LOCAL MISCELLANY.

DR. SHRADY HAS PUT IN NO BILL YET.

STATEMENTS BY DR. DOUGLAS CORRECT—ONLY THOSE WHO PAY THE BILLS CONCERNED.

A TRIBUNE reporter called on Dr. George F. Shrady yesterday and asked if he had anything to say regarding the statement of Dr. Douglas in reference to the bills of General Grant's physicians. "As far as I know," said he "the statements made by Dr. Douglas are correct regarding the presentation of bills. I have not presented any bill for attendance upon General Grant, although I have, in common with the other physicians, been requested to do so by the family."

On being asked as to the value of such services as the doctors rendered in this case, Dr. Shrady said: "It could not well be calculated in dollars and cents. The case was an extraordinary one, involving great responsibilities and many sacrifices. Dr. Doug as made most of the latter, both in practice and health. As for myself, I was not consulted to relinquish any part of my practice except during the periods when I was directly associated with Dr. Douglas in constant attendance upon the General. At other times I saw the patient only in consultation with Drs. Douglas, Barker and Sands, and, of course, had ample time to attend to my regular business."

"What about the rumor that each of the doctors has already received $10,000 for his services in the Grant case, as alluded to by Dr. Douglas?"

"I can only say I know nothing of it. I have not received anything; neither has Drs. Barker nor Sands as far as I am aware. On the whole, it occurs to me that this matter should not concern the people, unless they propose to pay the bills."

MOUNTING JUMBO'S SKIN AND SKELETON.

PROFESSOR WARD'S WORK—WHERE THE EFFIGIES WILL BE EXHIBITED.

Professor H. Ward, of Rochester University, who has in hand the mounting of the skin and skeleton of Jumbo, stopped a few minutes in this city yesterday on his way to Grid eport to see P. T. Barnum. He was seen at the Grand Union Hotel by a TRIBUNE reporter.

"Jumbo was a bank all by himself," he said. "When I arrived at St. Thomas with my assistants to preserve the remains I found in his stomach a great many coins—English shillings and sixpences, coppers, and one Canadian piece, showing that he has been keeping a bank account, although he left no will. His head was fearfully mashed, the engine having driven his tusks clear through it. I found Jumbo on his feet where he had been rolled down the bank away from the railroad and had to skin him as he stood. His hide weighed 1,537 pounds and his bones 2,400. We cremated his flesh—the first cremation in Canada. It took four and a half cords of hard wood and two days' time to consume the flesh. His skin was torn a little and his back somewhat injured. We are mounting the skin and skeleton in Rochester. We had to erect a special building in which to do the work. Jumbo was twelve ordinary elephants, which are big and round and with oval backs. He was more like a French horse with a hollowed out back, standing very high at the shoulders. His head was drawn out at the tusks and the forehead more curved than the Indian elephants. It will take three months and $2,000 to mount him. We have to build a wooden elephant, like that at Coney Island, for a frame, and keep shaping it until it exactly gives the right form with the skin upon it. The frame has to be made strong with heavy iron rods and bolts to prevent accident in travel. Two special cars are being built for the now double Jumbo. After a year abroad, his mounted skin will rest at Tufts College and his skeleton at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington. The people of St. Thomas are preparing to create a Barnum Park and erect a $25,000 monument on the spot where Jumbo was killed. Tom Thumb, the trick elephant, is being doctored at Bridgeport, where he cries like a child over his aches and pains. The broken leg will heal, I think. I am off for Bridgeport now to make final arrangements for the tour of Jumbo mounted. We are also mounting Emperor, the elephant which died in Missouri a few weeks ago, for the Missouri State University."

PRAISING THE DAILY NOON PRAYER MEETING.

The twenty-eighth anniversary of the Fulton Street Daily Noon Prayer Meeting was attended yesterday by a full and earnest throng in the Middle Dutch Church, at Four-st. and Lafayette place. The Rev. Dr. A. J. Behrends, Congregational, presided, and J. C. Lanpher, the founder of the prayer meeting, conducted the singing. A large and beautiful floral display was made, and the interior of the church was handsomely decorated with wreaths and harps of roses. The speakers, representatives of nearly every denomination, were: The Rev. Dr. George Alexander, Presbyterian; the Rev. L. A. Crandall, Baptist; the Rev. M. Hubard, Methodist; the Rev. Dr. William Ormiston, Reformed; the Rev. Dr. Henry Y. Satterlee, Episcopal; and Professor Simpson, of Glasgow, Scotland, Moravian. William T. Welch made an address for the laymen and Mrs. Lozier offered prayer.

The daily noon prayer meetings were started in 1857, and have been kept up regularly ever since. Their object as set forth in the first circular issued by the society, on September 23, 1857, read: "This meeting is intended to give merchants, mechanics, clerks, strangers, and business men generally, an opportunity to stop and call upon God amid the daily perplexities incident to their respective avocations. It will continue for one hour; but it is also designed for those who may find it convenient to remain not more than five or ten minutes, as well as those who can spare the whole hour. The necessary interruption will be slight because anticipated, and those who are in haste can often expedite their business engagements by halting to lift up their hearts and voices to the throne of grace in 'humble, grateful prayer.'" Its history is recorded in twenty-one different books, which have been published from time to time by the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church in America. It is strictly undenominational in its work and profession.

LANDLORDS WITH VICIOUS TENANTS.

An association composed of persons owning property in and around Twenty-seventh-st., between Sixth and Seventh aves., and business men in that vicinity, was formed Tuesday night for the purpose of preventing the renting of houses in that portion of the city for questionable purposes. The meeting was held at No. 107 West Twenty-seventh-st. Among the property-owners represented were Morris Leidman, George Stone, Charles A. Nungessar, Patrick Murray, S. C. Rover, H. Stern, Jules Chatelan, F. Gallo, Alice E. Myers, Jane A. McKenna, Chas. Tree, Wesbeate, Michael O'Malley and D. McKoon. Mr. O'Malley presided and Francis Moss, lawyer, of No. 93 Nassau-st., made the speech of the evening. He stated that, although the Twenty-ninth Precinct had one of the most efficient police captains in the city at its head, yet the worst forms of vice flourished in it. The effect of this had been to drive business away from the avenues around it and greatly decrease the value of surrounding property. Places near Twenty-seventh-st. that ought to sell for $25,000 would not bring much over half that sum. He contended that the owners of these disorderly houses were to blame as much as the tenants, if not more. The agent for four of these houses he said, was an elder in one of the principal churches of the city. Mr. Moss said that it was the intention of the association to enforce the law against these owners and compel them to get rid of their vicious tenants. Evidence for this purpose has already been collected and will be produced at the meeting of the society on next Monday evening. The officers of the organization are: Michael O'Mally, president; Charles L. Nungassar, secretary; Patrick Murray, treasurer; Jules Chatelan, Francis Moss and Francis Vorsin, executive committee.

SHE THINKS HER FATHER BLEW OUT THE GAS

Dr. William L. Morse, the dentist, who was found unconscious in his room at the International hotel, in Park Row, on Tuesday afternoon from the effects of escaping gas, is slowly recovering at the New-York Hospital, and will be out again in three or four days. His daughter arrived from Baltimore at the hospital early yesterday morning. She said that her father came to New-York on a visit and that she did not think that he tried to commit suicide. He is seventy six years old and was in poor health, and she thought that he blew out the gas by mistake.

NEWS FROM THE SUBURBS.

MR. CONKLING TO STUDY BICYCLE ETIQUETTE.

The libel suit of R. M. Renton against Eugene M. Aaron was called yesterday in Justice Powers's court at West New-Brighton, S. I. The case has attracted considerable attention. Mr. Renton is a member of the League of American Wheelmen and the Staten Island Athletic Club. He has won many races. Early last month he went to Pittsburg and took part in an exhibition race. Mr. Aaron published in his journal that is devoted exclusively to the interests of wheelmen, an article denouncing the style of the costume that Mr. Renton wore, and called it "indecent and indelicate." Two weeks ago Mr. Aaron was arrested for malicious libel and compelled to go to Justice Powers's court at West New-Brighton. He was released on bail, and yesterday he informed the Justice that he had retained Roscoe Conkling for his counsel, but that he had not had time to become familiar with the intricacies of bicycling etiquette and habiliments, so the case was adjourned again.

SUSPICIOUS DEATH IN PATERSON.

Jacob Meyer, age fifty-eight, a silkweaver, was found dead in the cellar of his house, at No. 113 North Seventh-st., Paterson, having bled to death from a gash in his arm. It was at first supposed to be a suicide, but there were some suspicious circumstances. The deed had evidently been done in his bedroom on the ground floor. The bed clothes were soaked with blood. Pools of it were on the floor and splashes on the walls. A bloody razor was found in a bureau drawer, but there was no blood near the bureau. A trail of blood led to the head of the steep stairs which lead to the cellar. There was no blood on the stairs and none from their foot to the place where Meyer lay dead in another pool. Some of the blood on the bed-room floor had evidently been soaked up and some effort begun to clean the place. Blood spots were found along the yard, leading toward the back stoop of Jacob Heller's house. Heller was Meyer's landlord. There was blood on the stoop. Meyer was a widower and lived with two children, one an infant and the other a daughter about fifteen years of age. She said that she had not been in the house since late the night before, when her father came drunk to her room and she fled from the house and went to sleep with Heller's daughter. Coroner Hopson is investigating the case and will hold an inquest. It is hard to explain how Meyer got down the cellar after losing so much blood on the floor above.

UNABLE TO PASS THE CLERGYMAN'S TEAM.

A cold wind swept across the Hempstead plains yesterday, and when it reached the Mineola fair grounds it thoroughly chilled the few visitors. Clouds of dust swept around the race course, and then with a sudden swing dashed in and through Exhibition Hall. The grand stand that faces the race track was nearly deserted. In Class No. 99, for teams owned in the county the Rev. Lewis Lampman, the pastor of the Jamaica Presbyterian Church, sent his team ahead in two straight heats, easily passing "Tim" Treadwell, a veteran horseman. No time was hung out, but those who held the watch over the parson's team say that they did their mile in 2:38 and 2:40.

ON TRIAL FOR MURDER.

In the Passaic Court of Oyer and Terminer at Paterson yesterday a jury was empannelled, and the trial of George Weidmann and James Dougherty for the murder of Andrew S. Hockenberry on January 28 begun before Judge Dixon. Hockenberry was the son of Harmon Hockenberry, a prominent citizen engaged in the ice business. He was drunk in Weidman's beer-shop in River-st., and had an altercation with Weidmann, who clubbed him. Weidmann, assisted by Dougherty, an ex-policeman who was tending the bar, then put Hockenberry out of the place and dragged him along some distance, when an officer came along and took Hockenberry to the police station, where he died in a cell. City Physician Meyers testified yesterday that his skull was a network of fractures. When the doctor was called to attend the dying man he found him on the stone floor of the cell and the ants had eaten part of his hand. After other witnesses had given their testimony the State rested its case. The counsel for Dougherty moved for his discharge on the ground that no complicity in the alleged crime had been proved against him. Judge Dixon reserved his decision until this morning.

JERSEY CITY.

Frederick Golden was tried in the Court of General Sessions yesterday for manslaughter. On May 3, Golden and John J. Manley quarrelled in Claus Behaken's beer-shop at Avenue D. and Twenty-seventh-st., Bayonne, and Golden knocked Manley down. The proprietor ordered the crowd to leave the room and Manley followed Golden down the avenue, threatening to "fix him" and have him arrested. Golden turned and with a blow felled him to the sidewalk. Manley died that night. The jury convicted Golden of atrocious assault and battery.

Herman Rothenberg, a pedler, begged with tears in his eyes for lodgings at the First Precinct police station last evening. A policeman removed his coat to learn what caused a lump between his shoulders, and a stocking with $85 in it fell to the floor.

A man applied for a room at the Philadelphia Hotel yesterday and wrote in a bold hand "St. Peter." In a few moments he became violently insane.

James Broadmeadow, who was formerly a member of the police department and who disappeared five months ago, because two women claimed him as a husband, walked into police headquarters yesterday and surrendered himself to Chief Murphy.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

MT. VERNON.—A Home Protection Society was formed last night against "brace and bit" gangs and other thieves. It was decided to offer $500 reward for the arrest of the burglars.

CARS THAT SEEM UNSAFE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: I notice in your issue of to-day a misstatement of an accident occurring last evening at Long Island City. The young man Frank Wolf did not jump from the train, but was crowded off the car, which was an open one. I think the cars used are unsafe, as an accident may happen at any time causing a loss of life or limb. EYE-WITNESS.

Sept. 23, 1885.

HOME NEWS.

PROMINENT ARRIVALS.

Fifth Avenue Hotel—Ex-Governor Horace Fairbanks, of Vermont; ex-Governor C. C. Van Zandt, of Rhode Island, and Edward Atkinson, of Boston.....*Hotel Brunswick*—Governor George P. Wetmore, of Rhode Island.....*New-York Hotel*—Judge William T. Wallace, of California, and Attorney-General John P. Stockton, of New-Jersey.....*St. James Hotel*—Ex-Congressman Horace F. Page, of California; ex-Congressman George Z. Hazelton, of Wisconsin, and Dr. W. H. Pancoast, of Philadelphia.....*Windsor Hotel*—H. E. Clarke, Member of the Provincial Parliament of Ontario, and D. Hostetter, of Pittsburg.....*Grand Hotel*—Judge F. A. Macomber, of the New-York Supreme Court.....*Albemarle Hotel*—Woodbury Blair, of Maryland.

WHAT IS GOING ON TO-DAY.

Rockaway steeplechase races, Cedarhurst, 2 p. m.

Reception to Sir Richard Sutton by New-York Yacht Club, evening.

Trunk line presidents' meeting, Commissioner Fink's office.

New-York-Buffalo baseball match, Polo Grounds, 3:45 p. m.

St. Regis-Williamsburg lacrosse match, Williamsburg, 4 p. m.

Archery tournament, Central Park, 10 a. m.

Lawn tennis tournament, Mountain Station, Orange, N. J., 2 p. m.

Trotting races, North Hudson Driving Park, 2 p. m.

NEW-YORK CITY.

While responding to a false alarm of fire yesterday, Engine No. 24 and Truck No. 5 came in collision at Bleecker and Morton sts. The firemen escaped injury.

The trustees of the Riot Relief Fund yesterday sent to the Police Board $1,000 "for the family of Policeman North, lately killed in the discharge of his duty."

THROWN THIRTY FEET BY A TRAIN.

Louis J. Tiers, a boy whose home is at No. 8 Bridge-place, Mott Haven, was struck by a Harlem train at One-hundred-and-forty-fourth-st. yesterday and hurled thirty feet. His injuries were considered to be fatal at the time of his removal to his home.

FUNERAL OF DR. HUNTER.

The funeral of Dr. William C. Hunter took place yesterday in the Scotch Presbyterian Church in Fourteenth-st. Dr. Hamilton, the pastor of the church, conducted the services, and the body was taken to the Cypress Hills Cemetery for burial.

LECTURES BY THOMAS HUGHES.

Thomas Hughes, "Tom Brown's" famous biographer, will deliver two lectures in Association Hall, at Fourteenth-st. and Fourth-ave., on the evenings of Tuesday, September 29, and Friday, October 2. He will speak of James Russell Lowell's works. The sale of seats will begin to-day.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION.

Secretary E. S. Post, of the Post Office Civil Service Commission, has been requested to hold an examination for applicants appointed as pension examiners and medical reviewers in October in the Federal Building. The positions are in the Pension Office at Washington. Applications are to be made to Secretary R. D. Graham, of the United States Civil service Commission at Washington.

ALEXANDER MACKENZIE BURIED.

Alexander Mackenzie, a well-known merchant, was buried yesterday in the Woodlawn Cemetery. The funeral was at the Presbyterian Church in West Thirty-fourth-st. The Rev. Drs. John Hall, Joseph A. Kerr and John Spaulding took part in the services. Delegations from the Produce and Mercantile Exchanges were present.

WORK OF THE AQUEDUCT COMMISSION.

At the meeting of the Aqueduct Commissioners yesterday the Controller reported that he had on hand $619,993 77 to the credit of the commission. Secretary McMillon reported that a plot of ground purchased from Jay Gould, which was alleged to contain 20 572-1000 acres, on being measured was found to contain 21 361-1000 acres. The sum of $256 12 was due Mr. Gould. The Controller was authorized to pay Mr. Gould this additional amount.

SMALLPOX IN CHAMBERS STREET HOSPITAL.

Dr. James B. Tavies, of the Sanitary Bureau, was informed yesterday that a young woman was suffering from a suspicious disease in the Chambers Street Hospital. He found Susan Klares sick with smallpox and had her removed to Riverside Hospital. She came from Kansas on Tuesday, intending to sail for Europe, but after she had gone on board a steamship she became ill and was sent to the hospital. Dr. Tayler said that he did not know the name of the steamship on which she was to sail.

BROOKLYN.

The opening reception to the membership of the Young Men's Christian Association will take place on the evening of September 29. Addresses will be made by the president of the association, State secretary Hall and others. The exercises will take place in the auditorium of the new building.

The scheme of rapid transit from Hamilton Ferry to the west end of Coney Island has taken a step forward through the purchase of the Brooklyn, Bath and Coney Island Railroad by a syndicate headed by E. B. Litchfield, William Ziegler and John J. Kiernan. Application will be made to the Legislature for a charter extending the road from Fifth-ave. and Twenty-sixth-st., in Fifth-ave. and Butler, Bond and Sackett sts. to Hamilton Ferry. Then with the consent of the majority of owners of property work upon an elevated structure in these streets can be begun.

The counsel of the Board of Supervisors, W. G. Cooke, has written an elaborate opinion holding with ex-Judge Tracy that the Board of Supervisors has power to fill the vacancy in the Surrogate's office caused by the death of Jacob I. Berzen and that the Governor had no power to fill the vacancy by appointment. He also holds that no election for the office can be held this fall.

The Commissioners of Charities and Corrections yesterday adopted a majority report sustaining Warden Green in his actions before and after the recent revolt among the prisoners in the Penitentiary. The report was opposed by Commissioner Kissam and supported by Commissioners Reese and Van Siclen.

Alvah L. Halstead, the jeweller, of No. 491 Fulton-st., who was arrested upon a charge of larceny preferred by B. H. Knapp, of New-York, for whom he sold watches on commission, has been honorably discharged.

Judge Bartlett has denied the application for a mandamus to compel the Holstein-Freisian Cattle Association to register a herd of Holsteins imported by Schlenter Brothers and admit the Messrs. Schlenter to the privileges of members of the association.

John O'Callahan, of No. 518 Nostrand-ave., who was known by the sobriquet of "General" to the frequenters of his dramshop at Flushing and Nostrand aves., committed suicide yesterday by jumping into the river at Little-st. An ineffectual attempt was made to rescue him by Michael McNulty, who sprang into the water. O'Callaghan's mind was recently affected by brain fever. He left a widow and eight children.

WORMLEY'S BEEF TEA AND TERRAPIN.

Washington Letter to The St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Speaking of Garfield's illness reminds me of James Wormley, the noted negro caterer of Washington, who died a few months ago leaving a fortune of more than $100,000, which he made in keeping hotel here. Mr. Wormley had a patent method of making beef tea, and he prepared much of the last food taken by Charles Sumner and President Garfield. During Garfield's last days he used to take this beef tea every morning from his hotel to the White House, and Garfield relished it when he could eat nothing else. It was made by broiling the tenderloin of a porterhouse steak, and while the meat was yet smoking putting it into an iron receiver heated for the purpose. A crank was then turned which brought hundreds of pounds of pressure on the steaming steak, causing every particle of its juice to stream forth. A little seasoning and the tea was ready. There was no water about it, and it was the pure juice of the beef. Mr. Wormley also made chicken broth for Garfield, and the chickens used came from his own farm near this city. His hotel was a high priced one, and his dinners on special occasions cost as high as $10 a plate. He was especially noted as a terrapin cook, and he considered cooking such an art that he sent his son, who now manages the hotel, to Paris to take lessons of the noted cooks there.

Wormley was the first to introduce terrapin into England. He took them with him when he went along with Reverdy Johnson, who was the American Ambassador, as cook to the Legation. It is said that the terrapin did more to accomplish the ends of the United States than all of the speeches.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

THE "REFORM" ADMINISTRATION

AND THE PALPABLE INSINCERITY OF ITS PROFESSIONS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: It is to be hoped that the Republican orators of the coming caucuses will not fail to show up the hollowness of the Civil Service reform pretensions of the President. The proofs of this are close at hand. This very evening the Mugwump *Evening Post* in an account of an interview of the Collector and Surveyor of the Port with Mr Cleveland remarks: "If the spoils system can be kept out of the Custom House as it has been thrust out of the Post Office in New-York during one Presidential term, it will have received a stunning blow," etc. Now, if the President really desired to keep the spoils system out of the Custom House, why did he not appoint men who would not need prodding from Washington to keep them up to their work? Collector Robertson never required this. If the desire was great to continue his faithful interpretation of the law, he, or at least a man like him, should have been made Collector. Everybody in New-York who knows anything of affairs knows that only an idiot would have expected that the New-York Custom House would be kept out of politics under Mr. Hubert O. Thompson's regime. In view of this fact, the accounts of the endeavors of the President to keep Mr. Hedden and Mr. Beattie in the Civil Service reform line are too affecting for ordinary reading. A doubt will creep over one's mind, in spite of Mugwump protests and cavilling as to the President's sincerity.

Again, why have nearly all the Internal Revenue Collectors in the country been removed? Even Mr. Everett P. Wheeler's ingenious explanation, which has had so wide a circulation among astonished Connecticut independents, that one-half of the offices must be in Democratic hands, before the real work of Civil Service reform is begun, will hardly account for the sweeping removals of these officials and their deputies. In the Medical Examining Boards of the Pension Bureau also many changes have been made in clear violation of the principles which our Mugwump friends promised us should obtain under Mr. Cleveland's Administration, and which he indicated in his letter to the Civil Service Reform Association. Take as instance in this city, and, from one example learn all: From one of the boards here a former medical officer of the Navy, who served during the War, and who since then has taken no active interest in politics, and who is an exceedingly competent man of national reputation as a surgeon, was removed to give place to a young Southern physician with numerous confederate relatives, who graduated some seven years ago. Such things can be instanced in great number. They give the lie to all the Mugwump claims for sincerity of purpose on the part of this Administration as to Civil Service reform.

We all know that the Democratic party as such detests the Mugwump theories. Now, if we but prove, as we easily can, that the Administration for whom the Mugwump organs are wearing such a defensive campaign, with their nauseating explanations of the inconsistencies of their "single minded and strong willed man," is at heart in full sympathy with its own party, one victory over it's bogus "Solved" Service reform pretensions will be overwhelming. For whatever the Democratic party and its head may desire the majority of the people of this county really wish for the continuation of the reform in the Civil Service, which the Republican party began, which was warmly recommended in their platform, and which their candidates, had they been allowed, would have successfully maintained and amplified.

New-York, Sept. 12, 1885. KNICKERBOCKER.

SCARCITY OF SMALL BILLS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Why do not people of all shades of opinion on the silver question unanimously demand the issue of $1 and $2 silver certificates? As an average citizen, my case must be that of most others. Being about to make an excursion, six months ago, I desired $300 in ones and twos from my bank, but the bank could spare none. A week ago I demanded $100 and was allowed only $30 in small bills. I would willingly have taken silver dollars, but the weight of 300 of them would be over eighteen pounds, and even quarter eagle of gold would be clumsy and dangerous to travel with.

Through the part of the South where I have been, the scarcity of these small bills is embarrassing. Everyone seems to have bills of $5 and upward, but no one willingly gives change, and as the rogues have a lively trade the deprivation is serious. As silver certificates are not legal tender, no one would be compelled to take them, and the small bills would not be returned through the Custom House. In every view the issue would be harmless, and productive of good result whose details are largely in sums of less than $5, which would include practically everybody. S. H. M.

New-York, Sept. 18, 1885.

FIGHTING FRAUD IN VIRGINIA.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: In view of the fact that Cleveland carried this State by such a small majority after all the frauds committed by the Bourbons in the counting of the ballots, it is a little strange that they should now express so much confidence in their ability to "ride down" the political foes of Fitzhugh Lee, unless it be true that they rely upon continued frauds on the ballot-box for defeating the Republicans. There has never been more boasting as to their strength than the Bourbons now indulge in, and yet there has never been so weak a ticket for State officers before them as that they have put up, nor anything so unpopular as that now opposed to them; nor have the entire people of the State ever been so fully convinced that the interests of the commonwealth demand that there should be a change from Bourbon rule. And yet with all this the Bourbons express the most extreme confidence in the utter defeat of Wise and the entire ticket.

There can be no question, it seems, that they are preparing to perpetrate a great fraud if necessary, and their bragging at this early hour is the first preparatory step. But every fraud will be guarded for the Republicans, and if the Norfolk County frauds are to be repeated elsewhere, measures for the honest count of the votes will be just as vigorously applied as they were in that case. Wise's first term in the South-west Virginia has been productive of fine results, and the people have rallied in great numbers to hear him. E. R.

Richmond, Va., Sept. 17, 1885.

A GENERAL WITHOUT VANITY.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: I was very much interested in reading ex-Postmaster-General Tyner's article on General Grant in THE TRIBUNE. He makes an error in saying the force at Paducah was under command of General A. J. Smith. It was General C. F. Smith. I have often recalled to mind the past year my first sight of General Grant. I was a private in Company A, Chicago Light Artillery, which formed part of the force that took possession of Paducah. Colonel Paine, of the 9th Illinois, was in immediate command of the expedition. Leaving Cairo in the evening, we tied up at the wharf-boat at Paducah in the morning under the stern of one of the wooden gunboats. Word was passed from the latter for Colonel Paine, who was on the boat with us. Our surprise was great to hear him receiving orders about landing from a man on the upper deck of the gunboat wearing a linen duster and slouch hat, and with no sign about him of military rank, which we supposed from his appearance to be the pilot of the gunboat. It was soon known to be General Grant, who we had heard had succeeded General Prentiss in command at Cairo. At that time every man possessing any rank, from a corporal up, took pains to display every button, stripe or strap the law allowed, and we did not know what to make of a Brigadier-General who seemed without vanity.

Bedford, Sept. 21, 1885. JOHN B. DAY.

ADVANTAGES OF GANSEVOORT MARKET.

To the Editor of The Tribune:

SIR: The unhealthy condition of the water in Fulton Market slip for the storage of fresh fish, as stated in the report of competent persons who have examined into the matter, suggests that some action be taken to remove the evil. From their report it appears that the waters are impregnated with foul gases from sewers and other filth so as to be an unfit place for the receptacle of live fish for human food and are to be removed. The only remedy for this is by finding some other locality where better and purer water can be found. As the locality, owing to the changes in business which are taking place in the city, is required for other purposes, and as the place wants a favorable business site for market purposes, which has become in demand, a change seems to be necessary. The most fitting place that offers for this business is the water front at the new Gansevoort Market site, between Gansevoort and West Thirteenth-st., which is set apart for this purpose. It is the most eligible one that could be selected. It has a frontage of over 600 feet without any sewers or other refuse emptying into it, and has an unobstructed current passing up and down as the tide changes, being well extended into the river. The water is deep, pure and clear of all obnoxious gases, which makes it the most desirable place that can be found. It also has other advantages that are required for the sale of fresh fish. The wholesale meat market and commission business, together with the foreign fruit dealers, are about to be there, and will be the means of consolidating all branches of the market in one locality. The farmers already there, together with other businesses, will make one of the most successful and imposing market places in the world. G. B. LAWTON.

Cedar Hill-on-the-Hudson, Sept. 4, 1885.

THE "LITERARY CENTRE."

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: It is amusing to see how very thin indeed have grown the pretensions of Boston to being the "literary centre" of this Nation. And it is flattering to a New-Yorker to observe that however bulky she has grown, New-York is not yet so bulky but that when she chooses to do anything she does it infinitely better (as Sterne said of France) than anybody else.

Everybody knows that, apart from one or two exceptions, New-York, and not Boston, issues the serial and library literature of the country. And I was amused to read in THE TRIBUNE that the New-York Shakespeare Society, not yet six months old, was already at hand with two volumes of its publications.

Here is the Cambridge Shakespeare Society, whose members are the cult of Boston, which is almost 100 years old, and not only has it never issued a single publication, but nobody has ever heard of it doing or saying anything, or even venturing an opinion on the absorbing Shakespearian questions of the day.

New-York, Sept. 20, 1885. HENRY F. FERNALD.

LET THE CHILDREN HONOR GRANT.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Would it not be a stimulant in collecting for the Grant Monument Fund to appeal to the heads of families, on behalf of their children, to contribute in each child's name? Let it be ever so little, it would make the child happy to contributing toward honoring the hero of the age. W. B.

New-York, Sept. 20, 1885.

STEADYING SHIPS AND BOATS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: During the great contest between the two greatest maritime countries of the globe is certainly a good time to present novelties in ships and boats, and why may not the following simple plan be entirely practical? On all yawls or ships' boats, screw on to the bottom of the keel horizontally a thin steel plate, one-half the width amidships, as long as the keel, the plate to be made sharp forward, like the boat, and rounded at the stern. On sloops, schooners, ships and the largest steamships, the steel plates are to be rolled double, the two together being from one-fourth to one-third the width of the ship amidships. If a steamship is forty feet wide, the plates may be five feet on each side of the keel, being rolled thickest on the inner edge. They are to be fastened to the keel or keelson by driving them into steel slots countersunk into each side, or they may be rolled with or be driven into double steel flanges countersunk into each side and then screwed fast. The plates may be put into the side of the keel in sections from a quarter to an eight the length of the ship, one section at the bow, one at the stern, and perhaps one in the middle, all being made sharp forward and rounded aft like the ship.

On all yawls and ship's boats a plate one-half its width would certainly stand all pressure upon it from wind or waves; but upon larger craft and merchantships the keels perhaps a doubt; yet when we reflect that the plates are deeply submerged under all waves, that they will spring with the motion, and the water is extremely elastic, it is believed they will stand all pressure that will be put upon them.

At sea, when the ship or boat is pressed by wind and waves, the plate on the windward side of the keel will lift up on the mass of water, and on the leeward will press down, thus preventing rolling to a great degree; and when the wind and waves are forward or aft the plate will greatly prevent pitching. And if this is the result, a ship will require much less ballast. Also she cannot be so easily capsized. In sloops no centre board or keel is required; it will be seen that the plate is place sloping, with the drift, like the centre board or keel, is against the drift, holds against the water, and hence the ship can run much nearer to the wind. This will also be a great advantage in large ships and steamships.

If this plan is practical it will be a very great advantage, even on boats and sloops, and if practical also on large ships and steamers it will be still more useful. It will save many lives by preventing boats and ships from capsizing in storms, and even when there are no storms, if practical on ocean steamers it will prevent much great pitching and rolling, making the passage much more agreeable, and between America and Europe will on an average shorten the time by at least one day. Will the yachtsmen and shipbuilders give it a trial and demonstrate how far it is practical? AUGUSTUS WATSON.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 19, 1885.

SORGHUM VS. CORN.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: In your editorial of to-day you mention the prospective yield of corn the present season as reaching the unparalleled amount of 2,000,000,000 bushels, and estimate its value for feeding swine, even at the low price of twenty cents per bushel, as far exceeding in the aggregate the value of either the cotton or the wheat crop.

The average value of the corn crop for the past twenty years has been 40 per cent of the aggregate value of all our leading crops, while the acreage devoted to corn has equalled 40 per cent of all the cultivated land in the United States, including those lands in grass. You do not over estimate the relative value of the corn crop and it is difficult to do so. Your readers are all doubtless aware that practically the entire crop of corn is used for feeding and fattening, fully 95 per cent of this crop being thus consumed.

Sorghum yields a crop of seed equal in quantity to corn. The three largest growers of this crop last year averaged twenty-five bushels of seed per acre; and the method and expense of growing sorghum is practically the same as in growing corn. Analysis of sorghum seed shows it to be practically identical in composition with corn. It contains a little more starch than corn, and starch is one of the most valuable nutritive constituents of the cereals.

But this important matter does not rest upon the theoretical considerations dependent upon the chemical composition of the seed. The president of the Rio Grande, N. J., Sorghum Sugar Company, George C. Poirs, who has had more extended experience than any other person in the United States as to the feeding value of sorghum, having last year fed and fattened 500 head of steers upon the seed, in a letter to me says that "we consider sorghum seed more valuable than corn for feeding."

We should not forget that for thousands of years sorghum has been grown, as now it is grown over vast areas, solely for the seed, and there appears to be no reason why it should not be introduced as a cereal, taking the place of corn in our own country, since it possesses certain qualities as a plant which render it less liable to failure as a crop in certain sections than corn.

Last year the three largest sorghum plantations in the United States, near and on account of the 2,500 acres, averaged for each acre of sorghum raise enough for sugar and molasses 1,000 pounds of sugar and 1,422 gallons of molasses. Two of the above three in letters to me state their feeds of sugar to have been, in the aggregate, enough to feed to fat another equal to the sugar produced on the same. Thus, then, is the present margin in sorghum sugar and molasses, but as a fact they did obtain two crops per year. Three of the largest mills in the United States report the average cost of working up the crop of 500 per acre, so that it would appear that there should be a profit of the cost 15 pounds of sugar and 5 gallons of molasses.

Last year the average of 72 analyses of sugar experiments made in Louisiana showed a content of sugar equal to 1.7 per cent than the amount found present upon the average in 116 different samples of several varieties of sorghum taken from grown in Washington. It will be observed that these are the very results I found and published in 1879, and for which I was charged with "misleading the people." I would conclude from letters by again in good faith assuring that in sorghum we have a plant fully the equal of corn as a cereal and in a million fully the equal of the best Louisiana sugarcane as a sugar-producing plant, and I hope that you may be willing, in consideration of the immense material importance of this matter, to allow a little space to any who may think the above points capable of being disproven. PETER COLLIER.

Providence, R. I., Sept. 9, 1885.

NATIONAL AID TO COMMON SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Is it not worthy of special notice that the educational conferences and conventions this summer are all passing without even alluding to the question of National aid to common schools? The fact that there are in the United States fifteen hundred thousand voters who cannot read their ballots or write their own names should attract, it would seem, the practical attention of educational men everywhere. No convention, nor even county institute should adjourn anywhere without passing resolutions on this subject. Any assumption that this subject belongs exclusively to the domain of politics is absurd. It should be a plank of all political platforms, if possible. That party which opposes the measure should be overwhelmingly defeated in every election. All candidates for the House of Representatives should be compelled to give their views of the subject of National aid before election. There is no question of greater importance before this country.

New-York, Sept. 20, 1885. A.

TOOTHPICKS AT TABLE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Is not the world, or rather the world of this city, deteriorating in the matter of table etiquette? Formerly it was considered highly improper in polite society to use a toothpick in public, and utterly abominable to use one at the table. Now, in the principal hotels and restaurants a goblet or glass full of them adorns almost every table and they are used with the greatest freedom. Recently the writer protested to the head waiter of a prominent restaurant against the nuisance. He contended that it was perfectly proper and the "correct thing," and maintained that the custom prevailed among the best people in the city and named several prominent and fashionable families where he had acted as caterer who furnished their tables with toothpicks. This is probably not true, but when you see how the custom is extended it is time that a public protest be made against the disgusting practice. G. S. H.

New-York, Sept. 4, 1885.

WHO MATTHEW M. TRUMBULL IS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: I see that your London correspondent (August 1) speaks of Matthew M. Trumbull, who wrote "Aristocracy in America" (*Nineteenth Century*). Mr. Smalley is mistaken in thinking him an American. He was a former resident of this city, and is an Englishman by birth and a free trader. SUBSCRIBER.

Dubuque, Iowa, Sept. 17, 1885.

THE WANDERER'S REVENGE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: I write to ask you if it is true that Mr. Kelley is to write a book on court life abroad. If so, will you let me know more of this new departure through your valuable paper? READER.

New-York, Sept. 4, 1885.

CHILDHOOD DISEASES IN CANADA.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Will you be good enough to inform the public how much the French Canadians who reject vaccination, and do not believe in the contagion superstition, suffer from scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid fever and the consumption so prevalent here among young people? It is quite possible that the equilibrium of wealth, security and happiness, is preserved even among the "Canucks." ALFRED BOSI.

President of Excelsior Medical College of Massachusetts.

New-York, Sept. 1, 1885.

MINNIS, LOVE OR BEDLOW.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: It may interest some readers of THE TRIBUNE, even in the midst of this busy New-York population, to consider a few antiquarian facts respecting an islet in our *Bellissimo Lago*, as Verrazzani once called this estuary. The little "inch" was termed Minnis or Minnisis by the Algonquins, and the name signified "island," the islanders of this bay and the New-Jersey coast being known as Minseys or Minnesiuks. Block Island bore the same name—i. e.—Mainis or Manis.

But our islet had grander associations. Cyprus was formerly known as Meonis, and the famous Lotos Island of Northern Africa, visited by Ulysses and his roving companions, was also named Meninx or Meninx. The very ancient meaning of this term was "island," and also by grace of a pun, "love's island." Cyprus, it will be remembered, was the home of Aphrodite, and the "lotus" was the well-known flower or symbol of Eros—a fact accounting for the wish of those Greeks to scuttle their ships and stay on shore.

Coming back to our Algonquin islet we may be struck by the fact that over two hundred years ago somebody gave it the name of Love Island, though none of the recorders has given a reason why. Subsequently Love Island was named Bedlow's Island