

damages which may ensue from its violation, is certainly as novel as it is startling. While it is the duty of the city, as of all governments, to protect and preserve the rights of her citizens as far as possible, and to provide and pass all needful laws to that end, the government does not guarantee to its citizens freedom from injury by the non-observance or by the positive infraction of those laws or ordinances.' The decisions on this question, however, are not all uniform. Thus in the case of *Cohen v. Mayor*, 113 N.Y. 532, 21 N.E. Rep. 700, it was held that a city was liable for granting express permission to a grocery keeper to keep his wagon in front of his store in violation of an ordinance, whereby injury resulted to a third person. So also was a city held liable where the mayor, contrary to the ordinances, expressly permitted the shooting off of fireworks at the junction of two narrow streets. *Spier v. City of Brooklyn* (N.Y. App.) 34 N.E. Rep. 727. See, also, to same effect: *Cochran v. Frostburg*, 81 Md. 54, 48 Am. St. Rep. 479; *Baltimore v. Marriott*, 9 Md. 174; *Taylor v. Cumberland*, 64 Md. 68, 54 Am. Rep. 759. In the last case cited which was a case in which a city failed to enforce an ordinance prohibiting "coasting" on the public streets the court said: "It is well settled that the corporation was under an obligation to exercise for the public good the power conferred upon it by its charter to prevent nuisance, and to protect persons and property, and that this duty is not discharged by merely passing ordinances. It is not relieved from responsibility unless there has been a vigorous effort to enforce them."—*Central Law Journal*.

A number of appointments have recently been made to county judgeships: some excellent, some otherwise—and some of them apparently for reasons purely political, and without reference to professional eminence. We are not, however, looking for the millennium in this dispensation, and so, as to those which will not meet with general approval, we are not exactly disappointed. Possibly the time may come, even before that happy period, when some government will arise which will be strong enough to select as judges the best available men at the Bar, without reference to party, or politics or creed.