

LOCAL GAS SITUATION

Details of the Consolidated's Absorption of the Standard.

Gas Stocks on the Exchange—Advance in Brooklyn Union Gas—Consolidated's Extension Plans.

The circular of the Protective Committee of the Standard Gas Light Company, giving the details of the absorption of that company by Consolidated Gas interests, was sent yesterday to the Standard stockholders who had deposited their stock with the Mercantile Trust Company in pursuance of the agreement of last January. The sale of these holdings of Standard stock is made to Dominick & Williams, the Consolidated Gas Company not appearing in the transaction.

The price, as already published, is 135 for the common stock and 155 for the preferred stock, a commission of 1 per cent. going to the broker negotiating the sale. The circular states that the certificates of stock deposits must be turned over between June 4 and 30, no provision being made for stockholders who refused to avail themselves of the offer.

On the Stock Exchange Consolidated Gas stock was strong all day, advancing at one time to 192 $\frac{1}{4}$, and closing at 191 $\frac{3}{4}$, a net gain of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ on sales of 1,300 shares.

One of the features of the day was the big advance in Brooklyn Union Gas, which sold up to 175, where it closed, a net gain of no less than 8 points, though only 1,300 shares were traded in. It was reported on the Street that the company would be leased to or absorbed by the Consolidated Company, 8 per cent. dividends being guaranteed to the Brooklyn Union stockholders.

The Consolidated Gas Company announced yesterday that it would expend \$25,000 in improvements at its gas plant in Twenty-first and Twenty-second Streets, near Avenue A. A new purifying apparatus is one of the things provided for in the plans filed by the company's engineer.

Considerable interest was excited in Wall Street circles by a report from Philadelphia that interests identified with Consolidated Gas have purchased two Long Island plants of the Electric Company of America for \$1,000,000. It is said that the plants purchased are those of the Jamaica Electric Light Company of Jamaica and the Electric Illuminating and Power Company of Long Island City. Consolidated Gas representatives last night refused to discuss the reported purchase.

An additional feature in the gas situation is a report that a large gas plant will be built on Berrian's Island by the New York By-Product Coke Company, which is said to be identified with the other gas interests.

LIGHTNING'S FREAK IN STORM.

Bolt Destroys Second Flag Pole Erected in Same Spot—City Feels the Heat.

That lightning never strikes twice in the same place was proved a false theory yesterday afternoon, when a terrific stroke sent splinters flying in every direction from the flag pole on the Gillender Building at Nassau and Wall Streets. A pole at the same spot was entirely wrecked in a storm of July, 1897, and this one replaced it.

Except for the cannonading of the elements during which this accident happened, yesterday was sweltering, the thermometer showing a temperature of more than 80 degrees at 2 P. M. Pedestrians fanned themselves with their hats and wished Winter back again; people in the street cars complained because riding would not drive away the heat, and many who could steal away from business, or had business to steal away from, took to the ferries and parks.

For a brief interval after 1 P. M. the storm furnished relief, not unmixed with discomfort. Passing over the southwestern part of the city, but slighting the upper portion almost altogether, it finally passed into Northern Long Island. But its intensity made up for its brevity, and a rainfall of four-tenths of an inch was recorded by the Weather Bureau, while the terrific thunderings made the high buildings down town echo and re-echo.

When the clouds passed away it grew hotter than ever. The end of working hours brought crowds to the water's edge, and Battery Park, which had been fairly well populated during the day, swarmed with people. Into the ferryboats that go to Staten Island a mob pushed its way, and as the boats pulled away from their slip sitting accommodations on deck were at a premium.

Toward nightfall a bearable temperature succeeded the afternoon's blazing sunshine, but even then people went out with light straw hats, just purchased, and women in breezy Summer dresses flocked the streets. Even the crash suit made its appearance, and, if the prophets are right, it will be followed by its fellows to-day. And the next twenty-four hours, they say, are to be marked by unbroken heat, with no storms or rainfalls.

MAGISTRATE POOL ON CLEVELAND

Says He Is Dead Politically—Fines an Offender Who Wears His Button.

Thomas Meehan and Gustav Knoss, two young men, were arraigned yesterday morning before Magistrate Pool by Policeman Hewitt of the West Forty-seventh Street Station, who charged them with fighting in the street at Fifty-eighth Street and Eighth Avenue. The Magistrate saw a button on the lapel of Knoss's coat.

"Old veteran, hey?" said the Magistrate.

"No," interposed Policeman Hewitt, "that's a campaign button."

"Well," replied the Magistrate, "let the young man come up here so that I can see."

The button bore a picture of Grover Cleveland.

"Young man, don't you know that Grover Cleveland is dead politically?" asked the Magistrate, who fined each of the men \$1.