcher, president of the Hamilton Trust Company; General C. T. Christensen, president of the Brooklyn Trust Company; Julian D. Fairchild, president of the Kings County Trust Company; Dixmas Jewell, president of the Twenty-sixth Ward Bank; Henry Batterman, John Pullman and Andrew D. Baird.

But combating the data and the arguments that these gentlemen will advance will be a vigorous showing of Brooklynites who distrust the intent of the present Legislature and resent the absorption of the city into the daring scheme of Thomas C. Platt. And the feeling that there is such a scheme is becoming more and more deeply rooted every day, even among persons who have heretofore been apathetic regarding the consolidation idea.

In fact, Brooklyn is divided against itself, and while an impressive business and financial host cry for a Greater New York, there is another host, equally imposing, that sounds an appeal for a Greater Brooklyn. It contends that the vote of 1894 was not final, and that a re-submission of the question will leave no doubt as to the wishes of the great majority of residents of both cities.

Some of these gentlemen, too, have all along voiced the sentiments of Senator Hill, printed in the Journal yesterday: "It would be another thing if the voters of the two great municipalities could choose a commission to frame their own charter, but to allow a lot of Republicans to do it for them is ridiculous, not to say contemptible."

The League of Loyal Citizens yesterday sent the following letter to Mr. Lexow: Sir—We beg respectfully to suggest that, if possible, the following named gentlemen be called to testify before the joint sub-committee of the Legislature on the subject of consolidation, to appear at its sessions soon to be held in Brooklyn. The gentlemen named have not been consulted, but we suggest both parties and representatives of the various districts of Brooklyn: F. W. Wurster, Mayor; ex-Mayor Charles A. Schieren, Joseph A. Burr, Corporation Counsel-to-be; Alfred T. White, Commissioner of City Works; Foster L. Backus, District-Attorney; Albert G. McDonald, Corporation Counsel; William C. Bryant, George H. C. Chairman, Republican County Committee; Joseph H. Clark, president Common Council; Surrogate George B. Abbott, of Kings County; ex-Judge George G. Reynolds, Charles A. Moore, A. A. Low, Jackson Wallace, ex-president Common Council; Jesse Johnson, the Rev. Richard S. Storrs, D. D., William J. Coombs, president Manufacturers' Trust Company; William H. Nichols, vice-president Manufacturers' Trust Company; Thomas T. Barr, president Nassau National Bank; Bryan H. Smith, president Brooklyn Savings Bank; William Heister, St. Clair McKelway, Henry Heintz, William N. Dykman, Robert D. Benedict, Henry B. Haigh, president Manufacturers' Association of Kings and Queens Counties; General John H. Woodruff, M. J. Connolly, president Central Labor Union; Joseph C. Cabbis, William C. Bedford, Franklin Woodruff. Trusting it will be the pleasure and convenience of the committee to hear all these gentlemen, let us say that copies of this letter have been furnished to the press. Yours, with respect, EDWARD L. BARR, Secretary.

The Committee will sit to-morrow and decide what to do on Monday. Headquarters will be made at the Murray Hill Hotel, this city. After hearing the advocates and opponents of consolidation the Committee will come to this city and take testimony. This will give the opponents of Mr. Platt, and probably the Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, a chance to tell just why at this time Greater New York would mean greater municipal evil.

Union Based on Equality. Frederick W. Wurster.

Fredrick W. Wurster, Mayor of Brooklyn, regarding the question of consolidation, I have already publicly said, in a letter of acceptance of the nomination tendered to me last Fall, that any bill formed by the Legislature should provide for equal taxation, equal assessment and a full share of all moneys for Brooklyn for local improvements. Such a bill, however its final enactment into a law, should be submitted to the people of Brooklyn. I stand to-day as I stood in my letter of acceptance.

Legislators Will Learn. Albert G. McDonald.

Albert G. McDonald, Corporation Counsel: I think it is appropriate that the Legislature should secure the aid of

a committee to inform itself concerning the sentiment in Brooklyn on the subject of consolidation. While we in Brooklyn are very fairly constituted, intelligent men, and I have no doubt that their visit will result in their obtaining a large amount of information. I think that the Brooklyn view is against consolidation, at least according to any terms of union that have so far been considered by the Legislature, and I believe that this sub-committee will be so persuaded.

Vote Again After Notice. Foster L. Backus.

Foster L. Backus, District-Attorney of Brooklyn: I am in favor of letting Brooklyn vote on the question, when the voters will understand that the vote is final. Then those who desire consolidation may vote, hoping to secure a majority of the perpetuity of Brooklyn with its glorious prospects of the future. And those who have an interest or are too indolent or indifferent to vote will lose their chance to express an opinion. No such notice has ever been given to the Brooklyn voters. No discussion and consideration adequate to the importance of the subject have been had. Let us give it consideration and deliberate upon it, and then notify the voters when and how the vote will be taken to settle the question forever. That is the right of every voter, and after he has exercised that right, or failed to exercise it, knowing that it is a final vote, the majority vote will be binding upon all, and not until then. My official duties have taken my attention so completely that I cannot go into the subject as I would like to.

Another Vote Is Fair Play. Alfred T. White.

Alfred T. White, Commissioner of City Works: I know of my own knowledge that there are many persons who voted for consolidation in 1894 who now desire a re-submission of the question. This does not mean that all have changed their minds, but they want to have fair play. My own feeling is that the election of members of the Legislature here last Fall was a far better index of the popular sentiment as it exists to-day than the vote of a year ago. There is not now a single member from Kings County in favor of consolidation without again referring the matter to the people. It would be not only an unfortunate, but a dangerous precedent to enact a force bill without the assurance that it accords with the wishes of the people, and I cannot but think that the Legislature will come to the same conclusion, whatever may be their own opinion, as to the merits or demerits of any given scheme.

Trade Is for Consolidation. James H. Williams.

James H. Williams, manufacturer of steel forgings, living at No. 293 Henry street: At the present time the general public have heard little except arguments against consolidation through the loyal League, which is a stronger kind of evidence in favor of it in documentary form has had no general circulation. I refer to Edward C. Graves' arguments. It is my opinion that the sub-committee recently appointed by the Legislature will bring out the strength of argument in favor of consolidation. It cannot fail to be a surprise when it is made evident how unanimously the practical business men of the community stand together on the question of consolidation as against the class among whom sentiment prevails. Consolidationists claim that loyalty to Brooklyn can and will be proven convincingly with far greater breadth of view.

Re-submission Boys' Play. A. Abraham.

A. Abraham, of Abraham & Straus: I firmly believe in consolidation on a basis of equal taxation. Brooklyn has now reached its limit, and cannot grow for the world any more. The man who gives the matter a moment's thought can object to its being merged in New York. Mr. Boody said truly the other day that there were many men who gave their brains to New York and their hearts to Brooklyn. It seems to me that they should combine. Brooklyn is like a large store, spread over a large tract of land, and needing much money to run it. We require a large police force, many school-houses and all the necessities of a large city, but we have not got the means to support them. I differ with the anti-consolidationists, who claim that another vote would change the sentiment. I believe if the question were submitted to the people it would be carried by a much bigger majority on this side of the river, and probably a reduced majority in New York. Still, I do not favor another poll, for I maintain that, since the matter has once been decided, it would be like trying to try it over again. It is a great piece of presumption to be the part of the opponents of consolidation to claim that those who did not vote at all last time were anti-consolidationists. It stands to reason that those who offered the scheme would be the most anxious to express their views at the polls. I think it is a libel upon the intelligence of Brooklyn people to claim that they did not know what they were doing. Any child could have understood the issue and the method of voting. I am not in favor of putting off the introduction of a consolidation bill. I think it is a good bill, and the sooner it is done the better, and the more quickly we shall reap the benefits.

Heights Will Grow Flats. Gardiner D. Matthews.

Gardiner D. Matthews, of A. D. Matthews & Sons: From the first moment the subject of consolidation between Brooklyn and New York was raised I have felt strongly in favor of the scheme, for Brooklyn is the more needy. It is a fast growing measure with New York for the sees where she is going to find a great relief for her congested state. The land here lies well for great improvements, and there is nothing better in the way of drainage. Sites for building cannot be surpassed in the State. We would like to see New York, in my opinion, the New York capitalists will rush to secure the best sites, such as the higher ground on our Eastern Parkway and beautiful slopes overlooking the bay and ocean, and in range with the Jersey hills, which are already for sale. Sites for consolidation they would put up there, and the best residences in the country. It is so easy of access, and New York itself will furnish the money to build substantial bridges for transit. If I live ten years after consolidation is effected, I fully

expect to see the population on this side of the river almost double itself. The Heights property, whence came most of the opposition, is covered with old residences which I expect to see torn down, and ten to twenty new high flats erected, which will be filled as quickly as they are completed by people doing business in the lower part of New York. The Marguerite Hotel, which was only built a year or two ago, and the St. George are always filled to overflowing, and every big structure lately built is immediately inhabited. And the people going to Harlem and up above that when they can get in such desirable locations? I say "No." As a Brooklynite, I believe that sentiment is a thing of the past. It has already been shown that the majority over here is in favor of the measure, and I see no cause for delaying it. When it was put to the vote the wishes of the people were for consolidation. Since that vote there has been no cause for reaction, but everything has been tending toward the carrying out of the measure.

A Charter for Staten Island. The committee appointed to draft a charter for the incorporation of Staten Island as a separate municipality have submitted a report to the Board of Supervisors of Richmond County. They recommended that the Assemblymen and Senator from this district be requested to urge the passage of a bill to enable the Board of Supervisors to appoint a commission to prepare a charter. The report was referred to the committee on Legislation.

ECHO OF A BANK ASSIGNMENT. Suit for \$150,000 Threatened Against the Solicitors' Loan and Trust Company. Philadelphia, Jan. 16.—Still another has been added to the sensational developments that followed the making of an assignment on January 3 by the Solicitors' Loan and Trust Company. For the first time the fact is now disclosed that the security furnished the Tradesmen's National Bank by the Solicitors' company's president, Richard W. Clay, for the reimbursement of the

Secret Service Department of the Government has arrested several members of a band of counterfeiters who for some time have been very successful in passing in this city an exceedingly well-made spurious \$5 silver certificates. Their operations have been for the most part among the small tradesmen of the East Side. The prisoners are Dominico Bonasol, Natali Bordonas, Tomaso Russo, Giovanni Rosa, Venarando Amato, Rino Vingizio, Nicolo and Teresa Toronto, Vito Pompenelli, Giuseppe Giordana, Francesco Grigolli, Raffaele Benza, Bettina Candelera, Giuseppe Giordana and Giovanni Bogomo. All, save the latter, were arraigned yesterday before Commissioner Shields. Bogomo's case was held over to to-day. He is suspected of having imported the counterfeiters into this country from Italy.



Dealers in Counterfeit Money Before Commissioner Shields. Secret Service detectives have landed a gang of Italians who for some time have been passing counterfeit five-dollar silver certificates among small tradesmen of the East Side. The authorities believe that the spurious notes were made in Italy, and imported to this country by one of the men whom they have in the toils.

MAN AND WIFE ARRESTED. The prisoner was pointed out as the man who had passed a counterfeit \$5 bill on Joseph Vallett, a grocer, on No. 41 Oak street. The prisoner was arrested as he was about to run away. He was held yesterday in the Centre Street Police Court and committed to the care of the United States authorities.

DOLPHIN DOING REAL WORK. Engaged in Making a Survey of the Gulf of Amatique. Washington, Jan. 16.—The dispatch boat Dolphin, so frequently called the "President's yacht," through President Cleveland's command, has been on duty during the Columbian naval parade in New York, is doing good service in making an accurate survey of the Gulf of Amatique, where some uncharted shoals have been touched during the last year.

LOST HIS CASH AND WATCH. Smith Was Robbed by Two Highwaymen Near the Village of Jamaica. Far Rockaway, Jan. 16.—W. H. Smith, a traveling salesman for a New York firm, reported to the authorities that he was held up on the road between Lawrence and Foster's Meadows on Tuesday night and robbed of \$92 in money and a gold watch valued at \$65.

Patrolman Arrested by a Sergeant. Patrolman Philip McGovern, of the Fifth Precinct, Jersey City, was suspended from duty yesterday morning, charged with being drunk while on post. Sergeant Hartley found him staggering alone in Danforth avenue and took him to the station house, where he was stripped of his shield and locked up by Sergeant Hoag.

BROOKLYN BREVITIES. Two burglars were surprised in the apartments of Mrs. Betts, No. 112 White street, Williamsburg, yesterday, and one of them was captured by Joseph Biggs, a neighbor, who was called by Mrs. Betts. The burglar, who was fifty-six years old, and held until the arrival of a policeman. He gave his name as George Martin.

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COUNTERFEITS FROM ITALY KILLED WITHOUT MOTIVE.

Dealt in a Choice Article of Spurious Money Supposed to Be Made in Their Own Country.

THIRTEEN COMMITTED TO LUDLOW. Some of Them Were Captured Only After a Hard Fight—One Woman Among the Number of Prisoners.

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PERKINS & WELSH FAIL.

Assignment of a Well-Known House, Due to the Cuban War—Liabilities \$500,000.

Perkins & Welsh, Importers of raw sugars and commission merchants, of No. 41 Wall street, a leading firm in their line, made an assignment yesterday to Benjamin Perkins, caused, it is stated, by the war in Cuba, where the principal part of their business was done. The liabilities are estimated at over \$500,000. The partners are Osgood Welsh, Benjamin F. Butler, of Manhattan, N. Y., and John Frederick Gray, of Southampton, N. Y. Mr. Welsh only signed the assignment as the other two partners are in Cuba looking after the firm's interests there. They gave preferences for \$125,000 for money advanced or deposited subject to call, balance of account, and for money loaned to the firm. Of the preferences \$92,185 is of preference for Osgood Welsh, \$30,000 for Benjamin Perkins, \$30,000 for John Frederick Gray, \$12,500 for Benjamin Perkins, individually and as trustee, \$2,685 for Horatio Van Dine, \$1,460 for preference is also given to Henry Ross, of this city, for whatever amount may be due to him. The firm also succeeded to the liquidation of the Mexican business of J. & W. Welsh, Philadelphia, \$20,000; Samuel J. Perkins, Tacoma, Wash., \$5,000; Benjamin Perkins, individually and as trustee, \$2,685; Loss, Horatio Van Dine, \$1,460.

NOTED OUTLAW IN THE TOILS. One Man to Get All the Rewards for the Capture of Bill Doolin. Perry, Oklahoma, Jan. 16.—Bill Doolin, one of the most noted outlaws and desperadoes that ever operated in the West, was captured at Eureka Springs, Ark., last night. For years Doolin has been a member of a gang that has caused widespread terror. Bill Tilghman, a well-known officer, surprised Doolin in a bathroom at Eureka Springs and arrested him all alone.

Tracks Over the New Bridge. Commissioners Baird, Sperry and Batterman, who represent Brooklyn on the East River Bridge Commission, have declared themselves in favor of six tracks on the new bridge. Mayor Strong endorsed the plan. They propose to have four tracks for trolley cars and two for elevated trains. Commissioners Deever and Thurber, of this city, and Mayor Strong favor the four-track plan.

REMOVAL SALE. D. G. Francis & Co., 12 East 15th St., announce the purchase of the stock of S. B. Luyster, importer and dealer in fine English books.

HELD UP ON THEIR TRAIN. Masked Men Make a Neat Job of a Missouri Pacific Freight Crew.

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AMUSEMENTS.

HAMMERSTEIN'S OLYMPIA, Broadway, 845 N. Y. Ave., 8:15. MUSIC HALL, Mt. St. Vincent, 8:15. 30 VAUDEVILLE ARTISTS.

ABBEY'S THEATRE, B'way, cor. 18th St. Last 3 perform. JOHN HARE, success of Mr. MISS JULIA NELSON, MR. FRED THOMAS, and the Garrick Theatre Company of London, and Mr. J. H. H. A PAIR OF SPECTACLES.

CARNEGIE HALL, York Ave., Jan. 21. Sale of seats opens to-morrow, 9 a. m., at box office, 1100 N. York Ave. Prices, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$4.00, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.00, \$8.00, \$9.00, \$10.00.

PROCTOR'S PLEASURE PALACE, 85th St., cor. Lexington Ave., 8:15. PROCTOR'S THEATRE, 23d St., 11 to 11:15. J. Lewis, 50 N. York Ave., 8:15.

KOSTER & BIAL'S, TO-NIGHT. PAUL CINQUEVALLI, MARTINETTI'S, PANAMA, THE CHAGS, MARLO, DUNN, TRIO, ROSE, BERTHA.

ADMISSIONS TO ALL THEATRES. MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, OPENING SAT. NIGHT AT 8 P. M. THIRD ANNUAL EXHIBITION.

AMERICAN THEATRE, Madison Square, 8:15. THEATRE, 8:15. PALMER'S, 8:15. PALMER'S, 8:15.

ICE PALACE. PEOPLE'S THEATRE, H. C. MINNIE, Proprietor. A ROMANCE OF COON HOLLOW.

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