# THE RIVAL OPERA HOUSES.

## MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORS OF EACH.

REDECORATION OF THE METROPOLITAN—PRICES REDUCED—THE ACADEMY AND MAPLESON.

A special meeting of the directors of the Metropolitan Opera House was held yesterday morning in that building. The objects for which this meeting was called were the decision in the first place upon the scheme of decoration to be adopted, and in the second finally to settle the details of the coming season of German opera. There were present James A. Roosevelt, the president; G. G. Haven, William C. Whitney, Robert Goelet, Adrian Iselin, George H. Warren, G. Peabody Wetmore, W. K. Vanderbilt and Edward Cooper. As regards the decoration, the scheme proposed by Francis Lathrop was almost definitely decided upon. This consists simply in a lavish use of gold on the balcony front, the cream-colored ground color still being retained. In addition to this the backs of the boxes will be draped with a peculiar rosy red shade of satin, which will tone well with the other decoration and still afford a foil for the dresses of the occupants of the boxes. The proscenium arch will be almost entirely overlaid with gold, but the ceiling will remain untouched. The effect will be rich and warm, but at the same time quiet and unobtrusive. There is a possibility, however, that the satin for the upholstery, which has to be specially made, will not be ready in time; in that case an alteration will be made in the general scheme.

The question of the prices of admission for the coming season was then considered, and the following scale adopted: Orchestra seats, $3; dress circle, $2; three front rows of balcony, $1 50; the remainder, $1; gallery seats, 50 cents; general admission, $1; boxes to hold four, $10; boxes on the third tier to hold six, $20; baignoir boxes, $35. The season will begin about November 17 and will consist of thirty-eight nights and twelve matinees. The subscription will open at once.

A letter is expected from Dr. Damrosch upon the next steamer, which will give all the particulars; he was too busy to write when last heard from. The Liederkranz Society, which last year gave its fancy dress ball at the Academy of Music, has this year secured the Metropolitan for the night of February 17. Secretary Stanton said yesterday that even if the directors had been desirous of letting the house to James Barton for a brief season of Italian opera it would be impossible on account of the work of redecoration.

Later in the day the regular meeting of the directors of the Academy of Music was held, with a great amount of mystery attendant on it. About half past 3 five or six men stole with stealthy tread into the private office of W. E. Dinsmore, president of the Adams Express Company. Among them were Augustus L. Brown, the president; Herman R. LeRoy, the treasurer; R. L. Cutting, jr., Clarence A. Seward and William Cutting. Their reappearance was anxiously awaited by a handful of reporters, but they did not reappear. When the shades of night began to fall, inquiry was made and it was found that they had slipped away by a side passage and betaken themselves to their homes. It transpired later, however, that nothing of much importance had been accomplished. After the usual routine business the subject of the possible decoration of the house was talked about; but talk ended it. Then the Mapleson situation was discussed, and opinions of various shades were expressed by the directors. By some it was thought that the advisability of an amicable settlement should be urged at the stockholders' meeting to-night. Another view was that Mapleson should not be assisted to any extent. The sense of the meeting is understood to have been that the directors should in a measure remain "on the fence" to-night, and after merely presenting the actual facts to the stockholders, leave it to the majority to decide whether a guarantee fund should be raised for Mapleson by means of a general levy.

A prominent director said last night that as far as he knew the feeling of the majority of the stockholders was to take no steps at all toward furnishing Mapleson with funds. If he was willing to come and give them an opera season on his own responsibility, well and good. If not—well and good all the same. It was also stated on good authority that no proposal of any sort from the manager of the San Francisco opera troupe had been made, as has been reported. Till such a proposal is made the directors are of course ignorant as to what course they will pursue.

## *SUDDEN ILLNESS OF FRANK CHANFRAU.*

AN ATTACK OF APOPLEXY IN JERSEY CITY—THE ACTOR UNCONSCIOUS.

On Monday night Frank Chanfrau, the actor, opened a week's engagement at the Academy of Music in Jersey City, in his play of "Kit, the Arkansas Traveller." He played to large audiences Monday and Tuesday night. Last night the doors of the theatre were opened as usual, but at 8 o'clock the curtain did not rise. The theatre was packed and the audience became impatient. Five minutes later Manager Hyams announced that Mr. Chanfrau had been taken suddenly ill and that there would be no performance. Mr. Chanfrau was staying at Taylor's Hotel, and many of his admirers, who had come a long distance to witness his acting, went to the hotel to learn his condition.

A TRIBUNE reporter was the only person admitted to his room. He found the actor lying unconscious on a bed. Near his side were Dr. John D. McGill, Miss Busby, a sister-in-law of the actor, and other members of his family. Mr. Chanfrau had always been in good health, and his illness was a sad blow to his family. At 7 o'clock he and Miss Busby left his room and went to the restaurant in the hotel for supper. The actor was in the best of spirits and talked pleasantly with Miss Busby. While eating his knife dropped from his hand and as he stooped to pick it up he fell from his chair to the floor. He was rendered unconscious by the fall and some of the hotel clerks carried him to his room. Dr. McGill was promptly summoned and after examining him said he had a stroke of apoplexy. His right side was completely paralyzed. Dr. McGill stated that his condition was critical and that while there was a chance for his recovery it was doubtful if he would be ever able to play again. At midnight Mr. Chanfrau had not recovered consciousness.

## *JAMES BARTON'S NEW ENTERPRISE.*

James Barton, some time ago known as an energetic, if not entirely successful, comic opera manager, has become interested in the Italian Opera Company, which was recently somewhat successful in San Francisco. Mr. Barton, it is understood, is associated in the venture with Mr. Maguire, of San Francisco, who is at present in New-York. An engagement is pending by which the company will probably appear at the Star Theatre. The management is confident of success, as the company is said to have taken the Pacific Coast audiences by storm.

## *WHY JUDGE DRUMMOND RESIGNED.*

A TALK WITH HIM ON THE SUBJECT—HIS SUCCESSOR—POLITICS.

Thomas Drummond, United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh District, comprising Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, is now staying at the Everett House, having been on a trip to New-Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Maine, his native State. He has been longer in service than any Federal Judge in the country, having been appointed District Judge of Illinois on February 19, 1850. In 1855, when the State was divided into two districts, he was given the northern one, and on December 22, 1869, he was appointed Circuit Judge. Judge Drummond recently sent his resignation through the Attorney-General to President Arthur, but it has not yet been accepted. It was generally expected that Judge Gresham would be appointed in his place until the latter's recent appointment as Secretary of the Treasury.

To a TRIBUNE reporter, last evening, Judge Drummond said: "I resigned because I thought I was getting old enough to be entitled to a release from my duties. There is a great deal of hard work to do in my circuit, particularly patent cases. August and September are vacation months with me, but I expect the President to act on my resignation now, as the autumn term begins next week. I did expect that Judge Gresham would succeed me, but his acceptance of so responsible a position as head of the Treasury complicates matters. I do not know that any one has been thought of to fill his present place should he be appointed to fill mine. But several other Judges have been highly recommended as worthy to succeed me. They are Judge Blodgett, of the Northern District of Illinois; Judge Dyer, of the Eastern District of Wisconsin; and Judge Bailey, of the Appellate Court of Illinois. I do not say that I should refuse to continue in the office until March 4, next, if I were urged to do so, but I should be very reluctant to do so."

"Can you tell anything about the political outlook in your State?"

"Well, if you could tell me correctly the exact force of the unknown quantities of the Butler and Prohibition votes I could give some estimate. But I do not care to talk politics as I have taken no active part in them since I became a Judge. I was up in Maine when the election took place, and it was very exciting, and the result more gratifying to Mr. Blaine's friends than they anticipated. My visit East is on purely personal business. I am enjoying the best of health, though I shall be seventy-five years old this October."

## *MEETING OF THE LOYAL LEGION.*

The New-York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion held its regular meeting last evening at Delmonico's, General Alexander Shaler presiding. The following officers for the ensuing year were installed: Commander, General Ulysses S. Grant; Senior Vice-Commander, Rear Admiral A. Ludlow Case, U. S. N.; Junior Vice-Commander, Major General Edward L. Molineux, U. S. V.; Recorder, General Charles A. Carleton, U. S. V.; Registrar, Lieutenant Loyall Farragut; treasurer, Paymaster George De Forrest Barton; Chancellor, Lieutenant Colonel Floyd Clarkson; Chaplain, the Rev. Charles M. Pyne, U. S. A.; council, Pay Director John S. Cunningham, U. S. N., Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick A. Sawyer, U. S. V., Chief Engineer George W. Magee, U. S. N., Lieutenant-Colonel W. Butler Beck, U. S. A., and Major Charles S. Langdon, U. S. V. Obituary resolutions were adopted for Lieutenant-Colonel Pliny A. Jewett and Colonel Ladislas L. Zolarsky. The death of Colonel George H. Biddle was announced, and Colonel Lyman Bridges was transferred to the California Commandery. At the close of the business proceedings, the members of the commandery sat down to a dinner which was enlivened by speeches.

## *GOSSIP FROM OVER THE SEA.*

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

*From Mr. Labouchere's Truth. (London.)*

THE WIG IN FRANCE.

Sarah Bernhardt is inseparable from her wig, which comes down low on her forehead. She likes to be at home exactly what she appears to be on the stage. Thee, also, is perpetually bewigged. Leonide Jaubone is capricious, and varies her hair-dyes. She also reinforces her hair with tresses fetched from Brittany. Theresa is of opinion that real hair is always stupid-looking. The ex-soldiers of the Varietes whom I have cited is of her mind. "Impossible," he says, "to be so daring in working in a real as in a false chevelure." A capillary artist who knows his business operates on the latter just as his fancy prompts. He is not held back by the fear of giving pain. Besides, the attainment of a splendid result in false hair is a thing to be proud of. George Sand had in youth a luxuriant head of black hair. She could never reconcile herself to whitening action upon it of time and cerebral activity. It, therefore, remained dark to the end. Hating caps, she reinforced it with a borrowed chignon, and waved the front hair with irons. She used to wear in summer a broad-brimmed hat, or merely protect herself from the sun with a parasol; a hood of woollen stuff was her winter head-gear. The baldest man in France, M. Charles Edmond, was toward the end of her life one of her best friends. "Why is his head so much hairier than yours?" asked her granddaughter Aurora. "Because he sits up at night and thinks so much." "That's not it at all," replied the youthful demoiselle. "It is because when men grow bald they must stay as they are while women can heap upon themselves as much false hair as they choose to wear."

BISHOP AND SCIENTIST IN THE ALPS.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol has returned from his annual tour in Switzerland, his favorite summer resort. The Bishop, now in his sixty-fifth year, has recruited his mind and body by walking several hours every day in the high Alps. In that serene atmosphere, lifted out of the fogs of theological controversy, it is said that his lordship meets and converses with another great mountaineer, Professor Tyndall who, in spite of his different standpoint, well knows how to appreciate the Bishop's keen and ready intellect, and refined and animated conversation. The Bishop's diocese is one of the largest and most difficult to manage; but he is in full vigor of mind and body, and very well knows what to do with his clergy, an irritable genus, who do not always know what to do with him.

*From Life. (London.)*

THREE UNHAPPY EMPERORS.

An immense amount of rubbish is both written and talked about the meeting of the three Emperors. According to some folks, these three worthy gentlemen met to plan out schemes of international robbery; others declare that they met only to "isolate la belle France"—whatever that they mean; whilst a third section assure us that the old tiple of the imperial tongues was England, and her base schemes for annexing the whole of this world, and the next too. Poor Emperors! how amused they must be at all the inconsequent chatter that goes on anent their proceedings. The fact is, they met solely to form themselves into a mutual protection society. They are so beset by Anarchists, by Socialists, and by Nihilists that they are at their imperial wits' ends, and don't know which way to turn. So they said, Let us meet, and see if we cannot devise a scheme whereby some small modicum of human happiness may not be reserved for us. They are indeed a pitiable sight, these three Emperors, dodging bombshells, scuttling from corner to corner of their vast dominions in the dead of night, hiding under chevaux of saines, driving through streets made gay by official bunting. Who would be an Emperor, indeed?

*From The Whitehall Review.*

BRITONS GETTING SICK OF FREE TRADE.

While there are many things in American politics and political ways which are utterly detestable, one thing at least about our neighbors is delightful to contemplate, and that is the serious way in which they set themselves to pay their National debt. It is disappearing at such a rate that soon it will cease to exist. During the month just gone by, £1,750,000 of it was paid off, and there is a balance in the Treasury of over £80,000,000. Englishmen may well ask how it is done, and how they could do the same. The reply is simple—it is done by justifiable protective duties, which if England were to adopt she could quite well do what America is doing, and greatly benefit her people in a thousand other ways. But then, if she did so, the ghost of the departed Cobden might be made miserable, and that is too frightful a thing to be faced. Better bear our burden of £750,000,000 of debt than that the hollowness of the Free Trade fraud should be acknowledged.

## *WEDDINGS YESTERDAY.*

A large and fashionable wedding in Grace Church, yesterday afternoon, caused a flutter of excitement in Broadway travel, and drew many members of fashionable society from their retreats in the suburbs. The bride was Miss Leonie Blanche Jerome, a daughter of Leonard W. Jerome, and the groom was John Leslie, first lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards, and a son of Sir John Leslie, Bart., of Glassbough, Ireland. The groom is a friend of Lord Randolph Churchill, who married a sister of the bride. Assistant Bishop Henry C. Potter performed the ceremony. F. Gray Griswold was the best man, and the ushers were N. Griswold Lorillard and J. Ridgeway Moore. They wore handsome scarf-pins given by the groom. As the organ gave forth the strains of "Le Prophete" the bridal party entered. The bride's mother and the bride's sister, Mrs. Morton Frenen, were escorted by the ushers and Mr. Jerome escorted his daughter and gave her away. She wore a dress of white brocaded silk draped with point d'Alençon lace. The corsage was cut low and in Pompadour style, and was decorated with a diamond star on either side. The bridal veil of point lace was held with pearls, diamonds and orange blossoms, and the hand bouquet was of orange blossoms. The bride and groom marched out to the music of the "Grenadier Guards," played in compliment to the groom. A reception was held at the house of Mr. Jerome, No. 25 East Twenty-sixth-st., which was decorated with cut flowers and vines. Numerous and costly presents were received. Among the guests were Mrs. William Astor, Miss Astor, Orme Wilson, James Gordon Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. William Jay, Miss Hilda Oelrichs, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Waterbury, J. G. Beresford, Mrs. W. L. Chamberlain, Perry Belmont, Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Lorillard, A. Thorndike Rice, the Misses Iselin, Miss Beckwith, W. R. Travers, G. H. Warren, Dr. and Mrs. Fordyce Barker, Mrs. Henry Clews, Mr. and Mrs. J. Fred Schenck, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Dinsmore, Mr. and Mrs. Lorillard Spencer, Mrs. G. L. Rives, Arthur Leary, Miss Leary, Mrs. Ogden Goelet, Miss McAllister, the Misses Beekman, Mrs. S. S. Whiting, the Misses Whiting, Colonel and Mrs. Delancey A. Kane, Mr. and Mrs. Butler-Duncan, Miss Butler-Duncan, Reginald Francklyn, Baron Frederic Blanc, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Bryce, Mr. and Mrs. C. Fellowes, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Heckscher, the Misses Heckscher, Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Howland, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Hoyt, Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Jerome, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Keene, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. K. Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. George Cavendish Bentinck, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Wetmore, John Furman, General Van Alen, Mr. and Mrs. S. Schlesinger, Mr. and Mrs. N. Rhinelander Stewart, Reginald Rives, G. H. Redmond, Roland Redmond, Mr. and Mrs. James Otis, George Work, Vicomte Leon de Janze, Benjamin Welles and Carroll Livingston.

Miss Barbara F. Munro, daughter of George Munro, the publisher, was married to Dr. J. G. Schurman, of Dalhousie College, Halifax, N. S., yesterday evening, at the house of the bride's father, No. 15 West Fifty-seventh-st., by the Rev. Dr. John Hall. The bride wore a dress of white satin with a lace veil caught with orange blossoms and diamonds. A reception was held, about 500 guests being present. The bride and groom will make their home in Halifax.

Mrs. Elnora J. Todd, a daughter of George A. Henshaw, was married to George A. V. Briggs at Christ Church, Fifth-ave. and Thirty-fifth-st., in the evening by the Rev. Dr. J. S. Shipman, the rector. The best man was Robert Henshaw, and the ushers were W. H. Van Orden, George A. V. Wright, J. H. Modole and William R. Tunison. The bride was attired in heliotrope satin and brocade. A reception was held at No. 581 East One-hundred-and-forty-fifth-st.

At Yonkers a wedding of interest took place in the afternoon at the First Presbyterian Church, under an arch of roses, Miss Louise Terry Collins, a daughter of Charles Collins, being married to William Allen Butler, jr., by the pastor, the Rev. Dr. John Reid. H. R. Butler, the groom's brother, was the best man. The ushers were Willard Parker Butler, W. R. Collins, of Hartford; W. C. Sanger and John Notman, of Brooklyn; Dr. Charles P. Murray and A. T. Bulkley, of Albany; Miss Julia Parsons, of Cleveland, and Miss Mary M. Butler, of Yonkers, were the bridesmaids. The bride wore a dress of white satin with trimmings of duchesse lace, and sapphires. A small reception was held at the bride's home, where many presents were displayed. The pair started on a wedding tour.

Miss Florence Clinton, a daughter of H. W. Clinton, was married in the evening to Theodore Sutro by the Rev. L. Stoddard, in the presence of a large assembly. A reception was held in the church after the ceremony.

## *MARRIAGE OF R. G. DUN.*

NARRAGANSETT PIER, Oct. 1.—R. G. Dun was married to-day, at Dunmere, his country residence, to Miss Bradford, of New-York. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Francis Wharton; assisted by the Rev. Dr. Buchanan. Congratulatory messages were received from President Arthur, and others. Among the guests were Senator and Mrs. Hale, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Graham, Mr. and Mrs. J. Newton Ewell, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Wescott, and Mr. and Mrs. Erastus Wiman. The bride wore a white satin trimmed with point lace and diamonds.

## *SCARLET FEVER IN BOSTON.*

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

BOSTON, Oct. 1.—The Board of Health reports that during the nine months from January to October there has been a decrease in typhoid fever and diphtheria, as compared with the corresponding time last year, but an alarming increase in scarlet fever, 1,808 cases having been reported against 883. The disease, however, is of a mild type, as the death rate shows.

The Industrial School for Boys on Centre-st., Dorchester, has been closed on account of scarlet fever having broken out among the pupils. The school is a private institution, in which needy lads have been taught the mechanical arts. There were twenty-five in the school and six were taken with scarlet fever. The Board of Officers were unable to find any cause inside the building for the disease taking such a hold there, and another investigation will be made to ascertain if there was some outside cause. The boys have been distributed among friends.

## *THE PARTY OF OPPOSITION.*

A LOOK AT MR. HENDRICKS'S BOOKS.

HOW HE SERVED THE RAILROADS WHEN LAND COMMISSIONER.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—Democratic speakers, especially in Indiana, are devoting much time and energy to denunciations of the Republican party, which they attempt to hold responsible for every acre of public land granted to aid in the building of railroads, when, as they know, tens of millions of acres were thus granted before the Republican party came into power; and since that time the land grant policy has been sustained by the votes of Democrats and Republicans alike. Democratic orators in Indiana and other States, taking their cue from the speeches of Mr. Hendricks, are clamoring for a "change," in order that "the people may see the books," when the fact is that the records of the Government are open to the inspection of any respectable citizen. A few days ago the Democratic newspapers were terrified by a report that the books of the General Land Office were being examined in the hope of unearthing something to the disadvantage in the official record of Mr. Hendricks as commissioner. His friends made so loud an outcry as to arouse a suspicion that Mr. Hendricks's official career would scarcely bear a rigid investigation. This suspicion was to some extent confirmed by certain passages in the published reports of the General Land Office during the period of his tenure as commissioner. The passages referred to relate to the lands granted, in May, June and August, 1856, to aid in the construction of nearly forty different railroads. In his annual report for that year Commissioner Hendricks said: "As usual, under similar laws, the lands falling within the probable limits of the grants were promptly withdrawn from sale and location. The sudden withdrawal from market of such important bodies of land almost simultaneously in seven different States, had a tendency to produce great public and private inconveniences."

That the lands were "*promptly* withdrawn" there can be no question. Just at that time Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota were rapidly filling up with settlers and the public lands were in brisk demand. The corporations for whose benefit the grants had been made were not idle. They were all represented in Washington, and they did not lack influence with Commissioner Hendricks. On May 15, 1856, an act was approved granting a quantity of public lands, estimated at 4,320,000 acres, to five railroad corporations in the State of Iowa. On May 19, five days before the bill became a law, Commissioner Hendricks issued a telegraphic order withdrawing from sale, location or entry all the public lands "within the probable limits of the grants," thus shutting out from a large area not only persons who desired to pay cash for public lands, but also actual settlers who desired to secure homes under the preemption laws, and soldiers of the war of 1812 and the Mexican War, who had received land warrants under the authority of Congress. No surveys for the railroads had been made, and, of course, no maps of location had been filed; and, therefore, the premature and unauthorized order of withdrawal for the benefit of the five Iowa corporations covered a much greater quantity of land than they were entitled to by the act afterward approved. The arbitrary and unlawful order of Commissioner Hendricks seems to have aroused a storm of opposition among the pioneer settlers of Iowa, and on June 16, modified it so far as to allow preemption entries to be made pending the filing of maps of definite location. Settlers, however, were required to be permitted to use their preemption warrants to obtain homes on the public lands withdrawn; and subsequently, upon representation by some of the corporations which received land under the several acts of 1856, to the effect that the preemption privilege was abused by speculators, all intending settlers including those acting in good faith, were deprived of it.

On June 3, 1856, an act was approved granting 2,150,000 acres of land, according to Mr. Hendricks's estimate, for the benefit of four railroad corporations in Wisconsin, and on May 29, five days before the bill became a law, Commissioner Hendricks issued an order withdrawing from sale and location for their benefit several million acres of the public domain. The act granting 4,128,000 acres of the public land for the benefit of five railroad corporations in Michigan became a law on June 3, 1856, and on the 30th of May preceding Commissioner Hendricks made an order locking up several million acres more of the public domain for their benefit. His report dated November 29, 1856, does not show that any steps had been taken by the corporations to determine the actual boundaries of their grants. Commissioner Hendricks on May 31 withdrew lands for the benefit of two railroad corporations in Louisiana, although the granting act was not approved until June 3. This order of withdrawal covered nearly 2,000,000 acres. On August 9, 1856, two days before the approval of the grant in aid, Commissioner Hendricks withdrew for the benefit of a railroad corporation in Mississippi more than 1,000,000 acres of the public lands in that State.

In view of the facts above given, it is not surprising that Commissioner Hendricks, in his report dated November 29, should remark that the "sudden withdrawal of so much land "almost simultaneously" would have produced "great public and private inconvenience." That "inconvenience," if not any injustice, must have been greatly aggravated by his flagrant disregard of law in his haste to serve the railroad corporations. At the present time, and for many years past, under Republican administrations no lands have been withdrawn from market for the benefit of railroad corporations, under grants made by Congress, until after they have filed definite maps of survey and location.

## A LEADING DEMOCRAT DISCOURAGED.

THE DEFECTION OF IRISH-AMERICANS—GIVING UP NEW-YORK AS LOST TO THE DEMOCRATS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—To a TRIBUNE correspondent a Republican Congressman recently said: "A day or two ago I met one of the leading Democrats of New-York—a man of so much prominence that his name has more than once been seriously considered in connection with the Governorship and for a place on the Presidential ticket. I found him greatly discouraged over the Presidential prospects of his party. Among other things, he said: 'My business brings me into relations with workingmen, a great many of whom are Irish-Americans, who have always voted the Democratic ticket, and I have carefully investigated the stories of defections from Cleveland. I have become convinced not only that the stories are true, but that the defection is greater even than the Republicans have dared to claim. New-York is already lost to us. I would not be surprised to see a plurality of 75,000 for Blaine, and I do not believe it will fall below 50,000 in any event.'"

## WILD CONFUSION IN A CONVENTION.

DEMOCRATS ALMOST COME TO BLOWS IN ELIZABETH—ROBERT S. GREEN FOR CONGRESS.

The Democratic Convention of the IIId Congressional District of New-Jersey met in Elizabeth yesterday and was one of the most disorderly and disgraceful gatherings ever witnessed in the State. Robert S. Green, of Plainfield, was had in the morning positively refused to permit his name to be used in the convention, was nominated on the second ballot, amid the greatest confusion, and cheers and hisses greeted the chairman's announcement that a nomination had been made. The three counties comprised in the district are Union, Middlesex and Monmouth. Monmouth presented two candidates, Dr. H. S. Kinmouth and a wealthy German named Geissenhainer. Union presented the names of William R. Wilson, Freeholder Chapman, William McMahon and C. W. L. Martine. The contest lay between McMahon and Martine up to the meeting of the convention. Miles Ross was not named as a candidate. McMahon received the caucus nomination of Union County.

Judge Lewis F. Wadsworth was chosen president of the convention, and resolutions were presented pledging the district for Cleveland and Hendricks. When the call was made for nominations, the uproar began. T. B. Budd said he was instructed to present the name of William McMahon, of Rahway, as the choice of Union County. Judge Harper, one of the Union delegates, protested that the nomination had not been made by a majority, but that twenty-one delegates were opposed to McMahon. As an individual he seconded the nomination of Mr. Geissenhainer. A Middlesex delegate seconded the nomination of McMahon, amid uproar and confusion. Robert S. Green, of Plainfield, was nominated by a Union delegate, and the nomination was seconded from Middlesex, eliciting applause and hisses.

The noise was so great at this juncture that a recess was taken, and the county delegations consulted. The first vote was taken with some difficulty, owing to the tumult, in which delegates charged each other with dishonest practices, and nearly came to blows. The first vote announced was McMahon 84, Geissenhainer 55, Green 13, Kinmouth 24. On the second ballot McMahon received 116, Green 58 and Geissenhainer 1. The vote was not announced, and a perfect pandemonium prevailed. The chairman was powerless to restore order for some minutes. When the clamor subsided, Middlesex desired to change its vote, and a few additional votes were given to McMahon. Monmouth next changed its vote, and gave 60 for Green and 12 for McMahon. Union County then announced a change. This was the signal for another tumult. Delegates sprang upon their chairs, and yelled and swore at each other, and some of the maddened McMahon delegates threatened to drag the president from his chair. The situation was so critical at this point that many spectators and some of the delegates left the room. But the confusion became riot when the chairman of the Monmouth delegation announced a change and gave 72 votes for Green. The rage of the McMahon delegates knew no bounds. They shook their fists at the Green delegates, and the two factions reviled each other in the most violent terms. The president managed to announce to the convention that Judge Green was nominated, and then a motion to adjourn was put and declared carried. Having accomplished this much, the president, to avoid the raging mob before him, slipped out through a rear exit.

The McMahon delegates remained, refusing to leave the hall, and organizing a meeting with a delegate named Stout, of New-Brunswick, as chairman, they nominated McMahon by acclamation. The scenes at this convention have profoundly impressed the people of Elizabeth, and it is now regarded as certain, even by Democrats, that Congressman Kean will be elected if re-nominated.

## JOHN BIGELOW'S MISSION TO EUROPE.

John Bigelow sailed for Europe on Saturday last accompanied by his daughter. It is whispered around that Mr. Bigelow's mission abroad at this time is to raise money by subscriptions from English manufacturers to aid Cleveland and Hendricks and the free trade cause.

## NOT ANXIOUS TO BE NOMINATED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

NORWICH, N. Y., Oct. 1.—The Democratic County Convention was held here to-day. There was so little interest manifested that there was a dearth of candidates. No one seemed to desire the empty honor of a nomination for an office in the Republican stronghold. The following county officers were finally nominated: County Clerk, A. J. Hunt, of Norwich; Treasurer, James C. Sands, of Greene; Overseer of the Poor, Leander Beebe, of McDonough; Justice of Sessions, Giles M. Crandall; Assembly, Charles W. Brown, of Oxford. The nomination of Special County Judge was left to the County Committee. Never before was such apathy apparent among the Democrats in this county, while, on the other hand, the Republicans are doing quiet and effective work.

## CLEVELAND TO VISIT BROOKLYN.

The prospect of the enthusiasm for Blaine and Logan in Brooklyn two weeks hence, when they visit that city, has alarmed the Democrats and they propose a counter demonstration. To this end they have invited Governor Cleveland to visit Brooklyn on October 16. Efforts will be made to get ex-Governor Hendricks and other prominent Democratic leaders to be present.

## *MYTHICAL ELECTION BETS.*

FOLLOWING UP "WORLD" ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FINDING NOTHING—A STUPID TRICK.

Announcements are made every day or two by *The World* that persons whose names are given are anxious to wager anywhere from $1,000 to $10,000 that the National Democratic nominees will be elected. Several times responsible persons have visited the places named for the purpose of accepting these wagers. In every instance they have been told either that the person called on had wagered all that he wanted to risk or that no wager was authorized. In some cases the name given was a myth. The Republicans who have undertaken to find these blusterers are of the opinion that a silly game of brag has been started, and that when men and money were ready the Democratic shouters "took water."

Henry Mayer, of Vicksburg, Miss., who is at the Hotel Albert, Eleventh-st. and University-place, is anxious to bet that Blaine will carry this State and be elected. He says that he has answered many pretended offers of bets in favor of Cleveland, printed in *The New-York World, Herald, Sun*, and *Star*, and in all cases has found them to be mere "bluffs," which were not backed up.

A well-known Republican of this city, whose name and address can be obtained at this office, is desirous of betting $1,000 on Blaine.

The following appeared in *The World* last week:

*To the Editor of The World:*

Will you oblige three old patrons of your paper by placing the annexed figures where they will be likely to catch the eye of our Blaine, Butler, St. John and Lockwood friends.

One thousand dollars even Cleveland carries New-York by 50,000 majority.

One thousand to $500 that he carries New-York by 10,000 majority.

One thousand even that he carries Ohio.

Twenty five hundred to $7,500 he carries Iowa.

One thousand to $400 he carries New-Jersey.

Five thousand to $3,500 he will be elected.

This money, $11,500 in all, is now on deposit with George Ruckert, No. 65 Bowery. Very respectfully,

BENEY ORRINGE,
AUGUSTUS ROBBINS,
LOUIS CURTIS.

P. S.—Bets will be arranged by Mr. George Ruckert in small amounts and deposited with any responsible party or institution named by bettors.

The following letter was received yesterday by THE TRIBUNE concerning it:

*Editor New-York Tribune:*

Mr. George Ruckert, of No. 65 Bowery, has secured for his hotel a cheap advertisement by having published the inclosed slip in Saturday's edition of *The New-York World*. Mr. Ruckert had another and more malicious object in view when he wrote his note. The three gentlemen named have been life-long Democrats and have accepted every nominee of their party with grace of faith. But they cannot reconcile the Reform Governor's record with his claim to be the workingman's friend. They have organized a Workingman's Blaine and Logan Club and have secured the signatures of 1,500 genuine sons of toil. Mr. Loss Curtis particularly is widely known for his liberal charities among the poorer classes and churches. His following is tremendous and it was to mislead these that Mr. Ruckert has published those deceiving statements. Will you please publish the above in your journal so that the harm done by this energetic Clevelander may be righted?

MARTIN RADER, 91 Bowery.

Martin Reder was seen by a TRIBUNE reporter and said: "That letter is a villainous forgery. My name is not Rader, but Reder. I do not know anything about the matter and did not send any letter to Mr. Ruckert nor authorize anyone to do so for me. Mr. Ruckert and I have been life-long friends, and are on the pleasantest of terms though in the same business. I know Orringe and Robbins by sight, and have heard that they are actively supporting Blaine and Logan as Democrats, but I take no interest in politics. It is an outrage that anyone should use my name as a cover to malign Mr. Ruckert. I'll make this climate pretty warm for the man that did it."

George Ruckert was visited at No. 65 Bowery, and was in anything but an amiable mood. He was asked: "Have you $11,500 here on deposit that you would like to bet?"

His eye glared fiercely and he looked longingly at a large carving knife on a table near by. "Never thousand devils!" he replied. "Good heavens! No! I am nearly crazy over this business. I just got back from Germany, but wish to Heaven I had stayed there. I have not had a moment's peace. Why its only a few seconds since a man with long hair and seedy clothes came rushing in here, and walking up to the bar, shook four five hundred dollar bills under my nose. He cried in a loud tone, 'I'll bet $2,000 against $1,750 that Cleveland don't carry New-York! Cover this, old man, or shut up.' I set the bloodhound on him. I have got seventy-nine letters from all over the country making appointments to meet me. My life is nearly pestered out of me, and if this thing keeps up I'll fly back to Germany. This is all a put up job on me by an unknown person. I wish I knew who, and that I and my bloodhound could find him. There is not a word of truth in the statement."

Neither Orringe, Robbins nor Curtis could be found, but a friend of theirs said that they are all indignant over this matter and that some designing person, trying to be smart, had forged their names to the communication sent to *The World*.

## *OBITUARY.*

ROBERT H. STRAHAN.

Ex-State Senator Robert H. Strahan died at 11 a. m. yesterday at his home, No. 422 West Seventy-first-st. He had been sick with Bright's disease of the kidneys for more than a year. On August 23, he went to England and visited the best physicians in London, but they held out no hope, and Mr. Strahan returned home, arriving last Saturday.

Mr. Strahan was born at Newburg in Orange County on September 30, 1841. His parents were poor people and to help them eke out their scanty living young Robert began his career by selling papers in the streets. His bright face and good manners caused some influential citizens of the town to interest themselves in his behalf, and the lad was sent to school and finally given a scholarship at Westminster College, Philadelphia. When he returned to Newburg he learned the printer's trade until the war broke out, when he enlisted as a private. He was brevetted Lieutenant for bravery at Cold Harbor, where he was wounded in the head and arm. By the special request of Secretary Stanton he was discharged, and, going to the capital, was graduated from the Columbia Law School in that city.

Returning to his native town of Newburg he began to practise his profession. In 1871 and '72 he was sent to the Assembly from Orange County. In the following year he moved to this city and settled in the XIIth District, which he represented in the Assembly in 1875 and again in 1876. In 1877 he ran for Senator, but was defeated by Alfred Wagstaff. The next year he was elected again to the Assembly, and the following year declined a renomination. In 1880 he tried his fortune again in the race for the Senate and was elected, beating John W. Browning by a handsome majority. After serving his term he retired from active politics and while his health lasted devoted himself to the practice of his profession. He was a member of the firm of Strahan & Lindley. Mr. Strahan married twice. He leaves a boy twelve years old by his first wife, Miss McDowell, of Newburg. His second wife, who was a Miss Candee, of Palmyra, and her infant survive him also. The burial will take place on Saturday in Newburg. Funeral services will be held at his house in this city to-morrow at 5 p. m.

JAMES MCAFEE.

James McAfee, who has had charge of the Federal building in this city since it was built, died on Tuesday evening at his home. He had been suffering for several weeks from eruptions on the face and neck, and especially from a large carbuncle on the neck, which was the immediate cause of his death. He was born in Ireland, on August 24, 1832, and was brought to this city when a child. He received his education at the public schools. He was a leading member of a volunteer fire company. For years he served as an inspector in the Custom House. When the building now occupied by the Post Office and Federal Courts was erected Mr. McAfee was placed in charge of it as assistant custodian, the Postmaster being the nominal custodian. This arrangement continued until June, 1882, when the Postmaster was relieved of the responsibility of the nominal care of the building and Mr. McAfee became custodian, with a salary of about $225 a month. Mr. McAfee was an ardent Republican. He was at times a member of the Republican Central Committee. He was a trustee of the First Reformed Presbyterian Church. His wife and five children survive him.

OBITUARY NOTES.

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 1.—John H. Flynn, master mechanic of the Western and Atlantic Railroad, and president of the American Association of Master Mechanics, died at his home in this city at 4 p. m. yesterday.

PITTSBURG, Sept. 30.—Marshal Swartzwelder, who was long regarded as the leading criminal lawyer of Allegheny County, died here this afternoon. He was a member of the State Legislature from 1848 to 1852, and also a delegate to the Constitutional Convention.

## *MURDERED AT A DEMOCRATIC MEETING.*

CHARLESTON, W.Va., Oct. 1.—While a Democratic meeting in this city was in progress to-night, John Nunley, while drunk, drew his revolver, fired promiscuously into the crowd and instantly killed Charles Daughter, a colored man, and fatally wounded Albert McCormick. Nunley is under arrest.

## *RAILROAD INTERESTS.*

A NEW OUTLET FROM PITTSBURG.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

PITTSBURG, Oct. 1.—Pittsburg is to have a new eastern outlet. The matter was first made public yesterday. The preliminaries are all agreed upon and the papers are being executed. The Lehigh Valley Railroad Company proposes to extend westward through the towns of Huntington and Blairsville and down the valley of Plum Creek, in Allegheny County, at the mouth of which valley it will bridge the Allegheny River and form a junction with the Pittsburg and Western Railroad lines. A half interest has been purchased in the fee of the Pittsburg and Western from this point to its terminus near Woods' Run, in Allegheny City. This part of the road, therefore, will be jointly owned and managed by the two companies in perpetuity. The Valley people have closed their negotiations for a purchase outright of six ac