

## DESERTERS IN GREAT DEMAND.

### THE POLICE ASKED TO PICK UP STRAGGLING JACK TARS.

Acting Police Superintendent Byrnes put the police force of this city and Brooklyn on the lookout for deserters yesterday by sending out a general alarm at the request of Capt. Henry B. Robeson of the Chicago, stating that some 300 sailors, marines, and petty officers of that vessel, the Boston, Atlanta, and Kearsarge had overrun their shore leave. The police were requested to pick them up wherever found.

As a stimulus to the police it was also said that the usual reward of \$5 per man would be paid for every one of the stragglers secured. As a consequence a large number of the men were arrested in the course of the night by the police, and a good many of them were taken to the foot of West Twenty-third Street, where a receiving officer from the Chicago was waiting with a boat to take them aboard. A number were also captured in Brooklyn and taken to the navy yard.

Capt. Reed and Mercer of the Marine Corps attached to the Chicago were at the foot of West Twenty-third Street, and with the assistance of some of the vessel's petty officers, bundled a score or more of the men into a steam launch and delivered them over to the tender mercies of the executive officer. At midnight twelve deserters had been taken to the Elizabeth Street station, and three had been captured by the Eldridge Street station police. They were locked up and will be delivered to the receiving officer this morning.

When asked why a general alarm had been sent out Capt. Mercer said that there was no knowing when full crews would be needed on board the vessels. "The men are technically though not really deserters," he said. "They come ashore with ten or twelve hours' leave and have such a good time that they forget all about the ship. We cannot arrest them in a foreign port and not even in New-York without warrants, so all we can do is to notify the police when the list of men overstaying their leave becomes too large. The men may be needed, for the Secretary of the Navy may send us sailing orders any moment."

An officer will be stationed at the foot of West Twenty-third Street to-day to receive all the deserters that the police may pick up in the course of the morning.

## "KREUTZER SONATA" IN COURT.

### JUSTICE WHITE ASKED TO ESTABLISH A PRECEDENT.

Four street vendors who were captured with their carts laden with mutilated paper-covered reprints of Tolstoi's "Kreutzer Sonata" by Capt. McLaughlin of the First Precinct yesterday were paroled by Justice White in the Tombs Police Court and ordered to appear this morning for a further hearing. The peddlers said they had got the books from a Barclay Street publishing house and admitted that they had hawked them about the streets with the sign "Suppressed" conspicuously displayed to attract custom.

Mr. Anthony Comstock urged on his Honor that the book came within the category of indecent literature, and handed up a copy in which certain passages were marked. Justice White, after glancing at them, said he found nothing likely to affect public morals, and thought the peddlers' offense, if any had been committed, was in parading the book as a suppressed publication.

The peddlers will have to appear again to-day, and the publishers have also been summoned.