THE EVENING CRITIC.

Fourteenth Year--No. 4,087. | WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1881. | TWO CENTS.

AMUSEMENTS.

NATIONAL THEATRE

THIS FRIDAY EVENING,
Benefit of
ALICE ATHERTON.

LIE EDOUIN'S SPARKS COMPANY IN
CAMS; or, FUN IN A PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY.

A special bill for
ALICE ATHERTON'S BENEFIT.
eams will be presented in full, together with
Music, introducing the New and Popular
s, "Yumme Yum," "Arthur and Martha,"
he Realistic Drama,
RY, THE CHILD OF MISFORTUNE.
CE ATHERTON'S original Song and Dance,
Among the Clover."
Matinee tomorrow at 2.
AT OUR USUAL CHEAP PRICES.
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5,
Y ANDERSON.....as.....JULIET
Box-office for sale of seats now open.

TIONAL THEATRE.

This Evening and Saturday Matinee,
LAUGHING ROOM ONLY.
re crowded nightly with delighted and enastic audiences, to witness Willie Edouin's
SPARKS COMPANY,
IN
Or, FUN IN A PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY.
DREAMS DREAMS DREAMS DREAMS DREAMS DREAMS DREAMS DREAMS
A Banquet of Mirth, New and Magnificent Costumes, Charming Music, and the New Ingenious Mechanical Revolving Scene, changing in view of the audience.
Saturday Matinee at Cheap Prices.
Monday, December 5,
MARY ANDERSON as JULIET
Box Office for sale of seats now open.

FORD'S OPERA-HOUSE. GERSTER
GRAND ITALIAN OPERA.
POSITIVELY TWO NIGHTS ONLY.
FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 2.
LA TRAVIATA.
Mme. ETELKA GERSTER,
First time in Washington in her great role of VIOLETTA.
SIG. FRANCESCO GIANNINI (his first appearance here).....as..... ALFREDO
SIG. MASSIMO CIAFINI (his first appearance here).....as.....GERMONT
Mesdames LANCASTER and ARCONE; Sig. RIPETTO, MARNA, MUSSO, HALL, etc.
SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 3.
IL TROVATORE.
First appearance of the celebrated Prima Donna Dramatica, from the Grand Opera, Paris,
MLLE. MARIA LESLINO,
In her celebrated character, LEONORA.
MLLE. MARIA PIRASINI (her first appearance here).....as.....AZUCENA
SIGNOR GIANNINI.....as.....MANRICO
MR. GEO. SWEET (his first appearance here).....as.....COUNT DI LUNA
Reserved seats—Orchestra, $3; Balcony, $2.50; Admission, $1.50.
SPECIAL NOTICE—The sale of reserved seats will commence Wednesday morning at Metzerott's music store.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,
TENTH AND G STREETS,
REV. T. DEWITT TALMAGE
Will Lecture on
BIG BLUNDERS,
Wednesday, December 7.
Admission, 50c., including reserved seats, to be had of Brad. Adams, 804 F street.

I. O. O. F. FAIR.
BENEFIT OF THE WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.
UNION LODGE, NO. 11, I. O. O. F.
AT
I. O. O. F. HALL, Eighth st. s. e.,
From November 28th to December 10th, inclusive.
Nov. 28 to Dec. 3, ODD-FELLOWS' week.
Monday, Dec. 5, I. O. MECHANICS' night.
Tuesday, " 6, I. O. G. TEMPLARS' night.
Wednesday, Dec. 7, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS' night.
Thursday, Dec. 8, I. O. RED MEN'S night.
Friday, Dec. 9, I. O. RECHABITES' night.
d1-6t

READINGS
BY
Prof. EDW. C. TOWNSEND,
In the parlors of Spencerian Business College, Lincoln Hall Building, 9th and D sts., Saturday Evening, December 3, 1881, 8 o'clock.
Entire proceeds for the benefit of the
Bethany Free Kindergarten,
Bethany Chapel, cor. Thirteenth st. and Ohio ave.
Admission.....50 Cents.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CONCERTS.
Six Concerts will be given in the Congregational Church by Dr. J. W. Bischoff and his pupils, beginning FRIDAY Evening, December 2, and ending May 6th (one each month).
Dr. Bischoff promises that the programmes shall be bright and attractive, and that he will play at least one organ solo at each concert.
To make these concerts immensely popular, the price of a ticket has been fixed at only
50 CENTS FOR THE ENTIRE COURSE,
or 50 cents additional for a reserved seat.
For sale by Ellis & Co., 937 Pennsylvania ave.; J. F. Johnson & Co., 902 9th street, and Elphonzo Youngs, 504 9th street. no30-3t

FAIR FOR ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,
AT
WILLARD'S HALL,
DECEMBER 1st TO DECEMBER 10th.
Admission.....10 Cents
Lunch from 12 to 2.
No Canvassing for Raffles in the open space of the hall. no30-10t

GRAND FAIR AND FESTIVAL
For the Benefit of the
GERMAN ORPHAN ASYLUM
OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Beginning on
MONDAY, NOV. 28, 1881, at 8 o'clock p. m.,
For One Week, at
MASONIC TEMPLE.
3,000 Valuable Prizes will be distributed among 6,000 Ticket-holders.
Season Tickets.....$1 00
Musical Entertainment Every Evening.

MLLE. MARIE LITTA,
AMERICA'S FAVORITE PRIMA DONNA,
Will give one of her GRAND CONCERTS
at LINCOLN HALL,
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1881,
Assisted by the following Solo Artists:
Miss HATTIE McLAIN, the coming Contralto.
Mr. H. L. CLEVELAND, the popular Tenor.
Mr. MONTROSE GRAHAM, Baritone, late of the Strakosch and Hess Grand English Opera Co.
Mr. JOHN SKELTON, the Great Cornetist.
Miss NELLIE BANGS, the brilliant Pianist and Accompanist.
Admission, $1, including Reserved Seats.
Sale of seats commences Tuesday, November 29, at Metzerott's.
No reserved seats will be sold on night of Concert.

A GRAND ANNIVERSARY BARBECUE.
The 20th anniversary of Mr. Geo. W. Driver's business career in Washington will be celebrated
On THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1,
BY A GRAND BARBECUE.
A whole bullock will be roasted and served in the garden to his patrons and friends.
All are invited to witness this novel sight and participate in the barbecue during the afternoon and evening. Special arrangements have been made also for the comfort of ladies.
The following prominent butchers will act as a committee on ceremonies: J. H. Buscher, Joseph Geier, M. Homiller, B. W. Gheen, S. S. Coggins, Wm. Hoover, T. F. Kane, Charles Kettler. no28-it

THEATRE COMIQUE.
Monday, November 28, Nightly and Tuesday and Friday Matinees.
The Greatest Novelty of the Season,
THE WONDERFUL ZULU TROUPE,
For Six Nights Only.
A genuine Zulu Princess and Baby, with an entire troupe of Chiefs.
The best Variety Company of the Season. All New Features—A New Company.

DR. ISAAC NICHOLS & CO.'s AMERICAN Remedy for sale 429 Ninth street northwest. Room No. 1, over W. R. Riley's dry-goods store. Liberal discount to the trade.
I. C. RINGWALT, jr. Sole Agent for Washington.

ROEBUCK'S PATENT WEATHER STRIPS FOR DOORS AND WINDOWS for sale at F. SCHNEIDER & SON'S,
oc21 Pennsylvania avenue and Eighteenth st.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

ST. PAUL'S ENGLISH LUTHERAAN Church, Eleventh and H streets. Rev. J. R. Paxton, of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, will preach this evening at 7:30, at this church. The public cordially invited to attend. S. Domer, pastr.

SPECIAL NOTICE
OFFICE OF THE MUTUAL FIRE INS. CO. OF D. C.,
WASHINGTON, Nov. 30, 1881.
Policy-holders are hereby notified to renew their Insurance on or before the last Monday in December, 1881, for the year 1882. Please attend to your renewals BEFORE the last few days, and thus avoid the crowd.
On account of reduced expenses and the condition of the business of the company for the present year, the NEW PRESIDENT recommended to the managers at their last meeting that the rate of interest on the premium notes be reduced to one (1) per cent. on all renewals for the next year, which recommendation was approved by the Board, thus making a reduction of 33⅓ per cent. on the rate paid last year.
J. WESLEY BOTELER,
no30 Secretary.

MRS. BRASHEARS, DOCTRESS, 416 New Jersey avenue northwest, gives her special attention to those suffering with Felons, Bruises, Gatherings of All Kinds, Tetters and Sores of Long Standing. Scrofula I never fail to cure. Salve for Burns, Carbuncles and Bunions never fails to give satisfaction. The bite of a dog successfully cured. no28

W. H. MORRISON BEGS LEAVE TO announce he will make his
ANNUAL GRAND DISPLAY
OF
CHRISTMAS CARDS
and
FANCY HOLIDAY GOODS
ON
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1881.
The public are cordially invited to examine them. The largest and handsomest stock of Paper and Envelopes in Boxes I have ever had I have just opened, and now offer for sale. Children's books in paper covers and handsomely bound, and at prices to suit all.
W. H. MORRISON,
Law Bookseller and Stationer,
475 Penna. ave. n. w.
no9-tf

FOR SALE
BY
H. D. COORE, JR., & CO.,
1429 F STREET,
District of Columbia 6 per cent. Bonds, maturing 1892. Norfolk City 5 per cent. Bonds having 20 years to run—a first-class investment. Call and examine.
Metropolitan Street Railway Stock, Washington Gaslight Scrip, and other investment securities, Government Bonds, etc.
Direct wire to Philadelphia and New York.

DR. WM. HUNTER,
MEDICAL ELECTRICIAN.
All Chronic Diseases scientifically treated, malaria especially. Office hours: 9 a. m. to 12 m., and 2 p. m. to 8 p. m. Consultation free.
1005 1425 NEW YORK AVENUE.

IMPORTANT TO TAXPAYERS!
BEFORE PAYING SPECIAL TAX BILLS OR GENERAL TAXES
DUE PREVIOUS TO 1878,
SAVE A DISCOUNT BY CALLING UPON
WILLIAM DICKSON,
222 4½ STREET NORTHWEST,
no4-tf Three doors above Columbia Building.

COLUMBIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, 1324 F STREET.
TRUSTEES:
JOHN A. BAKER, FRED'K B. McGUIRE,
THOS. J. FISHER, BRAIN'RD H. WARNER,
ROB'T I. FLEMING, GEO. H. R. WHITE,
WM. M. GALT, HENRY A. WILLARD,
CHAS. C. GLOVER.
HENRY A. WILLARD, President.
FREDERICK B. McGUIRE, Vice-President.
H. K. WILLARD, Secretary.
Insurance against all Loss by Fire at reasonable rates. no2-

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICE.—WE HAVE this day entered into a copartnership under the firm name of SIMPSON & GUY, at 1005 Pennsylvania avenue, for the purpose of carrying on an extensive Stove, Range and Furnace business and dealing in first-class makes of goods in our line, with repairs, and shall be pleased to receive calls from the former and present patrons of the old firm of Sibley & Guy and E. F. Simpson, to whom we are successors.
E. F. SIMPSON,
R. F. GUY,
oc6 1005 Pennsylvania avenue.

THE CELLULOID TRUSS,
That never rusts, never breaks, never wears out always clean, and can be worn while bathing, is for sale at CHAS. FISCHER'S, 628 Seventh st. northwest. Mrs. Fischer devotes her attention to the wants of lady patrons.

SODA WATER 5 CENTS.
GRANULATED ICE.
WM. B. ENTWISLE'S PHARMACY,
Corner Twelfth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.
PURE DRUGS AND CHEMICALS. je24

STOVES, FURNACES, RANGES, &c.
Tin plates, sheetiron work, fireplacestoves, ranges, furnaces repaired. Tin roofing, spouting, and all kinds of tin work promptly attended to. Send your order to
R. H. G. BOUIS,
519 Eleventh st. n. w., near F st.

DIAMOND-POINTED MACKINNON PEN, the most durable, simply-constructed and best invented, taking precedence of all later imitations. Sold by Geo. R. Herrick, agent, 928 F st. se6

IF YOU WANT THE VERY NICEST Bread buy "OUR NEW SOUTH." it is sure to please. For sale by all first-class Grocers, and wholesale by
W. H. TENNEY & SONS,
Dealers in Flour, Feed, Corn, Oats, Hay, Straw, &c.
CAPITOL MILLS,
je4 West Washington, D. C.

GREAT BARGAINS.
TRUNKS AND HARNESS.
The largest assortment in the city of fine quality Ladies' Dress, Sole Leathers, Folio, Zinc and Packing Trunks, Ladies' and Men's Satchels and Traveling Bags, Pocketbooks, Shawl Straps, etc., at the established manufactory of
K. KNEESSI,
422 SEVENTH ST. N.W., opp. Odd-Fellows' Hall
Over 150 Different Styles and Sizes of Trunks on hand.
REPAIRING.—Trunks, Bags and Harness Repaired promptly and thoroughly at low rates by first-class workmen. je29c

IF YOU WOULD AVOID CHILLS AND Fevers, Ague and Fevers, Bilious Fevers and other diseases incident to the season, take BROWNING'S BITTERS and you will surely escape them.
BROWNING'S BITTERS have been in use for over twelve years, and no person was ever known to have chills or bilious fevers while using these Bitters For sale by druggists and grocers generally.
BROWNING & MIDDLETON,
PROPRIETORS AND MANUFACTURERS,
610 Pennsylvania Avenue.

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It is the Best Cigar yet offered for the money.
SICKLE'S CALIFORNIA CIGAR STORE,
No. 1011 Penna. Ave. bet. Tenth and Eleventh sts.

FRED'K FREUND, CATERER AND CONFECTIONER,
702 Ninth street n. w. Parties and Weddings served at short notice. no7

DANCING.—PROFESSOR SHELDON IS now teaching the five-step waltz and lawn-tennis quadrilles. Particulars at hall, 1004 F, or residence, 919 12th st. northwest. oc18

TURNER'S BOWLING ALLEY, 1218 E ST., is now open for the amusement of those who enjoy ten-pins. The only one in town. no28-12t

ABNER'S MUSIC HALL,
E STREET,
OPPOSITE GOVERNMENT POST-OFFICE.
The regular Concert Season having closed, the undersigned takes pleasure to announce to the public that the above spacious hall is being renovated, and is now for rent at reasonable rates for Balls, Concerts, Theatrical Performances, Lectures, Public Meetings, Receptions, &c.
In connection with the main hall there is a large dining room, accommodating 250 people, attached to which is a commodious kitchen, supplied with large ranges and other practical appliances of the latest improved styles.
The dimensions of the hall are 87x50 feet, with a seating capacity of 500 people. The stage, which is in course of construction, will be portable, and can be removed altogether if so desired.
New and spacious sitting rooms for ladies are being fitted up with special care as to neatness and comfort.
For terms and other particulars, apply to
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TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY.

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Second Edition.

4:00 P. M.

THE CHANCES

In the Speakership Contest---The Latest Facts and Rumors---How the Situation Stands Now.

The hand of Samuel J. Randall was shown in the pending contest last night for the first time. The showing was bold and unmistakable. It appeared that the Hiscock forces, to whom Randall has all along maintained the relation of a reserve, got desperate yesterday and resolved to stake everything upon a *coup de main*. The Pennsylvania delegation being regarded as the key of the situation, it was naturally made the object of assault, and for that purpose Mr. Hiscock put his Samrandall reserve in motion. The clerkship question was found to be the weakest point in the Pennsylvania line, and upon that point the movement was concentrated. Very soon the air became thick with rumors.

The Democratic door-bangers, spittoon-cleaners and feather-dusters of the late House, who have always heretofore been heard and seen blowing and striking for Samrandall, last night permeated the hotel lobbies and bar-rooms, shouting and lying for Hiscock.

The *rapprochement* could no longer be concealed, and the mask once thrown off, Hiscock and his friends, instead of deprecating the alliance, boasted of it, and endeavored to present it in the light of a fact for the favorable consideration of Republican members.

The pith of the situation produced by this strategy was pretty succinctly put by the *Republicin* reporter this morning, as follows:

"The feature of the canvass last night was a Hiscock boom, which had for its subject-matter the Pennsylvania delegation and for its field of operations the lobby of the Ebbitt House. It was stated, upon the strength of a rumor, that the eleven Republican members of the Pennsylvania delegation who are opposed to McPherson for Clerk had agreed to deliver the eighteen votes of that State to Hiscock, in consideration of a delivery by Hiscock of the solid New York vote to

Keim for Clerk as Against McPherson.

It was stated that Hiscock had agreed to deliver New York solid to Keim, and this statement was duly telegraphed to all the Hiscock organs. Under these circumstances the *Republican* deemed it important to canvass the Pennsylvania delegation, in order to be able to present the actual facts. The canvass of the Pennsylvania delegation by the *Republican* resulted in the following slate, which is accurate

To Bet on, at This Writing:

For Hiscock (certain)—Harmer, Ward, Campbell, and Bayne (under promise of chairmanship of Committee on Railroads).

Uncertain, or open to conviction in caucus—Sam Barr, Errett, Bingham, O'Neill, Kelley, Godshalk, Herr Smith, Scranton, Jadwin and Fisher.

For Reed—Shellenberger.

For Kasson—Miller, Walker and Watson.

Of the ten put down as uncertain, three, to wit: Bingham, O'Neill and Smith, were rated as predisposed to Hiscock, and a fourth, Jadwin, as probably subject to the personal influence of Bayne, who was notoriously working for a chairmanship, while Sam Barr, Godshalk and Scranton described themselves as amenable to

The Logic of the Situation in Caucus:

Kelley totally indifferent and Fisher inclined to vote complimentarily for Keifer, with absolute reserve as to his final action. The *Republican* reporter, who was specially detailed to canvass the Pennsylvania delegation, and who made his canvass in connection with two members of the delegation—both uncommitted—on our line, with repairs, and shall be pleased to receive calls from the former and present patrons of the old firm of Sibley & Guy and E. F. Simpson, to whom we are successors.

E. F. SIMPSON,
R. F. GUY,
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REPAIRING.—Trunks, Bags and Harness Repaired promptly and thoroughly at low rates by first-class workmen. je29c

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The regular Concert Season having closed, the undersigned takes pleasure to announce to the public that the above spacious hall is being renovated, and is now for rent at reasonable rates for Balls, Concerts, Theatrical Performances, Lectures, Public Meetings, Receptions, &c.
In connection with the main hall there is a large dining room, accommodating 250 people, attached to which is a commodious kitchen, supplied with large ranges and other practical appliances of the latest improved styles.
The dimensions of the hall are 87x50 feet, with a seating capacity of 500 people. The stage, which is in course of construction, will be portable, and can be removed altogether if so desired.
New and spacious sitting rooms for ladies are being fitted up with special care as to neatness and comfort.
For terms and other particulars, apply to
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TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY.

WANTED—AN EXPERIENCED MILLER to run a country grist mill. Address Canyon Mills, Arlington, Va. de2

WANTED—BY A RESPECTABLE PROtestant white woman, a situation to do chamberwork and sewing or take care of invalid lady. Address G. D., Critic office. de2

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of the situation by THE CRITIC scribe reveals the fact that Mr. Hiscock has the solid Republican delegation from his State (New York) to start with, beside a large following from other States, and yet, allowing all he and his most sanguine friends claim, he still lacks about twenty-four votes of the requisite number to nominate. How to get and where to get these votes from is the question that agitates Mr. Hiscock and his lieutenants more than all others at this time. If he gets them, which he must or suffer defeat, he must secure at least twenty of them from the West. This he and his aids recognize, and are engaged in the work of securing them to the best of their abilities.

It is alleged that Mr. Hiscock has at his back all the moneyed interests of the country, the bondholders, national banks, railroads, telegraph companies and manufactures. It is also alleged that

Jay Gould's

alleged support of Mr. Keifer's a mere blind to defeat any Western man for Speaker. If these reports are true, no matter how stupendous the wrong, Mr. Hiscock's chances for the Speakership are very good. In discussing this subject last night with a very prominent Republican member from the far West he called attention to the facts above referred to and said, "I would like to see for once one hundred men who were not for sale either for committeeships or other considerations. There is Pennsylvania, with three million population, as many people as there were in the United States when we had such men as Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Otis and a grand galaxy of other statesmen. Pennsylvania is to-day without a man of national reputation, and her sons are bartering away their manhood and independence for the chairmanship of the Committee of Ways and Means for old Bill Kelley, bowing to the lead of old Simon Cameron and the monopolists. That policy which is advocated and promulgated by these men is diametrically in opposition to Western interests, and yet in the face of the fact we see Western Representatives here to-day bending their every effort to elect Hiscock, who will simply be a tool in the hands of Eastern interests. These Eastern men have had their feet on the neck of the Western people for years, and not that we are strong enough to protect ourselves, I am in favor of asserting our rights. We want our proper recognition on the War Claims Committee, Public Land Committee, Indian Committee, and Post-office and Post-Roads Committees. We can get our rights if we will but stick together."

Leaving this gentleman, and meeting a New Yorker, THE CRITIC scribe proceeded to question him on the outlook. While he was rather reticent, enough was obtained from him to say that the New York delegation, as a whole, was for Hiscock only from the lips, and they seem to lay more stress and attach more importance on who is to be Clerk, than on Mr. Hiscock for Speaker. The Clerk calls the House to order and, "we have," said this astute statesman, "about all the Republican members we can hope for in this Congress from the North, and more than we will be able to elect to the Forty-eighth Congress, and if we control the House in that Congress we must not only hold our own in the South, but we must make gains there. There are at least fifteen districts in the South that elect Republicans, but Democrats come here with the certificates. We want a Clerk with the

Courage and Nerve

to put these Republicans on the roll and organize the House. Mr. McPherson is not that man. We have only to look to the past to see whether or not the Republican party dare do this. It is a party of boldness, dash and audacity, and the American people like these traits above all things."

The Greenback Caucus.

The Greenbackers held a caucus last night, but did not agree on any positive action as to what they would do in the matter of the organization of the House, there being two absent members. Those present, however, were very decidedly in favor of nominating their own candidates for the several elective officers, and sticking to them unto the end.

Dunnell's Chances.

Dunnell is still looming up as the dark horse. He seems to be the only unadulterated Stalwart in the race, and should the fight last over Sunday there is no telling what inroads he may make in the ranks of his brother candidates.

A Western View.

To-day THE CRITIC collided with a Western member, who intends to support Reed, of Maine, on the first ballot, and hang by him so long as there is a ghost of a chance for any combination in his favor.

"Have you been able to detect any signs of success in Reed?" was THE CRITIC's question.

"On the face of things, I can frankly say no," replied Mr. M. C. from the West, "but there's an important element in this whole affair that some people have not taken into the count at all. I mean the secret ballot. I never did believe in it in caucus or convention. It's a relic of the dark ages, and should be abolished as a fraud, out of place in modern institutions, because about its only effect is to fool the honest candidate and advance the interests of the rogue.

"Now," said he, "take this present occasion as an instance. New York, we say, presents her candidate; Iowa presents her's and Ohio her's and so on through the chapter. We all know that the custom of State pride in these matters requires the delegation to go solidly in support of its candidate, all individual preferences and personal piques to the leader aside for the time being. We also know perfectly well that all these delegations are likely to have men in them who are secretly wanting to see the candidate from their own State knifed, but are held in check by the force of opinion. Under the *viva voce* method, deserters can be spotted at once, and for that reason will not indulge in the little game; but the secret ballot throws down all the bars and opens the door wide for the indulgence of personal spites.

"Now, we have decided upon this secret ballot. You can't be supposed to see any of the disappointing effects of this till the first ballot is over. That's clear. Delegations will hold together perhaps for three ballots—can't tell. But when the break does come, you'll find these candidates being knifed with the secret ballot by some of their sworn supporters. I can only see benefit to the dark horse from this method, and that's my hope for Reed."

Mr. Hiscock and Hyatt Smith.

Mr. Hiscock was showing with a great flourish of self-poised significance a letter from J. Hyatt Smith, the Independent from New York, indicating that he was for Mr. Hiscock for Speaker. Mr. Hiscock having succeeded in getting those papers friendly to him to telegraph this fact all over the country last night, a Critic reporter called on Col. G. W. Tompkins and Col. Slaty, of Brooklyn, at Willard's, who are known to represent Mr. Smith in this fight, and inquired what they knew of the letter referred to. Col. Tompkins said: "Mr. Hiscock has a letter written a year ago and placed in the hands of Mr. James, now Postmaster-General, but it was merely a friendly letter, and he did not pledge himself to support Mr. Hiscock for Speaker. Mr. Hiscock reconstructed it, however. Mr. Smith, learning this fact, took occasion to repudiate the letter or anything he may have ever said that could possibly be construed into a pledge to support Mr. Hiscock. I saw this letter before Mr. Hiscock did. It is the only letter he has from Mr. Smith on the subject. THE CRITIC was right yesterday when it stated that Mr. Smith would not go into the Republican caucus or vote for their nominees. If the Republicans organize the House, they will do it without Mr. Smith's vote, this you can rely on."

Representative Ryan's Views.

Representative Ryan, from Kansas, was interviewed by a CRITIC reporter with the following result:

"I am for Keifer. Our delegation is divided. All things being equal, I think our delegation prefer a Western man. If we had such a man as Frye or Blaine I might prefer him to any we now have, but we have them not. The East has held the gavel since the foundation of the Government, with the exception of the terms when Colfax and Kerr held it. I am for a Western man. Now, I think Hiscock will get more votes on the first ballot than he ever will afterward. There are many changes taking place lately to break the cohesiveness of the East, and I think Mr. Hiscock is left in the fight."

Anti-Monopoly in the Fight.

A prominent Greenbacker said that the anti-monopolist was being felt in this fight. "If the Republicans organize it will be by the votes of the Readjusters, Mr. Paul and Fulkerson. You see there are only 146 Republicans, and there are 134 Democrats who will be on hand; 9 Greenbackers, 2 Readjusters, and one Independent, making 146. So you see, Billy Mahone holds the key to the Speakership, because we Greenbackers propose to nominate our own candidates and stick to them even unto the end."

Right here THE CRITIC suggested that if that was a fact the Republicans would organize.

Another very able and conscientious Republican Representative said to our young man that he was rather inclined to the opinion that Mr. Dunnell was the coming man. He thought the other candidates would kill each other off, and Mr. Dunnell was the most acceptable man now named to all sections.

Books, Books.

Some new books have just arrived at Charles Baum's, who sells books cheaper than any house in this country, 416 Seventh street.

Gents' Fine Embroidered Slippers

only $1.25, worth $2, at the Boston Shoe House, 491 Pa. ave.

To Economize, Buy Your Clothing

of George Spransy, 507 Seventh street.

A Few More Left.

Notwithstanding the terrible slaughter of buffaloes—said to be a million a year between 1860 and 1870—there are still a few of these great animals left. A recent train on the Northern Pacific was twice obstructed by buffaloes near the border line between Montana and Dakota, and was forced to come almost to a standstill. There were a number of soldiers on board armed with repeating rifles, and nearly every passenger had one or more revolvers. They all joined in a brisk fire at the buffaloes, which numbered sixteen the first time and twenty to thirty the second; but the animals seemed wholly indifferent to the bullets. None of them fell, or even showed signs of being wounded, and the train was unable to proceed until they saw fit to turn tail and scamper off.

Our $2.50 Gents' Cloth-top Button

can't be beat, at the Boston Shoe House, 491 Pa. ave.

MARY ANDERSON stands without a rival to-day in the higher walks of the drama.

WEAVING THE ROPE

WHEREWITH HE WILL HANG.

Very Interesting Day in Court—Guiteau Giving Himself Away Completely—Judge Porter Exploding the Insanity Idea—Well-Put Questions Bring Out a Complete Confession—How the Assassin Dogged Garfield's Footsteps.

Since the arrangement for admitting the general public into the court-room through the main portico went into effect, the crowds that usually throng the sidewalks in front of the City Hall have greatly diminished, and this morning when Guiteau arrived from the jail there was barely a corporal's guard on hand to receive him. The public has learned one lesson, though; that is, to be on the ground early, and as a result the court-room was thronged; indeed, one might say, packed, with men and women before 9 o'clock this morning. Great things were expected, and each one waited with patient anticipation to see the dignified Judge Porter

"Shake His Bony Finger"

again at Guiteau and hear the latter's mocking replies and ridiculous attempts at mimicry. Mrs. Scoville was a little late this morning and experienced some difficulty on gaining admission to the court-room because the officer at the door did not know her. Mrs. Dr. Edson appeared among the spectators today for the first time. Drs. Reyburn and Dexter occupied seats very near her. Congressman Valentine, of Nebraska, Register Bruce, Congressman Mason, of New York, and Assistant City Postmaster M. M. Parker, were also among the spectators.

Judge Porter was the first of counsel to arrive. He carried a large Bible in his hand, which was a suggestive preface to the day's proceedings.

The only incident prior to the opening of court was the firing out of

An Alleged Newspaper Reporter,

who attempted to snake a seat by fraudulent representations. Deputy Marshal Williams escorted him out at a "turkey trot," to the intense amusement of the spectators. All of the counsel were in their seats at 10 o'clock. Guiteau was brought in shortly afterward. He was pale and looked haggard and very much used up.

He was escorted directly to the witness-box, where he at once settled down for another siege of the ordeal of being cross-examined.

The Ball Opened.

Guiteau opened the proceedings by saying that he would decline to answer any further questions that touched on matters already touched upon. If there were any other matters he was willing to discuss them.

Judge Porter paid no attention to that statement, but asked the prisoner if one of his objects in shooting the President was not to increase the sale of his book.

After hemming and hawing awhile the priso