CHRISTMAS.

UNIVERSAL OBSERVANCE OF THE HOLIDAY.

PLEASANT WEATHER—THE DAY IN THE CHURCHES—AMONG THE GERMANS—IN BROOKLYN AND ELSEWHERE.

A growing disposition to celebrate the most important of all Christian festivals has been manifested of late years by Americans, and was peculiarly noticeable yesterday. The holiday was universally observed in all parts of the city, and many appropriate decorations were visible, not only in churches but in the windows of private houses. The harbor presented a gay appearance, all the English and American, and many of the German, steamers and sailing vessels being trimmed with the Marryatt signals and flags of all nations. The weather was delightfully warm and sunny, and after the snow and rain of the past fortnight very few were found to repine at the absence of sleighing. The children, who had been pinched with cold or kept in doors by rain, were so pleased with their liberty to wander in the genial sunshine, that they forgot to grumble at the lack of snow whereon to try their new sleds, while older people, who wished to attend church or visit friends, were so well satisfied with the sight of well-washed streets that they did not miss the jingle of sleigh-bells. The churches were well attended, and furnished abundant attractions to the devout and to the lovers of fine music.

IN THE CHURCHES.

The usual services in celebration of the day were held in the Roman Catholic churches of the city. At the cathedral in Prince-st., which was decorated with holly, mistletoe, laurel, and other evergreens, the ceremonies began with a high mass and were closed with the Bishop's pontifical service. At St. Peter's, in Barclay-st., a cross of flowers was placed over the tabernacle, and on the altar of the Virgin appeared an image of the infant Christ lying in a manger. The Rev. Father Quinn celebrated mass. The building was tastefully decorated with evergreens.

During the morning service at St. Ann's Church, in Twelfth-st., between Third and Fourth-aves., the three altars—that bearing the tabernacle in the center, that of the Virgin on the left, and that of St. Joseph on the right—were thickly covered with lighted candles and natural flowers. There was a predominance of white flowers on the Virgin's altar, and of red on St. Joseph's. A star of red flowers was placed before the image of St. Joseph, and a white one before that of the Virgin. A triangular floral decoration filled the three-cornered space over the tabernacle, and an intermingling of dark evergreens with the flower-baskets and stands furnished a striking contrast. Mozart's Twelfth Mass was performed by a full chorus and the quartette choir of the church, under the direction of Louis Dachauer, the organ accompaniment being supplemented by a piano, played by Miss Mary Krebs. At the offertory a trio was performed by Miss Krebs (piano), Sig. Sarasate (violin), and Mr. Dachauer (organ), and at the close of the service Miss Krebs and Mr. Dachauer played a piano and organ duet.

St. Stephens, in East Twenty-eighth-st., was adorned from one end to the other with evergreens, which were twined around the pillars, suspended in festoons from the galleries, or wrought into wreaths, crosses, stars and other devices. Costly flowers piled on the altar, or woven among the evergreens, sent forth a fragrance which mingled with the sacred incense and perfumed the surrounding atmosphere. Brilliant tapers of snowy whiteness in precious candelabra stood to advantage the other rich and costly altar ornaments. In one corner of the church a crib, typical of the manger in which the Savior lay, was visited by hundreds of the faithful throughout the day. High mass was celebrated in the morning at half past ten, the music being generally Mass in C, rendered by a double quartette choir and an orchestra of twenty-four pieces, the whole under the direction of the organist, H. B. Danforth. In the afternoon solemn Vespers were celebrated by the Rev. Dr. Merryam, in the presence of a great congregation. Myriads of gaslets encircled the caps of the numerous pillars like chaplets of gold, and crowned a scene which delighted the eye of every beholder.

The Episcopalians celebrated Christmas with their usual devotion and earnestness. A very large congregation assembled in Trinity Church at the morning services yesterday. Dr. Morgan Dix preached a short discourse on the necessity of Christ as a mediator between mankind and God. The people love God through Christ, such love as God showed His love for mankind by sending the Savior upon earth. There was a human reason why God sent his only begotten son to take on mortality and become even as one of us. Divinity became humanity—that was Christ's reason. We cannot love Christ without loving the Father. Dr. Dix closed by referring to the loveliness of the Savior's birth. The Son of God was not born in a palace, and was not cradled in a bed of down, but his cradle was a manger, and a stable was his shelter. The music was very fine, an orchestra of 30 instruments being added to the usual choir. The Revs. Dr. Ogilby, the Rev. George Ferguson, and the Rev. Mr. Kimball assisted Dr. Dix in conducting the services.

At Grace Church, Dr. Porter, in his discourse, said he was sorry to see that Christmas was becoming more of a children's than a grown people's festival. We have come to regard the day, said he, as one of merry-making merely, and in a great measure we forget its real significance and importance. The choral portions of the services were finely rendered. The church was neatly but not too profusely decorated.

Notwithstanding the late midnight services at St. Albans, there was an unusual large attendance at 10½ a. m. Celebration began with a manuscript service in G, written for the occasion by Alberti, the choir master. The tenor solo, *Gloria in excelsis*, being finely rendered. Father Morrill officiated as celebrant, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Noyes and the Rev. Mr. Fisser. Father Noyes preached from the text "Glory be to God in the highest." The church was tastefully decorated, the pulpit being adorned with a beautiful cross of natural flowers. On the table in the chancel was an exquisite covering, worked by the nuns of East Grinstead, England.

The services at Christ Church were unusually impressive and interesting, the Rev. Hugh Miller Thompson, Rector of St. James's Church, Chicago, officiating. Services were opened by the chanced choir of 40 voices singing the processional hymn. The music was under the charge of Dr. Cutler, formerly of Trinity. The church was profusely decorated with wreaths, and on the chancel table were two beautiful banks of natural flowers.

GERMAN FESTIVITIES.

The Christmas festivities of the Germans yesterday, for which extensive preparations had been made by families, as well as by numerous social clubs, and vocal and musical organizations, were fully enjoyed. The numerous places of amusement in the Bowery, Avenue A, and other German thoroughfares, were thronged during the day. The Atlantic Garden was crowded with pleasure seekers. The music platform was decorated with fine, richly ornamented Christmas trees, and at the entrance were several huge pine trees. The National and Bowery Gardens presented a similar appearance, and were patronized by German mechanics and workingmen with their families. Concordia Hall, in Avenue A, was the rendezvous of the German population of the Seventeenth Ward, or "Klein Deutschland," as residents have lovingly named this German district. The distribution of gifts by the Sudman Sängerbund at the Walhalla, in Orchard street, attracted large attendance. The children's festival of the Beethoven Männerchor, at the Beethoven club-house in Fifth-st., was an equally attractive affair. The Turnverein of the West-side gathered at the Turn Hall, in Sprig-st., and participated in drawing Christmas gifts. The Germania Quartette Club held a soiree at Columbia Hall, dancing being pleasantly varied by a distribution of gifts. At Dramatic Hall in Houston-st., a comic entertainment was given under the auspices of the German Women's Aid Association, the Schillerhalle. The programme including a drama entitled, the "Slave Market at Richmond." Similar festivities in honor of the day were given by a number of minor organizations.

IN THE CITY PRISONS.

The Commissioner of Charities and Corrections furnished bountiful Christmas dinners to those confined in the Tombs, and the Jefferson Market, Essex Market, Fifty-ninth-st. and Harlem Prisons. At the Tombs 1,500 pounds of poultry were served, besides beef, mutton and vegetables in abundance, making more than enough for all. At the other prisons there was the same profusion of palatable food. Dinner was served at 1 p. m. and the prisoners partook of the meal with appetites which their previous meager fare had only served to sharpen. During the morning visitors were admitted to the prison, and many of those awaiting trial were gladdened by gifts from relatives and friends. In the afternoon visitors were excluded, and the prisoners were allowed the freedom of the corridors for a longer time than usual.

MISCELLANEOUS CHARITIES AND FESTIVITIES.

The various plans of the charitable for giving a day's happiness to the poor, and needy, and suffering, the orphan, the widow, and the stranger, were thoroughly carried out according to the programme in yesterday's TRIBUNE, and the various asylums and refuges were full of joy and gratitude.

The Rivington-st. Boys' Lodging-House presented an unusually attractive appearance last evening. The rooms had been trimmed by the Superintendent, Mr. Calder, with evergreens and flowers, so that a genuine Christmas spirit seemed to preside over the festivities. At 7½ p. m. the lads sat down to a bountiful dinner of turkey, plum-pudding, and fruit, provided for them by Howard Potter. After dinner, the boys gathered in their reception hall, and joined in singing Christmas Carols and other appropriate melodies. A large number of ladies and gentlemen were present, and listened to addresses by Mr. Potter and others.

Eleven hundred of the children attending the day and mission schools of the New-York Juvenile Guardian Society, at No. 101 St. Mark's-place and No. 207 Bowery, were made happy yesterday by a liberal distribution of hats, boats, gloves, toys, confectionery and other presents. The exercises consisted of vocal and instrumental music, and addresses by Oswald Ottendorfer, the Rev. W. A. McAllister and others.

The Christmas entertainment this and to-morrow evenings at the Newsboys Lodging-House, in Park-row, will include the reading of Dickens's "Christmas Carol" by Ex-Judge Quackenbos of the New-York bar.

About 50 members of the Newsdealer's Guard assembled at 7 a. m. yesterday at the Sixth Ward Hotel and proceeded thence by the James-st. ferry to Jackson Park, at Hunter's Point, where the day was spent in target shooting. The prizes, presented by the proprietors of the leading newspapers and periodicals in the city and valued at about $600, included a sewing machine worth $125, given by Frank Leslie, and a handsome set of silver ware from the Evening Post Association. The officers of the Guard, which is a new organization, are Capt. Bernard Lenahan; Lieutenants, Messrs. Ryan, Cullen, and Mead.

The day was not celebrated on board the Russian fleet, now in the harbor. The officers of the several vessels were much astonished at seeing the stores closed, and anxiously asked whether the day was a holiday. The Christmas season, according to the old calendar by which they compute time, begins Jan. 5 and continues ten days. The Svetlana and Abreck are at the Navy-Yard preparing for the cruise in the Pacific, and the Bogatire is lying at Pier No. 5, N. R.

At Bellevue Hospital, services were held in the chapel in the morning, and the patients and attaches were regaled with a bounteous supply of turkey, chicken, mince-pies, and other delicacies provided by charitable benefactors. In the evening, the convalescent patients, the house physicians, and the nurses adjourned to the new amphitheater, where a few hours were spent in dancing, which was also participated in by a number of invited guests.

IN BROOKLYN.

Christmas was very generally observed in Brooklyn, and was a day of unbounded happiness and enjoyment. At an early hour the streets were filled with devout people hastening to religious services in the churches. The bells of St. Ann's, on the Heights, chimed Christmas carols, and tasteful decorations in almost all the churches gave evidence that the significance of the day was generally appreciated. The discourses were on the common topic of the nativity of Christ, and the music in the Roman Catholic and Episcopal churches was elaborate and impressive. Many Sunday-school rooms were open, and glimpses afforded of Christmas trees with branches heavily laden with bonbons and toys.

The Courts, public buildings, banks and stores, with few exceptions, were closed. The charitable institutions and Mission schools were thrown open to the public, and their inmates generously provided with bountiful dinners, and that both givers and recipients enjoyed the festive day was evinced by happy faces and pleasant words. The streets throughout the day presented an animated appearance, being thronged with pleasure-seekers who, under the influence of the large charity of the Christmas season, scarcely had heart to scold noisy boys for their persistent practice on tin-horns and whistles. The various places of amusement were all open for matinee or evening performances. Nothing occurred to mar the pleasure of the day; few arrests for drunkenness or disorderly conduct were made by the police.

IN LONG ISLAND AND NEW-JERSEY.

The day was very generally observed in Long Island. At Grace Church, Jamaica, the Rev. G. Williamson Smith, chaplain of the United States navy, delivered an address. At St. George's Church, Flushing, the Rev. J. Carpenter Smith preached. At St. John's Church, Hunter's Point, services were conducted by the new pastor, the Rev. Dr. Mulholland. In the evening the children of the Baptist Sunday-school had a festival at the East-ave. Church, Long Island City. The new South Side depot at Jamaica was thrown open to the public.

In Jersey City business was generally suspended. The editors and publishers of *The Evening Journal* gave a Christmas dinner to the newsboys. The dinner was served in Cooper's Hall, and about 200 boys and 150 guests were present. Judge Randolph opened the exercises with prayer, and speeches were made by prominent citizens. The festival of the Jersey City Singerbund took place in the evening at the same place. The second annual dinner of the Oceanic Yacht Club took place at the Club House in the evening. About 200 children partook of a Christmas dinner at the Pavonia-ave. Mission. A Christmas tree loaded with presents was arranged at the Centenary Methodist Church in Pavonia-ave., near Monmouth-st., for the Sunday-school scholars. A concert in aid of the Hedding Methodist Sunday-school was held at the church in the evening. Masses were celebrated in St. Mary's, St. Peter's, St. Boniface's, St. Michael's, St. Patrick's, St. Joseph's St. Bridget's, and other Roman Catholic Churches. Religious services were held in the Episcopal and other churches. The new German Theater which has been established in Turner Hall was opened in the evening.

In Paterson there was a general cessation of business; the Courts adjourned until to-day, and the Common Council meeting was postponed for one week. Fairs were held in the Opera House, Wigwam, and the Hall of the Knights of Pythias, in aid of St. Joseph's Hospital, the Main-st. Methodist and the Third Presbyterian Churches respectively. A Christmas dinner was provided by the Wallis-st. Baptist Church for the poor, and hundreds accepted the invitation. There was high mass in the new St. John's Roman Catholic Cathedral at 5 and 10 o'clock A. M. Christmas trees, with presents for the children, were provided in many of the churches in the evening. The eighteenth annual ball of Neptune Fire Engine Company took place at Continental Hall.

In Hoboken, the Christmas anniversary of the First Presbyterian Sunday-school was held at Hudson and Sixth-sts. John Giffin lectured on political and religious frauds at Odd Fellows' Hall. At the Weber and Otto Cottage gardens German balls took place. St. Paul's Episcopal Church was handsomely decorated, and, in addition to the usual services, a reception was given to the Sunday-school children in the afternoon.

The Sunday-school festival of the Baptist Church in Hackensack took place in the evening. A similar festival will be held in the First Reformed Church this evening.

Services were held in all the Episcopal and Roman Catholic Churches in Newark. The churches were elaborately dressed with evergreens and flowers, and the music in most of them was unusually fine. In the evening the Oratorio of the Messiah was sung at St. Paul's Methodist Church by Mme. Anna Bishop and the Mendelssohn Union.

THE DARK SIDE OF A HOLIDAY.

There were even more than the usual number of gangs of drunken men in the streets on Christmas Eve, singing drinking songs, quarreling among themselves and attacking pedestrians. The Police report an unusual number of robberies and felonious assaults.

Michael Hanley, of No. 31 Park-st., attacked John Rappi, an Italian, who stabbed his assailant in the face, wounding him severely. Rappi was committed to the Tombs by Justice Dowling.

John Hurster was found early yesterday in the Bowery, near Canal-st., intoxicated and disorderly. He was arrested by Patrolman Dolan, and a large slung-shot found in his possession. Justice Dowling committed him.

Martin Neary of No. 114 Mulberry-st., while on his way home early yesterday, was seized by William Johnson, at Mulberry and Chatham-sts., and forcibly robbed of his watch. The thief was caught with the watch in his possession, and committed to the Tombs. Neary was sent to the House of Detention.

Benjamin Watkins and Reese Davis, sailors on the ship Patriot, lying at the foot of Beekman-st., E. R., partook of refreshments, early yesterday, in John Rich's coffee and cake saloon, in Fulton Market, and attempted to leave without paying their bill. Rich attacked them with a knife or a sharp instrument, and cut Watkins in the forehead, causing severe wounds. The assailant was committed to the Tombs.

John Kelly, while in his saloon, No. 63 Mulberry-st., early yesterday, was attacked by Patrick McGowan and six other young men and beaten and kicked in a most brutal manner. McGowan was committed.

Peter Drake, and others, while acting in a disorderly manner in Chatham-square, on Sunday night, were ordered to leave the street by an officer of the Sixth Precinct. Drake struck the officer on the head with a slung-shot, causing a severe wound, and was afterward arrested.

Bernard Duggan returned home, on Sunday night, to No. 4 Broad-st., under the influence of liquor, and quarreled with his sister-in-law, Ann Corcoran, of Staten Island. He finally took a boiler, containing water, from the stove, and emptied the contents upon her. The water was not hot enough to scald her, and seeing this, he beat her on the head with the boiler, causing severe scalp wounds.

John Ellis of No. 68 Varick-st., while intoxicated, yesterday, entered the Roman Catholic Church in Thompson-st., near Canal-st., while Mass was celebrating, and acted in a very disorderly manner. Several persons attempted to eject him, but he resisted, and in the struggle stabbed Francis P. Knapp of No. 232 Greenwich-st., in the right shoulder and arm, inflicting severe wounds. He was finally secured and disarmed. In his struggles he cut himself in the right hand. He was locked up in the Prince-st. Police-Station.

Patrolman McCormack of the Twenty-seventh Precinct heard, early yesterday, the sound caused by the breaking of a pane of glass, and on searching for the cause, found William Prentiss on the awning of No. 84 Murray-st., who admitted that his purpose was robbery. Justice Dowling committed him to the Tombs.

Hugh McIntyre was caught in the act of breaking into the show-window of Morris Black's cigar store, No. 364 Canal-st., and was committed to the Tombs.

Patrick Shea, age 14, was shot in the eye with a missile from an air gun, by Andrew Bush, age 12, while they were in a shooting-gallery at No. 43 Bowery. Bush was arrested, and the wounded boy was taken to the Park Hospital.

Mary Newman, age 38, of No. 433 First-ave., entered the Eighteenth Precinct Station-house, last night, having been cut in the head and stabbed in the arm by her husband. She was conveyed to Bellevue Hospital.

Lizzie Jennings, age 26, of No. 60 Mott-st., was stabbed in the back at No. 66 Mott-st., by Cornelius Hart, yesterday, and received a slight wound.

THE DAY ELSEWHERE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—No business was transacted in any of the Public Departments to-day. Christmas was observed by all classes. The weather was clear and the order throughout the city was better than heretofore on such occasions.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 25.—The day has been generally observed. All business was suspended. There has been a good deal of carousing, and much drunkenness, resulting in brawls, in which knives, razors and pistols were freely used, but without fatal results.

THE DRAMA.

BOOTH'S THEATER—JULIUS CÆSAR.

It is not an exaggeration to say that Mr. Booth has won the best and brightest success of his career as a theatrical manager, in the revival of "Julius Cæsar." This was seen at his theater, last night, by at least 3,000 people—and it was seen with unalloyed pleasure and recognized with unlimited enthusiasm. The magnificent tragedy—with which no other play can vie, whether in truth of substance, simplicity of expression, or purity of spirit, and whether considered as a picture of fact or an exposition of the ideal—was set upon the stage in a marvelously sumptuous attire, which at all points was correct, and at some points was gorgeous. Roman architecture and ornamentation, with all their splendor, were, nevertheless, simple in form and color; and that law has been scrupulously respected in the scenic illustration of this tragedy. Nine scenes were set, the grandest being that representing the chamber of the Roman Senate, and the public square in Rome, in which *Brutus* and *Antony* spoke their funeral orations over the body of *Cæsar*. The former of these seemed to have been based, in part, on Gerome's great picture. It is the most impressive stage portrait that we remember. It occupied the whole of the stage, and it created a perfect illusion. The climax of the assassination—approached through elaborate preliminaries, and effected under most startling circumstances—was the animating soul of this picture, and made it indescribably thrilling and painful. We cannot now speak in detail of the scenery, but must be content to say that every portion of the tragedy received competent illustration, and that similar breadth of design and minute accuracy of treatment have seldom been approximated, even in this theater—where excellence in such matters is the established custom. Comment on the acting, too, must be brief and somewhat general at this time. It was marked by bright intelligence and profound earnestness, and—in the chief parts—by great ability. In "Julius Cæsar," more than in any other of Shakespeare's plays, poetry and history are one. The characters drawn by Shakespeare are substantially the characters drawn by Plutarch. The language of the poet is frequently an expanded paraphrase of the language of the historian. These facts should be remembered in estimating the quality of the acting in any representation of this tragedy. There is a tendency, almost universal on the stage, to treat inanimative subjects in a mood of realism—to substitute fact for fancy. In the present case, however, this cannot lead the actor very far wrong—seeing that fact has been religiously preserved in a halo of poetry.

We would not intimate that the success of the acting last night was in any sense involuntary. On the contrary, there was an immense vitality of concurrent design, and a deep and delicate appreciation of the poetic atmosphere. Mr. Booth acted *Brutus*—for the second time in his life. His first performance of the part was seen at the Winter Garden in 1864, on the occasion of the Shakespeare Benefit. He looked the part much better than we expected—in fact, he realized it perfectly. There is a popular delusion that *Brutus* was a large man. In fact the popular idea conceives the noble Roman as invariably gigantic. It is a matter of fact, we believe, that there were big Romans; but we believe it is equally a matter of fact that the big ones were not always the most virtuous. *Brutus*, like *Cassius*, was lean and pale—and Mr. Booth's physical embodiment of the character is, therefore, entirely accurate. He invested the performance with a very delicate spirit; and, in the scene of the assassination, and that of the ghostly visitation, his profound emotion stirred every heart to deepest sympathy. In portions of the part, however, he was not easy. It was evident, though, that the conception was just, and we doubt not the execution will, after the first flush of excitement has subsided, harmonize with it. It is not to be denied, however, that the part is rendered more impressive upon the stage when played by a man of massive size and great physical intellingss. Mr. Barrett, who was welcomed with lively interest and applause, acted *Cassius* with splendid spirit and great effect. On a previous occasion we have expressed the opinion that this is a work of absolute genius. It will suffice now to remark that it easily bore away the richest honors of last night's performance. Mr. Banks achieved a good success as *Antony*. The funeral oration was pronounced with singular discretion and true pathos. A subdued vein of sweetness ran through it, and this set off the fine outburst at the end. More emphasis, we think, should be thrown on the fiery impetuosity of the character.

Mr. Waller faithfully reproduced the well known historic figure of *Cæsar*—the tall, thin, bald-headed, black-eyed warrior, whose genius and grand individuality would have made him the tyrant of the world but for the dagger of the heroic Brutus. Shakespeare has been as true to the great laws of the moral government of the universe as to the fact of history. "They say blood will have blood." A tyrant is slain—but the heart of the slayer is cleft by his own sword, in expiation of the dread sacrifice. There are lessons of the gravest import to be learned from "Julius Cæsar." Americans are apt to think that Liberty is an invention of the new world and modern times. It may be well to be reminded that others than our sires fought and suffered for it; and that the same struggle has been forever going on in the world between the effort of what is good in human nature to establish universal freedom, and what is bad in human nature to establish slavery and the dominion of vice. To see this great play with appreciative eyes is to learn the value of liberty, and to sympathize with some of the grandest ideals of heroic character and pathetic experience ever offered in literature or in life.

DRAMATIC NOTE.

The funeral of Mrs. Houghton—wife of the Rev. Dr. Houghton of the Little Church—takes place at 10 o'clock this forenoon, at the church in Twenty-ninth-st. We accidentally announced it for yesterday.

PERSONAL.

After seventeen years of able judicial service in the superior Court of Cincinnati, Judge Bellamy Storer retires, voluntarily, from the place he has filled so long, regretted by the bench and bar of the entire district.

An Indiana paper revives it, as an instance of Mr. Beecher's conscientious and careful preparation for his work, that once on a time, when the great minister held his Indiana pastorate, he determined to urge a crusade against gambling, and in order to fortify himself on the subject intelligently, he called in the assistance of a celebrated poker-player, Col. Alvord, who divulged the intricacies of the "trade" to the reverend neophyte.

J. J. Sturz, formerly Brazilian Consul-General at Berlin, who has rendered himself conspicuous by his active exertions in the interest of oppressed nationalities, has petitioned the German Reichstag to take the lead in measures for the prevention of the Coolie trade. His proposition is that Germany shall bring about a coalition of maritime powers, the purpose of which shall be to exercise a direct protective influence over all individuals of inferior races who seek to improve their condition by emigration to other countries.

THE PARTIAL ECLIPSE.

GAS SUPPLIED BY THE METROPOLITAN COMPANY UNTIL MIDNIGHT.

Residents in that portion of the city extending from Thirty-fourth-st. to Seventy-ninth-st., who have been inconvenienced by the explosion of the purifying house of the Metropolitan Gaslight Company, will be glad to learn that the officers of the Company are exerting themselves in their behalf. Oscar Zollkoffer, the President of the Company, informed a TRIBUNE reporter, yesterday, that there were 900,000 cubic feet of gas in the receivers, and that he had made arrangements with the Harlem Gaslight Company to have connecting pipes laid before 7 p. m., through which 1,000,000 cubic feet of gas could be supplied, which, in addition to 500,000 cubic feet obtained from the Company's gas-houses, would afford sufficient light to last till midnight. He estimated the loss to the Company at $75,000.

There are now 300 men employed in clearing away the ruins, and repairing the buildings. Only one of the six "purifiers" was totally destroyed. The company can supply their customers, and resume operations as soon as the "purifiers" have been repaired. The patrons of this company nightly consume 2,400,000 cubic feet of gas, which is the amount that is daily manufactured. By the aid of the Harlem Gaslight Company the Metropolitan Company will be able to supply its customers till 12 o'clock at night, and its officers are confident that by to-morrow night they will be able to manufacture enough gas to last till midnight, after which time they will be enabled, by the repairing of the "purifiers" to make their usual quantity. At seventy-ninth-st. and Third-ave., a large force of men was employed yesterday in making the connection with the Harlem Gaslight works.

POLITICAL.

GEORGIA.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN ROME.

ROME, Ga., Dec. 25.—The municipal election to-day resulted in the choice of the entire "People's ticket," as follows: H. D. Cothran, Mayor; T. M. Gates, W. T. Mapu, R. T. Hoyt, J. W. Noble, C. G. Samuel, and F. J. Stone, Aldermen. The election passed off quietly. A full vote was polled. There is great rejoicing.

THE NEW COMMON COUNCIL.

The members of the Reform Common Council chosen at the late election are preparing to assume the duties of their new office on January 1, and some of the Assistant Aldermen have already taken the required oath. It is not expected that the present Tammany incumbents will resign their seats, and it is probable that the Legislature will be called on immediately after assembling to decide between the rival Boards.

THE ALDERMEN ELECT.

The vote, as canvassed, shows that eight Democrats and seven Republicans have been elected as Aldermen for the ensuing year, two Reformers—Messrs. Doediger and Carroll—being counted out, and their places filled by the present Aldermen, Coman and Plunkitt.

PETER GILSEY is about 45 years of age, and though not a native of this country, has lived in this city nearly all his life. He is Democratic in principle, though not a Tammany man, and has never before taken any prominent part in politics.

JAMES FITZGERALD is a Democrat, and was at one time identified with the Tammany organization. He is a politician, active in the Reform interest, and indorsed by the Committee of Seventy.

SOLOMON MEHRBACH is a very fair and no doubt honest Democratic Reformer. He was nominated by the Apollo Hall Committee, and has hitherto had very little to do with politics.

ALEXANDER WILDER was until lately connected with *The Evening Post*. During the Legislative sessions he has acted as Albany correspondent of that paper, and also officiated as Secretary of various committees there. In politics he is a Republican.

WILLIAM RADDE is the oldest man in the new Board, and has never been prominent in the political arena. He is a Townsend Republican.

JOHN FALCONER is a well-known manufacturer of this city, and was one of the leaders of the Citizens' Association in 1863. He has been quite active in the work of reform, and politically is a Union Republican.

JENKINS VAN SCHAICK is about 35 years of age, and a broker in Broad-st. He is a man of probity and character and an active Democratic reformer, though previously he has kept clear of all political matters.

SAMUEL B. H. VANCE is a Townsend Republican. He has hitherto been somewhat prominent in general politics, but has held aloof from all city affairs.

ALEXANDER MARTIN has always been more or less active in political circles. He is a Democrat and a politician of unimpeached character.

JAMES MCLAREN is a Union Republican. He is well known as a politician, and is thoroughly versed in city affairs.

JOHN COCHRANE was Attorney General of the State in 1860 and 1861. His war record is too well known to need comment. He was at one time Chairman of the Republican Committee of this city, and now belongs to the regular organization of that party.

THOMAS COMAN, the present Chairman of the Board of Aldermen, is well known as a very active Tammany politician, and one who has held many of the offices in the gift of the people.

DANIEL D. CONOVER is a Union Republican, and an active politician of good reputation.

WILLIAM JOYCE is a Reform Democrat and well known as a city politician of good character and antecedents.

GEORGE W. PLUNKITT is a Tammany Democrat and the leading spirit in the opposition to the newly elected Board. Politically active, he has always stood high in the favor of the power which has previously given good offices to its faithful servants.

THE ASSISTANT ALDERMEN ELECT.

The new Board of Assistant Aldermen declared elected according to the official canvass will consist of 13 Democrats and 8 Republicans. Eight of the Democrats are Tammany men and office-holders, seven of them being members of the present Board. The other five were elected as Democratic Reformers, thus giving 13 Reformers and 8 Tammany men in the Board. Several of the members elect are new men in the political field, and have had no experience in offices such as they are to fill; but they have what is quite as good—a firm purpose to search out all abuses, and do their portion of the government of the city fairly and honestly.

THOMAS FOLEY is a Democratic Reformer, and has always been quite prominent in city political matters. He has never held any elective office, however.

JOHN SEYCOM is a Tammany Democrat. He has never held any elective office, but has been Warden of the City Prison for several years.

HUGH O'BRIEN is also a Tammany Democrat. In 1864, he held the position of Superintendent of the Scavenger Department. In 1865, he was elected Assistant Alderman, and has been reelected at each election since.

JOHN GAVIN is the President of the present Board, and is put forward for the same office in the incoming Board. He is a Tammany man and has been elected Assistant Alderman once or twice before his present term.

ISAAC ROBINSON is a Tammany Democrat and a politician by profession. His seat will probably be contested. He is a member of the present Board.

MICHAEL HEALEY is also a professional politician of the Tammany stripe. He is a member of the present Board.

CHARLES P. HART is Treasurer of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. In politics he is a Republican, though he has never taken much interest in any but national questions. He is no politician, and has never held any office.

GEORGE J. KRAUSS is one of the youngest men in the Board, both in years and political experience. He is a Democratic Reformer, and has never held office.

GEORGE B. COMPTON is a well-known builder, and a Townsend Republican. He has hitherto had nothing to do with political affairs.

JOSEPH P. STRACK is a Democratic Reformer, and a member of the Reform Committee in his Ward. He has had but little to do with politics.

CHARLES C. PINKNEY is a well-known down-town broker and a prominent Republican. He has been President of the Board of Fire Commissioners, and has also filled one or two terms as Assistant Alderman.

EDWARD COSTELLO is a Tammany Democrat and a member of the present Board. He is a butcher in Washington Market, and is on the Committee on Markets.

NICHOLAS R. CONNOR is a young man, born and brought up in the district from which he is elected. He is a staunch Republican, has always been more less interested in political matters, and is connected with some of the party organizations of the city. This is the first time he has been in office.

ERASTUS LITTLEFIELD is a Democrat and a Tammany man. He is on the present Board, but it is his first official appearance, though he is quite prominent as a politician.

FRANCIS J. GEIS is a Democratic Reformer, who was supported by James O'Brien during the past campaign. He has hitherto been but little prominent in politics.

STEPHEN B. SIMONSON is a prominent merchant and a Republican. He is no politician, and has taken but little interest in such matters.

PHILIP CUMPSKEY is a Democrat, elected on the Reform ticket. He is something of a politician, and once held the position of Deputy Sheriff.

BARTHOLOMEW MCDONALD is a Tammany man and member of the present Board, in which it is his second term. He is a contractor by profession, and also a politician.

CHRISTIAN SCHWARTZ is President of the Up-Town German Savings Bank. At one time he was quite active in Republican politics. He is a member of the German-American Reform Association.

OTIS T. HALL is a prominent lawyer of Wall-st., and served as a staff officer under Gen. Davis in Sheridan's campaigns. He has not previously held any political office. He is a Townsend Republican.

TAXATION AS A CONDITION OF SUFFRAGE.

Under date of December 9th, one Isaac Seeley writes from Washington to the Hon. Joseph E. Brown of Georgia, stating in substance that,

"A movement is begun to secure the passage of an act by Congress to prevent the further abridgement of the right to vote by the assessment and accumulation of poll taxes."

and that material aid can be rendered this scheme:

"First. Let from one to fifteen voters subscribe to the same affidavit. Second. State the amount of taxes required. Third. At what election the right to vote was denied. Fourth. The form or substance of the oath required to be sworn in the vote. Fifth. The number of citizens in the county thus prevented from voting."

The object of all this is to show that the State of Georgia had "abridged" and denied the right to vote, guaranteed and provided for in the Fourteenth Amendment. To this Gov. Brown refuses his countenance or assistance point blank, and regrets that any one calling "himself a Republican" should attempt by "such means," to make up a case for Congress to act on. The Governor traverses the whole history of Georgia government and misgovernment, and finds abundant proof for this conclusion:

"The wisest thing, in my judgment, that Congress could do for Georgia, would be to conciliate her people and show them that it is the intention to deal justly and liberally by them. If a general act was passed sweeping from the statute book the last vestige of political disability that rests upon any of her citizens, and she were left, as other States are, to manage her own way, it would do more to restore peace, harmony, loyalty, and government in the State than anything else that is now in the power of the Federal Government to do.

"Respectfully, JOSEPH E. BROWN."

DRIFT OF POLITICAL DISCUSSION.

WHAT THE PARTY CAN'T AFFORD.

From The Albany Express.

It may not have been the proper thing to do to give the opponents of Gen. Grant control of the committee—though from the known probity of such distinguished Senators as Sumner and Trumbull but little risk would have been run in so doing—but, on the other hand, was it necessary—was it prudent or just, even—to run to the opposite extreme, and carefully exclude from such a committee every gentleman supposed to be opposed to the President's renomination. The Senate took the appointment of the committee out of the hands of the Vice-President, and the Administration majority had power to constitute it as they saw fit. Would it not have been the part of prudence and good sense, if there is really nothing to conceal from the people, to have given two of the same places upon the committee to Senators belonging to the other wing of the party? The Senate recognized the principle of minority representation by appointing one Democrat upon that investigating committee. Practically, however, the "left wing" of the Republican party is treated with even less consideration than its Democratic opponents. The latter are represented upon the committee; the former are not. We have all along believed the President to be an honest man, and that his Administration has been conducted, in the main, faithfully and economically. We are still of that mind; and we should be glad to see his enemies, and the enemies of the Republican party, confounded by the results of a rigid investigation, conducted, in part at least, by those who are his political opponents, or who are opposed to his renomination. But as the matter was finally disposed of, many honest people will be led to believe that an attempt has been made by the friends of the Administration to shelve investigation. It seems to us that neither the Administration nor the party can afford to cast under such an imputation.

THE FORGERY OF MR. DUELL'S FRANK.

From The Syracuse Journal.

THE TRIBUNE and other advocates of the abolition of the Franking Privilege, have a very serviceable argument in favor of their position, in this flagrant abuse of that privilege. Why only not any Senator or Representative's name be thus employed, for the advancement of private purposes, by any one sufficiently skilled to make an imitation of such name which shall pass the scrutiny of the postmaster clerks, who cannot be expected to be familiar with the signatures of Senators and Representatives? Is it not altogether probable that wholesale abuses of this character are constantly practiced? In the particular instance before us, it was only by accident that the misuse of Mr. Duell's frank became known. But for this accidental disclosure, *The Marylandt News* might have had the free use of postal facilities to an unlimited extent. These are abundant reasons why the law conferring the Franking Privilege should be repealed. The forgery of Mr. Duell's frank adds pertinency to them, and if it shall be the means of directing attention to the subject with new force, and of urging Congress to act definitely upon the subject, it will have accomplished a good purpose. We are quite certain that Mr. Duell's vote will be recorded in favor of repeal.

THE OFFICIAL VOTE OF WISCONSIN.

The vote in Wisconsin is summed up to latest dates in *The Milwaukee Sentinel*:

Republican.		*Democratic.*	
Governor, Washburn	78,201	Doolittle	61,915
Lieut. Governor, Pelton	77,751	Rice	60,607
Sec'y of State, Breese	77,923	Montgomery	60,119
Treasurer, Paetz	78,020	Kline	58,171

Commenting on this, *The Sentinel*, apropos of the reputed German defection, says:

"It will be seen that Mr. Rusk's gallantly lead the column, although the Democratic newspapers repeatedly assured the public before the election that he was certain to be beaten in consequence of the disaffection of the Germans. The close average vote demonstrates better than anything else can possibly do how well drilled and compact are the ranks of the party, and how little affected our votes are by incidental and local questions."

BOSTON'S NEW COLISEUM.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING WHERE THE NEXT JUBILEE WILL BE HELD.

From The Commercial Bulletin.

Its ground plan will be a parallelogram 822½ feet in length by 422½ feet in width, measuring 347,506 square feet in area, or a trifle less than eight acres, being 222 feet longer and 122 feet wider than the Coliseum of 1869, and containing more than double the area of that immense structure. Throughout the space not a single post, pillar, or support of any kind will obstruct the view from end to end. The roof, consisting of a double system of self-supporting trusses, the invention of Mr. Allen, will spring in a gentle curve directly from the foundations constructed on piles driven 35 feet into the ground, the two segments meeting at the ridge and forming a gigantic arch, at an elevation above the floor of 152 feet. Similar segments will spring from the ground at either end, uniting with the side segments, forming an immense Mansard pavilion, with the graceful lines peculiar to that style of architecture. These trusses supporting these end segments of the roof will run the entire length of the building, having a clear span of over 500 feet, and knitting the whole roof into a substantial self-supporting structure. From the foot of the arches on either side and end will rise perpendicular buttresses 53 feet high, at which elevation the curve of the trusses will leave a space of 18 feet between the outer line and the line of the buttresses. This space will be floored, forming an outside promenade, with an elevation of 56 feet, a width of 18 feet, and a total length