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THE WESTERN CANVASS.

INDIANA REPUBLICANS HOPEFUL.

THE GREENBACK MEN BEGIN TO SEE THE VALUE OF SUPPORTING HAYES—DEMOCRATIC IMPORTATIONS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 2.—The Republicans are feeling much more hopeful to-day. The greenback movement begins to show a phase which promises if it develops to be of great assistance to Gen. Harrison. Many of the greenback leaders have come to the conclusion that the election of Mr. Williams would be regarded as certain to be followed by the success of Tilden, and that it would be impossible to make a respectable canvass for Cooper and Cary after the October election under such circumstances. On the other hand, they think that the election of Gen. Harrison would tend to disrupt the Democratic party by making it evident that Tilden's election would be impossible; and that in such an event the Independent party would immediately receive a large accession to its ranks, would be put on the footing of a formidable national party, and would be enabled to push a vigorous canvass up to the November election. The men who are prepared to act upon this view care little for their State or local tickets. Their hearts are in the national greenback movement, and they are willing to make every minor consideration lead to the one object of accomplishing its advancement. The view they are taking has already been adopted by their brethren in the East.

The Democrats are making tremendous efforts to neutralize the influence of Gen. Harrison's popularity in this city, and to prevent him from running ahead of his ticket. They hold meetings and parades every night. The Republicans continue to get evidence that the big Democratic rally of soldiers and citizens to come off here on Thursday covers a gigantic scheme for importing voters by the wholesale. A few days ago the Republican managers were feeling rather alarmed about it; but they now think they have completed arrangements to protect the polls against this raid. The presence here of men from Baltimore and Philadelphia, known to be experts in election frauds, who are boarding at the hotels without any ostensible business, and are in frequent consultations with the Democrats, is, however, an additional cause for apprehension and watchfulness.

CAUSES OF CONFIDENCE IN OHIO.

A LARGE VOTE PREDICTED—ATTEMPTS OF THE DEMOCRATS TO TRADE VOTES—A GREAT MEETING AT CLEVELAND.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

CLEVELAND, Oct. 2.—The indications grow stronger every day that the Republicans will carry Ohio in spite of the immense expenditures of Mr. Tilden's and John Morrissey's money. In this city there is no doubt of the election of Townsend, Republican, over Henry B. Payne, Democrat. Information from all points of the State show very clearly that both parties will poll their full vote, and that over 600,000 votes will be cast, the largest ever known in the State's history. The disclosures concerning Mr. Tilden's income tax are telling against him every day. The Democrats are not as sanguine as they were two weeks ago. They have adopted the dodge of trading one or two names on their State ticket against Barnes, the head of the Republican ticket, hoping thereby to defeat him and claim that they have carried the State, although the balance of their ticket may be defeated. This trick is being thoroughly exposed, however. The demonstration in this city next Saturday, when Mr. Blaine speaks, will be the largest ever known in Cleveland. The Republican business men, their employés, and all, will turn out on that occasion.

JUDGE DITTENHOEFER IN OHIO.

STEUBENVILLE, Oct. 2.—Judge Dittenhoefer of New-York addressed a large Republican mass meeting for nearly two hours in English and German to-night. He made many telling points, which were received with great applause. Alluding to the demand of the Democracy for change, he said that if the father of a family committed suicide, it is a change, but that the family is not benefited by it; and that changing the Government from the party that saved it to the party that sought to destroy it, from the party that would protect the laws and credit of the Union to the party of the solid South that is bound to pay the Southern war claims, would be national suicide. The meeting has done much good.

MARYLAND DEMOCRATS GOING TO INDIANA.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—The Maryland delegation of "The Boys who wore the Blue," who propose attending the convention in Indianapolis this week will arrive here to-morrow afternoon about five o'clock, and will be joined by the District delegation at the Baltimore and Ohio station. The Baltimoreans will be met also by the Jackson Democratic Association and the Tilden and Hendricks Club. It is reported here that many ex-Confederates and noted roughs will accompany these delegations with the understanding that they are to take an active part on election day in Indiana.

GAINS OF THE OHIO REPUBLICANS.

A LARGE MAJORITY IN THE WESTERN RESERVE—RETURN OF INFLATION REPUBLICANS—EXCELLENT CANDIDATES FOR CONGRESSMEN IN CINCINNATI AND TOLEDO.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

CLEVELAND, Sept. 30.—The two important points in the political field in Ohio are always Hamilton County and the Western Reserve—the former because the City of Cincinnati is exceedingly freaky, given to sudden changes and often controlled by local influences; the latter because in the heavy Republican counties of the Reserve it is only when a canvass takes a strong hold of the public mind that a full vote can be brought out. When the Republicans have lost the State it has always been occasioned either by apathy on the Reserve, or by some change in the large floating vote of Hamilton County. Of late years there have been two other factors to be studied in considering the problem of the politics of the State—the attitude of the German vote of Cleveland, and of the laboring population in the iron and coal districts, who have been infected with the soft money heresy since the hard times began, and have shown a remarkable aptitude for turning somersaults into the Democratic ranks. In the other portions of the State parties are pretty evenly balanced, and it is rare to find any marked changes at elections.

Hamilton County is in excellent condition this year. Republicans there are more than holding what they gained last Fall. They feel confident of increasing their majority from 1,200, last year's figures, to 2,000. They are well organized, full of spirit, and their two candidates for Congress, Judge Stanley Matthews and Judge Force, are men of such eminence and of such absolutely unassailable character, that the mere mention of their names is the strongest argument in favor of their election. Their nomination has done for Hamilton County what that of Gov. Hayes has accomplished throughout the country—put the Republican canvass upon a high plane, far above the levels where it has been running of late years. Judge Force is still upon the bench, and his sense of propriety keeps him out of the canvass. Judge Matthews doffed the ermine long ago, and is, therefore, free to take the stump. He is delivering a series of calm, thoughtful, argumentative addresses, that contrast refreshingly with the rant and demagogical appeals of his opponent, Gen. Banning.

With Hamilton County saved by the wisdom and energy of its Republican leaders, we turn next to Cleveland. Last Fall the whole foreign vote of city and county, with the exception of course of that of the Irish, went for Hayes in a body. His majority in Cuyahoga County was about 6,000—nearly a thousand more than in the whole State. The Republicans will not do as well this Fall. The rag baby is not paraded to disgust the hard-money German Democrats. Nor is there a school question to alarm the Lutherans and the other anti-Catholic German sects; and that howling humbug Sam Cary is unfortunately not upon the Democratic ticket. If the Republicans get for the State ticket our old average majority in brisk campaigns of 4,000 they will do well. The Germans have not deserted in a body as the Democratic managers at Columbus pretend to believe, but they are divided about as they used to be. The course of Mr. Thieme and his paper *Der Waechter am Erie* in going over to Tilden through the door of the Fifth Avenue Hotel Conference has undoubtedly had some effect, but the plain inconsistency of supporting Hayes for Governor one year and opposing him for President the next is appreciated by the mass of intelligent Germans. The danger of losing the State through want of effort began to dawn upon prominent Republicans here about a fortnight ago, and since then there has been a very marked change in the tone of the canvass. Clubs have been organized in all the wards of the city, two or three in some of them, and in all the country towns, and matters begin to look a good deal as they do in Indiana. These cold-blooded Clevelanders, who appear to get their temperament from their chilly lake winds, are actually warmed up at last, and are taking hold of politics in earnest. The business men of Superior, Bank, and Water-sts., and even the aristocrats of Euclid-ave., have agreed to carry torches in the procession at the great demonstration to take place when Mr. Blaine comes here next week. Nothing could more forcibly show the interest felt by the best classes of Republicans in the election. It is the best omen of Republican victory I have seen in the State. The business men here are convinced that a Democratic triumph would unsettle public confidence in the financial policy of the Government, reopen all questions affecting the currency and the bonds which the Republican party has settled, and so fill the public mind with apprehension of unwise tinkering with legislation affecting monetary and general business interests as to indefinitely postpone the advent of a new era of prosperity which now appears so near at hand.

Throughout the Western Reserve the spirit animating Republicans here begins to be everywhere manifested. General activity has taken the place of general apathy, and the report that comes in from all quarters is that the full vote will be got out. The estimate of the Republican leaders here is that the decreased majority in this county will be compensated for by gains in Ashtabula, Geauga, Portage, and other heavy Republican counties, so that the State ticket will go off the Reserve with as large a majority as Gov. Hayes received last year.

It will be remembered that in the mining and iron-working districts the Republicans lost heavily last Fall, notably in Youngstown, Massillon, Steubenville, and Portsmouth. In all those localities they will make important gains. Republicans who were led by the hard times into embracing the rag baby have no excuse for acting with the Democracy since Tilden captured the party at St. Louis, and many of them are back in their old ranks. Judge Kelley, who furnished them with the arguments to justify their desertion a year ago, has been around, telling them that there is more hope for the success of their theories from the Republicans than from the treacherous and unprincipled Democrats, so that they are now furnished with what most of them were waiting for—a plausible reason for returning to their former allegiance.

With the Western Reserve promising its last year's majority, and with gains in the coal and iron regions and a large gain in Hamilton County to count upon, there would seem to be no reason to apprehend defeat. The only locality where there is likely to be a Democratic gain outside of Cleveland is in Payton. There the inmates of the Soldiers' Home, three-fourths of them foreigners, have been captured by the local Democratic politicians, and are going to ungratefully vote against the party that feeds and shelters them. In all the rest of the State the signs are encouraging. I visited the Toledo district yesterday, and found the Republicans very zealous and enthusiastic in their support of ex-Gov. Cox for Congress, and fully appreciating the credit such a representative would do them. The effect of Mr. Cox's candidacy there is identical with that of Judges Matthews and Force in the two Cincinnati districts. In the Ashtabula district a few dissatisfied Republicans have put up a candidate against Gen. Garfield—Gen. Jack Casement of Painesville, who has not found out yet whether he is for Hayes or Tilden, but wants the Democratic vote for Congress. His efforts will only have the effect of making the usually one-sided canvass in that old Republican stronghold more lively, and of bringing out a full vote for the State ticket. He can no more defeat Garfield than he could swallow Lake Erie before breakfast.

The scheme of Chairman John Thompson to drive Republican votes away from Col. Barnes, the Republican candidate for Secretary of State, by falsely representing him as a fanatical, crusading prohibitionist, is not prospering in this section. The Republican leaders are everywhere well informed of the details of the plot, and are on their guard. It is now generally understood by everybody who reads the newspapers—and there are no Republicans who do not—that the only hope of the Democrats lies in defeating Barnes by "scratches," so that by electing the head of their ticket they can claim a victory for effect in New-York, but few voters will run into the trap. Everybody knows that if a Republican votes against Barnes he is practically voting against Hayes.

The Republicans have been provoked by the assaults upon their candidate into ventilating the record of his opponent, Mr. Bell. They find that he was a Copperhead during the war, and signed a call for a meeting to resist the draft, and that his honesty as a county official was once seriously impugned. While Bell was at home acting with the Vallandigham Democracy, Col. Barnes was in the field, braving the dangers of a score of battles and receiving two wounds from rebel bullets. E. V. S.

GENERAL POLITICAL NEWS.

REPUBLICAN GAINS IN CONNECTICUT.

REPORTS FROM THE EASTERN PART OF THE STATE—TWENTY-TWO TOWNS HEARD FROM—ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS—THE GAINS IN FAVOR OF THE REPUBLICANS.

HARTFORD, Conn., Oct. 2.—The town elections occurred in this State to-day. The vote at these elections is always small compared with State elections. The principal political interest is in the choice of Selectmen and Town Clerks, who constitute a Board of Appeals in matters connected with the registration of electors. As far as heard from in this vicinity the gains from last year are in favor of the Republicans. In Hartford the Republicans elect the first selectman, one assessor, and three constables. Most of the other officers elected are Democrats.

In Waterbury (New-Haven County), a strong Democratic town, the Republicans elect a majority of the Aldermen and Councilmen. The Democrats elect the other city officers. The other towns heard from are as follows:

Republican.	*Democratic.*	*Divided.*
Avon.	East Hartford.	East Windsor.
Canton.	Winchester.	New-Britain—2.
West Hartford.	Middleton.	
Simsbury.	Windham.	
Enfield.	New-London.	
Rocky Hill.	Derby—6.	
Manchester.		
Vernon.		
Norwich.		
Plymouth.		
Essex.		
Madison.		
East Haven—13.		

The constitutional amendments have been carried, preventing the increase of members of the Legislature in new towns of less than 2,500 inhabitants; making the Common Pleas Judges' term four, City Judges' two, and Probate Judges' two years; making the compensation of members of the Legislature $300 and mileage, and erasing the word "white" from the electoral qualifications. The majority of the towns vote for liquor license.

NORWICH, Conn., Oct. 2.—At the town election, Norwich (New-London County) goes Republican by 571 majority against 285 at the town election last year on about the same total vote. The votes for licenses were 1,253 for to 248 against. All the six constitutional amendments were ratified by about sixty to one.

One town in this county (Colchester) votes "No" on the first amendment, which denies new towns of less than 2,500 inhabitants a representative in the Legislature.

Canterbury (Windham County) shows a Republican gain of 40; Plainfield shows a Republican gain of 50. There are other trifling Republican gains and a general ratification of the amendments in Eastern Connecticut.

LOUISIANA FOR HAYES.

PROBABLE ELECTION OF DEMOCRATIC STATE OFFICERS AND DEFEAT OF TILDEN.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—Collector Casey and Congressman Levy of New-Orleans are both in the city. Mr. Levy is very confident that the Democrats will elect their entire State and Congressional tickets. Mr. Casey is very hopeful that the electoral vote of the State will be cast for Hayes and Wheeler, and thinks this is certain if peace can be maintained in three or four parishes. There are rumors of a proposed union in Louisiana between the more respectable element of the Democratic party and the Republicans, the result of which will be that Mr. Nichols (Dem.) will be elected Governor, while the electoral college will be for Hayes and Wheeler. It is certain that an arrangement of some sort has been suggested as to the city of New-Orleans, by which the Democratic candidates nominated by the Bombons will be unitedly opposed by the better class of the Democracy and the Republicans.

A PECCADILLO OF CONGRESSMAN WILLIAMS.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—On examination of the vouchers of Congressman Williams, of "blue jeans" notoriety, Chairman of the Committee on Accounts in the House, it appears that he allowed the Clerk of the House to violate both the law and the rules of the House in making some of his fancy purchases during the last session. Barclay's Digest contains the following in regard to the duties of the Clerk:

In making purchases for the House he is required to confine his purchases exclusively to articles of the growth and manufacture of the United States, provided the same can be procured on as good terms and of as suitable quality as foreign articles.

In the face of this Mr. Williams audited and allowed numerous bills for French blacking and Russia towels by the dozen, the latter at $1 25 a piece, both presenting cases where American articles would answer every purpose. The same violation of law appears in his perfumery bills and purchases of fancy soaps.

DEMOCRATIC FACTIONS AT PEACE.

HARMONIOUS ACTION BY TAMMANY AND ANTI-TAMMANY—AGREEMENT CONCERNING COUNTY CONVENTIONS.

A preliminary meeting of the joint conference committee appointed by the Executive Committees of the Tammany and Anti-Tammany organizations, to agree upon a basis of harmonious action in the selection of candidates for the county and city offices, Members of the Assembly, and other offices, was held yesterday afternoon at Tammany Hall. Emanuel B. Hart, George H. Purser, and Timothy Shea, from Anti-Tammany, were received by the Tammany Committee, and after a brief interchange of views, it was arranged that the joint committee should meet at the Monument House, on Union-square, at 8:30 p. m. Accordingly all the members of the committee met there in the evening in secret session. On motion of Emanuel B. Hart, the chairmanship was given to John Kelly, and William P. Mitchell was elected secretary. Subsequently Mr. Kelly called Senator Buxby to the chair, and he presided during the remainder of the session. In a brief speech John Morrissey demanded the terms on which Tammany would be willing to unite upon a single ticket; to which Mr. Kelly replied that Tammany Hall was ready to accord to the Anti-Tammany organization the same representation allowed its delegates at the recent State Convention at Saratoga. He said that it was very desirable that harmony should prevail in the Democratic party in this city during the present campaign. He thought that if the Tammany and Anti-Tammany county conventions were called, they could appoint conference committees that would be able to agree upon a basis of representation of the two organizations. Other speakers were Timothy J. Campbell, Edward Cooper, Menzo Diefendorf, and Major W. H. Quinby on the part of Tammany Hall, and Timothy Shea, Thomas J. Creamer, Emanuel B. Hart, and Henry Murray representing Anti-Tammany. They all expressed a desire for a union of the two factions as well as a disposition to accept the basis of representation proposed by Mr. Kelly, about two-fifths to Anti-Tammany and the remainder to Tammany Hall. There was not a word of opposition to the proposed harmony of action spoken, much of the time being occupied in discussing the manner of bringing it about.

Finally a committee was appointed, consisting of John Kelly, Lewis C. Wachner, G. K. Ackermann, Ira Shafer, Emanuel B. Hart and William P. Mitchell, to agree upon the time of holding county conventions representing the two factions, and also to draft calls for these conventions. This committee will meet at No. 6 Union-square at 4½ p. m. to-day.

DUTY OF DEMOCRATS.

A LETTER FROM CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

A special meeting of the Young Men's Democratic Club was held last evening at the Everett House, Justice Kilbreth presiding. The meeting was devoted entirely to business. The following letter from Charles Francis Adams was read by Mr. Beall:

QUINCY, Sept. 2, 1876.

J. A. BEALL *and others, Committee Young Men's Democratic Club, New-York.*

GENTLEMEN: On my return from the White Mountains I find your letter of the 17th of last month, inviting me to address you on the political issues of the day, in one of the public halls of your city. Were I thirty years younger I might perhaps be tempted to accept your invitation. I have done my full share of this labor in my time and pray leave to be exempted from it in the future. Yet I have not lost my interest in the political movements of the country, nor my desire to see it properly guided by men who can be trusted to do so. The experience of the last eight years of shameful profligacy in the direction of public affairs, beginning with the history of the Credit Mobilier and concluding with the exposures made during the last session of Congress, points to but one safe result to be arrived at in the present election. That result is a thorough change of administration. I for one am tired of compromises with corruption and pledges of future amendment, while the same fatal influences that have brought us to disgrace continue in the ascendant. Unless the people speak this year in an unequivocal manner, there will be no thorough reform possible hereafter. This is my honest conviction. For my own part, I am so far advanced in life that the future is of comparatively little interest to me, whatever may be the issue. It is for the younger generations to look out with care for the restoration of purity and truth. I am, gentlemen, very respectfully yours, CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

A LARGE REPUBLICAN GATHERING.

One of the largest political meetings that has been held in the VIIth Assembly District during the campaign assembled at the Lincoln Club rooms, at No. 12 University-place, last evening. The hall was completely filled half an hour before the speaking began, and the crowd gathered outside in the street as far as the voices of the speakers could reach. Soon after the meeting began, a body of 200 colored Republicans marched to the hall and joined the gathering. The President of the Lincoln Club, Cornelius Van Cott, presided over the meeting, and called upon Dr. Isaac I. Hayes, who introduced the speaker of the evening, Gen. James W. Husted. Dr. Hayes closed his introductory remarks by saying that he had just come from Indiana, where he had made 19 speeches in 13 counties, and that after a careful canvass he could give the most positive assurance of Republican victory in that State on Tuesday next.

CANDIDATES FOR CITY OFFICERS.

The Philip Benjamin Democratic Campaign Club waited on acting Mayor Samuel A. Lewis yesterday at the City Hall and tendered him a nomination by them for Mayor.

The Independent Labor Party of the XIIIth Assembly District met last evening at No. 177 Seventh-ave., with James Freeman in the chair. After several addresses had been delivered the following nominations were made: For Mayor, S. B. H. Vance; for Sheriff, William Lalor; for Judge of the Supreme Court, Dennis McMahon.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES—BY TELEGRAPH.

DOVER, N. H., Oct. 2.—Edrille Parsons accidentally shot and killed himself while out gunning yesterday.

GREAT FALLS, N. H., Oct. 2.—A woman named Dominique was struck by the Boston and Maine train here to-day, and fatally injured.

HALIFAX, Oct. 2.—Efforts have been made, without success, to recover the bodies of Obed and Mark Smith, the noted boatmen, who were drowned yesterday.

WORCESTER, Mass., Oct. 2.—John Bullard, a farmer, living alone, has been found in his house murdered, nearly chopped to pieces with a hatchet. The murderer's object was robbery. He secured $100 in money.

BOSTON, Oct. 2.—Capt. Joseph F. Baker of the United States Marine Corps was found dead in bed at his quarters in the Charlestown Navy Yard to day. His death is believed to have resulted from an attack of apoplexy.

THE PRISONS OF NEW-YORK.

FIRST REPORT ON THEIR MANAGEMENT.

THE SPECIAL COMMISSION STRONGLY RECOMMEND A RADICAL CHANGE—THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT SHOULD BE ADOPTED.

[FROM A REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, Oct. 1.—The State Prison Investigating Commission, appointed by a law of last Winter, to investigate the workings of the State Prison system, have made their preliminary report which will be found in full below. It is understood to refer mainly to the workings of the system at Sing Sing, where most of the inquiries of the commission have been made. It will be followed at an early day by a more detailed statement of the wrongs thus generally described. The commission is composed of Sinclair Tousey of New-York, Chairman; Louis D. Pilsbury, Superintendent of the Albany County Penitentiary, the model penal institution of the State, Secretary; and Gen. A. C. Niven of Middletown. Ex-Senator George R. Babcock of Buffalo, who was the fourth member of the commission, died recently, and his place has not yet been supplied by the Governor.

TEXT OF THE REPORT.

To his Excellency, SAMUEL J. TILDEN, *Governor.*

SIR: The commission appointed to investigate the State prisons of the State respectfully submit this, their preliminary report, together with the testimony already taken, and on which it is based. The commission commenced their labors at the Sing Sing prison, early in June, and continued them until near the close of August, when it adjourned to the prison at Clinton, at which place they continued their examinations until the 21st inst. It will resume work at Sing Sing early in October. The work at the latter place was found to be much greater than was expected, requiring the aid of expert accountants before and during the time the commission was there, and will need still further time to make such an examination as seems to be demanded.

The investigation thus far made, shows that business affairs have been very loosely conducted, in regard to purchases, both as to prices paid and quantities bought; great carelessness and false entries in the accounts; books have been altered, mutilated and lost; property of the State loaned to private persons without charge, or an account thereof being made, and never returned; moneys have been obtained from the State Treasury by fraudulent vouchers; property stolen; tools and materials belonging to the State not cared for, and a general lack of economy that ought to be exercised by officials in charge of public interests so great, and so varied in character; a lack not so much the fault of persons, as of the system which placed them temporarily in their official positions.

The word "temporarily" is very significant in its application to our system of prison management, or, rather, mismanagement. Men are appointed to positions in the prisons without any regard to fitness, but solely as rewards for political party services, and with every change of party majority new men take the places of those whose party was defeated at the last previous election, scarcely one of whom had been in office long enough to learn its duties. So universal has been this practice that it is quite remarkable to find a man in place who has been continuously on duty for seven a few years; the result being that most apprentices, knowing the prevalence of this system, diligently apply themselves in making all the money possible for their own benefit before being thrown out by the next turn of the political wheel. The evils of this practice can hardly be described in terms sufficiently condemnatory, a system which appeared in the first board of State Prison Inspectors, elected under the Constitution of 1846, and which has been the bane of our prison management ever since. One of its worst evils is its influence on the discipline of the prisons, bringing in, as it always does, a majority of officials entirely inexperienced in their duties; duties which require more than an ordinary share of intelligence and considerable experience, occasions which the convicts are quick to take advantage of to the injury of the State. A marked instance of this is found in the case of a contractor at Sing Sing, carrying on the same kind of manufacturing as the prison in Columbus, Ohio, paying twice as much per day for convict labor in Ohio as in New-York. These evils not only cause the prisons to fail behind financially, but also utterly destroy all hope of reforming the convicts, who, seeing the carelessness, and too often the dishonesty of those in places of trust, become more demoralized themselves, and, instead of being better men on leaving prison, are often made worse, and set free to exercise the same dishonesty they saw practiced in prison by men who should have, by example, taught them better.

Under these constant changes there can be no discipline among the subordinate officials, without which there can be none among the convicts. If a warden or other officer of a high grade attempts to discipline a subordinate, he, the inferior, will threaten his superior with removal, a threat easily carried into effect, by means of political influence. The disinterested observer readily sees that there can be no discipline under such a system. The wonder is not why our prisons call financially, and so many prisoners escape, but, rather, why more money is not lost and more convicts do not escape. So long as the present system prevails, just so long will the evils continue, increasing from year to year, as our prisons and convicts increase in number. The undersigned can see no remedy for these evils except in an entire change in the mode of electing the head of our prison system. The proposed amendment to the Constitution, which provides for a Superintendent of State Prisons, will, as we believe, remedy the existing evils. Without such a change there will be no cure, and the finances of the State must necessarily suffer.

Our recently deceased colleague, the Hon. George R. Babcock, fully concurred in these views and recommendations. Respectfully yours obedient servants,

SINCLAIR TOUSEY,
A. C. NIVEN,
LOUIS D. PILSBURY,
Commissioners.

New-York, Sept. 29, 1876.

JEROME PARK RACES.

OPENING OF THE FALL MEETING.

FIVE RACES, WON BY RHADAMANTHUS, BROTHER TO BASSETT, LEONARD, VIRGINIUS, AND PERA.

Despite the great disadvantage of postponement from Saturday on account of the rain, the Autumn races at Jerome Park were opened yesterday with marked success. The sky in the forenoon was not wholly reassuring. The atmosphere suggested frost and more moisture. This will probably account for the small attendance of ladies and the absence of bright and costly toilets, for which opening days at Jerome Park have been conspicuous. Leonard Jerome contributed his drag and "four-in-hand" to the scene in front of the Club-house hill, and the piazzas were filled. The members of the Jockey Club and guests and the turfmen of the country were present in great numbers, and a multitude of non-paying spectators covered the hill outside the park above the homestretch. There were seen at the Grand Stand and Club-house August Belmont, Leonard Jerome, Lord Randolph Churchill, William Turnbull, John F. Purdy, Pierre Lorillard, D. D. Withers, Warden Quinn of the Tombs, Carroll Livingstone, and ex-Gov. Bowie of Maryland. Great interest was shown in the betting. Consequently there was unabated excitement, while five races and an extra heat were carrying the afternoon's sport into the twilight hours. Only two out of five favorites secured a prize; but the conditions were unfavorable for "picking a winner," the field in each race being exceptionally large and well matched. The track was heavy, and only fair average time was made. The Centennial Prize for the great four-mile race of the last day of the meeting, and open to the racers of the world, was on exhibition. It is by Tiffany & Co., of silver and Italian marble, and represents the horse breeder of 1776, leaning against a thoroughbred brood mare and playing with a frisky colt. The base has several relief embellishments in silver. The day afforded two incidents noteworthy only as occurring seldom at Jerome Park: A runaway horse dashing among vehicles to no great destructive purpose, and a scene made by an obstreperous pickpocket, whom the detectives put under lock and key until after the races.

The opening race of the meeting, a three-quarter mile dash for a purse of $400, was to be won, in the minds of betting men, by Madge, but Rhadamanthus proved the better horse. Pools were made at these figures: McDaniel's Madge, $130; Dwyer's Rhadamanthus, $125; Longstaff's Freebooter, $125; P. Lorillard's Tigress, $50; Withers's Cyclone, $30; Racey's Leamington Second, $30; Reed's Lillie Belle, $20. There were seven competitors, which got the word well together. Madge, unwilling to take any chances in so short a dash, ran to the front and forced the running. Tigress for the most part being second, Rhadamanthus running a waiting race in fifth place. Madge entered the homestretch apparently a winner, but Rhadamanthus came forward at the proper moment with a tremendous pace and crossed the score two lengths ahead of Freebooter in 1:20½, Cyclone third. Mutual pool tickets were worth $14.

Brother to Bassett's victory in the two-mile dash for the Jerome Stakes, $1,500 and entrance money, which enlisted four three-year olds, was not unexpected; but it was thought that Fiddlestick, who has heretofore shown great speed and endurance, would not yield the race without a close contest. Fiddlestick's last public performances were not of the most promising kind, and he was sold in the pools for $180, while Brother to Bassett was first choice at $300, Geo. L. Lorillard's Sunburst bringing $130, and Reed's Red Coat $45. The struggle at the outset was mainly to see which should not take the initiative. But the headstrong Brother to Bassett settled that by running over the course at a rapid pace, while the others hung back during the first mile. Brother to Bassett began the second mile with two lengths to spare, and still running against a very tight rein. Sunburst was second and running well, while Fiddlestick was beginning to try the courage of Red Coat. Brother to Bassett was not overtaken, and after the mile and a half it was evident that Fiddlestick would quit ingloriously. The stable boys, who hurrah on slight provocation with the McDaniel stables, became so delighted at the sight of Fiddlestick at the rear, that the spectators on the Grand Stand laughed out loud at the youthful savages before cheering Brother to Bassett as he crossed the line, a winner by five lengths in 3:47¾. Sunburst second, six lengths in advance of Red Coat. The mutual pools paid $10 90.

The mile dash of the two-year olds for the Nursery Stakes, $100 each and $1,000 added, was most exciting and a great disappointment to those who staked their money on Belmont's Susquehanna. There were nine horses to start out of 43 nominations, selling in the pools at these figures: Belmont's Susquehanna, $550; McGrath's Leonard, $250; P. Lorillard's Bombast, $200; Chaubugh's Cloverbrook, $140; McDaniel's Princeton, $115; Purycear's Top and Kingsland, $115; the field, G. L. Lorillard's Lucifer and Cottrill's Adventure, $75. Several false starts were made. Kingsland once carried his rider to the quarter-pole, and then got even with his competitors by spoiling what might have been a good start. When the word was given, Swim sent Leonard to the front with a fine dash, and made the running. Susquehanna second, Top third, and Cloverbrook fourth. The leading horses were close together at the Club-house. The home dash was a grand outburst of speed. Cloverbrook made an astonishing advance from fourth place on Leonard, and four rods from the score appeared to have the race, but Leonard made three desperate leaps amid excited cheering and gained the victory by a neck in 1:50½, Cloverbrook second, Susquehanna third, Bombast fourth, and Princeton fifth. Mutual pool tickets brought $20 60.

The Manhattan Handicap race of a mile and a quarter was spirited. There were 11 contestants. In the pools, McDaniel's Virginius and Mattie A. sold for $410; P. Lorillard's James A., $600; Doswell's Invoice, $130; G. L. Lorillard's Warlock, $80, and the field, Bowie's Wary, Belmont's Dauntless, Reed's Gray Nun, Cottrill's Mediator, Medinger's First Chance, and Morris's Sweetlips, $260. The starting was delayed by Gray Nun, who behaved almost as badly as possible. Mattie A. was finally left at the post, but her stable companion, Virginius, got the lead and kept it through a fierce contest, winning the race by four lengths in 2:17½, James A. second, two lengths in advance of Warlock.

There were ten horses in the selling race, for a purse of $400, one mile and an eighth. Two heats were necessary to decide the contest, and considering the general belief that the first heat was unfairly decided against Arcturus, there was a remarkable absence of grumbling among those who lost by Pera's victory. One of the last pools sold as follows: McCormack's Arcturus, $100; G. L. Lorillard's Ambush, $95; Longstaff's Partnership, $85; McDaniel's Willie Burke, $80; P. Lorillard's Pera, $70; Chabaugh's Cyril, $65; Hitchcock's Springlet, $55; the field, Donahue's New-York, Ogle's Fleetwood, and Carr's Ella Watson, $50. Springlet made the running for three-quarters of a mile, after which the contest became hottest between Arcturus, Cyril, and Pera, who crossed the score very close together, and, as many spectators thought, in the above order. But the judges decided that it was a dead heat between Arcturus and Pera, and, what was thought stranger still, awarded the third place to Willie Burke. Arcturus was the favorite in the second heat by $100 to $30 on Pera. The former led to the south stretch and then yielded to Pera, who won the heat and the race in 2:04½. Mutual pool tickets purchased before the first heat were worth $39 30.

RIFLEMEN AT A BANQUET.

HONORS TO THE TEAMS IN BROOKLYN.

A complimentary dinner was tendered by the citizens of Brooklyn last evening at the Academy of Music to the American, Irish, Scotch and Australian Rifle Teams. The auditorium of the Academy was floored over and tables were set for 150 guests. The American Team was represented by Maj. Fulton, Col. Bodine, Col. Gildersleeve, and Col. Mitchell. The Irish Team was represented by Maj. Leech, Lieut. Fenton, J. R. Milner, W. Rigby, J. G. Pollock, and W. B. Evans of the English Eight. Of the Australian Team, J. J. Slade was the only member present. He wore the handsome diamond badge won in Washington for making the highest score in the three days' shooting there. Lieut. Fenton also wore a similar decoration. Messrs. Lake, Menzies, Rae, and Thorburn represented the Scotch Team. Mayor Schroeder presided. Seated at his right were Major Leech, S. R. Chittenden, the Rev. J. Halstead Carroll, Mr. Slade, and Major Fulton; at his left were Gen. Dakin, Capt. Thorburn, J. S. T. Stranahan, Col. Gildersleeve, and H. C. Murphy.

Several ornaments were distributed about the tables, representing the riflemen in different positions, and immediately in front of Mayor Schroeder was a representation of the Hell Gate explosion. Conterno's 23d Regiment Band rendered selected airs during the dinner. At the close of the dinner Mayor Schroeder delivered a brief address to the gentlemen of the rifle teams, bidding them hearty welcome in behalf of the people of Brooklyn. The toasts of the evening were then drank and responded to. The toast of the "President of the United States" and "The Queen" were responded to by national airs by the band. "The City of Brooklyn" was responded to by Corporation Counsel DeWitt, "Our Guests" by Gen. Catlin, "The International Irish Team" by Major Leech, "American Team" by Major Fulton, "The Rifle Association of America" by Judge Gildersleeve. Mr. Slade responded to the toast of the Australian Team and Capt. Thorburn to that of the Scotch Team. The other toasts were "The State of New-York;" "The Judiciary," responded to by Justice Neilson; "The Bar of the United States," by Winchester Britton; "The Press," by Thomas Kinsella, and "Our Mothers, Sisters, Sweethearts, and Wives," by J. C. Wyman.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Oct. 2, 1876.

The quarterly report of the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics for the three months ended June 30, 1876, shows the total number of immigrants who arrived during the year to be 169,986, of whom 111,786 were males, and 58,200 females. Of this number 27,875 were under 15 years of age; 121,734 were 15 and under 40 years, and 20,377 were 40 years of age and upward. The arrivals at the port of New-York were 87,823; Huron, Mich., 31,334; San Francisco, 24,680; Boston, 9,711; Philadelphia, 7,812, and Baltimore, 5,093. The principal countries of the immigrants were as follows: England, 24,373; Ireland, 19,575; Scotland, 4,582; Wales, 324; Isle of Man, &c., 12; Germany, 31,937; Austria, 5,646; Hungary, 630; Sweden, 5,603; Norway, 5,173; Denmark, 1,547; Netherlands, 855; Belgium, 515; Switzerland, 1,549; France, 8,002; Italy, 2,910 Russia, 4,764; Poland, 925; China, 22,781 (of whom 260 were females); Quebec and Ontario, 17,314; Nova Scotia, 2,582; New-Brunswick, 1,421; Prince Edwards Island, 299; Newfoundland, 92; Vancouver Island, 763; Mexico, 631; Cuba, 703; Bahamas, 523; Azores, 806; Australia, 1,205. The immigrants having professional occupations numbered 2,400; skilled occupations, 24,200; miscellaneous occupations, 72,275; not stated and without occupation (mainly women and children) 71,111. The following table shows the immigration into the United States during the last five fiscal years:

Years.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
1872	240,170	164,636	404,806
1873	275,792	184,114	459,903
1874	189,329	124,114	313,339
1875	139,500	87,948	227,498
1876	111,786	58,200	169,986

The Controller of the Currency has made a statement, showing the issue and retirement of National bank notes, and of legal tenders, under the acts of June 20, 1874, and of Jan. 14, 1875, to Oct. 1, 1876. The amount of National bank circulation redeemed, retired, and surrendered from Jan. 14, 1875, to Oct. 1, 1876, is $46,189,471; amount issued, $16,881,575, showing a decrease of National bank circulation of $29,607,896. The amount of National bank notes outstanding on Oct. 1 (not including the circulation of the National gold bank, $2,039,190) is therefore $322,253,554. The amount of greenbacks deposited from June 20, 1874, to Oct. 1 1876 (including $3,813,675, previously deposited for the purpose of redeeming the notes of insolvent and liquidating banks), $64,503,856; amount of circulation redeemed by the Treasurer between the same dates, $42,462,813, leaving on deposit with the Treasurer on Oct. 1, 1876, $21,860,943, for the purpose of retiring the National bank notes outstanding; amount of greenbacks retired under the act of Jan. 14, 1875, $13,500,260, leaving outstanding on Oct. 1, 1876, $368,494,740.

A dispatch received at the Indian Bureau from the agent at Fort Peck Agency, in Montana, states that the Indians at that place are peaceful and quiet. A few bands of hostiles have made their appearance near the agency, but have started north for the British Possessions without creating any trouble or committing any depredations at the agency.

Business of importance detains Secretary Chandler here, and he will not start for New-York before Wednesday or Thursday instead of