EIGHT TEACHERS TO THREE PUPILS.

Arverne May Close Its School Because of Small Business.

STUDENTS GLAD OF IT.

"Hank" Carey Offers to Rent the Building for a Clam Canning Mill.

The eight teachers in the public school at Arverne threaten to strike because they have too little work to do. There are only three pupils in attendance and sometimes they don't all attend.

Every morning the teachers match pennies for possession of the students, and the five who lose have to spend the day looking out into the Atlantic Ocean, counting the mud scows as they wend their way to the dumping grounds.

The large school building has to be heated, lighted and cleaned for the three pupils. Several tons of coal are burned each week and an engineer and a janitor must work as hard as if the hundreds of children the school was built to accommodate were all there.

The culminating point in the situation was reached on Friday last when none of the pupils showed up. One was helping his father to dig clams, the second had a case of mumps and the third was playing "hookey."

While the Arverne schoolhouse is empty, the schoolhouses in the more peopled parts of the city are so crowded that they are thinking of putting up shelves to accommodate pupils and of hanging some of them upon pegs stuck in the wall.

The citizens of Arverne think the schoolhouse might be used for some other public purpose, while the three forlorn pupils are diverted to the school at Far Rockaway or to the one at Rockaway Beach. The "public purpose," however, for which they desire to use it is as a headquarters for the campaign in favor of Arverne seceding from Greater New York. It is not likely that the city authorities will permit of its employment for any such mutinous purpose.

Meanwhile that public-spirited citizen, "Hank" Carey, of Far Rockaway, has offered to lease the building as a canned clam factory. Not having any capital of his own, he offers to furnish references to Greater New York and to give the municipality an interest in the business if he may use the school.

7TH REGIMENT'S KITCHEN TESTED AT COMPANY FEAST.

Cooking Department Has Been Made Perfect at a Cost of $5,000.

Should occasion ever require the Seventh Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., to be kept under arms in its armory at Park avenue and Sixty-sixth street, its 1,300 members would not go hungry, neither would have they to depend on restaurants. This was made plain last evening when Company A dined on a meal cooked in the armory by members of the regiment.

There are 100 good cooks in the regiment, divided ten to a company. The cooking department in the armory has been made a model institution at a cost of $5,000. The refrigerator, of thirty tons capacity, can hold provisions for the entire regiment for a week. Nearly all the cooking is done by steam.

The Company A dinner last evening was cooked under the supervision of Private George W. Lyons. It consisted of beef soup, steak and vegetables. Company G will hold its dinner in the armory on Monday night next.

MODERN PIED PIPER KILLS 1,000 RATS A DAY.

Rodents Infesting Baltic Port Greedily Devour Small Fish Stuffed with Poison.

Copenhagen, Dec. 16.—The plague of rats afflicting this city and making miserable the lives of ship owners, warehousemen and families has extended to nearly all of the Baltic ports. Where on earth all of the rodents come from is a mystery. The medical men say that their presence menaces the health of the countries, as they undoubtedly act as carriers of diseases.

In consequence of the alarm and many unpleasantnesses growing out of the plague hundreds of the ingenious are at work upon plans for getting rid of the rats. A ship owner of Altoona has hit upon a scheme that works wonders, and it is believed that if it is adopted in the other infested cities there will be few of the pests alive in a short time.

At Altoona gangs of fishermen go out every night with seines and bring in vast quantities of a fish three or four times larger than the minnow. These are opened on the under side, and into the cavity is placed strychnine. The aperture is closed and the fish are placed about where the rats may get at them. The fish are greedily devoured.

The plan has been in operation a week now, and it is found that it has resulted in the death of more than 1,000 rats a day.

CRIME IN LONDON WELL UNDER CONTROL.

In a Year Only 498 Burglaries in a Population of 6,500,000.

London, Dec. 16.—The report of the Commissioner of Police, just issued, shows that the area for which the metropolitan police—numbering 15,694 men—are responsible covers 688 square miles. The cost of its maintenance is sixpence in the pound on a ratable valuation of forty-one millions sterling.

In 1898 the number of offences was 19,656—somewhat less than the total for 1895. Burglaries numbering 498 are considered few in a population of six and a half millions.

The number of "ticket-of-leave" men who gained full or partial liberty during the year was 750. The total number of removals from the police force during the year was 8,454, only 10 per cent being for misconduct.

APPEALS FOR AID FOR BOERS AND THEIR WOUNDED.

How Americans May Show Their Sympathy and Assist the Red Cross.

Appeals to all Americans to aid the American Transvaal Fund for the widows and orphans of the Boers and for the care of the wounded within Boer lines under the direction of the Red Cross have been issued.

Subscriptions to the first named fund may be sent to George W. Van Siclen, No. 141 Broadway, who will forward all remittances to C. C. de Villiers, treasurer of the Committee of the Africander Fund. Mr. Van Siclen writes:

"I appeal to all Americans to show their sympathy with the brave people who are fighting to the death the arrogance and imposition of the great British Empire in order to remain free and independent as did our forefathers in 1776 and 1812. There will be no Boer wounded on the British-American hospital ship."

Contributions for the Red Cross work within Boer River lines may be sent to Tunis G. Bergen, treasurer of the American Committee, at No. 38 Liberty street, New York. The Boers are greatly deficient in hospitals and hospital supplies.

All Cars Transfer to **Bloomingdales** 3d Ave., 59th & 60th Sts. STORE OPEN EVENINGS.

Store Open Evenings Until Christmas.

The Last 6 Days will be busy days, and the advantages of early shopping—forenoon shopping—are many. Comfort, convenience, economy, are all at your service at Bloomingdales'.

ONE FARE FROM ANYWHERE **Bloomingdales** 3d Ave., 59th & 60th Sts. STORE OPEN EVENINGS.

HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR MEN, WOMEN AND JUVENILES—SELECT FROM 65 DEPTS.

DRAFTS ON EUROPE. Banking Department, Main Floor.

Cut Glass and China.

3d Floor.

Dinner Sets, decorated, as low as 7.95

Dinner Sets, Carlsbad China, 102 pieces, pretty floral decorations, fancy shape; value $17.00, special, 12.45

Dinner Sets, Carlsbad China, 113 pieces; pretty floral decorations, fancy shape, handles gold stippled; regular price $19.00; special price, 13.95

Dinner Sets, English porcelain, made by Clementson and Mellor, Taylor & Co., Hanley, England; fancy shape, beautiful pink floral decorations, 115 pieces, regular selling price, $19.00; sale price, 12.98

Dinner Sets, English porcelain, manufactured by Mellor, Taylor & Co., Bruslem, England; fancy shape, 115 pieces, with beautiful underglaze border decorations, regular selling price $14.00; sale price, 9.95

Dinner Sets, Limoges china, 114 pieces, fancy shape, beautiful floral decorations, all pieces with gold stippled edges, regular selling price $40.00; sale price, 28.95

Tea Sets, Limoges china, fancy shape, 56 pieces, beautiful floral decorations, gold stippled handles, regular price $10.00; special, 7.45

Tea Sets, Carlsbad china, neatly decorated, 56 pieces, 5.75

Others as low as 2.95

Special—Lace Bisque, sitting and standing figures; regular 29c. goods, special, 19

Lace Bisque Busts and Ballet Dancers; regular price 98c., special, 75

Cut Glass.

The most complete line of **Cut Glass** at the lowest prices.

Third Floor, 59th St. Section.

Gloves Make Excellent Gifts.

Read This List of Exceptional Offers.

Very, very special,

Adler's $1.00 Gloves at 69c., as follows:

Men's (Adler's) lined kid, made from soft, pliable skins, in all colors, worth $1.00 per pair, at 69

At 39 **Men's All-Wool Astrachan Lined Gloves,** navy, seal and black, worth 75c.

At 69 **Men's Fine P. K. Walking Kid Gloves,** beautiful assortment of tan shades, every pair warranted, worth $1.00.

At 50 **Men's Buckskin Lined Gloves,** guaranteed water proof.

At 49 **Children's Kid Gloves and Mittens,** fleece lined, with or without fur tops, in tan, red and brown.

At 1.00 **Men's Fine Suede Mocha Gloves,** in lined and unlined, made of very choice skins, good value for $1.50.

Ladies' Pure Silk Mittens, fancy black, put up in 1 pair box, worth $1.00; Monday at 49

Jumel Real Kidskins, $1.00.

Our standard make of **Ladies' Jumel 2-Clasp Real Kidskin Gloves.** These have no equal for fit and durability. Every pair of kid gloves is made from the best selected kidskins only, and is cut and sewed by the best French kid glove makers only. Try them and you will be delighted. We have them in almost every shade; every pair stamped "Jumel," 1.00

FREE—With every pair of Kid Gloves we present a Glove Box and a Glove Buttoner.

Main Floor, 59th St. Section.

The Lace Curtains.

To close out every pair of Lace Curtains we have before January 1st we have made exceptional prices. If you require lace curtains, no matter what style, Nottingham, Irish Point or Arabian, whether at 59c. pair or $85.00 pair, you will find them here. The following lots for to-morrow are well worth considering:

Renaissance Lace Curtains.

55 pairs **Renaissance Lace Curtains,** very showy, are worth a great deal more; pair, 6.75

42 pairs **Renaissance Lace Curtains,** wide insertion, pretty corner, cannot be matched under $12.00; for pair, 8.50

66 pairs **Renaissance Lace Curtains,** several new effects, every one a gem; these would cost elsewhere $16.00; for pair, 12.00

38 pairs **Renaissance Lace Curtains,** very new and effective; these would cost anywhere else $21.00; for pair, 17.50

Irish Point Lace Curtains.

75 pairs **Irish Point Lace Curtains,** several pretty designs; all well covered; pair, 2.98

58 pairs **Irish Point Lace Curtains,** all this season's newest effects; they are well worth $5.60; for pair, 3.98

69 pairs **Irish Point Lace Curtains**—there are several choice and new designs and would cost a great deal more money at any other place. Our price, 4.50

85 pairs **Irish Point Lace Curtains** that are perfect gems; these we have sold at $8.50, for 6.50

500 pairs **Irish Point Lace Curtains,**

7.50, 8.50, 10.00, 12.00,

and upward, a saving of fully 25 to 33 1-3 per cent.

3d Floor, 59th St. Section.

BLOOMINGDALE BROS.,

3d Ave., 59th and 60th Sts.

Great Watch Sale.

This Sale is another demonstration of the matchless buying and selling power of Greater New York's Greatest Store. Every watch guaranteed a perfect timepiece, and money cheerfully refunded if not entirely satisfactory.

Ladies' Watches of solid silver, handsomely engraved, stem winders and setters, with fine Swiss movements; you would consider them cheap if you purchased them from an exclusive dealer at $5.00; our sale price, 1.85

Only one to a customer, none to dealers of the above.

Gold Filled Hunting-Case Watch, with a 7-jewelled, full nickel, best American movement; a 5-year guarantee from the manufacturer; stem winder and setter; thousands sold every day at $10 and $12; our sale price, 5.95

Gold Filled Open Face Watches, thin model, plain

polish or engine turned, warranted for 5 years, fitted with a nickel 7-jewel American movement, sold by exclusive dealers at $10.00; special, 5.95

Gentlemen's 14-kt. gold-filled **Hunting Case Watches,** guaranteed to wear 20 years, newest models and engravings, fitted with full plate American movements, warranted perfect timekeepers; value $18; our sale price, 8.95

The Popular Enamelled Watches, chatelaine to match, richly enamelled in all the delicate shades—green, garnet, turquoise, &c.—sold all over at $10 and $12; our sale price, with case, 5.95

Ladies' Watches, solid silver, beautifully engraved, with fine Swiss movements, silver brooch chatelaine and neat box; sold as a great bargain by some at $6.50; our sale price, complete outfit, 2.95

Ladies' Solid Gold Watches, double cases, engraved, plain, polished or engine turned, fitted with fine Swiss movements, some of them sold by exclusive dealers from $15.00 to $20.00; special, choice as long as they last, 6.95

Ladies' Enamelled Chatelaine Watch Sets, backs enamelled in variety of miniatures, enamelled pin and box; value $13.50; special, 6.95

Main Floor, Front, Centre.

That Solid Gold and Diamond Jewelry Sale.

Stock includes a large variety of Diamond Earrings, Brooches, Pendants, Tie Clasps, Pocket Knives, Pocket Match Safes, Studs, etc.

10-karat **Solid Gold Link Cuff Buttons,** elegantly chased in a large variety of newest designs; would be considered a bargain by a jeweler at $3.00; our price, per pair, 98

10-karat **Solid Gold Link Cuff Buttons,**

elegantly chased, in a large variety of newest designs, with diamonds, would be at a jeweler's $4.50; per pair 1.95

Eardrops and Earscrews, set with fine cut white diamonds weighing about 1-16 and 1-64 of a karat, actual value $7.50 per pair; our sale price, 5.00

Solid Gold Rings, set with fine cut diamonds, weighing 1-16 and 1-32 carat; value $10.00; special, our sale price, 5.00

Solid Gold Rings, set with diamond weighing about 1-32 of a karat, value $4.00; special, our sale price, 2.75

Tie Clasps, a variety of designs of solid gold set with one diamond, special sale price, 1.98

Main Floor, Front, Centre.

Slippers For Men and Women.

Men's Slippers, black or brown, patent leather trimmed; price, per pair, 50

Men's Tan Romeos, perfect fitting and well made; price, per pair, 1.59

Men's Slippers, handsome, in tan or black, with flexible soles; price, per pair, 98

Ladies' Slippers, plain felt, hand-turned soles, in green, blue, red and black; price, per pair, 1.00

Ladies' Princess Slippers, fancy corded, made of felt, green, red, blue and black; price, per pair, 1.49

Ladies' "Juliette" Slippers, best quality felt, in red and black colors, strictly hand made, very easy on the feet; price, per pair, 1.19

Second Floor, 59th St. Section.

Toys and Dolls.

Bring the children to explore the wonders of the Giant Toy and Doll Store.

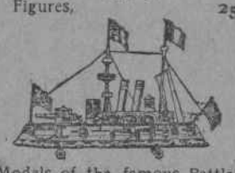
Carts, Milk Wagons, &c., 49, 86, 1.13

Stables, complete, 24, 49, 63, 79, 98, 1.19

Mechanical Swan, made of tin, will float in water, 69, 98

Mechanical Rough Rider, made of tin, finely finished, 39

Mechanical Clapping Figures, 25



Models of the famous Battleships, 76, 38, 18

Rough Riders on extension platforms, 36, 18

Skin-Covered Goats, with voice. 98, 1.23, 1.98

Saddle Horses, 24, 36, 46, 84, 98 to 7.56

Loaded Trucks, Hay.

Paint Boxes, 10, 18, 39

Toy Furniture, 24, 69, 89

Oscillating Horses, 2.13, 2.57, 3.43, 3.99

Velocipedes, 1.24, 1.69

School Desk, hardwood, extra well made, has double cone slate inside, 94, 1.16, 1.39

Pewter Soldiers, 25, 49, 98

Wood Box Toys, 15, 24, 49

Magnetic Toys, 22, 38, 49

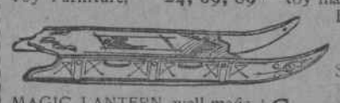
Complete Laundry Set, 10

Roosevelt's Stock Farm, the largest and most attractive toy made this season, 74

Boys' Sleds and Clippers, 53, 79, 94, 1.94

Skates, 49, 69, 98

Ground Floor, Front.



MAGIC LANTERN, well made, 10 in. high, with six slides; 32 other styles, at 49, 98, 1.49, 2.23

UPRIGHT STEAM ENGINE, 69, 98, 1.49

JOINTED KID BODY DOLL, 12 in. long, fine big head, showing teeth, curly wig, and shoes and stockings, 25

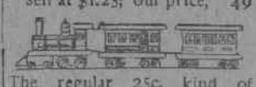
Other styles, 1.24, 98, 79, 49

DISAPPEARING GUNS, made of wood, 74

Games.

Battle of Manila,	24
Uncle Sam's Mail,	84
Steeplechase,	31
Po t-Office,	98
Game of Pool,	44
Little Corporal,	34
India,	18
On Guard,	18
Uncle Sam's War with Spain,	49

ARCHERINA AND CHECKER BOARD Combined, made to sell at $1.25; our price, 49



The regular 25c. kind of WOOD TRAIN for 10

Our Very Remarkable Holiday Sale of Books

Has attracted thousands and thousands to our Book Store. We sell books cheaper than any other house. A saving here on every book you purchase

Don't Miss These. Read the Prices.

The Martian, by George Du Maurier, illustrated by the author, handsomely bound in linen cloth and gold, the original edition, published at $1.75; our holiday sale price, per vol., 19

At 15c. Per Volume. Handy Classic Edition.

An entirely new edition, embracing the best works of the world's greatest writers, 16mo size, beautifully bound in cloth, including valuable and exclusive editions, some of which have never been sold before for less than 65c.; there are over 150 titles to choose from.

The Minister's Wooing.	Representative Men.
The Professor at the Breakfast Table.	Sesame and Lilies.
Abbe Constantin.	Song of the Four.
Autocrat of the Breakfast Table.	Sketch Book.
Beauties of Shakespeare.	Soldiers Three.
Book of Golden Deeds.	Story of an African Farm.
Mrs. Browning's Poems.	Stickit Minister.
	Stories from the History of Rome.

5 Vol. Sets for 59c.

BOOK SETS, all the popular standard authors, neatly bound in cloth, stamped in gold, printed on good paper from new type, each 5 volumes, embracing the following; our clearing sale price, complete set, for 59

Books for Children.

Harper's Round Table, published at $2.50; our holiday price, 1.22

Chatterbox, new, our holiday price, 62

St. Nicholas, new, in two volumes; published at $4.00; our holiday price, per set, 2.68

Alice in Wonderland, our holiday price, 10

Beautifully bound, a new edition of **Robinson Crusoe, Bible Stories, Wood's Natural History, History of England;** our holiday price, per volume, 25

Sunday for 1900, our holiday price, 59

Main Floor, 59th St. Section.

A Christmas Box for the Baby.

Ask to see the lovely little **Christmas Box for Baby,** with a pretty little **Sacque,** a handsome satin **Rattle,** with silver bells, and a dainty pair of **Bootees,** 98

Second Floor, Front, Centre.

Dress Patterns for Holiday Presents.

5,000 very choice Dress Patterns offered this week at 1.75 to 10.00 that are priced below all competing efforts.

Very neat, serviceable **Dress Patterns** of **Cheviot** in small, neat effects, and a handsome **Figured Poplin** in black and colors; makes a neat present; 8 yards each, at only 1.75

Our assortment and values in **Dress Patterns** for 3.00 each are really marvellous. They come in **Poplins, Surahs, Serges, Henriettas, Homespuns,** &c.

Main Floor, Front, Centre.

Children's Aprons.

Children's White Aprons, of fine figured lawn, trimmed with fine embroidered insertion across fronts, bretelles over shoulders, with ruffles of same material; a useful holiday gift; regular price 75c., at 49

Second Floor, Front, Centre.

Furs and Fur Coats

Genuine Nearseal Jackets, made from the celebrated P. L. Electric Fur, can hardly be distinguished from Alaska Seal, lined with Skinner's heavy satin, which we guarantee for two years, at the remarkable price of 25.00

Persian Lamb Coats, Leipzig dye, from stock or made to order from your own choice of skins, designs and linings, at the special price of 75.00

Genuine Alaska Sealskin Jackets, from stock, all made to order at the special price. 125.00

Fashionable Fur Sets.

Blue Fox, per set,	29.00
Sable Fox, per set,	15.00
Red Fox, per set	12.00
Imitation Blue Fox, Sable Fox and Black Fox, per set.....	7.95

Second Floor, 59th St. Section.

Ladies' Outer Garments. Ladies' Cloaks & Suits.

Ladies' Jackets, like cut, of fine quality all-wool kersey in black, navy, royal castor and light tan, made in the newest shape, 6-button, double-breasted, box or fly-front style, pearl buttons, strapped and tailor-stitched seams and lined throughout with superior quality satin; reduced for this sale from $12.50 to 7.90

6.98 **Ladies' Suits** of all-wool black and navy cheviot or homespun cheviot, in iron gray, medium gray or bluish gray. Two styles in coats, either fly-front and scalloped bottom or double-breasted box front, lined with fine quality colored silk; skirt is the newest shape, back velvet bound; $15.00 should be the price, but here they are 6.98

4.49 **Ladies' Skirts,** of Oxford gray, bluish gray, black and brown homespun cheviot, saddle back, panel side stitched and trimmed with large steeline buttons, percaline lined, velvet bound; our usual price is $5.98; for this sale, 4.49

Second Floor, 59th St. Section.

Ladies' Kid Gloves.

Wertheimer's Ladies' Kid Gloves, sublime quality, 2 clasp, choice of colors—white, pearl gray, tan, modes, black—complete assortment of colors and sizes to select from; your choice, per pair, 65

Remember that all gloves on sale are strictly new shades, and every pair warranted absolutely perfect.

The Handkerchiefs.

This BIG CLEARANCE SALE of nearly 50,000 dozens at prices less than cost to land comes opportunely.

Ladies' Fancy Embroidered Handkerchiefs, ½ doz. in box:

Were 50c. box, now	39	Were $1.25 box, now	98
Were $1.00 box, now	75	Were $1.50 box, now	1.19

Were $2.00 box, now 1.50

Ladies' Initial Handkerchiefs, ½ doz. in box:

Were 35c. box, at	29	Were 98c. box, at	63
Men's Initial Handkerchiefs, ½ doz. in box:			
Were 75c. box, at	50	Were 90c. box, at	75

Were $1.00 box, at 90

Men's Silk Initial Handkerchiefs.

500 dozen **Men's Silk Initial Handkerchiefs,** ALL LETTERS, regular value 50c. to $1 each; choice, each, 39

3,000 dozen **Ladies' Swiss Embroidered Lace-Trimmed Handkerchiefs,** handsome patterns, 25, 15, 12½, 10

Main Floor, 59th St. Section.

Christmas Groceries.

TOMATOES, extra fine, solid pack, red, ripe, big cans,	6	PLUM PUDDING—very finest, 1-lb. cans,	18
OUR 10c. JERSEY TOMATOES, large cans,	8	2-lb. cans,	33
TOMATOES, our 13c. kind, extra fine quality and extra large can, this sale, per can,	10	3-lb. cans,	48
MAINE SWEET SUGAR CORN, our 12. kind, per can,	9	Directions for making a most delicious Plum Pudding Sauce with each can.	
CORN, extra fine, young and tender, per can,	7	CLEANED CURRANTS, best, 1-lb. pkgs.,	8
STRINGLESS BEANS, very fine, per can,	7	SEEDED RAISINS, best, 1-lb. pkgs.,	11
STRINGLESS BEANS, extra fine, per can,	10	CITRON, ORANGE or LEMON PEEL, per lb.,	13
CALIFORNIA ASPARAGUS, fancy, 19c., 23c., 26c, and	31	MIXED NUTS, best, per lb.,	14
LIMA BEANS, best Booth's, per can,	6	BLACK WALNUTS, per lb.,	5
OKRA, plain or with tomato, 3-lb. cans,	12	FRENCH WALNUTS, per lb.,	13
FRENCH PEAS, fine, best, per can,	13	TABLE RAISINS, fine Malagas, 1-lb. pkgs.,	13
		TABLE RAISINS, finest, 1-lb. package,	25
		LAYER FIGS or PULLED FIGS, best 1-lb. pkgs.,	15
		MINCE MEAT, none more delicious, in glass jar,	65

Wines, &c.

Genuine PEPPER WHISKEY, old and rich, extraordinary value at this price, per bottle,	38
Our famous GAUNTLET RYE WHISKEY, per bottle,	43
TOKAY, finest domestic, healthful, nourishing, one-half gallon, 49c.; per gallon,	94
BEEF, IRON AND WINE, our 39c. bottle for	19
GIN, best imported, big bottle,	60
CALIFORNIA PORT or SHERRY, extra fine, big bottles,	18

Fine Cigars.

CREMO CIGARS (Acker, Merrall & Condit's), 4c. each; box of 50,	1.85
LA REGENCIA HAVANA CIGARS, finest Vuelta Havana wrappers and fillers, good value at twice these prices; PURITANOS, box of 50,	2.99
CONCHAS ESPECIALES, box of 50,	2.75
THE FAMOUS TREE CUTTER BRAND, very fine smoker, choice long filler, best speckled wrapper, Perfecto size, box of 50,	99
PERFECTO SIZE, good Seed Havana, domestic, box of 50, 88c. and	59

Ground Floor, 59th St. Section.

BLOOMINGDALE BROS.,

3d Ave., 59th and 60th Sts.