

TO CONSOLIDATE THE ORANGES.

A Memorial in Its Favor to the New Jersey Legislature.

ORANGE, N. J., Feb. 27.—Interest in the discussion of the proposition to consolidate Orange, East, West, and South Orange into one large city waxes more intense, and a large delegation of prominent citizens will go from here to Trenton to urge the project as soon as Assemblyman Fairchild can arrange for a hearing before the Committee on Towns and Townships of the bill now in the Legislature, which would make consolidation possible, and which has already been outlined in THE NEW YORK TIMES. The Consolidation Association is anxious to get the bill out of committee at once, and it has just issued a memorial signed by 230 of its members, in which it says:

"The membership of this association is composed of representative citizens of all the Oranges, and its personnel entitles its petition to a respectful consideration. The object of the association is purely patriotic. There are no politics or money in the movement, nor question of personal profit or aggrandizement to any member of the association, so far as is known.

"Many residents of the Oranges regard the division of the town of Orange of the past as having been a great mistake. It was the result of petty sectional selfishness, and has resulted disadvantageously to the whole region, which now suffers from lack of public spirit and ambition, and which is lamentably lacking in public improvements, especially those of an aesthetic nature. This result is due to the financial weakness consequent to the division.

"The association believes that there are no reasons of a public nature against the proposition to consolidate, and that numerous advantages would accrue to all the sections by reuniting under one government. For example, greater economy and efficiency in government would result, important benefits would be secured through co-operation in police, fire, postal, water, sewerage, under-drainage, sanitary, reformatory, and charitable services and efforts.

"The proposition to consolidate has been ratified and indorsed by the two most prominent organizations in the Oranges, namely, the New England Society and the Improvement Society of the Oranges, as well as other organizations."

The memorial closes with a prayer to the legislators to use their influence and vote for the passage of the bill, so that the question may be submitted to a vote of the people in the places concerned. Copies have been sent to all the members of the Legislature.

T. St. John Gaffney's Arrest.

The case of T. St. John Gaffney, who was arrested last Thursday on a warrant charging him with grand larceny was yesterday adjourned over until to-morrow, when there will be a hearing before Magistrate Crane, in the Centre Street Court. Gaffney, who was once secretary to the Irish leader Parnell, is charged by Timothy J. Cagney with giving him a worthless check in March, 1895. Lawyer John F. McIntyre, Gaffney's counsel, says the charge is part of a blackmailing scheme. The check was drawn on the St. Nicholas Bank and was dated three days ahead. Before the date for payment, Mr. McIntyre says, the bank failed, and Cagney kept the check, which had been given to him as a loan.

Lecture on Teaching of Reading.

A special course of instruction in the teaching of reading by S. H. Clark of Chicago University will be commenced next Saturday morning at the Art Building, 174 Montague Street, Brooklyn, under the auspices of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences. The lectures will be given Saturday mornings at 10:30, and Monday afternoons during the month. "Greece, the Cradle of Civilization," will be the subject of Garrett P. Serviss's lecture in the series on "Famous Men and Foreign Lands," at Association Hall, Wednesday evening.