

## HORGAN & SLATTERY COLLECT

**Architects Favored by Van Wyck Accept \$127,706 for \$300,000 City Debt.**

The claims against the city of the old firm of architects, Horgan & Slattery, which had a practical monopoly of the city's business in this line during the administration of Mayor Van Wyck and which was favored with the contracts for drawing the plans for many structures which have never been built, have finally been settled.

The original claim was for \$300,883, but this was cut to \$127,706. The matter has been before the City Government and in the courts for a long time.

In talking of it yesterday, Controller Prendergast said:

"The claims were an inheritance which we had to meet. The basis of settlement was approved by my predecessor and the Corporation Counsel, and there was nothing for me to do but pay the money. I have no criticism to make of the settlement. A substantial decrease was obtained in the original amount of the claim. It is unfortunate that the city is compelled to pay for plans which were never used, but that is something over which I have no control. We will endeavor to prevent such things happening in the future."

It was noted with interest yesterday that Daniel F. Cohalan, Grand Sachem of Tammany Hall and personal adviser of Charles F. Murphy, who received \$48,000 for legal services from the city in January on an inherited claim, acted as counsel for the architects in the settlement negotiations.

During the Van Wyck administration Horgan & Slattery received commissions to draw many plans for city work, the majority of which were never used. Soon after Mayor McClellan came into office they presented their three-hundred-thousand-dollar claim. It was sent to the Controller's office for investigation and held up there. The firm went to court on some of the items and obtained judgments against the city.

One of the principal cuts made in the bill was in the item for plans for the remodeling of the County Court House. The original claim was for \$165,000, based on 2½ per cent. of the estimated cost of the work. This was reduced to \$96,000. An item of \$14,000 for the plans for a new armory for the Second Naval Battalion was reduced to \$6,000.

Some of the other claims were for plans for a new sidewalk about the City Prison, alterations in the trial room at Police Headquarters, alterations in the Willard Parker Hospital, the Sixty-ninth Regiment Armory, and several police stations, firehouses, and recreation piers.

When ex-Controller Metz was asked about the settlement yesterday he said:

"I recall the whole matter distinctly. The city could not get out of paying the money. Services had been rendered, and it makes no difference whether or not the plans were used. The law is clear on that point. I do not know how Horgan & Slattery got the plums. It was before my time. It seems to me that, on the whole, we obtained a good compromise and that the city is getting out of the thing very well."

## GILLENDER BUILDING DOWN.

**Stood at Nassau and Wall and Was**

**Once the Tallest in New York.**

The famous Gillender Building, which when erected twelve years ago on the northwest corner of Nassau and Wall Streets was called the tallest skyscraper in the world, its tower rising 300 feet above the street, has gone the way of other landmarks. The wreckers finished their work of demolition, earning a bonus of \$500 for the housewrecking company by tearing the building down one day ahead of the contract time of forty-five days.

More than 200 men have been engaged in the work day and night. Two Italian workmen were injured in the work by being hit by falling girders and one of them died in the hospital.

In addition to tearing down the Gillender Building, the old seven-story Stevens Building, which formed an "L" around the Gillender Building, with frontages on both Wall and Nassau Streets, also has been entirely cleared away and the corner is now ready for additional excavating work for the new Bankers' Trust Company Building, a thirty-story structure, which will be immediately erected on the site.

The contract for tearing down the Gillender and Stevens Buildings was \$50,000, and in addition the wrecking company receives all the old material, from which Joseph Volk, President of the company, expects to realize about \$25,000.

## ABERNATHY BOYS SEE LOEB.

**They Tell the Collector About Their**

**Long Ride Across Country.**

Jack Abernathy, accompanied by his sons, Louis and Temple, called yesterday at the Custom House to see Collector Loeb. There was such a rush to the outer office of the Collector as soon as it became known that the boys were there that Capt. Lutz had to turn out his marine police to keep the corridors clear and prevent a rush on the visitors.

The Collector was busy when his callers arrived, and for a time they had to wait in the reception room. They were entertained by Deputy Collectors Stuart and Baker.

When Mr. Loeb appeared he chatted with the boys for some time and got them to repeat some of their experiences on their long cross-country ride. When they left the Collector's office many in the waiting crowd shook hands with them.

## LAUTERBACH SEPARATION SUIT

**Wife Says It Is Her Answer to a Slur**

**on Her Integrity.**

Concerning the action for separation which she has instituted against her husband, Mrs. Edward Lauterbach said yesterday:

"I instituted this suit with the greatest reluctance, but was impelled to do so by the fact that a slur had been cast on my integrity in the action Mr. Lauterbach brought against me for an accounting of money. I deemed it my duty to refute his charges, and believed that my action for a separation would give me the fullest opportunity to do so."

## LATEST CUSTOMS RULINGS.

**Rags of Wool and Vegetable Fibre Are**

**Held Not to be "Woolen Rags."**

It was decided yesterday by the Board of United States General Appraisers that rags composed of wool and vegetable fibre need not stand duty as "woolen rags" with a tax of 10 cents per pound under the provisions of Paragraph 374 of the Tariff act of 1909. Castle, Gotthell & Overton, the importers, set up the contention that the merchandise should be admitted free of duty either under Paragraph 644 as paper stock, or under Paragraph 660 as rags not otherwise provided for.

General Appraiser Chamberlain, who writes the decision for the board, says that from an examination of the evidence the claim for free entry as paper stock must be sustained. According to the General Appraiser, the merchandise is not known in trade and commerce as woolen rags and does not, therefore, come within the tariff term for "woolen rags."

On this point, in sustaining the protest, Mr. Chamberlain says: "It is more specifically provided for in Paragraph 644 as paper stock, as the record shows it is used in the manufacture of roofing and other paper. Note abstract 2,625, involving a similar question, where the board sustained the claim for free entry without specifying whether Paragraph 632, or 648, of the Tariff act of 1897, which paragraphs in so far as they may be pertinent are identical to corresponding paragraphs 660 and 644 of the present Tariff act, is the more specific. The protest claiming free entry as paper stock is sustained and the decision of the Collector reversed."

**Homing Pigeon Boards a Ship at Sea.**

A homing pigeon flew on board the steamer Kansas City, from Swansea, on Wednesday when the vessel was 60 miles east of Fire Island. Upon the arrival of the steamship yesterday Capt. Frankland reported the incident. The bird had a silver ring on its right leg marked "T. S. L., 1904, 1849."

**The Magdalena Floated; Undamaged.**

News was received here yesterday from Cartagena, Colombia, that the Royal Mail Steam packet Magdalena, which went ashore near the entrance to that port on Monday afternoon, had been floated without damage. The liner was on her way from Southampton to New York via the West Indies and Panama and had 110 cabin passengers on board.