

scenes, the stormy incidents and heartrending episodes witnessed within these historic walls. The victims of famine, of oppression, of tyranny, and oftentimes of casualty at sea, were all received here and ushered into the golden realms of grand Columbia.

Castle Garden was first constructed as a fortress in 1807. It was built about sixty feet from the shore, and was therefore accessible only by water or by the drawbridge. It had frowning battlements, deep-mouthed portholes, and it presented a terrible aspect to would-be-destroyers of the American Republic. In those days England and America were not on the most harmonious terms. Five years after the fort was built the war of 1812 broke out. The fort was never equipped as such, because the fort on Governor's Island answered all the purposes of defense.

The fort remained an object of curiosity and interest to New York and the general public for nearly forty years. About 1850 the American Institute began to hold its fairs in the fort. Flowers, cereals and mechanical appliances made the gloomy old walls look cheerful, and brought the society of the day to visit the displays.

In 1852, in the heyday of P. T. Barnum's youth, before he became famous as the owner of the woolly horse or as the constructor of the mystical mermaid, he entered into contract with Jenny Lind, and it was within these walls he introduced her to the American public. In those days Bowling Green, in the vicinity of the fort, was the fashionable part of New York. There lived the elite of the city. The old Washington House was yet standing. In it the immortal George had his headquarters in the historic days of the past.

The rush to see Jenny Lind made the old fort still more famous. A New York hatter named Genin paid \$1000 for a choice of seats to hear the sweet Scandinavian nightingale. The event made P. T. Barnum, the fort and Bowling Green famous.

In 1847 the legislature of New York established a State Board of Emigration, but it had at first no permanent abiding place. On August 1st, 1855, Castle Garden, as it then began to be called, was dedicated as an emigrant bureau and the headquarters of the Emigration Board. Records were provided and the names of all incoming emigrants registered. These records contain

9,720,667 names. They are all preserved and are now stored in Ward's Island, the property of the Board.

Of the names recorded 3,000,000 are natives of Germany, 3,000,000 natives of Ireland, while the remaining 3,720,667 represent mostly all the other people of the globe.

H. J. Jackson, who was superintendent of the Bureau for 23 consecutive years, said to a New York reporter on Dec. 31 last, when the Garden was transferred to the city of New York:

"To me this old garden was a living poem, sometimes cheerful and oftentimes dolorous. I have seen many sad and many joyous scenes. I have seen shipwrecked people and homeless passengers; have seen families reunited and families separated forever. Today closes up the most eventful and important chapter in the history of my life."

Castle Garden is now the property of New York city, and the intention is to preserve it as a national memorial of the past. Some are in favor of turning it over to the Park Commissioners and expending \$15,000 on it for the purpose of restoring it to its former position as a fort. The building will be used as an aquarium, a museum of war and colonial curiosities or something of that sort, but will not be rented for saloon or restaurant purposes as some suppose. It will be made a place where visitors to New York can go and look at the old landmarks so prolific of memories in the history of the country, and in the lives of themselves and of their fathers.

An old New Yorker said to a *World* reporter recently:

"I was in Castle Garden a few days ago and the thought crowded upon me, 'What a grand old historic place this is.' I stood within the bare walls and caught glimpses of the foamy waters through the portholes. I recalled the evening when Jenny Lind made her debut before an American audience. It was like a fairy scene and I never shall forget it as long as I live, for I do not expect to see anything approaching it again. It was a perfect sea of human faces, and when the great songstress made her appearance the applause was like the roar of a turbulent sea. Her voice was clear, and her notes swept over the vast building with the sweetness of a bird and electrified her audience. I tell you, that building should be kept intact. We want to preserve the old landmark, and restore it to a perfect picture of the original fortress, and let it stand for all time, to be visited and inspected by the people. We have very few of the monuments that link us closely to the glorious past, and the old associations of this spot are very dear to old New Yorkers."

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—George Gould declares that there is no truth in the report that the Santa Fe and Missouri Pacific are about to be consolidated under Jay Gould's management, though the relations between the roads are very friendly.

A HUMILIATING EXHIBITION.

AT LAST night's session the City Council presented a humiliating spectacle. It frequently assumes that aspect, owing to the ignorance and incapacity of the Mayor and members of the body. It was too bad of Messrs. Powers and Dickson, expert attorneys, to take advantage of the incapacity of the Council as a whole—of course there are a few fairly informed Councilmen.

Messrs. Powers and Dickson are the legal counsel of Mr. Perry, the proprietor of the Variety Theatre, whose application for license to sell liquor was denied at a former meeting of the Council. Since this action Perry concluded to dispense with the formality of license, and conduct his liquor business without one. For this defiance of law he was arrested and the case is now pending in the courts. Of course, legally speaking, a man is innocent before the law until his guilt is proved, but aside from this technicality, there is, we presume, no attempt to deny the fact that Perry has been violating the liquor ordinance by selling without license since the adverse action of the Council. It was his intention, through his attorneys, to carry the subject into the courts. It is probable, however, that Messrs. Powers and Dickson had an idea that the case was not intrinsically good, and that it had been further vitiated by their client taking the position of defiant law-breaker; that is, assuming it to be correct that he has committed the offense for which he has been arrested.

A reason for our entertaining this view is that, taking advantage of the ignorance and inexperience of the Mayor and Council, the two attorneys transformed that body for the time being into the semblance of a court of law—minus the usual dignity and order characteristic of a judicial tribunal. With quotations from law books and decisions, and with arguments and special pleadings they endeavored to convince the Council that they ought to grant the whisky license to the Variety Theatre, and all the time the poor Mayor and misguided Councilmen seemed to consider this all proper and regular. Otherwise they would have moved an abatement of the intrusion.

Failing to reach for the time being an action on the question, these legal tacticians endeavored to induce the members opposed to the grant-