BILLS TO FATTEN BROOKLYN SALARIES.

A Bunch of Measures Pending That May Cost Taxpayers $500,000 a Year.

Designs to Multiply Offices, to Lengthen Terms and to Increase the Pay of Officials.

REPUBLICANS NEED THE PATRONAGE.

Analysis of Devices Introduced in the Legislature to Make Political Control More Valuable and to Aid in Holding It.

More offices, longer terms, bigger salaries was the cry with which Kings County went to the Legislature. The rush of "grab" bills began with the first day's session and has continued to the present moment. The only question in the minds of the Republicans seemed to be "what can we get out of it?" There was neither a Worth nor a Willis faction when it came to a matter of spoils.

Bills already introduced for the profit of the Brooklyn Republicans add something more than $500,000 to the city taxes. Unless public opinion at home is aroused the measures may be adopted. They do not affect the State tax rate, and are therefore not open to the attacks of the watchful grangers in committees. It is a singular thing, also, that when the Republican leader in the House said he was opposed to raising salaries in New York City, he declined to say that he would apply the same rule to Brooklyn, although Mr. McKeown demanded to know why he should not do so. It would seem as though Brooklyn Republicans have determined to take no chances as to continuing in power in the city, and purpose to make hay while they were sure of the sun shining.

DOUBLING PRESIDENT CLARK'S PAY.

It would take half a page of the Journal to discuss fully the nature of the bills that have already been introduced and of the others that are yet to come, but even a brief sketch of them may be interesting. By one bill President Clark, of the Board of Aldermen, seeks to have his salary put up from $2,000 to $4,000. There is one by which Coroners Coombs and Mason expect to get their terms of office extended from two to four years. There is one in which City Clerk "Joe" Benjamin is trying to get power to appoint two deputies that shall be removable at his pleasure.

Another bill gives Register Harmon the re-indexing of the old records. A similar measure was put through two years ago, and it is said that it was worth $75,000 to Mr. Harmon last year. Now he wants to be made independent of the Board of Estimate in the matter of expenditure for this particular work. If he succeeds it will probably cost the city $150,000 more.

A bill is pending to give County Clerk Stern the appointment of two deputies for the records and incidentally, of course, to draw salaries. Another bill empowers District-Attorney Backus to appoint five stenographers in place of the one who now does the work of the office, and five assistant clerks, and to remove twelve county detectives and appoint their successors. He is to fix all the salaries for the new force.

JUDGES CAN APPOINT CLERKS.

A bill has already become a law which gives the two County Judges practically unlimited power to appoint clerks, and unless the Constitution should be held to make it null and void, no doubt the power will be exercised to the fullest capacity. An act has been proposed extending the term of the Inspector of Repairs—Randolph Fuller, of the Twentieth Ward—to 1899, and giving him a salary of $3,000, and a bill with which the Mayor is credited, dividing the City Works Department in two and creating a water supply bureau, which will, of course, give him the appointment of a new commissioner and his staff. It is said that a bill is soon to be offered extending the terms of the two County Judges—Aspinall and Hurd—to fourteen years.

Another measure that is expected is one to raise the salary of City Treasurer Taylor from $5,000 to $10,000 on the ingenious plea that since he now has the office formerly held by both a city and a county treasurer he ought to have the pay of both.

These are fair samples of the legislation asked for by the Republicans of Brooklyn. Promises of patronage go with every bill and are expected to pass it.

DEATH FROM FOUL PLAY?

Suspicious Circumstances Attending the Drowning of Benjamin Sutler at the Foot of Pacific Street.

Benjamin Sutter, a watchman employed on a sloop at the foot of Pacific street, Brooklyn, disappeared three nights ago. His body was found in the water near by yesterday by Edward Reardon, of No. 364 Tenth street, New York.

The police believe there is something mysterious about his death. They were informed by the watchman employed on a dock near by that the loud and angry voices of two men were heard on the sloop about 10 o'clock Thursday night. Soon afterward there was a splash in the water and the talk ceased.

Gets His Hats By Theft.

The hat store of T. J. Buchwalter, at No. 1563 Broadway, Williamsburg, was robbed at an early hour yesterday morning and seven umbrellas and two derby hats carried off. In the hallway of the house No. 1543 Broadway was found the old hat worn by the thief, which he had discarded. The hat was turned over to the police of the Ralph Avenue Station, who learned that it was one of a number stolen from F. H. Newcomb's store, at No. 136 Flatbush avenue, on December 17 last.

Accident, He Says, Not Suicide.

Bergen B. Hess, eighteen years old, who lives with his parents at No. 352 South Third street, Williamsburg, is suffering with a bullet wound under the right eye, the result, he says, of the accidental discharge of a revolver which he was handling Saturday night. Hess has been out of employment for some weeks, which first made it appear that he had attempted suicide. This he denies.

Woodside Lowland Question.

The real estate dealers of Woodside are endeavoring to have the lowlands on the north side filled in at public expense. The movement is both praised and condemned by the residents, but the objection raised is from the fact that the movement is agitated by holders and speculators in real estate. The diphtheria scare has been tried by those in favor of it.

The prevalent opinion appears to be that the taxes are already heavy enough without any apparent return for the outlay.

BLUE BOOK SQUALL RAGING

Despite the Censor's Vigilance the Names of Humble Persons Appear.

Some of Brooklyn's Prominent Citizens Who Were Overlooked in Making Up the List.

EX-MAYOR HOWELL WOULDN'T PAY $50

But Others Declare That They Parted with $3 and Didn't Find Their Names in the Social Register—Want Their Money Back.

Brooklyn continues to be violently agitated over the "Blue Book." Would-be social heavy-weights of the Heights, the Hill, the Slope and the "Burg" turn and turn its pages and find something to talk about at every turn.

The more people study the "Blue Book" the more they marvel at the stupidity or the cupidity of its sponsors. New York has its social register—several of them, in fact—but not one of them ever raised such a rumpus among the elite as Brooklyn's remarkable work.

More worthy names were sought for in vain in Brooklyn's "Blue Book" yesterday. They had been blackballed by "the committees of representative members of Brooklyn society," who passed upon the list of eligibles. Evidently the committees were prejudiced, passing their friends and scratching their enemies. One "social leader" went so far as to put her scrub woman on the list.

"Blue Book" omissions are causing a vast amount of bad feeling in many quarters. Some of the people who have not been considered blue blooded enough to rank with the chosen take the matter philosophically. James Howell, a former Mayor of Brooklyn, now president of the New York and Brooklyn Bridge, is not on the list. At his home yesterday afternoon he made a few remarks on the "Blue Book" as follows:

"I am glad they have classed me with such men as ex-Mayor Whitney, Andrew D. Baird and Foster L. Backus. I am a working man, began life as a working man and I always pay my debts. This 'Blue Book' business is another evidence of the flunkeyism and snobbery now so prevalent in this country. We have been aping English manners, custom and dress so long that it is not surprising we have copied them in the matter of 'Blue Books' as well. Some time ago somebody called at my house and told me that I could have my name in a Blue Book of Brooklyn's best people on the payment of $50. I refused the offer, and told the caller that I would not give fifty cents to have my name in all the Blue Books in creation. I don't say they were the same people that got out this recently published book, but this is the only Blue Book I ever heard of. I don't want my name in it."

Colonel Andrew D. Baird's name is not on the list. Colonel Baird was twice the Republican candidate for Mayor of Brooklyn. He is a man with a magnificent war record and a member of the Loyal Legion and some of the best clubs. The colonel was adjudged ineligible for the Blue Book because he had once worked in a stone yard. At the same time his brother-in-law, Mayor Wurster, who once worked in an iron foundry, is on the list. Ex-Mayor Schieren, too, was considered an eligible, although at one time Mr. Schieren was a cigarmaker.

While honoring Mayor Wurster, the self-constituted social censors have taken pains to slight some of his intimate friends. For instance, one scans the pages of the Blue Book in vain for the names of Sheriff William J. Buttlin, County Judge Aspinall, Mirabeau L. Towns, Senator P. H. McNulty, ex-Senator Charles H. Russell, Asa W. Tenney, Registrar Granville W. Harman, Comptroller George W. Palmer, County Treasurer Hubert G. Taylor, County Clerk Henry C. Saffen, City Clerk Joseph Benjamin and Justice William J. Osborne. All of which would indicate that the "committees of representatives of Brooklyn society" had little use for the politicians.

Yesterday being Sunday, a subscriber to the "Blue Book," whose thoughts travelled churchward, opened the volume to ascertain what clergymen, if any, were mentioned. He found the names of several divines, but they all belonged to the same denomination—the Protestant Episcopal Church. Among the prominent rectors of Protestant Episcopal churches whose names had been omitted were those of the Rev. Alfred B. Kinsolving, of Christ Church; the Rev. John D. G. Bacchus, of the Church of the Incarnation; the Rev. St. Clair Hester, of St. George's Church, and the Rev. Charles Baker, of the Church of the Messiah.

Another strange feature about this remarkable publication is that its catalogue of "select people" contains the names of several persons who have been dead for some time. Here are two instances: "Dr. John L. Zabriskie, No. 878 Flatbush avenue," and "Rev. Dr. Charles H. Hall, No. 157 Montague street."

And now there are many disgruntled Brooklynites, who make the claim that their money was obtained under false pretenses. These are the people who say they received a prospectus of the "Blue Book" stating that they had been put upon the eligible list. The affirmation, they assert, was positive, without proviso concerning a submission of names to a committee of fashionable people for revision, and a request was made to forward $3 for the purpose indicated in the prospectus. They say they sent their money, and now want it back, because their names are not in the "Blue Book."

While grieved at being refused a front seat with the bon ton of Brooklyn society, Mr. Wilson O. Knabe, of No. 34 Willoughby street, is resigned to his fate. His feelings he describes as follows: "I am pained beyond expression that my name has not appeared in the Brooklyn 'Blue Book,' as I paid $3 to be with the '400.' But fools and their money are soon parted. We'll let it pass and know better in future."

POLICEMEN GUARD GOLD.

The Merida Had Half a Million on Board When She Put into Atlantic Basin for Repairs.

Four policemen from the Van Brunt Street Police Station, in Brooklyn, were detailed Saturday afternoon to guard $500,000 in gold on board the Morgan Line steamer Merida, lying in the Atlantic basin. The Merida cleared for Montevedio Saturday morning, but owing to an accident to her screw, put into the Atlantic basin for repairs, and tied up at the North Central pier.

The officers of the Merida, fearing that the steamer would be attacked by river thieves, or that the gang of toughs that infest the Atlantic docks would make an attempt to overpower the crew and steal the treasure, telephoned Police Headquarters in Brooklyn for protection. The Eleventh Precinct was notified, and four policemen, fully armed, were detailed to board the steamer and guard the treasure.

The accident to the screw was repaired during the night, and at 8:45 a. m. yesterday the Merida sailed away, almost twenty-four hours late. It was not known in the basin that the Merida had the gold on board, nor was it generally known that the four men who left the steamer just before she sailed were policemen.

James Moran Beaten and Stabbed.

Four men attacked James Moran near his home, No. 41 Sackett street, Brooklyn, Saturday night. One of them struck him in the face with a heavy ring and another stabbed him. His wounds were dressed by an ambulance surgeon. A man named Cosino and Anthony Coterno, both of No. 96 Degraw street, were arrested on suspicion of being the assailants.

Bennett Casino License Refused.

Mayor Wurster has refused a theatrical license for the new Bennett Casino, Fulton street, Brooklyn. It is claimed that the building was not erected in accordance with the building laws. Senator William H. Reynolds, the builder, says the Casino is all right.

LAUGHING AT SUNDAY LAW.

Temperance Workers in Brooklyn Arraign Mayor Wurster for His Indifference.

Scouts Were Busy Yesterday and Reported That Scores of Saloons Were Selling Drinks.

LIST OF THE LAWBREAKERS READY.

It Will Be Presented To-day to the Mayor and the Commissioner of Police. Bluecoats Who Looked Calmly On.

The temperance people of Brooklyn, who are endeavoring to coax and force Mayor Wurster to enforce the Sunday law, held a meeting yesterday afternoon at No. 515 Fulton street. A dozen of them made two-minute speeches censuring the authorities.

The secretary, J. F. Burgyes, announced that the temperance scouts of the Law Enforcement League had been investigating the saloon of the First, Fourth and Seventh Precincts. He then read their reports, which embodied the following statements:

"The volunteer agents of the league report that their inspection of the saloons to-day reveals no improvement in the observance of the Sunday law. The saloons are open as usual at the side doors and doing a good business. The indifference of the Mayor to the enforcement of the law seems to encourage the lawbreakers, and they openly express themselves as having no fear of being disturbed."

The report then points out the places that were obviously doing business. The list is as follows:

MANHATTAN AVENUE—Nos. 67 and 69 (five men entered with cans in ten minutes), and 103 and 237; 86 Norman avenue, corner Manhattan avenue; 285 and 288, same block as the Tabernacle and St. Anthony's Church (Patrolman No. 890 stood five feet from entrance, opposite police station), also Nos. 391, 398, 408, 435, 447, 468 and 488.
GREENPOINT AVENUE—Nos. 155, 157, 193 and 178.
MYRTLE AVENUE—Nos. 400, 535 and 579.
JAY STREET—Nos. 271, 286, 288 and 387.
HUDSON AVENUE—Nos. 282 and 284.
TILLARY STREET—Nos. 40, 89 and 115.
ADAMS STREET—No. 253.
PEARL STREET—No. 329.
WILLOUGHBY STREET—Nos. 1, 3 and 37.
WASHINGTON STREET—Nos. 269 and 323.
FULTON STREET—Nos. 281 and 360.
MYRTLE AVENUE—Nos. 25, 26, 37, 47, 71, 88, 90, 111 and 114.
BRIDGE STREET—Nos. 265, 407 and 411 (Patrolman No. 308 on opposite sidewalk).

The above list which, according to the scouts, is a carefully prepared and accurate one, will be presented to Mayor Wurster and Police Commissioner Welles to-day.

METHODISTS TO CONSOLIDATE.

Powers and Leonard Street Churches Likely to Become One.

It looks as if the idea long talked about of consolidating the Powers Street M. E. Church and the Leonard Street M. E. Church, of Brooklyn, is about to become a fact. Both pastors, the Rev. Robert Wasson and the Rev. Samuel H. Smith, are heartily in favor of the union, and are supported by their congregations.

The principal reason for the consolidation is found in the fact that the two churches are situated only about five blocks apart, and one church would accommodate the congregations of both charges, and the combined congregations would be able to buy property and build a larger and more commodious edifice.

In a few weeks the Powers Street Church will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary, and it is supposed that some positive and definite action will be taken in the matter at that time.

KNOCKED DOWN AND KICKED.

Dennis Creeden Points Out His Assailant, but the Accused Denies It.

Dennis Creedon, twenty-nine years old, of No. 99 Verona street, Brooklyn, was brutally assaulted by a man at Imlay and Verona streets early yesterday morning.

His assailant knocked him down and kicked him repeatedly. Creeden's face was badly cut, two ribs were broken and his head cut in two places. He was removed to St. Peter's Hospital.

The victim said he was assaulted by Thomas Kenny, twenty-four years old, of No. 91 Verona street, who was arrested. Kenny says he is innocent.

FREE FIGHT IN A TENEMENT.

One Woman Rolled Downstairs and Her Baby Hurt.

Several tenants in the house No. 277 Third avenue, Brooklyn, fought Saturday night and chased each other through the hallways.

Mrs. John Cassidy grasped her infant and started to leave the house. A man, who thought she was a combatant, pushed her down stairs. She rolled to the bottom and escaped unhurt, but the child was bruised considerably.

Cut His Adversary With a Razor.

Giovanni Spezzari, a tailor, and Tony Sandow had a fight in the front room of No. 68 James street last night. Spezzari was getting the worst of it, and he pulled a razor from his pocket and cut through Sandow's clothes and slightly into the flesh of his breast. Patrolman Wagner, standing in the street, heard the uproar, looked through the window and went into the room in time to prevent Spezzari from slashing Sandow again. Spezzari was locked up in Oak Street Station.

ROMEO AT WRONG BALCONY

Brooklyn Young Man, Fired with Shakespeare and Wine, Made a Sad Mistake.

The Face That Appeared at the Window Was Not the One That He Expected to See.

SHOTGUN INSTEAD OF A SMILE.

An Attempted Hurried Exit, by Leaping from a Grape Arbor to the Ground, Proved Disastrous — In Court Charged with Burglary.

A modern and decidedly startling version of "Romeo and Juliet" was enacted before daybreak yesterday at the home of Max Seabold, No. 1110 Pacific street, Brooklyn. The central figure of the episode narrowly escaped a bullet, and saved his life by jumping from an extension roof to the yard, a distance of twenty-two feet. The jumper was picked up unconscious by two policemen, who supposed he was a burglar.

Frederick C. Jacobus is a young man of excellent family, good looking, fairly intelligent and lives at No. 595 Lafayette avenue, Brooklyn.

He was homeward bound in a trolley car about 3:30 yesterday morning. The car reached Franklin avenue and Jacobus got off. According to his own story, he suddenly recalled the fact that he was only a few blocks away from the home of his sweetheart, Miss Josie Pine, who until Saturday morning lived at No. 1108 Pacific street.

Miss Pine is an exceedingly pretty girl of about eighteen years. Both she and Mr. Jacobus are ardent students of Shakespeare. No. 1108 Pacific street is one of a row of two-story and basement frame structures which look exactly alike. The average young man returning home at 3 a. m., after protracted dalliance with the cup that cheers, may be pardoned for not discovering the difference. Miss Pine's family moved Saturday morning, but Mr. Jacobus was apparently unaware of the fact.

UP THE GRAPE ARBOR.

There is an alley way skirting the side of Mr. Seabold's house, and it is protected only by a gate. How jacobus managed it is, of course, only known to himself, but he gained an entrance to the rear court yard and climbed up the grape arbor there, which reaches up to the top of the extension, twenty-two feet from the ground.

The upshot of his nocturnal climb was that Miss Lulu Seabold suddenly appeared at a window at which he was tapping and shrieked. Half a minute later her brother, Max, was aiming a shotgun at the intruder, whom he took for a burglar. Mr. Jacobus leaped from the extension roof to the ground. Here Mr. Seabold, Roundsman Lankford and Patrolman Quinn found him. He lay unconscious at the foot of the grape arbor. At the Grand Avenue Police Station some hours later he gave a fictitious name and address. He was charged with attempted burglary. Later, in the Grant Street Police Court, he gave his real name. He also made this statement:

"I am a living illustration of a fool who is dead in love. This is the first time I ever got into trouble before and it has taught me a lesson that will last a lifetime. I was intoxicated when I started for Miss Pine's house. I really didn't know what I was doing, but in a vague way I made up my mind to go to my sweetheart's house and go through the role of Romeo and Juliet—in a word to exemplify the balcony scene.

FORGOT HIS SHAKESPEARE.

"It was a foolish, drunken freak. I got into the wrong house, climbed up the wrong arbor, and began my protestations of love to the wrong girl.

"I missed my calculations and went one house too far, and it was that that undid me. As I said, it was the wrong house and the wrong arbor. Up I went, hand over hand, until I got to the extension; then I crawled over and tapped at the window, and called out, 'Josie.' Instead of a sweet-faced girl responding, a man with wrath in his face and a rifle in his hand appeared at the window. This knocked the Shakespearian notion out of my head and I jumped from the extension roof to the ground below. I am sorry now that the man did not shoot me and save me from ridicule, if not disgrace. It was the foolish act of a drunken man. While I am sorry for myself, I am doubly sorry for the young women whose names have been brought into this case."

A friend of Mr. Jacobus has explained matters to Mr. Seabold, and the latter has promised not to appear against the prisoner to-day.

Stabbed for a Pail of Beer.

James Behan, of No. 647 Union street, Brooklyn, left his house yesterday morning and got a pail of beer. While returning home three men met him and demanded the beer. He refused and was stabbed by one of the trio, who was arrested. He said his name was William Connors.

Arrested a Salvation Army Ensign.

Yonkers, N. Y., Feb. 16.—Ensign Andrew Crawford, of the Salvation Army, was arrested this afternoon by Patrolman Healy for holding a meeting on Getty square and obstructing the sidewalk. When the patrolman ordered the Salvationists to move on the Ensign is said to have refused to obey, and the arrest followed. Crawford was paroled until morning for examination.

Bright, Reliable and Up to Date,

Law Offices of Jerry A. Wernberg,
Nos 367 to 373 Fulton St
Frank E. O'Reilly — Arbuckle Building
Brooklyn, N.Y. Feb. 13th. 1896

To the Editor of the Journal:

I read the Journal every day. I regard it as one of the best newspapers in this country. It is bright, reliable and up-to-date. You certainly deserve all the success you have attained.

Yours truly,
Jerry A. Wernberg

How Consumers Can Reduce Their Gas Bills.

Learn to read your meter. Otherwise you are at the mercy of the gas company and its employes.

There are three dials on the index. They should be read from left to right. Add two ciphers for hundreds and you have the correct statement.

To get the amount of gas consumed in a given time substract previous statement from present statement.

Keep an eye on the inspector. He sometimes does his computation in the rear room of a saloon.

Don't rely on the key which regulates the flow of gas. By lowering the pressure too much all the gas may go out.

Look to the plumbing. If bad it will partly explain high bills and poor gas.

Don't let the old meter be removed until the disputed bill is settled. It is the only proof you have that your complaint is just.

Don't place too much faith in second inspections. One inspector will often shield another so as not to lose him his job.

PASTOR GREENWOOD MUM.

Not a Word from the Pulpit Yesterday About the Church Trouble, but He Explained to a Reporter.

At the morning service in the West End Baptist Church, on Forty-seventh street, South Brooklyn, yesterday, there was an increased attendance of members, most of whom expected that the pastor, the Rev. George W. Greenwood, would explain from the pulpit the cause of the division in his congregation. In this all were disappointed. Mr. Greenwood devoted his time to preaching the Gospel to his little flock.

After the services Mr. Greenwood said to a reporter that he was pastor of the church and would remain so. Deacons of the church denied there were any reasons to expect the pastor would resign, and expressed themselves as thoroughly in accord with Mr. Greenwood. All the talk of trouble in the church, the deacons say, is the result of a malcontent, who was not pleased with the pastor's election and tried to disrupt the congregation.

In May last the Rev. Mr. Greenwood, who at that time occupied the pulpit, resigned from the charge to become an evangelist. While the larger part of the members of the church were sorry to lose their pastor, there were a few who felt that a heavy burden would be lifted from their shoulders. Among these latter were some of the younger element in the church, who chafed under what they pleased to call the strait-laced methods of the minister.

The members were divided in two factions, the "Greenwoods" and "Anti-Greenwoods." Then one of the members caused to be published in a religious weekly paper a letter signed "One of the Malcontents, and Not of Recent Growth." This letter was to the effect that the ex-pastor had again been called to the church and appointed in a manner that was anything but open; that only the Greenwoods were aware of the nature of a meeting that was called to elect a pastor, when the belief was that the meeting was really called to hear a report from the committee that had had the matter of selecting a new pastor in hand for two months. Though it was not expected that any one would be called to the pastorate, as there was a lack of unity, a ballot was taken, and of the eighty-four members present, sixty-one voted to re-call the old pastor, twenty against and three blanks. The blanks in that instance were thrown out, a custom the church had never adopted before, and so, out of a membership of 251, the Rev. G. W. Greenwood was again chosen pastor by just sixty-one votes.

The opposition asserts that Mr. Greenwood would not have been elected, had the other members known that an election was to have taken place.

Since this dissension arose in the church, Joseph Wild, a resident of Bay Ridge, who had been the "financial backer" of the church in a large amount, has withdrawn from its membership, it is stated, because of the trouble.

Unless the discord takes on a new lease of life, it is thought, the matter will right itself, and everything will move along smoothly. Last night the pastor preached fervently on "The peace that passeth all understanding."

RESCUED OFF SEA CLIFF.

Two Men from West Hampton Have a Narrow Escape from Death.

Sea Cliff, L. I., Feb. 16.—Willet Rogers and Barney Henken, fishermen, residents of West Hampton, narrowly escaped drowning off this place yesterday through the capsizing of a dory. Venturing five miles out during a calm to draw trawls, the storm suddenly overtook them, threatening destruction to their boat.

Westerly winds carried the boat five miles east before the life-saving crew, who had hastened to their assistance, could render aid. The first attempt to land upset the boat, throwing the men into the water. Henken reached shore unaided, but Rogers, who battled desperately with the waves, was finally rescued with a rope when death seemed inevitable. On shore the crew resuscitated him.

SCAMP AT WORK IN FLUSHING.

A Captain of Police and Others Numbered Among the Victims.

Flushing, L. I., Feb. 16.—Arthur Vandewater, a lawyer, and Charles Hance, the Captain of Police, are among the persons who have been victimized by a smooth-tongued fellow who has been at work in this place for the past few days.

The swindler works his game by entering a house on pretence of repairing carpet-sweepers, which he takes away with him. Returning the sweepers, he collects 50 cents for alleged repairs, and then pretending to discover some little omission in his work takes the sweeper away again, failing to return. A large number of persons are out 50 cents each, as well as a carpet-sweeper.

SAYVILLE'S ORANGE HARVEST.

That Fruit as Well as Soft Clams a Glut on the Market.

Sayville, L. I., Feb. 16.—Oranges and clams are a glut in the market in this and adjoining villages. Many boxes of the fruit, which were thrown overboard by the wreckers from the steamer Lamington, are drifting ashore and being carted away by the natives.

Owing to the extreme low tide large quantities of soft clams are being caught daily by the baymen. It was estimated that there were nearly two hundred clam hunters upon the flats along the beach at Saturday's low tide.

William M. Simonson a Justice.

Hicksville, L. I., Feb. 16.—At the meeting held last night by the Republican members of the Board of Town Officers, who compose a majority of the Board, they appointed William M. Simonson, of this village, to the position of Justice of the Peace of the town of Oyster Bay, made vacant by the death of the late Julius Augustin.

Counsel for Fort Pond Case.

East Hampton, L. I., Feb. 16.—At a recent meeting of the Town Trustees of East Hampton Township, Benjamin F. Tracy, of Brooklyn, and Theodore D. Dimon, of Amagansett, were employed to take charge of the Fort Pond case.

TO CLOSE MANY SALOONS.

Mayor Gleason, of Long Island City, Declares War on Liquor Dealers. Too Many in His Town.

One saloon for every seventy-five inhabitants, including men, women and children, is too much beer for Long Island City, according to Mayor Gleason. He is preparing to cut down the number of drinking places and a merry war is promised.

When His Honor went out of office the last time the city had 290 licensed saloons. Now there are 410, making one for every fifteen families, allowing five persons to each rooftree. One of the pledges given by the Mayor to his supporters was that he would bring about reform in this direction, and the good work is on.

At first the man of battle axes was puzzled over how he should begin the crusade. Then a happy inspiration seized him. He would invoke the aid of that law which says that a saloon shall not exist within 200 feet of a church or school house.

The Police Department was forthwith instructed to count beer signs and find out how many there were within the proscribed limits. His Honor was greatly rejoiced to discover that he has over one hundred saloons on the hip under this head, and thinks that they will do for a starter. The returns are not yet completed. It may be that a few more will have to close. Besides these the Mayor says there are a number of cheap groceries and places of questionable repute that will be looked into by his Excise Board. They will be refused a renewal at the expiration of their present licenses.

Just how many of these places will be affected the Mayor does not state. He shakes his head sagely and says that Long Island City will have fewer saloons at the expiration than at the beginning of his term. John Green, chairman of the Excise Board, is a strict Prohibitionist and will render the Mayor every assistance in suppressing the drink evil.

A HELPLESS MAN WANTED.

Great Britain Has Been Supporting Hoffman in the Hospital and Suggests His Removal.

Among the patients in the Eastern District Hospital, Williamsburg, is Henry Hoffman, forty-eight years old, who was a sailor on the British steamship Silver Craig. Hoffman three years ago received a fracture of the spinal column while at work on the vessel by the falling of a pulley block. The vessel was then lying at the foot of South Third street, Williamsburg. He was removed to the hospital and has been unable to leave since. Since his confinement in the institution the English Government has paid the hospital $8 a week board for the patient and kept him in money for tobacco. That government has, through its Consul, suggested the removal of Hoffman to England. When Hoffman was notified of this he expressed a wish to remain where he is. His injuries have rendered the lower part of his body and legs entirely helpless, while the rest of his body is in robust health. He lies on a water mattress on his cot, and eats and sleeps well.

On fine days he is wheeled out onto the veranda of the institution. Although he has been three years a resident of Brooklyn he has never seen a trolley car. The doctors of the hospital say that there are no present indications that would prevent him from living to a ripe old age.

MR. O'BRIEN'S LARGE CORPSE.

It Had to Be Taken Out of the House by the Window.

William O'Brien, one of the heaviest men in Brooklyn, was buried yesterday afternoon in Holy Cross Cemetery. He weighed 300 pounds, and lived at No. 150 Spencer street, in a little frame house so peculiarly constructed that it was necessary to remove the casket from the house by means of a front window. The door is on the side of the house, and opens on a narrow veranda, which made it impossible for the corpse to be taken through the door, because of the sharp turn.

This is the fourth death within twelve months in the O'Brien family. One brother died of pneumonia, another, James O'Brien, shot and killed himself last Spring rather than stand trial for selling illicit whiskey, and a nephew died of appendicitis two months ago. William died from heart disease.

Gaines's Condition Critical.

Flushing, L. I., Feb. 16.—Clarence Gaines, a prominent young man of this place, who was found last night lying on the sidewalk between Main and Union streets unconscious, wth a large wound in the head, is in a critical condition. It is stated by Gaines that he was walking along the street when he was struck a heavy blow with what he thought to be a club. As the blow was struck from behind he did not see his assailant. The police have failed so far to discover the identity of the assailant.

Brookhaven Prohibitionists Active.

Yaphank, Feb. 16.—The Prohibitionists of Brookhaven Town declare that they will make a hot fight in this Spring's campaign. As a preliminary gun in the coming battle announcement is made of a convention to be held at the Town Clerk's Office in this village, on Saturday, February 22. A town ticket will be named. Town Committeemen W. S. Swezey and Henry T. Robins, it is said, will make the liveliest campaign for the cold water party that Suffolk County has ever known.

Hartman Arrested for Forgery.

Justice Harriman, in the Gates Avenue Police Court yesterday, remanded George Hartman, jr., twenty-five years old, for trial on a charge of forging the name of John W. Grabowsky, of No. 1320 Broadway, to a check for $12 and passing it. The prisoner lives at No. 1030 Halsey street, Williamsburg. His arrest was made on a warrant.

Mrs. Cynthia P. Hannaford Dead.

Mrs. Cynthia P. Hannaford, widow of Lyman B. Hannaford, well known as an educator, died Saturday at her home, No. 463 Lexington avenue, Brooklyn. Mrs. Hannaford attended the wedding of her daughter a week ago, and appeared to be in good health. She had been blind two years.

WITH POOR GAS THE BILLS GO UP.

Since the Consolidation of Companies Consumers Are Helpless.

A Plan by Which They Can Keep Tally on the Meters and Inspectors.

KEEP A RECORD FOR YOURSELF.

This Will Prevent Idle Employes from Making Up the Records for the Bills Without Inspecting the Meters. Complaints Useless.

Since last November, when the various gas companies of Brooklyn decided to stifle competition by consolidation, the consumers throughout the city have been more than ever at their mercy.

In the past there was partial redress in some sections of the city if the consumer became convinced that he was a victim of exorbitancy. He could order the offending corporation out of his store or home and patronize a rival company.

It was to close this refuge for the oppressed consumer that the gas companies combined and determined that there should be no further war among themselves. And so the Consolidated Gas Company sprang into existance. It acts simply as a peacemaker, and so long as it lasts the spirit of competition is dead. Each company, under the title of branch of the Consolidated, is operating its own plant just as before.

HIGH PRICES, POOR SERVICE.

Meanwhile the consumers have grown more and more restive under increasing rates and poorer service. There never was a time when the gas throughout all parts of Brooklyn was so bad and the bills so high. Protests are of no avail. If the victims don't like it they have the alternative of doing without.

An effort was made yesterday to find answers to the following questions:

Why is the gas so poor?

What tricks are being played with the meter system?

Is there no way in which the storekeeper and householder may reduce their bills and secure better illumination by efforts of their own?

In what way can they master the mystery of the meter?

Poor gas, experts say, is due to the increase of pressure. The companies, in order to supply customers properly, are obliged to force the gas through the street mains at a much higher pressure than is required at certain points, in order to furnish gas to the ends of the mains. No one, however, has yet been able to construct a meter which will so control the flow of gas that no more shall be supplied at the burner than is necessary to give a perfect light. The meter only measures and registers the gas passing through it.

With increase of pressure the light not only becomes poorer, but the cost is increased. The gas companies, it is claimed, are powerless to prevent this state of things because they cannot overcome the friction in the street mains in any other way than by enormous pressure at the source of supply.

INSPECTORS TO BLAME.

As to the alleged tricks that are played with the meter, gas men say that the machines are legally put out and officially stamped by the State Inspector or one of his deputies. Errors are made, but they are due to the meter takers. Dishonest combination among the company's officers would, it is declared, be well nigh impossible.

The only way in which the consumer can prevent imposition, resulting from inspectors' errors, carelessness or fraud, is by learning to read the meter. If he finds that his inspection does not tally with the gas company's inspection he knows that he is being overcharged. It is the only plan for him to adopt to prevent imposition.

How to read the index of the gas meter is not so difficult as one would suppose at first glance. There are three dials, whose hands indicate respectively from 100 to 1,000 feet on the first dial on the right, from 1,000 to 10,000 feet on the next, and from 10,000 to 100,000 feet on the third. Beginning with the dial on the left hand, the small figure last passed by the hand is taken, then each dial to the right in the same manner, until all the dials are noted. The figures are set down in rotation and two ciphers are added for hundreds. The result is the correct statement.

Each dial hand moves in the direction of the gradual increase of the figures, but these figures run in opposite directions on each next dial. To ascertain the amount of gas consumed in a given time subtract the previous statement from the present statement.

HOW TO PREVENT FRAUD.

If the consumer should be diffident about his own unaided efforts to master the subject, he can have it satisfactorily explained by the officers of the company with whom he deals. Having once learned to read the meter he should keep a sharp lookout on the inspector, who is sometimes careless. Once in a while he is dishonest. Cases have been known where an inspector, relying on the ignorance of the consumers, made up his computations without inspecting the meters.

Southampton to Remain as It Is.

Southampton, L. I., Feb. 16.—The election upon the question whether this village should remain incorporated was decided yesterday in the affirmative by a vote of 212 to 105.

$2.25.

This pretty Corner Chair is really worth $4.00.

It's one of many bargains that are constantly to be found at

MASON'S.

Polished Cherry Frame, Spring Seat and covered with all colors of Silk Brocatelle.

Do You Know How Much Our Easy Terms Help You?

Everything for Housekeeping.

MASON'S,

115, 117, 119 and 121 Myrtle Ave., Corner Bridge St., BROOKLYN.

ESTABLISHED 50 YEARS AGO.