GROUT MANDAMUS PROCEEDINGS

Justice Cullen Has the Papers—Decision May Affect All State Voters—Supervisors' "Dead Line."

Counsel for Edward M. Grout yesterday submitted briefs to Justice Cullen of the Supreme Court, Brooklyn, in the mandamus proceedings to compel the city and county canvassers to correct errors; that is, to count ballots which have been returned as defective. Argument in this matter was heard Saturday.

Justice Cullen took the papers. His decision is awaited with impatience, as it will not only affect the votes in the City of Brooklyn, but in the entire State.

The Board of Aldermen as city canvassers, resumed their work in canvassing the vote yesterday, and finished the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Wards as follows:

Seventeenth Ward—Wurster, 3,613; Grout, 3,981; Shepard, 197; blank, 47; defective, 109.

Eighteenth Ward—Wurster, 1,218; Grout, 1,688; Shepard, 55; blank, 32; defective, 34.

The Aldermen will resume the canvass to-day.

The Supervisors, who receive $3 each a day, have made a sorry mess of the canvass. They have divided the work into Senatorial districts, and have conducted it in such a way that they are not able to announce any authentic result up to the present time.

They claim they have been interfered with by persons who are interested in the canvass, and yesterday they established what is called a "dead line," and no one but the Supervisors and their clerks were allowed within it.

MR. AND MRS. DACRE KNOWN HERE

The Actors Who Took Their Lives Had Met with Failure.

Arthur Dacre and his wife, Amy Roselle, who, according to dispatches, committed suicide in Sydney, New South Wales, were well known in this city and elsewhere in America. In England, not many years ago, Amy Roselle was regarded as one of the most promising of actresses. She came to this country with her husband in 1891.

Dacre, whose real name was Culver James, had been here in 1878. He was engaged on his second visit for Mrs. Leslie Carter's company, and supported her in "The Ugly Duckling." He was not a success, and was soon dismissed. He sued Mrs. Carter for a season's salary, but lost the suit.

After this failure, he and his wife had no success in this country. They produced a play called "Love and War" in the Garden Theatre, in the Spring of 1891. It was a failure. Friends came to their rescue with a benefit performance, and they were enabled to return to England.

Miss Roselle obtained a short London engagement, and then she and Dacre, with a small company of their own, went through the provinces. They had little success. Then they started for Australia. Before leaving England, Miss Roselle said to a friend that Australia was their last hope. "Don't be surprised," she said, "if you hear of me playing an old woman's part in a musical comedy one of these days."

In Australia they produced "A Scrap of Paper," "Caste," "The Ironmaster," and other plays. Their failure was complete. The London Gaiety Company, which produced "A Gaiety Girl" here last year, was giving "Gentleman Joe" in Melbourne at that time. The Dacres obtained the rights to the piece for New South Wales. Nothing they had previously tried had been suited to them. "Gentleman Joe" was the greatest failure of all.

"If Miss Roselle had been willing to work apart from her husband," said a New-York theatrical manager yesterday, "she would have a splendid New-York engagement to-day."

FIRE-PROOF BUILDINGS.

Relieving the Public Mind—Correct Principles of Construction Properly Carried Out.

Considerable excitement has recently been aroused by crititcisms made in various quarters upon the alleged fire-proof qualities of many of New-York's large buildings. These criticisms had their origin in Chief Bonner's strictures upon those structures which, whether they are or are not proof against internal fire, cannot resist the warping and twisting forces exerted by extreme heat from without, and so fall to pieces when subjected to a severe test. So far, so good; but the strictures of our able fire chief have been carried on by the public mind to an unwarrantable conclusion. Whatever may be charged against a building whose construction is faulty, justice must be done when a building is as surely fire-proof as modern enterprise, science, and experience can make it. As an instance of genuinely fire-proof construction, the Mutual Reserve Building, at the corner of Broadway and Duane Street, has been selected. This massive and impressive structure was carefully inspected a few days ago under the guidance of Geo. H. Wooster, the Managing Director, and William H. Hume, the architect of this and many other notable buildings. The inspection showed that the Mutual Reserve Building closely approached the ideal of safe construction, whether tested by fire from within or from without. In the first place, wood or other combustible material is used only for ordinary office furniture, window casements, and doors. If this material should ever take fire, only the exercise of the greatest ingenuity could cause the fire to spread beyond the room where it originated. As for the building itself, it is, perhaps, only necessary to say that it apparently almost exaggerates the most stringent requirements of the law. Steel, stone, fire-proof brick, and fire-proof asbestos cement are the materials. All the framework is steel—riveted, not bolted, together—and completely incased in fire-brick and plastered with fire-proof asbestos cement. This casing effectually prevents the warping or twisting of the steel framing by the most intense heat. Modern scientific construction can go no further.

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