

CITY OF NEW YORK.
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR.

Feb 18, 1875

Ed Burrows
Confidential Clerk
Sir.

J. M. Harris
this day paid
me \$1. upon
presentation of your
note to that effect.

Yours truly

Mary Bantec

Gave Antchimen
85- for curtains

Mary Bantec

55 First Apt =

Curtains 1.20

Change ~~380~~ 280
400

~~M. Harris~~
J. M. Harris
233 Ormeau

~~Settled
by Harris~~



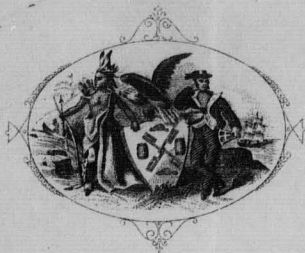
MAYOR'S OFFICE.

New York, 189

Hon. Hugh J. Grant,
Mayor:

Sir—

I herewith make application



MAYOR'S OFFICE.

New York, May 1895

August A. Linn

Frederick

35 St Johns St.
City

Sir:

You are directed to appear at this Office
Friday May 3rd at 12
o'clock P. M., to answer a complaint of

Patrick McLaughlin,

403 E 23rd St

By order of the Mayor,

B. L. Burns

Confidential Clerk

Putter
by
Kleman Schmied
Antenator
May 2/95

TELEPHONE CORTLANDT 1204.

RICHARD V. HARNETT.

HENRY W. DONALD.

NEW YORK,

May 18 1893

M. Gorrey

TO RICHARD V. HARNETT & CO. DR.

AUCTIONEERS AND REAL ESTATE BROKERS,

Nos. 71 & 73 LIBERTY STREET,

Members of the Real Estate Exchange and Auction Room (Limited).

Williamsburgh City Fire Ins. Co's Bldg.

5376.

73rd Carpet.

22[¢].
By deposit

16 06 ✓

5

11 06

RECEIVED PAYMENT,
Richard V. Harnett & Co.
J. L. Smith
Auctioneers & Real Estate Brokers,
71 & 73 LIBERTY ST. N.Y.

15.00

11.06

3.94

Mrs. Julia Gorrey
505 E 55th St

Mich 18th 1895

purchased 73.400

at 22 = 16.06

Measured when she got
it home only 61, thus
losing 12.40 at

22
24
\$2.64

Said she would write
when she could come



MAYOR'S OFFICE.

New York, 189

Hon. Hugh J. Grant,
Mayor:

Sir—

I herewith make application
for a renewal of my License to give Vocal and
Instrumental Instruction to M. M.



MAYOR'S OFFICE.

New York, *Apr. 17 1895*

R. V. Hammett & Co.

Auctioneer &c

Sir

You are directed to appear at this Office
Tuesday, Apr. 16th at *12*
o'clock *P. M.*, to answer a complaint of

Dr. John J. Quinn M.D.
Hammett & Co. appeared - &
S. & letter to him. 7th Apr. 1895

By order of the Mayor,

D. L. Quinn

C. C.
Postman
rec 1/30

34 N. 38th Street
May 3 1895

Mr Mayor Strong:
City Hall

N.Y. or Mr. Burrows

Dear Sir:

I bought a bill of goods
from Richard V. Karmell & Co at
the Metropolitan Hotel about
the 20th of March last. the bill
for which ^{at his request} I left with your
Confidential Clerk Mr Burrows
the day he appointed for me
to meet Mr Karmell's representative.

I am in receipt of your
letter dated Apr. 16 which I rec'd
2 days ago. in which you say
Mr. Karmell explained the occurrence
as to your satisfaction that

he is under no obligation
to you in reference to the
goods for which I have
paid, & which I have never
received. Now the naked
fact remains that I have
paid for goods which I
have never received, after
sending for them twice.

You seem to make
it necessary for me to have
told them before going before
about the non delivery of my
chairs, and which Harnett
tells you I never mentioned
to him and that to day (April
16th) is the 1st that they know
of it. Even if that were
true you should compel
him to either give me my
money or my goods, but
they have deliberately mis-

stated the facts to you
as this letter of Apr. 2/95
which I send copy will
clearly connect them.

" N.Y. Apr 2/95
D. J. F. Verille

34 W. 38 St

Dear Sir:

Your favor of 1st inst.
is at hand, but we have closed
up the account and rendered
our statement of the furniture
sale

Yours respectfully
Richard V. Harnett

Now this proves that I told
them that my goods had not
been delivered and it is two weeks
previous to the time of the
hearing before you.

I hope Mr. Burrows

has not lost the bill I
left with him which is
proof that the goods were
not delivered to me, for
if I cannot get justice of
your hands I hope I
will not have the injustice
done me of taking my
evidence out of my possession -

Yours very truly
John J. Williams

Ans'd May 7/95 -

Returning bill of lading

J. H. Rogers May 6 18 95
 Mr. Dusen



Wm. Shannon 79 Nassau St.
 West 44 St

Terms: _____

Lot	3	Bay Horse	Albert S.	140	00		
"	4	Colts		5	00		
"	5	Small Horse	" Col. B."	12	50		
"	23	Trap		15	00		
"	42	Set Bladders		3	00		
				45	00		
Thursday							
At 12							
By Check							
Paid Payment							
Wm. Shannon							
Resd							

DAVID W. COCHRAN, D. V. S.,

Veterinary Infirmary,

HORSE * SHOEING * ESTABLISHMENT,

No. 19 VESTRY STREET,

BET. VARICK AND HUDSON STS.,

New York, May 7 1895

I have this day examined a
Chestnut Horse for J H Doerchen
and I find said horse not
sound that he is not fit to
be driven

David W Cochran D.V.S.

Decide ~~to~~ that auctioneer
refund money for horse
"Cal B." \$40 a horse
about \$ May 9/95.



333 GREENWICH ST.

New York, May 7th 1895

I hereby guarantee that the Bay Selding
 Albert. S. and the Saddle (at
 Colonel "B" sold to J. V. Doshier at
 6 - or 44th St on May 7th to be
 kind & sound in every respect. This
 guarantee to hold good untill noon
 May 8th 1895

Wm. Shannon
 & Co.

POSTAL CARD - ONE CENT

United States of America



THIS SIDE FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

Wm H. Eggers & Co

*13 St Hudson St
city*

N. Y. Nov 13 - 94

We will purchase your Store at once for Spot Cash
if you are willing to sell for less, than Cost of Stock;
Send a Postal and we will call.

Resp. Yours

L. H. Levi & Co.
251 E 85 St

NEW YORK HERALD, THURSDAY, MAY 9, 1895.

SALES AT AUCTION.

SALES AT

AUCTION.—AUCTION TO-DAY.

THIS DAY (THURSDAY).

commencing at 11 o'clock A. M. and continuing until 4 o'clock P. M.,

AT NO. 155 WEST 34TH ST.

Extra large and attractive sale of magnificent Household Furniture, two elegant Upright Pianos, 25 fine Oil Paintings, Clocks, Bronzes, Portieres, Curtains,

two Parlor Suits, covered in rich brocatel; four Suits, in rugs and damask; Couches, Easy Chairs, Rockers, six fine Folding Beds, Chamber Suits, Mattresses, Bedding, massive Buffet and Sideboard, Silverware, Cutlery, Table Ware, Extension Table, Dining Set, Bookcases, Desks, Music Box, 15 nearly new Carpets, Rugs, Hallstand, Wardrobe, Refrigerator, together with 200 other lots, all of which are contained in

NO. 155 WEST 34TH ST.
between Broadway and 7th av.

Long Island and Forty-second street ferry cars pass the door.

Goods packed and shipped.

It will be money in your pocket to attend this sale.

Please investigate.

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CABLE ADDRESS, RYRAMAGE.



HENRY EGGERS & CO.

IMPORTERS & WHOLESALE

GROGERS

Nos 666, 668, 670, 672 HUDSON ST.
AND 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349 W. 13TH ST.
BRANCH HOUSE 166, 168, EAST 129TH ST.

New York, May 9th 1895

Hon. Wm L. Strong, Mayor,
New York.

Dear Sir :-

Referring to the matter of auctioneers, we trust that the disclosures recently made through the New York Herald will lead to a thorough investigation of the questionable practices of a certain class in that profession. We hand you enclosed 2 cards which speak for themselves, also a clipping from one of our German papers (May 7) containing a number of advertisements of this sort. We remain

Yours very truly
Henry Eggers & Co.

W. H. Eggers

Buyer of all kinds of Merchandise.

—♦♦♦—

DEAR SIR:

In answer to your ad. I wish to State that I would like to buy your stock and fixtures at once for cash, and if you are not looking for a private customer it will pay you to call on me, or write particulars, I am enabled to pay you the highest possible cash prices, as I purchase all my stocks for out of town Houses. and do a strictly confidential business with owners direct. Therefore, if you are willing to sell at a little below cost, I should be pleased to hear from you at once.

Respectfully,

I. SIMON,

Office; 440 E. Houston St. near ~~Office~~ 37 Avenue D.,

FRANK J. BUTZEL,

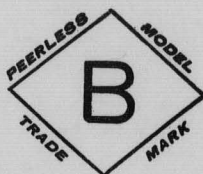
328 CHURCH STREET,

NEW YORK.

The Hon Mayor of the City of
New York

FRANK J. BUTZEL,

Manufacturer, Jobber and Commission Merchant,



328 CHURCH STREET,

(4 doors South of Canal.)

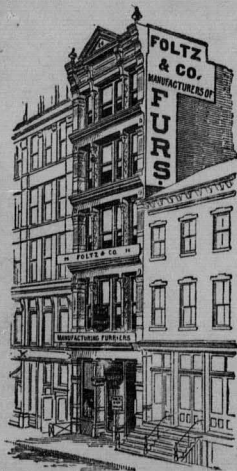
New York, May 29 1895

To the Honorable Mayor of the City of New York

Mr A. Huriman Auctioneer

with whom I have had several years dealings, as a purchaser, and also the charge of several of my customers purchases through him, can speak of his dealings with me and them as first class in every way. Mr Richard Furman of Cooperstown N.Y. Messrs J. & Butzel's Son of San Antonio N.Y. old and reliable Merchants who buy largely of him will endorse his way of dealing in the highest terms if requested.

Yours very Respectfully
Frank J. Butzel



FOLTZ & CO.,
Manufacturing furriers.
26 West Houston St.
NEAR MERCER ST. New York.

Mr A Newman
No 27 Lispenard St
City

B. FOLTZ.
J. BRICKNER.

S. ESCHELBACH.
J. S. LEDERMAN

OFFICE OF

FOLTZ & CO.,
Manufacturing Furriers,
26 West Houston Street,

New York, May 28 1895
Hon. Mayor Strong New York

Dear Sir!

Mr. A. Newman the bearer of this letter, we have been acquainted with for a number of years, we have known him to be a straight forward man, all his dealings with us were satisfactory in every respect

Yours respectfully
Foltz & Co

RETURN TO
THE GEO. BRUNSSSEN CO.,
261 GREENE STREET,
NEW YORK.

Mayor of City of New York.

The Geo. Brünssen Company,

MAKERS OF FINE CAPS,

261 Greene Street.,

New York, May 28 1895

Mayor of City of New York, —
Mr. A. Newman

having requested me to certify as to
his dealings with our concern, will say
that he has sold goods for us in
an honorable and satisfactory man-
ner and has proven himself a
perfect gentleman

Yours truly

Geo Brünssen Jr.

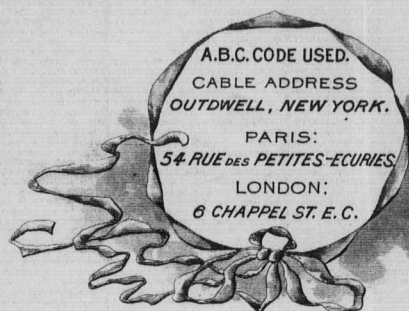
STEARNS & SPINGARN
610-612-614 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.

Mr. A. Newman,

#27 Lispenard St.,

New York,
N. Y.

*Benjamin Stearns.
Solomon Spingarn.*



Stearns & Spingarn,
Importers and Manufacturers of
Millinery & Straw Goods,
Flowers & Feathers.

610 612 614 Broadway, cor. Houston St.,

New York, May 28th 189

Hon. Mayor Strong,

New York; N.Y.

Dear Sir:-

Mr. A. Newman, the bearer of this letter, we have known for a great many years and have had more or less dealings with him and in this time, we have always found him to be honest and straight forward in all transactions.

Yours respectfully,

Stearns & Spingarn

HERRMAN & CO.,

NO. 259 CANAL STREET,

NEAR BROADWAY

NEW YORK.

Mr. A. Newman

27 Lispenard St.

*New York
City*



HERRMAN & Co.,

Infants' Wear,

No. 259 CANAL STREET.

Near Broadway,

New York, May 28 1895

Hon. Mayor Strong,
New York
Dear Sir:

The bearer,
Mr. A. Newman; auctioneer
we know for a great
many years and had
quite some dealings
with him. We always
found him to be correct
and straight forward
Yours respy
Herrman & Co

Woodrow & Lewis,

Auctioneers,

No. 94 Pearl Street

near Hanover Square,

Edward L. Lewis,
T. Walker,

Telephone Call
"777 Broad"

New York April 29 1895

Mr A. T. Kiakaner
City

Dear Sir

We have yours
of this date regarding the barrel of
Sherry. We will at once ^{45 Hudson St.} notify
Messrs McCullagh & Co. to give
your claim immediate attention
and will see that they do so.

Yours truly
Woodrow & Lewis

POSTAL CARD - ONE CENT.

United States America.

THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.



A. P. Krakow

583. Columbus Ave.

N.Y.

CIGARS, WINES, LIQUORS, &c., AT AUCTION.

WOODROW & LEWIS, Auctioneers,

WILL SELL AT AUCTION.

On **MONDAY, MAY 27th, 1895,** at **ELEVEN o'clock,**
At Sales-room, No. 94 Pearl St., Near Hanover Sq., N. Y.

FOR ACCOUNT OF WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

**125,000 KEY WEST HAVANA AND CITY-MADE SEED AND
HAVANA CIGARS, and 21,000 All Tobacco Cigarettes. Sound and
in Perfect Order.**

ALSO


BY ORDER OF ANNIE CARRAHER, ADMINISTRATRIX OF JOSEPH M. CARRAHER,
STOCK OF FINE WINES, WHISKEY, LIQUORS, Etc., consisting
of Champagne, Brandy, all the Favorite Brands of Fine Whiskey, in bottles and barrels;
Scotch Whiskey Tom Gin, Rum, Bitters, Cordials, &c. Also 308 Cases Choice Cali-
fornia Zinfandel, Riesling Claret, Burgundy and Sauterne; 230 Cases Imported Rhine
Wines, Clarets, Brandy, Champagnes, &c. Will be sold in lots. Particulars in Catalogues.

TERMS—NET CASH.

Telephone Call: 747 Broad.

WOODROW & LEWIS, Auctioneers,

94 PEARL STREET, N. Y.

 Please Note that Sale Commences at Eleven O'Clock.

Edward L. Lewis
F. Walker.

Telephone Call
"747 Broad"

Woodrow & Lewis,

Auctioneers,

No. 94 Pearl Street

near Hanover Square,

New York May 28 1895

Mr R. L. Binnows
Confidential Clerk
Mayors Office

Dear Sir

I would like you
to distinctly understand that I
desire to do all I can to see that
Krakauer is treated with the utmost
fairness and justice by McCullagh
& Co in the matter complained to
you about, and therefore write you this
letter to say that I do not consider the
matter settled, but hold myself in
readiness to do anything more that
is necessary in the matter.

Very truly Yours
Edward L. Lewis

M. W. Lubach

1213 3rd St

72nd St

~~W. H. Figg~~

150 Broadway

Tulton & Greenwich

23rd May '95

\$10.

6,500 lbs paper

Friday 12

Decided that Lubach
has no claim & equity

agrt. Figg May 29/95

William J. Campbell.

Kneeland Moore.

Campbell & Moore.

Attorneys and Counsellors at Law.

132 Nassau Street,

(Vanderbilt Building.)

New York.

Woodrow & Lewis,

Auctioneers,

No. 94 Pearl Street

near Hanover Square,

Edward L. Lewis.
F. Walker.

Telephone Call
"747 Broad"

New York June 6th 1895

Mr B. L. Burrows
Confidential Clerk
Mayors Office

Dear Sir

Conforming to your wish
expressed in your letter of June 3rd that we take
back the package of Sherry complained of by
Krankamer and return him the money vizt \$28.05

We beg to inform you that we have this day
caused to be paid Krankamer the amount
involved and have had the package in question
removed from his place.

Yours very truly
Woodrow & Lewis

Settled
by Mr. Lawrence

Woodrow

~~Woodrow~~ & Lewis

94 Pearl St.

United Tobacco Growers
Assocn of New England

Wm V

20th

729

2nd

STATE OF NEW YORK.
ASSEMBLY CHAMBER.



ALBANY.

May 20th 1895

To whom it may concern
I have known
the beaver Samuel Lazarus
for some time past and I
can say for him that his
business standing and
character are of the best.

Yours &c
Benjamin Noyes

August Koenig

Carl Schuster

Koenig & Schuster,

Importers and
Wholesale Grocers

379, 381 & 383 Washington Street.

Telephone call
521 Franklin.

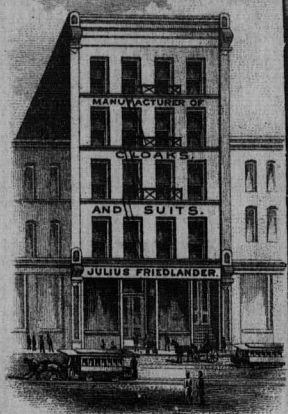
New York, June 10 1895

Hon W. L. Strong, Mayor
Dear Sir

The bearer
Mr S. H. Levy has been
known to us in a
business capacity for
a number of years &
we have always found
him honest and busi-
ness like in our trans-
actions with him.

We cheerfully recommend
him to you for a renewal
of his license.

Yours truly
Koenig & Schuster



Julius Friedlander
MANUFACTURER
OF
Ladies' SUITS AND
COATS -
535 BROADWAY, New York

New York June 10th 1895

Mr Mayor,

Honorable Sir,

I allow to introduce to
your Honor the bearer Mr. J. H.
Levy. Same wishes to procure
an auctioneer license and can
I recommend him as an earnest
and trustworthy Gentleman.
Hoping you will grant Mr Levy
his wish I am yours

Very Respectfully
Julius Friedlander.

ANDREW DAVEY,
WHOLESALE & GROCER
—AND—
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
354 GREENWICH STREET,

Telephone Call, 962 Franklin.

New York, June 10th 1890

To The Honorable Mayor of
City New York

I hereby certify that I have
known the Baur. S. H. Levi
in the business of Auctioneer for
the past 8 years & has several
Business transactions with him
& found him to be honest
upright & straightforward in
all my dealings with him
& recommend him to your Honor
for a renewal of his license

Andrew Davey



BOEHM, LEVINE & CO.,

Manufacturers of

Ladies' Neckwear, Novelties and Ruffings,

80 & 82 WOOSTER STREET,

BET. BROOME AND SPRING STS.

New York, June 10th 1895

To the Honorable Mayor of the city of
New York,

Dear Sir,

In behalf of Mr S. H. Lenz,
at present Auctioneer, we wish to state
that the same is known to us as an honest
and upright businessman, and would
we be pleased to see your Honor grant
him a renewal of his license as Auctioneer,
as we know him to be worthy of it.

We remain

Yours very Respectfully
Boehm, Levine & Co

REV. A. LICHTENSTEIN,
MISSIONARY TO THE JEWS,
Mariner's Temple,
No. 1 Henry Street.

New York, June 11th 1895

To the "Major" of the C. N. Y.
To Sir:—

I am engaged in Christian work, and would ask your kindness in granting me a permit to preach in the streets on Sundays or any other day.

Hoping that you will do your best in regard to this.

Yours very respectfully
Rev. A. Lichtenstein

Investigation made by Charles H. Nichols, as to the business methods of various parties in the City of New York, who advertise that they buy stocks of merchandise. This investigation was started at first by Albert H. Gleason, of the firm of Hastings & Gleason, who are attorneys for a large portion of the wholesale shoe trade of the City of New York, which trade has lost between one hundred and one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in the last two years by debtors selling their stocks in bulk, to persons claiming to be auctioneers.

On the 2nd of April, I went to Philadelphia, and from that City wrote to each of the following firms or persons:-

I. & S. Domroe, 207 East 41st Street.

Troutman, 538 Broadway.

Grant, 225 East 42nd Street.

Horkimer, 339 East 119th Street.

Jacobs, 89 Bedford Street.

Schiels, 403 East 82nd Street

Young, 582--2nd Avenue.

M. Gluck, 353--355 Canal Street.

H. H. Harrison, 210 East 86th Street.

Lewis, 9 Walker Street.

Doblin, 323 East 42nd Street.

These names and addresses were taken from advertisements printed under the heading, "For sale and business opportunities" in the Sunday World, published on

✓ Sunday, March 31st. The following letter is a representation of all sent:-

"Philadelphia, April 2d, 1895.

" My dear Sir:-

" I would like to have some further information
" from you regarding your advertisement in the New York
" World of last Sunday. I have a stock of merchandise in a
" warehouse in this City, which I desire to dispose of as
" quickly and quietly as possible. Before saying anything
" further, however, I would like to know something more definite from you as to the percentage on the dollar you are
" willing to pay, taking the invoice prices of the goods as
" an estimate of their value. Also whether you would care
" ✓ to come as far as Philadelphia to buy. This deal must
" be consummated quickly. So I will hope to hear from you
" at once.

" Yours truly,

Perry Roberts.

The name of Perry Roberts was selected because there was no such person living in Philadelphia, or no such name appeared in the last directory published there. Arrangements were made with a firm of attorneys in that City to call and collect any mail which might come addressed to Perry Roberts. Answers were received from

Doblin & Rosenthal.

Michael Lewis.

H. H. Harrison.

M. Gluck & Co.

S. Troutman.

Theodore Jacobs.

E. Schields.

John Young.

Attached are copies of the letters received
from each one,

Boston	Chicago	New York
INTERNATIONAL TRADING COMPANY		
D. Rosenthal, Eastern Representative, Exporters and Importers of		
DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, BOOTS AND SHOES, GENT'S FURNISHING, FANCY GOODS, FURNITURE, CARPETS, &C.		

MAIN OFFICE 225 East 42nd STREET,

NEWYORK, April 3rd, 1895

Perry Roberts, Esq.,
Dear Sir:-

Yours received, in reply would say that we pay
from 40 to 60 cents on the dollar CASH for mdse, if same
is in fair condition.

If these terms suit, answer or telegraph at once in-
forming us how much stock you have and what. Kind of goods
are for sale.

Resp. yours,
Doblin & Rosenthal.

--c0c--

A. G. Goodman.

John Grossberg.

M: CLUCK and CO.
AUCTIONEERS & COMMISSION MERCHANTS.
310--312 Church Street.

NEW YORK April 4. 1895.

JOHN GROSS^{berg}, Auctioneer.

P. Roberts, Esq:-
Sir;

Your favor of the 2nd inst/ received, in reply will say I pay from 50¢ to 75¢ on the dollar, it all depends on the class of goods.

Please state what class yours are and how much needed, time and place of meeting. If you think we can agree you can despatch or answer by mail to following address, will pay charges, and come at once with the cash.

Yours &c.

M. Gluck,

355 Grand St. City.

--oOo--

S. T R A U T M A N N,
BARGAINS OF GENERAL MERCHANDISE
Furs, Satins and Cloaks a Specialty,
538 B R O A D W A Y.

NEW YORK, April 14th, 1895.

Perry Roberts,
General Post Office, Phila. Pa.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of even date to hand, and in reply would like to ask you to give full particulars concerning the goods which you have. Then we can send some one over to examine it, and we will offer a fair price for it, if it is satisfactory.

By letting us know by the return mail you will confer a favor upon,

Yours respectfully,

S. Trautman.

Dictated.

--oOo--

J O H N Y O U N G,
CASH BUYER,
OFFICE, 589 Second Avenue.

NEW YORK, April 4, 1895.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter to hand, in reply will say my business transactions are always strictly cash and strictly confidential and promptly attended to. Please state what nature your mdse. is of; we generally pay the highest prices no matter what the goods are. Awaiting an early re-

ply, either by mail or telegraph, I remain,

Yours &c.

John Young.

P. S. Please give us an idea what you expect for the goods.

--oOo--

NEW YORK, April 4, 1895.

Mr. Perry Roberts,

Dear Sir:-

Your favor at hand, and would say that I am prepared at any time to buy merchandise to any amount, consequently inform me by return mail or by wire how much the stock will inventory and what it consists of. I pay all the way from 40 to 75% of actual cost according how staple the merchandise is, it being very hard to tell how much I will pay as you did not mention the kind of merchandise you have. You can rest assure I am anxious to buy and will pay you all it is worth, you can either make appointment by mail or wire and state the kind of merchandise and when and where I can look at it.

Hoping to hear from you ~~xxx~~ at once,

Respectfully yours,

A. Schields,

404 East 82nd St.

New York City.

P. S. Business communications strictly confidential.

--oOo--

OFFICE OF
MICHAEL LEWIS.

9 Walker St.

Highest cash value paid
for stores & Stocks of mdse.

NEW YORK, April 3, 1895.

Perry Roberts,

Gen. P. O. Phila, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

In answer of your favor of the 3rd inst/ will state that we buy in bulk or so much on the dollar. I can't quote you figures unless I see goods. Kindly write me, what you have on hand, about what you expect and I will come up at once, wire me if you are in a hurry.

Yours truly,

9 Walker St.

M. Lewis.

--oOo--

OFFICE OF
HARRISON
General
MERCHANDISE BROKER

210 E. 86th St.

Stores of any kind brought at once for
spot cash. Advances made on all kinds of merchandise.

NEW YORK, April 3rd, 1895.

Mr. Perry Roberts,

Dear Sir:-

Yours to hand and in reply would state
that the price all depends on the sort of merchandise you
have on hand. I pay spot cash from 25 to 50 ¢ on the dollar
according to the condition and market value of the goods
please let me know about how much goods you have and about
what they consist of, I will come on at once is satisfac-
tory. I pay spot cash.

Yours &c.

H. H. Harrison.

--oOo--

On the 18th of April, I again went to Philadel-
phia and wrote to all the parties in the last mentioned
list, omitting only to write to S. Truatman, the following
is almost identical with the ones which were sent. These
letters were written on Bingham House Stationery.

"Philadelphia, April 18, 1895

" My dear Sir:

" Your favor of the 4th instant came duly to
" hand. I should have written to you before, only I feared
" at the time your letter was received that the deal would
" have to be declared off. The goods are all right now, and
" I am ready to receive and sell the goods which I spoke of.
" I will be in New York on next Saturday and will have sam-
" ples of goods with me. If you are still in the market as
" a proposed buyer, drop me a line to the Sturtevant House
" and I will at once write making arrangements to see you.
" Of course, the understanding between us, before we go any
" further is that this deal is to be considered strictly con-
" fidential, whether any sale is made or not. Trusting the
" transaction which you hope to enter into will be mutually
satisfactory,

Very truly yours,

Perry Roberts.

I registered at the Sturtevant House at 2 P. M.

April 22nd, and was assigned to room No. 214; I found await-

ing my arrival letters from the following people, to whom I immediately wrote answers making appointments for the time set opposite each of their names:-

I. Horkimer, 11 A. M.

H. H. Harrison, 11 A. M.

Doblin & Rosenthal, 12 P. M.

Young, 1 P. M.

Theodore Jacobs, 2 P. M.

M. Gluck, 3 P. M.

No answer had been received from the letter sent to E. Schields, notifying him of my arrival in the City, so I wrote him a particularly nice letter making an appointment with him for 5 P. M. The copies of the letters received are hereunto attached.

NEW YORK, April 20, 1895.

(From Harrison)

Mr. Perry Roberts,

Dear Sir:
I would be pleased to meet you at any time you may designate and am sure we will do business together.

Yours respectfully,

H. H. Harrison.

--oOo--

NEW YORK, April 29, 1895.

(From Doblin & Rosenthal)

Mr. Perry Roberts,

Yours received. Everything held in strict confidence Awaiting further communication,

Sesp. Yours,

Doblin & Rosenthal.

--oOo--

NEW YORK, April 19th, 1895.

(From Theo. Jacobs.)
Perry Roberts,

Dear Sir:-

Yours received, in reference to selling your stock of merchandise. I can be seen to-day at the office of Lewis, 9 Walker Street, between 12 and 3 o'clock to-day, Saturday and Monday.

Respectfully yours,
Theo. Jacobs.

--oOo--

NEW YORK, April 19th, 1895.

(From Gluck)
Mr. Perry Roberts,

Dear Sir:-

Your favor 18th inst. at hand. You can meet me or my partner John Grossberg at any time you please at 355 Grand St. N. Y. if you come to N. Y. notify me by Teleg. and I will wait for you at the store.

I remain, Yours respectfully,

M. Gluck & Co. per H. Grossberg.

If you come Saturday or Monday come 2--3-- P. M.

--oOo--

NEW YORK, April 21st, 1895.

(From I Horkimer)
Mr. Perry Roberts,

Dear Sir:-

Yours of 18th at hand. If you will appoint time and place, I will look at samples of goods for sale and make offer.

Yours,

I. Horkimer,
339 E. 119th St. City.

--oOo--

NEW YORK, April 19, 1895.

(From Young)
Mr. Roberts,

Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 18th at hand, and contents noted, am ready to do business. Answer and I will call.

Resp.

J. Y.

--oOo--

I immediately sent a letter to each. The following is a copy of it, to which each of the parties replied; the only change being that I named different hours in each letter. It will be noticed that in the letter received from Theodore Jacobs he asked me to call at the office of M. Lewis, No. 9 Walker Street, and in the letter from M. Gluck I was asked to call at the office of M. Gluck & Co. No. 355 Canal Street. In the letters to these parties I replied that it would be unwise for me to call at their place, and requested instead that they come to the Hotel and see me.

NEW YORK, April 22nd, 1895.

My dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 20th at hand. I arrived in New York this afternoon and have sampled of the goods as I wrote you. Would be pleased to have you call here tomorrow (Tuesday) at 10 A. M. sharp to see same and make an offer. The goods are new and of a kind that you will be able to dispose of to great advantage to yourself. Trusting you may be able to arrive at a speedy and satisfactory arrangement for I have not much time in which to act.

Yours truly

Perry Roberts.

The foregoing letters were written to the parties in order that I might have at least two communications in their handwriting, and for the further purpose of making appointments to see them, and learn from them personally whether they would be willing to enter into negotiations to purchase goods from me which I had no right to sell. In order that they might fully understand this fact, I stated to each one as soon as an opportunity offered in the conversation, the following facts in substance, which of course were absolutely untrue

I represented that in connection with a partner, we had been enabled to order from manufacturers in New York City, merchandise to the value of \$6294. That these manufacturers had been induced to sell to us on the representations that we were going to sell goods to jobbers, and needed them for the Southern trade. I obtained from two manufacturers, bills of merchandise which purported to show that the goods had really been sold. They were in the usual form, with the description of the goods, price per pair, etc. I also received the samples of these goods mentioned in the bills, and I showed the samples, with the prices, to the parties as they called. I stated that the goods were originally in a warehouse in Philadelphia, but that there had been some trouble, and the goods had been taken from the warehouse and removed to an unoccupied store. That this move was the wisest, and would greatly facilitate matters in case it became necessary to remove the goods during the night, and the stock could be more easily looked over, without the possibility of exciting any comment. I stated that there were two hundred and sixty

cases of goods in the store, that they had never been opened except to take out the samples that I then had. The shipping directions and all marks had been scraped from the cases, and they could be removed at any time, and that the goods were to be sold at once, as they had been bought with the intent, and for the purpose of swindling the firms who had sold them. That we had figured how much money we desired to get for the stock, and if they would offer that sum, we were willing to run any risks in the matter. This is the substance of the representations made by me to each person who called; I was particular to explain the fraudulent intent in every instance.

Besides offering for sale the goods spoken of above, I stated that I might be able to enter into negotiations to sell a miscellaneous stock of shoes which I stated was in a store and open at that time for business, and that the value of this stock was from \$4000., to \$6000. That the actual cost price was probably from \$6000., to \$9000., and I asked also for an idea as to what percentage they would pay for such a stock. Myself and my partner had been in business about two years, and had done fairly well in the beginning, but at the present were losing money, but that by representations made by us to our creditors as to paying, which we knew we were unable to keep, we had been able to stave them off, and would probably be able to do so until about the 1st of May, as an extension had practically been granted until that time; that we were obliged to be very careful so as not to excite any suspicion but we were determined to look out for ourselves, and let the manufacturers stand the loss; that we knew that what we were

doing was not honest, but it was a question of being honest and having nothing, or being dishonest and having the wherewithal to provide a living, at least for the present, and that we chose the latter course. That we had decided to keep the retail store open until Saturday night; then the buyer could come in, and by working hard the balance of that night and all day Sunday, have the goods ready to move Sunday night or Monday morning before business hours. This would do away with the possibility of any legal steps being taken against them, and would enable us to put a good many miles between ourselves and Philadelphia, as I stated that we were going away ourselves, for fear of any proceedings being taken. I also intimated that I had a knowledge of parties who had a stock to sell and who were in the same position as ourselves, and that this stock was worth a considerable amount.

In my further report as giving details of interviews I have not re-iterated the above representations, deeming it unnecessary.

The first man who called was H. H. Harrison; he sent up his card at 9:25, although I had made an appointment to see him at 11. I compelled him to wait until 9:40, and then sent word that he could come up. The interview lasted at least twenty minutes. I explained my position, and told him what I had for sale. Showed the samples, and asked him the price. He offered 50¢ on the dollar for goods like sample, and said he might pay 60¢ when he saw the lot. He wanted me to go to Philadelphia immediately with him, taking the

first train that went. He stated that we could get lunch on the train. I told him that I did not think it wise for us to be seen on the train together, as I was in terror of people knowing that I had anything to do with the transactions until after the deal was completed. He said that we could go down on the same train and not speak to one another. I told him that I had written to others in good faith, and it was only fair to give them an opportunity to see the samples, and to make an offer for the same. He stated that there was a combination between the buyers, and that I could not possibly get better prices than he offered, and that the first offer was generally the best. He said that he proposed to pay spot cash for the goods; he said he was always prepared to deal, and always had the money with him; that he was never with less than \$1000., or \$2000., in his pocket. To emphasize this last representation, he took from his trousers pocket a chamois bag, opened it and took out a roll of bills. I did not count them, but judged that there was at least \$2000. He shook the bills out in my face, and endeavored to attract my attention. He said "You can have this if we go right on; you can put this deal or part of it through at once, and you can have some money to-night." He volunteered the information that he was satisfied with 10% on his deal. I spoke to him about letting him in on the other deal, and he agreed to divide profits with me. I told him that I would like to go to Philadelphia on the 12 o'clock train, and probably he could go with me, but I only intended to take one man with me, and I would take the man who offered the best price.

Horkimer was the next caller: He came at 10:15 A. M. He was the most conservative man that I saw; he did not have much to say. I related to him the above statement, and after seeing the samples, he stated that he was not the principal in the affair, but simply bought for some one else, whom he called the money man, but refused to buy goods in Philadelphia, and said that he had been caught once in a matter in which he lost \$200., or \$300. That he had paid for some goods that he bought somewhere in Pennsylvania, but of course, this was a small sum and cut no figure, but \$4000., or \$5000., was quite a nother thing; it was not to be picked up every day, and he did not want to run any chances of losing that amount. He said he would buy the goods, but wanted them shipped to New York, as his people knew the New York laws and just what they could do under them, and they were not acquainted with the laws of Pennsylvania. He said that the goods could be shipped in my name, and when I objected to this, he said they could be shipped in the name of some friend of mine, or member of the family. That he would be willing to advance the money to pay for all the expenses incurred. I then asked him how he would arrange for buying the store, and he said that was another matter. He would be willing to pay for these goods, and buy them at Philadelphia, if the first deal went through all right, as he directed. I explained to him that I had no right to sell the goods, but it was simply a question of a drowning man catching at a straw; that I did not want any more publicity than was necessary, and wanted to go away just as soon as they were sold. He replied that he did not want

to know about that. He said "You sell us the goods, give us a bill of sale, and that is all we want. We shall take care of the goods." He offered from 35¢ to 40¢ on the dollar, and he said he would go no higher. He requested that I should not mention his name if others called.

My nextcallers were the members of the firm of Doblin & Rosenthal. I related to them the circumstances; Rosenthal was the man who wrote the letters. He spoke of the affair having been carried on in a confidential manner, and asked me if he had not given me so to understand when he first wrote. He said that he was in doubt as to what kind of merchandise I had for sale, and expressed surprise that I had not told him in my answer. These men were told that other men in the business had been seen, and that others were expected to call. On learning this, and my saying further that I intended to arrange the deal in New York with one person, and take only one man with me to Philadelphia, the person with Rosenthal said that I ought to be very careful whom I took, as I might be made the victim of a trick which was being constantly played on some men in that business. I asked him what trick could be played, and he said "Some of these auctioneers would, on seeing a man from whom they expected to buy, for the first time offer a big price; on being taken to the store and seeing the goods, would claim that they had made a mistake in their calculations, and would not be able to pay the price which had been originally offered, and would offer a much lower price, and that they would endeavor then, knowing where the

stock was located, either force or persuade the seller into making a bargain with them at a low figure. If unsuccessful, they would send, sometimes only one, but more often two other men, who were connected with them ~~in~~ business at different times, to make an offer on the stock but this offer would be much lower than the last offer which had been made by them. That they ~~knew~~ took pity on me, because they knew just how I was situated." That they had come in contact with a number of men who were placed in the same position as myself, and wanted more particularly to help me out, and knew I would deal fairly with them. They wanted to know if anyone had offered me a deposit, and when I said no, the man with Rosenthal was very anxious to do so, and to have me accept it, to bind the bargain, and go to Philadelphia at once. This I refused to do, but appeared excited and worried over the disclosures they had made, and walked up and down the room, and watched them very closely, and saw significant glances passing between them. There were mirrors in the room, in which I could see their reflections. Once I stopped with my back towards them and saw them speaking together; only a few words passed. Upon explaining that I would not come to any conclusion so far as settling the deal, until after I had seen all the men to whom I had written, they cautioned me to be very careful with whom I dealt, saying that most of the men in the business were unscrupulous, and would hesitate at nothing to gain an advantage over me, if they could possibly do so. As they were going out, while standing near the door, this man said "You see I was prepared to buy, and to pay for what I bought

at once. He undid the first two buttons of his vest, unpinned the inside pocket, and took out several rools of \$100., bills. There must have been from \$3000., to \$4000. I asked them how they intended to pay for the goods, in case they became buyers. They said they would pay \$1000., cash, as a deposit, when they had seen the goods, and would telegraph immediately to New York for the balance, and that would be paid when they took possession.

I said "You gentlemen seem to be honest, more particularly so from the fact that you have given me an inkling of the trick which you expected was to be played upon me, and I will deal with you as fairly as you have dealt with me, and so in case you buy, will not require that you give any deposit but will be satisfied to wait until you are ready to pay off the whole sum." I further said "I suppose you find a great many men who are forced to sell in this way, and they replied that they did. That they were not actually engaged in disposing of the stocks they bought, but were looking around at stocks which were offered for sale. That there were only a few reliable (that is to say men with money) in the business. That the greater part of these advertisers were nothing more or less than stool pigeons who worked for a commission. They went out and came back again, asking me to close the deal with them. I refused, but said I would write that night to the parties with whom I intended to close, and that they might expect to receive a letter from me in the first mail in the morning, requesting them to come to Philadelphia. I asked which one would come with me, and they said "both. I spoke of the

expense, and they said that did not amount to anything; that the time lost in taking the journey was of more consideration to them than the money they would have to spend. I said to them "You expect to make a good thing out of this, as you probably do out of every other deal you are in" and they said they did. I said "When you take the risk, and put up money to buy goods which are afterwards taken away from you, and in this way lose your money, you would be foolish if you did not!"

I asked them if they had a way of disposing of almost anything and they said they had; that it did not make any difference to them what it was, as they could sell it; they never asked any questions, but bought any stock that was offered. That they had to make good profits, for the risks they ran were very great. I asked what the risks were, and they said I was intelligent enough to understand. I said "You mean that there are others besides yourself who buy goods just for the purpose of selling them to you people for 50¢ on the dollar. They replied that they had dealings every day with men who were doing this very same thing. That wholesale men were hogs, and would not give a man a show if he happened to get into trouble; so a great many men retaliated upon the wholesale men, and got even with them, by sticking them in this way.

I said that we hated to do this thing; that we used the money realized from the sale of the goods in the vacant store to bolster up our credit for a short time. They replied that this was foolish, as we had to pay on May 1st for these goods, and would lose that money by paying it out.

That it would be better to close the whole thing out at once, pocket the money and keep it, unless we could, by paying something on account, get a better line of credit, and stock our store up with a much larger stock, which would then be sold, and make more money out of it. They said I knew my business better than they did, and would advise me to dispose of the goods in a way by which I would get the most ready money.

A card announcing John Young was next sent up. The man who came in said he was not Young, but his partner; that Young was closing up another deal, and would be with us presently. I related to him my story, and showed him the samples. He said he was an old shoe man, and knew more about shoes than any other man in the business. (From his remarks, it appeared that he did.) Young came about fifteen minutes later. He said he had been busy all day looking at stocks; he wanted to know about the stock in my store. I told him it was a finer grade than the samples shown, and he wanted to know about the widths -- whether there were any narrow widths. I said there might be a number of them. He said expensive goods were not easily sold by him. He told me he had bought out a store, and had been forced to dispose of the goods at 25¢ on the dollar. I told him, without mentioning any names, what Rosenthal and his man had said about the trick being played. He said it had been done. That the greater part of those that advertised, were frauds, looking for men who were about to sell, and not having money to buy, and that they brought them to him. That they all had to come to Young

His place was uptown, out of the way, and no inquiries would be made. That he came in contact with men like myself every day, who were selling out to do their creditors, to save themselves. I told him that I would only take one man with me to Philadelphia, but that the man who came with me would see the line I had to sell, and if he tried any monkey business about offering less money when he saw the entire lot, ~~he~~ I would give him the worst licking that he ever got in his life, or he would do me up, and that there was not much likelihood of the latter, as I had a man in charge of the store where the goods were that was devoted to me, and that if any scrapping was done by me, he would act as proxy, and that they went with full knowledge of this.

Young said "I am the only fair man in the business, and if you deal with anyone else, you will run chances of getting the worst end of the deal, no matter how careful you are, for these men are a good deal smarter than you." That if I brought my goods on to New York, and put them in a vacant store here, I might do better than selling them in Philadelphia, because I could then offer them to any or all the men in the business. He offered to pay spot cash, about the same price as the others, except he followed by asking if I would take a certified check in payment of the goods. I asked him if he thought I was a d--- fool to take a check in payment of goods which were practically stolen. He remarked that maybe I was right.

I stated that I regretted what I was going to do, but was desperate, and must have money. As he was going out, he

took his pocket book out, and showed me a check which he had just received in Brooklyn, and displayed a roll of \$20, \$50., and \$100., bills, and a certified check for \$2000. He said I need not worry about getting my money if I dealt with him. That he was always prepared to pay cash. He showed me a brass pad-lock; I asked him what on earth he intended to do with that; he replied that he paid his money for the goods; they were his; that he drove a couple of staples in the door, and snapped the lock and "there you are". His offer was to pay me my price for both the stocks. I stated that I wanted to receive a certain sum. After some talk with his companion, this amount was agreed to, and he said that he thought I promised to be the squarest man he had ever dealt with, and that he had been in business a good many years. I expressed surprise that the business should have been carried on as long as he had mentioned, (Eight or ten years) and that I thought it had only been in existence a short time. He said the business had been carried on a long time, but it had spread out, and increased to a greater extent in the last year or two. That most of the dealers were not as frank as I was in telling the true state of affairs, but of course, he was not supposed to know that the seller had no right to sell the goods; though he knew that he had not as a matter of fact, but raised no questions, taking the goods which he was anxious to buy, and giving them the money, which they were anxious to get. He had offered \$2250., for \$6294., worth of new goods. I asked him about the ^{probable} profit he would make, and said that one man would be satisfied with 5% or 10% on the amount of his investment. He

laughed at the idea of such a small profit. I asked him how much they generally made off a deal of this kind; he said that if he bought the whole lot, he should expect to make from \$1000., to \$2000. That I knew all about the risks, and ought to be willing to allow him to make a good price for being accommodated.

While Young and his partner were in the room, M. Lewis and T. Jacobson sent their cards. When I sent for them to come up they had gone and I went to lunch, they came in just as I had ordered it and were sent to the dining room. They were the most disreputable pair in the entire lot and I felt ashamed to talk with them in a public place. After finishing my lunch we went to my room and I told them my story. I spoke about Jacobs having written from Lewis's store, and Lewis replied that Jacobs was an Agent of his that he did not pay much attention to the goods; he spoke in praise of himself. He said and repeated several times during the conversation, "they all have to come to Lewis, they have not the money to buy such a stock as you have"; he said he bought everything, everywhere and anywhere. That he was constantly on the road looking for stocks for sale, and that he even went as far as Washington to buy. He said on being told that others had been there before and that others were expected, that it was all right and pulling a auctioneer's license out of his pocket signed by Mayor Gilroy and that showed what he was; that I had seen other men and asked if any of them had offered to take me to a bank as a reference. I informed him that they had not and that it was hardly likely in a deal such as we contemplated carrying out and exchange of references was necessary. That we were doing a sharp business and would have to trust one another. He replied that he would go to Philadelphia at any time, and he did not care whether it was day or night. That he often went to Philadelphia on the 12 o'clock train and had a good deal

of business there. He said that I had better do business with him; he said it would be all right; no questioning about it; that I would get the money and do with it what I wanted to with it. That he would have the goods and "this" (taking from his auctioneer's license from me. He looked at the samples and wanted to know what I would take for the lot. I asked him to make an offer, but this he refused to do. I said it was only fair for me to tell him what I had told the others as to the amount I wanted for the stock of goods in the vacant store and the stock of goods in the store where the retail business was being carried on. I told him my partner and myself expected to get from five to six thousand dollars cash. He said that undoubtedly he would be able to pay that amount from what I had told him. He commenced to inquire about the stock I had in the store. I asked him as to the usual profits in deals of this kind and he stated he made from 40 to 60% on the investment. That when they got a customer they had to act as an undertaker does, he only buries once and makes all his profit out of that investment; that he could only deal with me once and have to make all the profit on that deal. I tried to get the name of the bank he offered to me as a reference, but he dodged the question. I told him about the other men offering money and he said he had it in his pocket. I told him that it was not necessary to show it, that I was a poor man and had seen so much money to-day that I might possibly be tempted to commit an act of violence if any more were shown me. He said you sell to Lewis and you will never regret it. I

then added a friend that had \$30,000. worth of cloth for sale; that I knew it must be a swindle, for I could not see how he ever obtained so much on credit , and wished I had been as lucky as he had in order to give the manufacturers a heavier blow. He said they would not give a man a chance to make an honest dollar nowadays.

After these parties left, M. Gluck sent up his card. He came up with his partner, Grossberg, a little later. The latter is the official auctioneer of the firm. I cannot describe the appearance of these men. They can be seen any day at their place of business. I related what I had to sell. The same admissions were made by Gluck as had been made to me by the others who had called. Gluck being one of the last, I thought best to try and learn what estimate these fellows held one another in, and so after the usual talk, I told them about seeing the parties who had previously called, and I thought they were a lot of rogues. That only one man had made any sort of a good impression on me, as being anyway square. That I had not mentioned any names, and that Gluck also seemed to impress me. That of course he knew all about these men, and I would like to hear what he had to say about them, and then mentioned who had called. He said Harrison was a liar and unreliable; he ~~would~~ promise to give me anything and everything, and he wanted to know if he had not offered to give me some diamonds for my wife. That I had not ought to deal with him at all. He laughed at the idea of Horkimer, Young and

Doblin & Rosenthal being able to carry any such deal through. That Lewis might, but he doubted it. That he (Gluck) could raise \$100,000., in forty-eight hours, and came prepared to deal on the spot, and had the cash with him. That I should not have written the others, as they were no good. I asked him what I was to do. That I did not know any of the men, and took the names from the advertisement at hap-hazard. I asked him whom he considered good men. He finally said Strauss was a good man, as he had the money or the command of it, but would do a green man like myself up so that I would not get twenty cents on the dollar. That he was thoroughly unscrupulous; that all the men whose names I had mentioned, outside of Young, would probably come to him, and that by dealing directly with him I would be able to save the commission that he would have to pay them. He offered to buy at about my price, spoke of making one deal so as to save the expense of going twice, but remarked that that did not amount to anything; the time lost is what they took mostly in consideration. That they had all they could do to attend to the applications which were made to look at stocks; he told me they were going to sell out a stock of men's furnishing goods the following day, and showed me an advertisement in the paper announcing the fact.

The last callers were E. Schields and Strauss. I did not expect to see Strauss, for I had not written to him.

~~XXXXXX~~ Schields came in alone at 5 p. m., and he said Strauss would be there in a few minutes. That he left him finishing his dinner, while he came in to see if I was there. That they had been busy seeing people all day, and only had a chance to eat at that late hour. I said very little to Schields, waiting till Strauss arrived, and I desired very much to give him the entire story, from the fact that Gluck had particularly spoken of him as being a bad man. When he came in, the first words were "Well, we are the last people you want to see. Now I want to know this: Have any of the men who have been here before offered to give you a deposit, with the understanding that if you did not sell to them, the deposit to be kept by you to secure you from any probable loss?" I replied that they had not, and he said that he was ready to do so. Went over the same story, and when I intimated that I might be able to close with him, he grew confidential, and I then strove to elaborate as much as possible, and went through all the details of the transaction very minutely. I asked him how I could keep the store open until Saturday night, in case I sold to him. He replied that if I sold to him, he would put a man in who could take care of the money realized from sales until the store was closed. He said he would expect to make from \$1500., to \$2000., out of the transaction. That he liked to deal with a man who was as plain-spoken as I was. He told me that he had bought a stock of furniture from a man on Third Avenue lately. The man had given him as his reasons for

selling out that he had had considerable family trouble, and that he wanted to get rid of his brother-in-law; that he thought it was a deal to defraud the man's creditors, but said nothing until after he had bought. When he asked the seller if that was the fact, so that he could move the goods away at once, the man ~~xxxxxxx~~ denied it, and Strauss said he was certain his first idea was right, and moved fifteen trucks away within two hours after the sale had been completed. I attempted to give him some advice as to how I would act in case I bought a stock of goods. He replied that I might know all about my business, but he knew his, and was fully capable of handling his, and would do so.. That he was not honest, and did not pretend to be honest, and no man in the business could be honest. He knew that when he bought, the seller had no right to sell, excepting in very, very rare cases. I told him that is the way I liked to hear him talk; but when a man had the nerve to enter into a dishonest transaction, it made me tired to hear him talk about honesty. I told him what different ones had said when I had told them that I was going to, practically speaking, defraud my creditors, and they did not care to know anything about it. He replied that he would probably say the same thing if there were a dozen men in the room, but he knew from the way I had spoken that I was as deep in this thing as he was, and he believed there was honor among thieves, and laughed in a way to suggest that we were nothing more or less than a pack of thieves. I replied Yes, that is practically what it is, stealing, nothing more or less. It sounds harsh, but amongst ourselves, we might as

well call a spade a spade. He stated that he was known in the business to be the man who would take the greatest risks. That lately a deal had been nearly consummated, when the buyers took fright, and he was called in to buy the goods in his name, and sold them, and they divided \$3000., profit, he getting one-third for the use of his name. He said a great many in the business were really afraid to go into such a large deal as the one I had, but he was not. That at different times he had had twenty-five or twenty-nine attachment cases against him, and never lost one. I told him I must have a dandy lawyer, and tried to get his name, but he would not tell me. He said what can they do? nothing; might possibly indict you, but all you will have to do is to keep out of the way. He had a blank bill of sale in his pocket and he said he always had one signed before he gave up any money. He spoke of his being around all day, and mentioned the fact that he had an appointment that night at seven o'clock another at nine, and another at ten, and that this state of things was not an unusual thing, but was repeated nearly every day. He asked me if I had many empty cases in the retail store. I told him that I had, but would manage to sneak in enough cases to pack the goods, as it was only a question of a few dollars. He thanked me very much for offering to do this, and left with the understanding that he was to meet me in Philadelphia on the following Friday, at 2 p. m.

Investigations
of
C. H. Nichol
as to
certain
Anatomies

14

(14)

On the 4th day of May, there appeared in the New York Herald an article disclosing the methods of a certain lot of auctioneers engaged in business in the City of New York. Amongst those whose names were mentioned as having been parties to the transactions spoken of, there appeared the name of Jacob Doblin, of #323 East 42nd Street. Doblin wrote to the editor of the Herald on the afternoon of the day on which the article was published, denying the fact that there was any truth in the statements contained in that article so far as he was concerned, and demanded a retraction. The letter seemed to be all right, the only queer thing about it being that it had evidently been written by the same person who had corresponded with Perry Roberts, the writing in the letters sent to Roberts and the writing in the letter sent to the Herald being seemingly identical. Despite this fact, it seemed possible that there might have been some mistake, so it was deemed advisable to investigate further, so far as Doblin was concerned and ascertain whether an error had really been made. The following tells the result of that investigation. I called in company with C. A. Lachaussee, a reporter on the New York World at the residence of Jacob Doblin, #323 East 42nd Street. Mr. Lachaussee went into the house alone at first to see Doblin and Doblin made, practically speaking, the same denials to him that he had made in writing to the Herald the day before. After hearing these denials, he called me in to see whether Doblin was speaking the truth or not. His statement that he had not been to the Sturtevant House was true; Doblin was not the man who called at the Hotel on or about April 22nd with one Rosenthal to see Perry Roberts. Doblin admits having received the letter which Roberts sent to him from Philadelphia,

but claims he turned this letter over to Rosenthal; he also acknowledges that he received a second letter from Philadelphia, but says he likewise turned this over to Rosenthal; he knew that Rosenthal was going and had gone to the Sturtevant House to see Roberts, and also knew that Rosenthal had not been able to buy the goods which Roberts was supposed to have for sale. When the story which was published mentioned his name he was very much disturbed, and he was at a loss to know how it had been done; he rushed off to Rosenthal, not to find out from him the name of the man who had represented himself as Doblin, but to get him to write a letter to the Herald denying that he (Doblin) had been at the Sturtevant House. He claims that this is all he did in the matter; that he made no inquiries concerning the identity of the man who went with Rosenthal and personated him, but was satisfied that the letter of denial sent by him was all that would be necessary to clear him of any blame which might be attached to him. I have since found out that there was a general misunderstanding about this letter. It seems that Doblin is a man of very little education and wholly incapable of writing a fairly good letter. Rosenthal claims it was his intention, after having written this letter, to have Doblin copy it in his handwriting and send it to the paper, it being his intention to thus prove a very good alibi for Doblin; but Doblin was stupid, and did not understand that he was to copy the letter, and so took this letter which Rosenthal had written and signed Doblin's name to it as soon as he got it, and took it to the paper. Doblin's story as to his connection with the auctioneer business is as follows: He claims that he is in business for

himself; that he has no partner or partners, and that he never goes out of town to buy stocks. These assertions on their face would appear to be correct. On the window of the store in which he carries on his business, at #225 East 42nd Street, the name of Doblin only appears. He says he was formerly in business with one Fernandez, carrying on business under the firm name of Fernandez & Doblin. Associated with them, and having an interest in the business was Rosenthal. About the beginning of the year, the partners agreed to separate, because of a slight difference they had concerning the ownership of an umbrella. Doblin then started a shop of his own in partnership with Rosenthal. There never has been any practical evidence that this latter partnership existed, aside from the statement made by Doblin that it did, and the fact that some envelopes were printed, bearing the firm name of Doblin & Rosenthal., giving their place of business at 225 E. 42nd Street, the place where Jacob Doblin has his store. This partnership, however, was dissolved almost immediately upon being formed, and now each man hustles for himself; they have no connection whatsoever. Rosenthal, it is true, has part of Doblin's store, but that is all. The facts in the case are these: That Doblin admits that no deal is ever carried on, nor has any ever been entered into on the part of either individually, but that both have had an equal share in it; that whatever goods are bought are sold by Doblin & Rosenthal jointly, and that the profits are divided between them.

ABE GREENWALD :

Greenwald is a brother-in-law of Goldsmith. He is also a brother of Louis Greenwald, one of the partners of John Young.

Greenwald's methods of carrying on business are somewhat different from those of the auctioneers who buy stocks on their own account and sell them. He does a commission business almost entirely. His methods of procedure are as follows: A man desiring to sell out has an offer made to him for his stock by someother auctioneer; Greenwald hears the store is for sale, comes to see the man, tells him his stock would bring a much larger figure than the seller has had offered to him, if he should sell himself, seller desiring, naturally, to get the largest possible amount of cash, is always willing to consider proposition, but says as he owes considerable money, he is afraid that his creditors will jump on him if he should endeavor to sell out the way Greenwald speaks of. Greenwald proposed that a bill of sale be given to him, and promises to protect the man. He argues, saying that as he is selling on a commission, of course the more he sells for, the greater the amount of his commission. A bill of sale being given, the sale is arranged. During the sale, one of Greenwald's runner comes in apparently to serve the seller with somelegal papers. In fact, the seller is told the man is from the Sheriff's office, and he is advised to get out to avoid service, to go somewhere in the neighborhood and wait there until the sale is over, and then Greenwald will come and give him his money. Man gets out, and the sale is carried on.

When over, the returns do not justify the assertions made by Greenwald, so far as the amount which it was expected would be realized is concerned. Greenwald gets out of this by giving anyone of a half dozen excuses, stock did not turn out as well as expected, small crowd, &c. The result, the seller gets from 30% to 50% less than if he had sold out as he originally intended. Greenwald pockets the profits. The whole thing is a rank swindle, so far as the seller is concerned. No individual case is quoted. This plan is proposed and carried out successfully day after day.

Jacob Dobbin

H. Guernsey

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(14) HENRY ELLIOTT,
Wallace, Elliott & Co.
D. B. POWELL,
Powell & Campbell.
DANIEL P. MORSE,
Morse & Rogers.
IRVING R. FISHER,
Nathaniel Fisher & Co.
JAMES HUGGINS,
James Huggins & Bro.
THOMAS E. GREACEN.

JOHN HANAN,
Hanan & Son.
E. R. TUTHILL,
Powell Bros. & Co.
ANDREW J. BATES,
A. J. Bates & Co.
GEORGE SILVER,
George Silver & Son.
CHARLES E. BIGELOW,
Bay State Shoe & Leather Co
JOHN P. MAGOVERN,
Magovern & Thompson Bros.

COMMITTEE OF TWELVE.

New York, June 11th, 1895.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor of the City of New York:

Dear Sir:-

The undersigned, a Committee of the wholesale shoe trade desire to call your attention to the great damage which in the past has been done to the wholesaleddealers in New York by the promiscuous licensing of irresponsible persons as auctioneers. They use the fact that they are licensed auctioneers for the purpose of helping debtors to defraud their creditors, and in many instances, for the purpose of deceiving the persons from whom they themselves buy goods. About two years ago, advertisements commenced to appear in the morning papers, offering to buy stocks of merchandise for cash, and the following are samples of how some of these were worded:

"Spot cash paid quickly without delay, for stocks of merchandise, or entire stores; city or country."

"All kinds of stocks and merchandise bought for spot cash; city or country."

"Highest cash paid for any kind of merchandise; strictly confidential."

These have increased, until recently, when fifteen to twenty-five advertisements of a similar character appeared at one time. Most of the parties signing the same are licensed auction-

eers. By these advertisements, dealers desiring to defraud their creditors are informed as to how they may dispose of their stock; and within the past few years, many shoe stores have been sold to the parties advertising, in most instances business being conducted by the retailer during the day, the store closed at night, and the following morning, an advertisement appearing in a paper that such a person, as auctioneer, will sell the stock at the store, and describing the place. Stocks, at times, are removed to the various auction rooms where sales are had by auctioneers. Another method is for notices to appear in a paper, that a stock would be sold on a certain day (a number of days ahead), no address being given, and on that day the stock would be advertised, the dealer continuing the business up to a short time before the day set for the sale. In some few instances, where the sales have been legitimate, the auctioneers have advertised, giving the name of the person whose stock is to be sold.

We estimate that from \$100,000., to \$150,000., have been lost by the wholesale shoe dealers and manufacturers through sales of this kind. Many debtors have been examined in supplementary proceedings after selling out their stores, and such examination has developed the fact that the auctioneers pay from 35¢ to 55¢ on the dollar of the cost price of the goods, and the debtors generally have some relative from whom they have borrowed money, and to whom they pay the money which they have received for the stock. Frequently, debtors have again gone into business, using the name of their wives.

Among the evils that arise from such practice are the following:

1st: The element of the basis of credit is destroyed, owing to the advantages that the debtors have in disposing of the stock.

2nd: A large number of stocks are sold at auction at a very low figure, and favored dealers obtain goods at a very low price, and in this way are enabled to sell far below the original cost price, thereby injuring their competitors doing a legitimate business.

We know of a number of instances where persons intentionally obtain a large stock, and sell it to auctioneers for the purpose of obtaining the money and of defrauding their creditors. In one case, a person in Brooklyn obtained about \$17,000., worth of goods, and sold the same to two auctioneers, licensed in New York. The dealer has been arrested and has pleaded guilty to four indictments. The two auctioneers have been indicted, and are now under bail, awaiting trial. Sales of this kind in the shoe trade alone, have been until recently, of almost daily occurrence. An investigation as to the methods of business pursued by these auctioneers, however, has been made, and we have been informed, has been submitted to you. Since this investigation, very few sales of this kind have taken place. A meeting of the shoe trade was held to consider these various questions and a Committee was appointed. We submit a list of names of the parties who advertise for stocks and who we believe have licenses as auctioneers. As these licenses are about to expire, we respectfully request that your Honor carefully consider the matter of refusing to renew the same, as we believe that the business Community at large will be greatly benefited by such refusal.

Very respectfully,

H. E. Elliott
Chairman

Wallace Elliott & Co 118 & 120 Duane St
 Nathl. Fisher & Co 146 Duane St
 Messrs Rogers 136 Duane St
 James Higgins & Bro 129 Duane St
 Powell Bros & Co 130 Duane "
 124/128 Duane St
 Magor and Thompson & Bro
 Powell & Campbell 122 & 124 Duane St
 J. Morse & Co 114 Duane St
 Bay State Shoe Leather Co
 by Edwin W. Bigelow & Co. 91 & 93 Chambers Street
 Young & Bryans 50 & 52 Beade St
 James Chambers & Co 196 Church St
 J. M. Kempstead & Son
 Clapham Thayer & Co 196 Church St
 Manhattan Shoe Company
 J. M. Brown # 131 & 133 Duane St
 Merritt Elliott & Co 132 Duane St
 William Kutz 104 & 110 Duane St

J. Doblin,	225 East 42nd Street.
D. Rosenthal,	225 East 42nd Street.
B. Fry,	271 Seventh Avenue.
C. Jacobs,	104 Walker Street.
I. R. Jacobs,	308 Bleecker Street.
Samuel Marx,	104 Walker Street (25 Lispenard St.)
M. Lewis,	9 Walker Street.
Horkimer,	
John Young,	589 Second Avenue.
Abraham Greenwald,	128 East 109th Street.
Edward Fischl,	1251 Second Avenue.
E. W. Gross,	160 East 109th Street.
L. Roos,	1629 Second Avenue.
A. Friedman,	332 Canal Street.
L. Friedman,	88 Walker Street (removed to Canal St)
L. Weil,	252 Avenue A.
John Grossberg,	111 Stanton Street.

Letter
?
Complaint

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RESTAURANT.

BY ORDER COON & DUNKIRK.

M. MEYER, Auctioneer, sells **THIS DAY**, 10 o'clock, 351 BOWERY, NEAR 3D ST., contents of above, consisting of Strobel Tables, 50 Vienna Chairs, Range, Showcase, Mirrors, Counters, Silverware, Kitchen Utensils, Table Linen, &c., in lots.

J. Goldsmith's
Auction, Commission

AND

BUSINESS AGENCY,

**BUYER OF ALL KINDS OF STORES,
Merchandise & Furniture.**

Office No. 59 East 104th Street,

betw. Park & Madison Ave.

NEW YORK.

paid
June 5. for J
Burdick
Ticket
Chas Albion
347 Bond

May 21, 1895
New York City

Honorable Mayor,

Dear Sir,

I am the
lady who called today, in
reference to Morris Mayer, auctioneer.
I forgot to leave my name and
address. My Name is Mrs C. T. Silber
209 East 113 street. in case you have
needed in the matter you now
have the address. I hope you will
do what you can for me, as I
need the money very much.
having five children to support

my husband being out of his mind
and in an institution,

I have spoken to you about
what Mr Meyer owes me, it is
\$15.00 — ¹⁸3.00 being half of a
deposit, and \$12.00 for my
awning and gas fixtures which
he sold privately they were
to have been sold with the
other goods as it was a public
auction, I asked him to put
them up, and he refused to,
saying he sold them privately
but I never got any money for
them from him.

If it is necessary why I
have a gentleman who was
present at the sale, and
seeing how I was being
cheated, that will call on you

if necessary, I assure you I
would not ~~trouble~~ trouble you in
this matter, it being so small
a amount, but I need the
money very much, as he is
a rich man, and I am
poor.

Hoping you will do what
you can for me,

I Remain

Respectfully
Mrs C. T. Silber
209 E. 113 st.
City.

Chas. Seelig.
Henry Seelig. Herman Seelig.



Mr. Burrows, City June 15/95
Hon Mayor Strong
Dear Sir

I wish to enter a protest against
the Licensing of Daniel Marks
auctioneer for the following reason
that he owes me \$55 ⁵⁵/₁₀₀ for
Merchandise he sold used the
Money and never made any
return I have repeatedly made
demands but with out avail
I have no personal grievance
but wish to protest against him
for the benefit of the monopolizing
Merchants he may come in
contact with should he get

a renewal of his present
Licence hoping Your Honor
will give this your ^{kind} attention
Yours Respt
William Drelig.

Received of S^t Henri the Sum of One Hundred
and Sixty Five dollars for all my Stock of
Groceries, Tea & Coffee's also all the fixtures
in the Store No 42, East 4th St in the City of New York,
with the exception of Eight Barrels Beef Soup
& Tea Cans, Coffee Mill & three Scales also
Baby Carriage & Lot Pirov.

James Bain

New York July 31. 1845.

M

22-228442 2019.12.06

—JOBBER OF—

37 OLD SLIP.

3-0-2
3-60-2
2-20-2

881 188

CASH ADVANCES MADE.

New York, 189

M Account of Sale of Grocery 421 E 71 St
 Bought of S. H. LEVI,
 AUCTIONEER,
 251 EAST 85th ST., near Second Ave.

A deposit required at the option of the Auctioneer. No allowance made after goods are removed from the premises.
 Examine and count your goods.

NOTARY PUBLIC.

Deposit

LOT Quantity

Cost of Stock	165.00
Hooving	4.00
2 Men 2 days Help	6.00
Use of Store	10.00
Advertising	4.50
	<u>189.50</u>

Store realized.	211.96
	189.50
	<u>422.46</u>
for share	11.43

138 St Store Cost

140.00

Horkins 6.00

Adv. about 4.50

o Help 5.00

155.50

Store realized 207.00

155.50

51.50

1/3 - 17.16

Due me

1716

1143

\$ 5.73

Wednesday

11:30

NOV 11 1891

11:30

NOV 11 1891

NOV 11 1891

NOV 11 1891

NOV 11 1891

NOV 11 1891

NOV 11 1891

S. H. Levin

Joseph
Complau

\$ 25.

Wm. J. Jones

Friday

11 am

Hirschfeld } Gene. Markin
 claims 15 }
 on Mat. str. }
 in them / }
 — — — / }
 3 \ — — — \

Glenberg &) to 7.
 Hirschfeld & E. — — —
 7/14/04 + Brodhead fr. — — —
 2 — — — go 1/3 on any
 stock they were bought/
 Mr. Fischer Lin. + Hirschfeld
 were to go third 12 on
 stock they bought/
 "Paul Gross: — — —
 says same thing

Settled
in
Juni
Aug 26/90
