New-York Tribune.

VOL. XLII.. No. 13,101. NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1882. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

THE POLITICAL ARENA.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CAMPAIGN.

MORE TRICKERY DISCOVERED IN THE MANIPULATION OF THE STATE COMMITTEE AT SARATOGA—SECRETARY FOLGER'S INTENTIONS — GENERAL TRACY NOMINATED FOR JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT.

It has been ascertained that Frederick Tomkins, a member of the last Republican State Committee, was represented at the committee's meeting at Saratoga on September 20 by Ira M. Hedges, who had no authority to act for Mr. Tomkins. General Tracy was nominated for Justice of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn yesterday. The inference is drawn from the remarks of influential Republicans at Washington that Secretary Folger will not retire from the Cabinet until after his election as Governor of New-York. It is expected that three anti-Bourbons will be elected to Congress in Mississippi.

ANOTHER SHARP TRICK AT SARATOGA.

FREDERICK TOMKINS REPRESENTED AT THE STATE COMMITTEE MEETING BY IRA M. HEDGES WITHOUT AUTHORITY.

At the meeting of the State Committee at Saratoga September 20, ex-Senator E. M. Madden was selected as chairman of the State Convention by a vote of 18 to 14. Ira M. Hedges, of Rockland County, presented himself at the meeting of the committee, having secured the consent of the other delegates from the district to act in place of Committeeman Frederick Tomkins, of the XIVth Congressional District, who was absent without proxy. The Rockland County delegation was in favor of Governor Cornell's renomination, and it was expected that Mr. Hedges would represent the wishes of the Cornell men. He had no proxy from Mr. Tomkins, and was not entitled to a vote in the committee, but he took his place without opposition. When the roll was called there was much surprise manifested when Mr. Harris voted for ex-Senator Madden as chairman. The Rockland County delegates were indignant at the position taken by Mr. Hedges, and when the convention met he cast his vote for Senator Pitts.

The following letter, dated Stony Point, N. Y., Sept. 27, which was received at THE TRIBUNE office last night, shows that Mr. Hedges had no authority to represent Mr. Tomkins in the committee:

One of the eighteen votes cast for Mr. Madden at the State Committee meeting at Saratoga last week, and referred to in THE TRIBUNE'S editorial of today, purported to represent the XIVth Congressional District, and was cast in my name by Ira M. Hedges, a delegate to the State Convention from Rockland County. I was very unexpectedly detained at home, and did not authorize Mr. Hedges or anyone else to represent me upon the State Committee. Had I been present I should have voted in opposition to the Administration.

By what authority Mr. Hedges may have shown to the committee or what particular *trick* he adopted to induce it to allow him to *misrepresent* me upon that occasion, I have not yet learned. Perhaps he also may have had one of those Administration telegrams which I fear will prove costly dispatches for Judge Folger. FRED TOMKINS.

Albert Daggett, chairman of the Executive Committee of last year's State Committee, was asked last night what the circumstances were under which Mr. Hedges was admitted to the committee.

"When Mr. Hedges appeared in the committee room," said Mr. Daggett, "it was supposed that he held a proxy from Mr. Tomkins. After the meeting of the committee when we came to inquire about it, we found he had no authority from Mr. Tomkins, but had simply appeared as a representative of the delegation from his Congressional district. At the conference of some of the friends of Governor Cornell before the meeting of the committee some doubts were expressed as to the standing of Mr. Tomkins; but I felt sure that he was steadfast and so expressed myself. I was much surprised when Mr. Hedges voted for Madden for chairman, but supposed until afterward that he had a right to vote."

"Has the delegation of a district the right to select some one to take the place of an absent committeeman?"

"The only way in which the place of a member of the committee can be filled is by designation from the member himself. I do not know how the secretary came to admit Mr. Hedges, as he showed no authority from Mr. Tomkins. The whole custom of proxies is of recent growth. When Governor Cornell was chairman of the committee he absolutely refused to recognize any proxies, and it is only within the last three years that they have been allowed. It has gone so far that a mere verbal statement that the person presenting himself has been authorized to act for the absent member has been received without question. We have always relied on the honor of the delegates. At the preliminary meeting of the committee on the night before the convention, Congressman Crowley said he had been asked by James Low, of Niagara, to act on his behalf, as he could not reach Saratoga till a late hour. Mr. Crowley was admitted, and would have been allowed to vote had any formal vote been taken then. He undoubtedly did represent Mr. Low."

The vote in the committee for chairman stood, as has been said, 18 to 14. Had no vote been cast in place of that of Collector Robertson, who sent no proxy, the vote would have been 17 to 14. If A. P. Smith had been represented as he desired by some one who held the same opinions as himself, Senator Pitts would have received 15 votes and Mr. Madden 16. If no one had appeared for Mr. Tomkins the vote would have been even, while if Mr. Hedges had correctly represented the wishes of the member for whom he appeared, the Cornell candidate for chairman would have been chosen.

A resolution was introduced by Mr. Vrooman at the last meeting of the State Committee, and laid on the table at the request of the proposer, which provided that no proxies should hereafter be recognized by the committee. This resolution was designed to put an end to the misrepresentations of the wishes of the absent members that have occurred recently.

THE STATE COMMITTEES READY FOR WORK.

The Republican State Committee have engaged the rooms occupied by them for several campaigns, and will begin the active work of the canvass on Monday next. The Executive Committee of the Democratic State Committee met yesterday at the St. James Hotel to make preparations for the campaign. On motion of Augustus Schell, Edward Cooper was chosen chairman, and Daniel S. Lamont secretary. Augustus Schell, Edward Cooper, and Charles S. Higgins were chosen as the Finance Committee. Five large rooms have been engaged at the Park Avenue Hotel as headquarters, and work there will begin to-morrow.

The County Democracy has extended an invitation to all the Democratic organizations in the city to unite with it in ratifying the Syracuse nominations.

THE FORGED DISPATCH TO MR. FRENCH.

The feeling of indignation at the sharp practice by which the Republican State Committee was captured by the friends of the Administration has not yet subsided. It is felt that a strong effort should be made to discover the maker and sender of the forged telegram to Commissioner French.

"Republicans who have the good name of the party at heart are asking who obtained the advantage of the forged telegram," said a well-known Republican last evening. "And they will hold these people responsible until the mystery of the telegram is cleared up and the blame placed where it properly belongs."

It was asserted last evening by a well-known Brooklyn leader that three Administration politicians were deeply implicated in the matter, and somewhat to the surprise of his hearers he declared that no one of them was a New-York City man. He professed to have obtained his information from some of the supporters of the Administration. None of the Administration leaders when spoken to would admit that there were any new developments in the matter.

TO REMAIN IN THE FIELD.

LYNCHBURG, Va., Sept. 27.—The reported withdrawal of Collector Rives, the Coalition candidate for Congress from this district, and the substitution of General Elliott in his stead, are positively denied by the chairman of the District Committee, who says such a course was never contemplated. Mr. Rives's opponent is Randolph Tucker.

NO IMMEDIATE VACANCY IN THE CABINET.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—An absurd rumor was published in Washington this afternoon to the effect that Secretary Chandler is to succeed Secretary Folger. When asked by a TRIBUNE correspondent to-night to confirm or deny the statement, Secretary Chandler laughingly replied:

"You had better deny it. There is nothing whatever in it. If Secretary Folger should leave the Department, it is not at all probable that I would succeed him; moreover, I do not believe that the President has ever considered the question of a successor to Secretary Folger."

Perhaps a fair inference to be drawn from the expressions of Secretary Chandler, and from remarks of other influential Republicans, is that Secretary Folger does not propose to leave his present office, at least until after the result of the New-York election shall have been ascertained.

REPUBLICAN PROSPECTS IN TWO STATES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—Information from Mississippi gives reason for believing that the Anti-Bourbons will obtain three votes from that State; Chalmers, Independent, in the IInd District; Judge Jefford, Republican, in the IIId, and Roan, Independent, in the IVth. Within a day or two past the Greenbackers have agreed to vote solid for Roan, and, it is claimed, this puts his election beyond a doubt. This is the district now represented by Money. The redistricting has been so directly against Lynch that he will probably not pull through, and doubts have taken the place of confidence in the old Shoestring District. The Republicans nominated Hill, Collector of Internal Revenue at Jackson, but his prospects are not the best.

In Kentucky the situation is slightly changed by the withdrawal of M. O. Bradley, Republican nominee in the VIIIth District. He accepted the nomination, believing he could win. Colonel Bradley is the member from Kentucky of the National Republican Committee. He stumped New-York in 1880 at the request of General Arthur, and is a Stalwart of ability and popularity. He was here in Washington a few weeks ago and, it is said, went home disappointed at not receiving the substantial encouragement which he expected. The VIIIth, now represented by Philip Thompson, renominated, is one of the districts that the Republicans have a fighting chance for, and it seems like a political mistake for Bradley to withdraw, even though the committee could not see his opportunity as he did.

John D. White has thrown his district into chaos by appealing to the voters as an Independent, and berating the Republican party. This course, it is feared, will give his district to Matthew Adams, Democrat, an ex-clerk of the House. The district is a close one under the new arrangement. Dr. G. W. Hunter Republican nominee in the IIId Kentucky District, is making good headway in his canvass, and is thought to be sure of an election. The redistricting made this a Republican district.

GEN. TRACY FOR SUPREME COURT JUDGE.

The IId District Republican Judiciary Convention met in the Supreme Court room, in the County Court House, Brooklyn, yesterday at noon. The district includes the counties of Kings, Queens, Suffolk, Richmond, Westchester, Dutchess, Orange, Rockland and Putnam. Among the delegates present were James W. Husted and ex-Senator E. M. Madden. Many politicians from both parties were spectators of the proceedings. The convention was called to order by James G. Graham, of Orange County, and W. W. Goodrich, of Kings, was made temporary chairman. Benjamin D. Silliman was chosen permanent chairman. Ex-Judge Erastus Cooke, who ran for Judge of the Supreme Court two years ago, had been a candidate previous to the convention, but withdrew his name, leaving the convention almost solid for General R. E. Tracy, at present an Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, by appointment of Governor Cornell, to fill the vacancy created by the promotion of Judge Andrews to succeed Judge Folger. The convention numbered 95 delegates in all. On the first ballot General Tracy received 55 votes, Judge Gedney, of Goshen, Orange County, 17; Henry J. Scudder, of Suffolk, 14, and Judge Cooke, 1. The total was 87, and 44 were necessary to a choice. The nomination of General Tracy was then made unanimous. General Tracy was sent for and addressed the convention briefly. In the course of his remarks he said:

It is to be deeply regretted that no method has been devised for the selection of candidates for the bench except through the machinery of party politics. All men feel now widely the Judge should be separated from the partisan. But I am happy to know that in this matter the record of the Republicans of the second Judicial District is clean and clear. Of the five judges now on the bench of the district four at least, at different times in their judicial career, received the support of the Republican organization, although none of them were Republicans. At the last election we did not support the choice of the Democrats because we had at that time one Judge on the bench who had discharged his duties satisfactorily, and we felt that in presenting his name we asked no more than that the Democrats reciprocate what had been done by us for them in the past. We have taken this course simply to testify to the desire of the Republican party that the judiciary of this district should be independent of partisan politics. When the Democratic party named an acceptable candidate we supported him, although there was no division in the Democratic ranks. And when that party was divided we did not bring forward a candidate. We voted for the man that seemed to us the best man for the office. We have done this that the Bench of the district should be free to discharge the duties of their high office without any regard to political considerations. I know it is said that the Republican party has done this because the district is Democratic. This is not true in Kings County at least, where the Sheriff and the District-Attorney and the County Auditor have all been elected by the Republicans, and where they have elected the Mayor of Brooklyn and control the whole city government. Yet Kings County saw fit to approve the nomination of Judge Moore. They did this because of the excellence of his record, and they testified that all they wanted was that a judge should be a judge and not a partisan, and being that, they did not care whether he was a Republican or a Democrat. I have nothing further to say, but again to thank you for the honor you have done me, and to give you the assurance that, if elected, I will discharge my duties according to my best efforts, deciding each case by my judgment and conscience.

CELEBRATING HARMONY AND CONCORD.

Harmony and concord in the Democratic ranks were celebrated last night by the General Committee of Irving Hall. A series of resolutions was presented by Charles W. Brooke, which stated substantially that Irving Hall always had for its primary object the absolute union of the party, and declared that it was through its instrumentality that this object had been accomplished at Syracuse. "The spirit of harmony and concord in the action of the convention" was then approved. Mr. Brooke talked for a half hour trying to show how the union of the party was accomplished by Irving Hall. He did not clearly explain how it was that "the ten Irving Hall delegates who were admitted to the convention exercised such absolute control over the rest of the delegates; but as no one disputed his assertion it was accepted as true, and the members of the committee applauded. Lake P. Ocgans then took up the narrative. He too asserted that Irving Hall alone should get the credit for the harmony and conciliation which prevailed at the convention. He predicted an overwhelming victory for the Democratic ticket and said that the union begun in Syracuse must be continued in the county nominations. In his speech he stated frankly that this was only a remote possibility, and admitted that although Irving Hall had accomplished union in the State, it did not exactly have the same power in the county. W. Burke Cochrane confirmed all the statements of the other speakers and then the harmony-and-concord resolutions were unanimously adopted.

DIVIDING UP ELECTION OFFICIALS.

The Board of Police will meet at 9.30 a. m. to-day to appoint Democratic election inspectors and poll-clerks. It was the wish of the Republican Commissioners that the appointments should be made yesterday, but they yielded to the desire of Commissioners Nichols and Matthews for delay. A delegate from each of the three leading Democratic factions in the city went to Police Headquarters before noon yesterday, and there was a consultation in the room of Mr. Nichols about the division of patronage. Alderman Sauer represented Tammany Hall, E. Ellery Anderson spoke for the County Democracy and Colonel Michael C. Murphy was the delegate from Irving Hall. The consultation was held with closed doors, but, so far as could be learned, harmony prevailed. Mr. Anderson, it was said, argued that the allotment of the inspectors should be made upon the basis of the representation which each faction had at the Syracuse Convention. He maintained that the County Democracy ought to be allowed to name nineteen thirty-sixths of the inspectors, Tammany one-third, and Irving Hall the remaining five thirty-sixths. Mr. Sauer thought that such an arrangement would be very unfair to the Tammany organization, which controlled the majority of the Democratic votes in the city. In his opinion, at least one-half of the inspectors should be named by Tammany. Mr. Murphy suggested that harmony would be best promoted if the three factions were to have equal shares, but his plan did not meet with approval.

The following division was at length suggested to: Five-twelfths of the inspectors and poll-clerks to be named by Tammany Hall, five-twelfths by the County Democracy and one-sixth by Irving Hall. Messrs. Sauer and Murphy said that they had been authorized by their organizations to make terms, but Mr. Anderson stated that he could only agree to use his influence with the leaders of the County Democracy to have the division adopted. He assured the other representatives that he would get a decision last night in order that the inspectors might be appointed this morning. It was considered certain that the division planned by the delegates would be carried out to-day. Messrs. Matthews and Nichols were so confident of the arrangement being agreed to by the leaders of the County Democracy that they spent a portion of the afternoon in consultation with John J. O'Brien, chief of the Bureau of Elections, arranging the lists. It was said that an effort would be made to give to Irving Hall a representation in as many of the election districts as possible by the following plan: Where there is an Irving Hall inspector the poll-clerk will be either a Tammany Hall or a County Democracy man, and where there is no Irving Hall inspector a poll-clerk from that faction will be appointed so long as the list holds out.

The matter was discussed last evening by the County Democracy leaders. There was a strong feeling that the organization should have the same representation as was accorded by the State Convention and in any case not less than one-half.

There are 688 election districts this year—an increase of 10 over last year.

The days of registration are October 10, 18, 27 and 28. The election will be held on Tuesday, November 7.

In order to be eligible to vote a voter must be either a native born or naturalized citizen, a resident of the State one year, of the county four months, and of the election district thirty days.

REPUBLICANS AT LOGGERHEADS.

NEW-ORLEANS, Sept. 27.—The Ist District Republican Convention to-day adopted a resolution to the effect that "this convention approves and indorses the independent candidacy for Congress of Albert C. Janin, of the Parish of St. Bernard, and recommends to all Republican voters of the Ist Congressional District to give him their support and their votes at the election to be held on the 7th of November next."

Another resolution was adopted, approving of A. J. Dumont, chairman of the State Central Committee, as an earnest, faithful and consistent leader of the Republican party; also, a resolution approving the Administration of President Arthur.

Morris Marks has accepted the nomination of the dissatisfied Republicans of the IId District. Mr. Demas, the nominee of the regular Republican Convention of the IId District, will continue his candidacy, and a prominent member of the State Central Committee expressed the opinion to-night that Mr. Demas will be recognized by that committee as the regular Republican candidate for Congress in the IId District.

PENNSYLVANIA APPOINTMENTS.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 27.—The Pennsylvania Railroad Board of Directors to-day agreed upon the appointment of John Whittaker to be assistant general freight agent, with headquarters in this city. Mr. Whittaker is at present general agent of the company for New-York and New-England. O. J. Greer, at present freight agent at Pier 38, North River, New-York, was selected to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Whittaker's promotion.

ASSEMBLY NOMINATIONS

WARSAW, N. Y., Sept. 27.—Henry N. Page, of Perry, was nominated to-day unanimously by the Wyoming Republican County Convention. The nomination is equivalent to an election. The ticket and platform made at Saratoga were approved and promised a hearty support. The County Committee is all Administration. Prohibitionists, who wished to dictate strict temperance men for nominees, were referred to the seventh article in the new platform, which favors the liquor question being placed before the people for decision.

BATH, N. Y., Sept. 27.—Orange S. Searle, of Copacton, has been renominated for Member of Assembly, by the Democrats of the Ist District of Steuben County.

POISONED BY TOADSTOOLS.

KINGSTON, N. Y., Sept. 27.—In the little village of Modena in the town of Plattekill in Southern Ulster, on Saturday last, a young son of George Everett, a farmer of that locality, gathered a quantity of fungous plants thinking they were mushrooms. He took them home, where, after an examination by the older members of the family, they were regarded as fine specimens of the edible mushroom family. They were cooked for dinner and the whole family partook of them. Soon after the meal all became sick. The boy was slightly better on Sunday morning and managed to get help from their nearest neighbor. Medical aid was obtained, but the grandmother died on Monday evening after suffering much agony. Last evening Mr. Everett, and his wife and daughter were still alive, though very low with small hope of recovery. Upon investigation the plants of which they had eaten proves to be toadstools.

PENNSYLVANIA VETERAN REUNION.

SCRANTON, Penn., Sept. 27.—The veteran soldiers of Northeastern Pennsylvania will meet in their third annual reunion to-morrow at Everhart's Island, near this city. Lackawanna, Luzerne, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming Counties will be largely represented, and it is expected that between 2,000 and 3,000 soldiers of the late war will gather, beside several thousand visitors. General Osborne, of Wilkesbarre, will deliver the annual address, and Generals McCartney and Dana will also make remarks.

A BALLOON'S PREMATURE FLIGHT.

MILFORD, Mass., Sept. 27.—Professor Allen's balloon escaped at 7 o'clock this morning with the Professor in the basket. He had no anchor, nor had the preparations for the journey been completed, and the valves were not in working order.

WORCESTER, Mass., Sept. 27.—Professor Allen's balloon landed about two miles from Putnam, Conn. It passed over Putnam very low and the occupant seemed to be all right.

KILLED BY A RUNAWAY ENGINE.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Sept. 27.—At St. John's, on the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad, this morning, a locomotive became unmanageable and was abandoned by the engineer and fireman. It made the run to Willmar, seven miles distant, at a tremendous speed, and came in collision there with a caboose occupied by three men. The caboose was completely wrecked, and one of the men, Edward Brothers, was killed. The two others were not seriously injured.

KILLED IN A POLITICAL DISPUTE.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 27.—A fight occurred to-night in Eden-st., growing out of a political discussion, in which Robert Ross, age thirty-two, was shot and died in a few minutes. James Sheffield, Daniel McKinley, James McKinley and Frank Sherwood, who were engaged in the assault on Ross, were arrested, but another man, who is said to have fired the fatal shot, has not been captured.

FRAGMENTS OF WESTERN NEWS.

BUSINESS FAILURE IN OHIO.

GREENVILLE, Ohio, Sept. 27.—H. & H. N. Arnold, dry goods merchants, have failed. Their liabilities are $2,000; assets, $8,000.

HOLLOW-WARE MANUFACTURERS.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Sept. 27.—The Hollow-ware Manufacturers' Association of the United States to-day elected C. L. Merrill, of Auburn, N. Y., president, and J. F. Murray, of Columbus, secretary. The scale of prices was not changed.

RECEPTION TO GENERAL COMLY.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Sept. 27.—The Curtis Press Club tendered General James M. Comly, late Minister to the Sandwich Islands, a public reception this evening. It was largely attended by prominent men, and the welcome home was most cordial.

A MINISTER BRUTALLY ASSAULTED.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 27.—The Rev. Mr. McClenich, pastor of the United Presbyterian Church, of Avondale, Coshocton County, Ohio, was to-day assaulted and brutally beaten with a club by Robert Hood, one of the elders of the church, on account of ill-feeling growing out of a church trial.

KILLING A TRAMP IN SELF-DEFENCE.

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—William Dyniewicez, editor of the Polish newspaper here, surrendered himself to the authorities this morning, saying he had just killed a man. His story was that after rising he went out into the front yard and was there attacked by a tramp with a club, and that the tramp followed him into the house and struck his wife and daughter, whereupon he got a revolver and shot the tramp in the breast, killing him.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES—BY TELEGRAPH.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A MINER.

CUMBERLAND, Md., Sept. 27.—Edward Close, a miner, age nineteen, was instantly killed to-day by a fall of roof coal in a mine at Pompey Smash.

KILLED BY A FLYING BLOCK.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 27.—Julius Kohel, first officer of the American ship Austria, which arrived to-day from Hull, was killed on July 30 by a blow from a flying block.

KILLED BY A RAILWAY TRAIN.

CUMBERLAND, Md., Sept. 27.—Arthur McGirr, a shoemaker, aged forty-six, was instantly killed on the railroad here at noon to-day. He was a native of Cumberland and leaves a wife and family.

A SUPPOSED CASE OF POISONING.

PORT JEFFERSON, N. Y., Sept. 27.—Mrs. Jeremiah Rowland, of Miller's Place, L. I., was attacked with spasms last night. An examination proved that her tea had been poisoned. An investigation will be had.

ON TRIAL FOR MURDER.

WILKESBARRE, Penn., Sept. 27.—Henry Meyers, of Berwick, who murdered William Hufnagle in July last near Berwick, was arraigned in the Criminal Court this morning. The case excites considerable interest in this county.

TWO NEGRO MURDERERS ARRESTED.

PETERSBURG, Va., Sept. 27.—The two negroes who murdered Clanton Cane some days ago near Weldon, and afterward placed his body on the track of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad, have been arrested. They confess the crime.

REVISION OF THE TARIFF.

WHAT THE COMMISSION IS DOING.

CHARACTER AND VALUE OF THE INFORMATION ALREADY OBTAINED—TWO KINDS OF FREE-TRADERS—A DRAFT OF A NEW LAW TO BE REPORTED TO CONGRESS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—*The National Tribune* of to-morrow will contain a long review of the work of the Tariff Commission, gathered from a conversation with a member of the commission. Some of the more interesting portions of this review are the following:

"What industry has been particularly represented before you—iron and steel?"

"No one has particularly represented the iron and steel industry before us, and the only persons who appeared in that interest were a few manufacturers who came merely to apologize for not coming. They will prepare exhaustive statements of that industry, and present them to us on the return from the South."

"What interest seems to have been most prominently represented before the commission?"

"Probably the sugar interest, but we have had more persons before us to present their views on the duty on quinine than any other subject. It was quite amusing to see how little some of them knew of the subject. No one could tell us how many persons were employed in the manufacture of quinine in this country—whether it was 10,000 or 500. The fact is that there are 352 persons employed in the quinine industry in the United States."

"Were the representatives of the sugar interest desirous of having the present tariff on that article reduced?"

"We have probably heard more on that subject than any other of importance. This question is viewed from three different points of view—the growers', importers' and refiners'. They all appear to agree that they can possibly stand the reduction proposed at the end of the last session of Congress, which was to take off the 25 per cent. increase imposed by the act of 1875."

"How much reduction will those engaged in the sugar business stand?"

"They will stand the 25 per cent. reduction."

"Next to the sugar interest, what was the principal interest before you?"

"I should think that the pottery men have come to the front more than any others. They want to increase the present tariff on the fine wares; but, as we are able to compete with foreign Nations in the commoner grades, there is no great opposition to lowering the duty on that class of goods."

"What do you consider was the most important testimony heard by the commission?"

"The testimony of the free-traders as a whole—for it shows the full strength of their position—and the expert testimony. This latter was very thorough. We had some thirty or more of the most thorough experts in the New-York Custom House before us. We began with Schedule A, and, taking the duty on each article through every schedule down to the free list, we made a thorough examination as to the effect and results of the tariff on each item, inquiring where there had been any questions arising in the levying of the tariff and the reasons therefor."

"What was the general character of the testimony of the free-traders?"

"There have been two classes of free-traders before the commission. Sensible men like Everett P. Wheeler and David A. Wells recognized the fact that we are a commission to revise the tariff laws and not a debating school for the purpose of discussing questions of free trade or protection; that the fact of the appointment of the commission is a recognition that the people want an examination into the subject and to see where it needs revision. This class want a reduction on raw material on the ground that thus we will increase the manufactures of the country. Their suggestions have been valuable and important to the commission. There has been another class who demanded absolute free trade, which was absurd, as the commission was not appointed to see if it could abolish the whole system."

"Who represented the shipbuilding interest?"

"No one. They are to meet us when we go East. After leaving here we will take a run to Baltimore, Philadelphia and Pittsburg, to hear from the great interests in those quarters, and we expect to conclude our hearings about the 15th of October, in New-York."

"Do you expect to finish your work in time for Congress to act upon your report and recommendations this session, if they really want to act on the tariff question?"

"Oh, yes. We shall submit our final report, if not before the beginning of the session, certainly before the holidays. At our sitting in St. Louis, Governor Coleman came before the commission, and said he was backed by 12,000,000 farmers, and they were all united in the interest of free trade. Soon after this statement was made a gentleman in the audience stepped up to me and said: 'Mr.——, do you suppose I could say a word on that point?' I said, 'Certainly.' 'I know something about farming,' he continued, 'as I happen to be the master of the State Grange of Missouri, and also the lecturer of the National Grange of the United States, and I think I know something of the views of the farmers on this question. I was interested and greatly surprised to hear the remarks of Governor Coleman about so many millions of farmers being united for free trade. We have a good many farmers who are free-trade men and there are a good many who are in favor of a protective tariff—as high as any Pennsylvanian desires—but I think the great mass of them believe that the tariff is too high on some articles and desire a reduction on those.'"

"What in your judgment, so far as can be determined now, will be the general tenor of the report of the commission?"

"In the first place there will be a clearing away of the cobwebs that affect the working of the tariff and interfere with its smooth working. The tendency will be in the direction of a wholesome reduction in the industries that have grown up and are able to stand on their own feet without assistance. The representatives of leading industries, like cotton, iron, silk and others, are now conferring together, and will present written statements to us in New-York; and that is the reason why they have not appeared."

"Will the commission make any specific recommendations as to the various articles in the tariff?"

"Most certainly. The commission will embody in its report a draft of a law which, in its opinion, will remove all defects in the existing tariff, and remove all reasonable complaint against it."

NORTH CAROLINA AND THE TARIFF.

THE PEANUT, CHALK AND SILK COCOONS INTERESTS REPRESENTED BEFORE THE COMMISSION.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Sept. 27.—The Tariff Commissioners arrived here this morning and held a session in the Custom House. The subjects brought to its attention were rice, peanuts, chalk and silk cocoons. The rice interest was advocated by D. L. Russell, Donald McRae and S. L. Fremont; the peanut and chalk interests by George Z. French, and the silk cocoons interest was incidentally mentioned by Mr. Fremont. The advocates of the rice interest expressed themselves satisfied with the present duties, and declared that any reduction would be fatal to that interest.

In regard to peanuts, Mr. French gave the average annual production of the Wilmington region as 120,000 bushels. Up to 1861 it was equal to seven-eighths of the entire crop of the United States; but under the duty of 1 cent a pound imposed in 1864 the industry had increased, until now Tennessee produced from 300,000 to 600,000 bushels, and Virginia from 700,000 to 1,000,000 bushels. The price was affected by the importation of African peanuts. The discontinuance of the duty would put an end to the peanut industry of North Carolina, and impoverish many small farmers. As to chalk, large deposits of it were found in the state, but its freight to New-York and Philadelphia, where chalk is made into whiting, would be higher than the cost of English chalk there, which is carried as ballast. As to silk cocoons, the soil and climate of the state were favorable to the cultivation of mulberry trees and the raising of silk worms. Both those interests might be developed by the imposition of a duty on chalk and on silk cocoons.

Mr. Boteler asked Mr. Fremont whether any complaints came up from the farming community about the tariff.

Mr. Fremont replied in the negative. All that was heard about it was from Congress and from stump-speakers. He thought, however, that the popular idea of the question was a tariff for revenue, with incidental protection; but as the rice people wanted the present duty on rice maintained, they could not ask to have duties taken off other protected articles.

PLANS OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

In conversation with a TRIBUNE reporter yesterday, J. A. Ambler, of the Tariff Commission, said that no plans had as yet been made by the commission with reference to taking testimony in New-York. The commission, he said, would devote Friday and Saturday to taking testimony in Baltimore and would come to New-York next. Mr. Ambler expressed himself as well satisfied with the work done by the commission thus far, and thought that much of the testimony would be of great practical value. A large proportion of the testimony, however, would be of little account. The commission had been unable to restrict the testimony to particular lines, but had been forced to let every one have a hearing who appeared to be worthy of consideration. This necessarily gave room for much irrelevant and worthless testimony. The commission, he said, had not done any work at tariff rates and would not till all the testimony to be heard was in. Considerable work, however, had been done on the general provisions of the tariff laws and Mr. McMahon and he himself and been preparing a report which would be submitted to the commission the first of next week with reference to its inconsistencies and incongruities in the present tariff administration.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

RELATIONS BETWEEN CHILI, PERU AND BOLIVA—NICARAGUAN REVOLUTIONISTS CAPTURE AN AMERICAN SCHOONER.

PANAMA, Sept. 16.—Advices from Lima are to the 7th inst., but no exciting events have occurred. Dr. Aniceto Arce, one of the richest and most highly educated Bolivians, who has just returned from Europe, has been elected President of the Congress. He is a staunch advocate of peace at any price, so that no doubt a truce between Bolivia and Chili will be soon arranged.

Montero is making slow progress toward Bolivia. Rumor asserts that Caceres is about to proclaim himself Supreme Chief of the Republic, and that Carrillo, who has a few pressed men in Arequipa, is inclined to adopt a similar course.

General Adams, United States Minister to La Paz, is about to return to the United States.

The United States flagship Pensacola is at Callao.

Earthquakes have entirely ceased here and the customary routine of life has been resumed. All old damaged walls and those in which cracks are discovered are being removed and private and public buildings are being repaired. The total loss will not be so very large. The loss of life has been very small, only four persons having died from the direct effects of the shocks, and one lady from fright.

Rainstorms have passed over several of the Republics of Central America and done much good to the crops.

The American schooner Transit, reported as seized by pirates at Cape Gracias a Dios, Nicaragua, really seems to have been captured by some revolutionists, who hoped that by gaining possession of her they could capture San Juan del Norte, generally called Greytown. A man named Emiliano Herrera seized a little town and declared himself "Chief of the Provisional Government of the Atlantic coast," and began to issue orders and decrees, and under his authorization the schooner Transit was seized. She was subsequently recaptured by Captain Thomson and his men, and the pirates or rebels were carried to Bluefields, Nicaragua, and delivered into the custody of the United States Consul at that port. After the Transit left Cape Gracias a Dios the populace rose against the rebels, seized them, executed the two leaders, Emiliano Herrera and Miguel Cretes, and thus peace was at once restored. The Consul took the prisoners, who were delivered to him by Captain Thomson, to Georgetown, and turned them over to the Nicaraguan Governor of that port, who, in turn, sent them to Granada, where they are now in prison awaiting trial.

The United States steamship Iroquois is at Panama.

EXAMINATION OF CUSTOM HOUSES.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—In addition to the New-York Board already announced, the Secretary of the Treasury has selected the following-named gentlemen to constitute commissions to examine into the needs of the Revenue Service, the number of employes required and the proper rate of compensation to be allowed them:

At Chicago the commission will consist of Special Agent Douglass, Frederick Grimme, of the Appointment Office, and another person, to be selected by the Collector; at Philadelphia, Special Agent Hines, Chief of the Redemption Agency Graves, and another member, to be selected by the Collector; at Boston, Special Agent Bingham, assisted by Agent Tingle, another selected by the Collector, and one from the Treasury Department; at New-Orleans, Special Agents Nevins and Spaulding, and one person selected by the Collector. The Baltimore commission has not yet been designated. At all other ports the investigations will be conducted by the Special Agents of the several districts.

MOTHER AND CHILDREN DROWNED.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 27.—Captain Richard Smith, of the steamer Avalon, which arrived in Baltimore yesterday, reports that on Friday night a woman and her five children, Bush by name, were drowned near Heatsville, Northumberland County, Va. Captain Smith's account is as follows: "Mr. Bush owned a mill and dwelling, the dwelling being below the mill-dam. Owing to the heavy rains the mill stream rose rapidly and finally swept away the dam. The water then swept down upon the dwelling, carrying everything before it. Mrs. Bush and all the children were in the house and were swept away with the dwelling, which was soon broken to pieces. The bodies of three of the children were recovered."

PRICES OF COAL ADVANCED.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 27.—The Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company this afternoon announced an advance in the prices of egg, stove and chestnut coal for eastern shipment in the month of October. The price of egg is increased ten cents, and stove and chestnut twenty cents cents per ton. The new circulars to be issued to-morrow will give the following rates for hard white ash coal at Port Richmond and beyond the Delaware Capes: Lump and steamboat, $4 75; broken, $4 15; egg, $4 35; stove, $4 55; chestnut, $4 55, and pea $2 80.

The prices at Elizabethport, N. J., will be $5 15 for lump and steamboat, $4 50 for broken, $4 70 for egg, $4 90 for stove, $4 70, for chestnut, and $3 15 for pea.

LAUNCH OF AN IRON STEAMSHIP.

CHESTER, Penn., Sept. 27.—The iron steamship Nacoochee, built for the Ocean Steamship Company, was launched this afternoon at Roach's shipyard. She is of 2,650 tons burthen and measures 360 feet in length, 40½ feet beam, and 26 feet hold.

The vessel is divided into five water-tight compartments, and her freight hold has a capacity for 6,000 bales of cotton. She will be supplied with all the latest improvements. She will have accommodations for 100 cabin passengers, and her saloon and staterooms will be fitted in an elaborate manner.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

AUCTION SALE OF A BRIG.

BOSTON, Sept. 27.—The brig R. M. Heslen, 287 tons, of this port, was sold here at auction to-day for $5,000, to New-Yorkers.

MONEY FOR DEPUTY UNITED STATES MARSHALS.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 27.—The United States Marshal to-day received a draft for $7,124 from the Treasury Department for the payment of Deputy United States Marshals who served at the Congressional elections in 1880.

COLLEGE OPENING POSTPONED.

MACON, Ga., Sept. 27.—The Wesleyan Female College at this place, endowed by George I. Seney, of New-York, has been compelled to postpone its opening until November 1, on account of delay in the work caused by the late storm.

HEAVY SEA AT ATLANTIC CITY.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 27.—The electric-light poles and wires, part of the board walk and a number of bath houses were washed away by the tide this morning. The mail train was delayed three hours, the tracks being covered by water.

A WHALING SCHOONER IN BAD LUCK.

NEWPORT, R. I., Sept. 27.—The Boston whaling schooner Sarah E. Lewis arrived here to-day from the West Coast of Africa short of provisions and leaking. She has 100 barrels of oil aboard, having been out nine months. Not a single spout was seen in the first eight weeks.

ROMAN CATHOLIC BENEFICIAL UNION.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 27.—The fourteenth annual convention of the Roman Catholic Beneficial Union began here to-day. The union numbers 235 societies in the United States, aggregating 17,151 members. The payments for relief within the year amounted to $79,965.

THE UNITED AMERICAN MECHANICS.

WILMINGTON, Del., Sept. 27.—At the National Council of the Order of United American Mechanics to-day amendments were adopted, making persons eighteen years of age or over eligible to membership. After the appointment of the various standing committees the Council adjourned to meet at Lynn, Mass., on the fourth Thursday of September, 1883.

PROSTRATED IN HIS OFFICE.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 27.—J. R. Black, one of the defendants in the Star Route cases on trial in the United States District Court, was prostrated by an affection of the heart to-day in his office, where he had gone from the court to obtain some papers pertinent to the case. Judge Butler decided to proceed with the trial without the presence of Mr. Black.

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