report of the battle and by his testimony before the Committee on the Conduct of the War; secondly, it is contradicted by the testimony of his chief of artillery, General Hunt; thirdly, it is absurd, topographically and tactically; fourthly, my testimony before the same committee in February, 1864, presented the actual facts, which are wholly different from Meade's statement in the Benedict letter and which were not denied by him when he testified the following month. The War Department records have been ransacked and searched in vain for testimony to uphold this assertion in regard to the position of the Third Corps. Failing to find any testimony in the records this 'confidential' letter, written in 1870, is brought to light most imprudently to uphold a contention absolutely unsupported by anything in the official records of the battle. General Meade nowhere pretends in his official report or his testimony that I was to occupy Round Top. General Tremain pointed out to General Meade during the morning of the 2d the importance of Round Top and the need of troops to occupy it, likewise the importance of the Emmetsburg road and the intersecting roads leading to our left, all of which positions, including Round Top, had been stripped of defence by the removal of Buford's division. Against this abandonment of Round Top and Emmetsburg road I personally protested to General Mead, and so testified before the committee and was uncontradicted by General Meade.

"His statement is absurd tactically and topographically, because it designates a line and position which the Third Corps could not have occupied by reason of the great extension of the line and the number of troops required to hold Round Top, which is stated by the Comte De Paris to be a mile and a quarter, that is to say, 2,200 yards. The front of Hancock's corps, the Second, which was stronger than mine, was only 1,200 yards. According to General Meade's letter, from Hancock's left to and including Round Top, and the necessary force to hold that natural fortress, my line would have been a mere skirmish line, utterly incapable of resisting assaulting columns. Moreover, the direct line from Hancock's left to Round Top was through swale, marsh, swamp, boulders, forest and tangled undergrowth, unfit for infantry, impracticable for artillery, and hopelessly dominated by the ridge in front, which I would have surrendered to Lee without a blow, if I had attempted to execute the impossible order. I would have surrendered to Lee the position for his artillery, which he states in his official report it was the object of his movement to gain—the vantage ground he sought and had to fight for all the afternoon, namely, the Emmettsburg Road ridge, Devil's Den, the Emmettsburg road itself, and the intersecting roads leading to our left.

"General Meade continues: 'Now, his right was three-quarters of a mile in front of Hancock's left and his left a quarter of a mile in front of the base of Round Top, which ought to have been occupied by Longstreet Top, which ought to have been occupied by Longstreet before we could get there by the Fifth Corps.' To this I answered: First, that I was in the riget position, in my humble judgment, to defend Round Top, when I put myself in front of it, and I staid there until after 5 o'clock, giving General Meade time to bring up the Fifth Corps from the right, where he kept it all day; secondly, that if I had not put my troops in position in front of Round Top Longstreet could have occupied it any time during the two hours that elapsed before the Fifth Corps was brought over from the right to occupy it.

"General Meade says further: 'Sickles's movement practically destroyed his own corps, the Third, caused a loss of 50 per cent in the Fifth Corps, and very heavily damaged the Second Corps, producing 66 per cent of the whole battle.' To this I answer: First, that the losses of the Fifth Corps in the entire Gettysburg campaign, killed, wounded, captured and missing, were 2,187 out of an aggregate of 12,000 by the official record. Thus General Meade more than doubles the loss of the Fifth Corps. Secondly, when General Meade says the Third Corps was practically destroyed on the 2d of July, he is contradicted by two division commanders, Humphreys and Birney, and by Graham, Carr, De Trobriand, Ward, and Brewster."

General Sickles at this point submitted the report of General Joseph B. Carr, of his corps, in which he states that though General Birney, who commanded the corps after General Sickles was wounded, ordered the brigade to fall back to the crest of the hill between 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening, he had no doubt they could have charged on the rebels and driven them in confusion, for the line was perfect and unbroken and the troops in a proper spirit for the performance of such a task. Continuing, General Carr said: "After I reached the position designated by General Birney, the brigade was rallied by my Assistant Adjutant-General and aides and moved forward, driving the enemy and capturing many prisoners. I continued to advance until I again occupied the field I had a few moments previously vacated. Here my men remained until morning. This was the right of the line."

"That," said General Sickles proudly, "does not look much like the work of a broken down and destroyed corps."

In reply to the statement of General Meade that the movements of General Sickles produced 66 per cent of the losses of the whole battle with only the result of being driven back to the position he was ordered to occupy originally, General Sickles said: "This statement is difficult to reconcile with the respect due to his high position and the ample means of information always accessible to him. The losses, though large and serious, were inevitable, and attributable only to the assaults, vigorous, persistent and prolonged, from 3 o'clock until dark, by an enemy ably led, who had staked everything upon the issue."

General Sickles read from General Meade's testimony and report of the battle to show that the only general orders issued by Meade affecting the Third Corps were to the effect that the Second and Third Corps should occupy the continuation of the Cemetery Ridge, and of this Round Top was not a part. In his testimony General Meade says that he was asked by General Sickles "whether he was not authorized to post his corps in such manner as in his judgment he should deem the most suitable." I answered," continued General Meade, "General Sickles, certainly, within the limits of the general instructions I have given to you. Any grounds within these limits you choose to occupy I leave to you, and I directed General Hunt, my chief of artillery, to accompany General Sickles and examine and inspect such position as General Sickles thought good for artillery, and to give General Sickles the benefit of his judgment."

"General Meade's 'general instructions,'" said General Sickles, "were all verbal and extremely vague and indefinite. He was wholly preoccupied with his right flank. None of his instructions contemplated the probability of an attack on his left." General Sickles emphatically denies having received any communication from General Geary whatever.

In conclusion General Sickles said: "I will read from General Meade's testimony: 'I am of the opinion,' says General Meade, 'that General Sickles did what he thought was for the best, but I differed from him in judgment.' Here is no question of orders disobeyed or of instructions disregarded, and here I leave the issue where General Meade puts it. Military critics more competent than I will decide whether or not General Meade's judgment or my judgment was correct."

A MURDEROUS DISTRICT-ATTORNEY.

A MISSISSIPPI MAN TELLS ABOUT ONE OF THE PRESIDENT'S APPOINTEES.

A gentleman who was born and brought up in Oxford, Miss., spoke yesterday with much feeling of the recent murder of H. M. Sullivan by C. B. Howry—not J. M. Howry, as stated in the dispatches. Said he: "The number of murders in Oxford and Lafayette County, where Oxford is situated, makes the people of that region almost despair of better things. The murders occur at the rate of three or four a year and each time it is hoped that it is the last. The victims are prominent men, for I don't take into account the slaughter of negroes and other lesser lights. Unless something can be done to teach our people the value of human life, our progress will be backward. This man Sullivan who was killed the other day was one of the most esteemed men of the county. I knew him well. He leaves a wife and six little children, no one of them over ten years old. He was a shrewd business man, with some of the Northern energy and push, and had gathered a comfortable fortune. He was known as a Republican, although he made no great parade of his Republican principles. He took a great interest in the education of young men. He had been a poor boy, and was helped through the university by a charity fund. He was graduated with the highest honors, and when he became a successful man he was glad to accept the position of trustee and a distributor of a fund designed to aid young men who are struggling for an education. He added liberally to the fund out of his own pocket."

"What was the origin of the trouble with Howry?"

"I have received only meagre information from Mississippi, but it was undoubtedly a political quarrel. Howry was an out-and-out Democrat, a lawyer, and had been in the State Legislature. He was appointed United States District-Attorney by the present Administration. That's a good record, isn't it? The District-Attorney appointed from Secretary Lamar's own town commits murder! Well, the present Congressional representative of the district is Judge Morgan, who, I suppose, secured for Howry the Attorneyship. Judge Morgan is a candidate for re-election and of course Howry was a hot supporter of him. Sullivan had decided to defeat him, and I suppose the trouble grew out of that difference. Howry is a good enough fellow, but hot-headed and impetuous."

"What will be done with Howry?"

"Ah, that's what I want to see. He's been a legislator himself and has helped to shape the Penal Code, but they won't hang him. We ought to have some law passed such as that of Senator Hoar's, which provides for inquiry by the United States in cases of murder of a political character or which arise from race jealousies. But then the question comes: "Could such a law be enforced under the present Aministration?"

DEFYING SUPERSTITION.

FIFTY-FIFTH DINNER OF THE THIRTEEN CLUB—MERRY MEETING ON FRIDAY, THE THIRTEETH.

The Thirteen Club hurled a big bomb at antiquated superstition last evening, and the gusto with which they enjoyed their "Feast by the Sea" ought to establish thirteen as the favorite number for all dinner companies. The Hotel Brighton was the spot selected for the gathering, and at 4:13 p. m. precisely the diners began to arrive. There was a fresh breeze blowing in from the ocean, which made the big dining-room cool and kept the surf thundering a monotonous accompaniment to the clink of the glasses. Never was there such a reunion of enlightened thinkers, who had broken the fetters of superstition. There were twenty-six tables in the hall, and at each table were seated thirteen guests, who sorely tried their digestion in their efforts to prove their satisfaction with the number. Funeral and ghostly emblems, which might have made less resolute men tremble, were displayed on every hand. Such innocent delicacies as string beans and roast Philadelphia chickens appeared on the bill of fare side by side with such lugubrious mottoes as *Memento Mori*, *Moriturí Salutamus* and other legends of like signification.

The Thirteen Club of New-York had the satisfaction of seeing some at least of its many offspring rise up and call it blessed. The Portchester Thirteen Club sent a delegation of thirteen handsome Westchester men; two wild Westerners represented the Thirteen Club of Chicago; K. W. Raphael and thirteen other brokers from the Petroleum Exchange appeared with much dignity for that ancient guild. W. W. Niles was there and so were Judge David McAdam, Commissioner Voorhis, Coroner Messemer, H. A. Heiser, C. W. Alburtis, the Rev. Dr. Young, of Christ's Church, Montreal; Marvin R. Clark, E. B. Hotchkiss, James Kempster, Dr. Seaman, U. S. N.; J. W. Newwitter, ex-United States Consul at Yokohama; Dr. William H. Dwinelle and Major G. H. Whitthaus. The company marched into the dining-room to the sound of "Mikado" airs played by a big brass band. Four tables were reserved for members who had been present at the last meeting. They were required to be present or to communicate their excuse to the scribe; otherwise they were declared dead. The appearance of these tables did not, however, indicate that death had been unusually busy among the members during the last year. The brass band played as the dinner went on, and then there were songs and eloquence. "Dick" Fitzgerald, the actor, had brought down some professional talent with him, and amused the diners when they were tired of amusing themselves. The City of New-York was toasted, because the name contains thirteen letters; the flag with thirteen stripes and its thirteen original stars was pointed to with pride by these enemies of superstition, and there was a rousing bumper drunk to the hotel Brighton, with its thirteen letters. All these toasts were responded to in fitting manner, and the orators could not say enough in praise of the good luck which had attended the fifty-fifth regular dinner of the club on Friday, the 13th of August.

PAWLING WELCOMES CITY CHILDREN.

TWO CAR LOADS OF THEM HEARTILY RECEIVED—THE ENTERTAINERS.

PAWLING, N. Y., Aug. 13.—Perspiring, breathless citizens hastening to the train to carry them away from the scorching heat of the city to their country homes on Thursday paused a moment to look at the little band of children gathered at the Harlem road's waiting room in the Grand Central Station to take the 4:20 p. m. train to this delightful place. They were going off for a fortnight's fun in the country through THE TRIBUNE Fresh-Air Fund. There was no doubt about their needing fresh air. The journey was made comfortably and at 6 o'clock the train drew up at the station here. All Pawling was gathered to see the little strangers arrive and they received a hearty welcome. The children tumbled out of the cars, baggage in hand, and on to the little plot of grass by the station. The Rev. George Clark, pastor of the Methodist Church, and the Rev. John G. Dyer, of the Baptist Church, came forward open-armed as if to receive the whole two car-loads themselves.

Though the matter was only broached to the people in this neighborhood a short time ago there has been unusual interest awakened in the work of the Fresh Air Fund. A union meeting of the churches was held in the Baptist Church last Sunday night, the subject having been discussed briefly from the various pulpits the same morning. Though the weather was stormy in the evening, the rain falling heavily at the time, there was a good attendance and an enthusiastic gathering. Committees were appointed in the different parishes and were hard at work the next day finding temporary homes for the children. Even a larger number would have been provided for this year had not the homes of many of the people been filled up with visitors for the summer. The country about here is exactly the place for the poor city children to get their fill of health and happiness. There are splendid dairy farms where they will get plenty of good milk and the air is as pure as can be found.

The names of the entertainers are as follows: Mrs. Statia Dodge, Mrs. Charles Townsend, Mrs. Harrison Peck, Mrs. James Crane, Mrs. G. H. Adams, Mrs. James Turner, Mrs. H. Penny, Mrs. D. Lee, Mrs. J. Warner, the Rev. George Clark, Mrs. Sewell White, Mrs. F. S. Merwin, Mrs. William J. Merwin, Mrs. Abel Smith, Miss Kate Dennis, Mrs. Julia A. Mable, Mrs. Akin Tolley, Mrs. W. H. Chapman, Mrs. B. Stevens, Mrs. O. Stevens, Mrs. J. Haynes, Mrs. J. Ludington, Mrs. Mary Pendley, Mrs. Burbeck, Mrs. J. Meade, Mrs. Thomas Kitchen, Mrs. Emory O. Banks, Mrs. William Smith, Mrs. O. A. Dykeman, Mrs. M. J. Woodin, Mrs. Burbeck, Mrs. Ruth Maillard, Mrs. Lydia Nichols, Mrs. Wilcox, Mrs. A. Arnold, and Mrs. Altena Burr.

FOUR BOTTLES OF POISON WITH HER.

MRS. SHAW'S SUICIDE—HISTORY OF THE DEAD WOMAN.

PITTSBURG, Aug. 13 (*Special*).—The cause which led to the attempt of Mrs. Emma Frances Shaw to kill her little boy and afterward to commit suicide at the St. James Hotel yesterday, is still unsolved, but light will probably be thrown upon the mystery to-morrow, when her husband will reach here from New-York. A friend of the dead woman said to-day:

"Her maiden name was Frances Ackerson, and her father was a prosperous farmer near Newton, New-Jersey. She was just thirty-seven. She was married in 1869, when only nineteen, to Isaac Shaw, who, at that time, was a prosperous business man of New York city, where he kept a large shoe store on Greenwich-st. Shortly after their marriage he and his wife moved to San Francisco, where he engaged in business. He remained there for a number of years. One of Mrs. Shaw's brothers, James Ackerson, is a wealthy farmer living near Penn Run, Indiana County, Penn. She had another brother who has been in the cattle business in Indiana for some years. A third brother is a prosperous merchant in Portage, Kalamazoo County, Michigan. I have sent telegrams to her brothers and I am certain that they will be in the city as soon as possible."

This morning Willie, the little boy, informed Colonel Lanahan, of the St. James Hotel, that his mother had some money secreted in a false pocket in her dress, which had not been found as yet. Mr. Lanahan and the boy went to the undertaker's, found the body embalmed, and searched for the pocket. The search was successful and the secret pocket was found. The first thing brought to light was $60 and a package containing strychnine, believed to be the one from which the woman took the poison which ended her life, as it had been folded together in a hurried manner. An examination of a small satchel which had been carried by Mrs. Shaw revealed the presence of two bottles of laudanum and one of chloroform, all these bottles being labelled "Indiana, Penn." The druggist's name was carefully scratched out.

SUMMER NOTES FROM SARATOGA SPRINGS.

SARATOGA SPRINGS, Aug. 13.—The Rev. Dr. Hinsdale, of Princeton, N. J., presided at the daily union prayer meeting this noon.

There were three excursion parties here yesterday and to-day. Windsor, Vt., contributed twenty-seven carloads, Greenbush twelve cars and Gansevoort three cars.

The Rev. Dr. George B. Hopson, of St. Stephen's College, Anandale, lectured in the Bethesda Episcopal Church this evening.

The guests at Drs. Strong's enjoyed a musicale yesterday evening. Among those who took part were Mrs. M. D. Gregory, of Brooklyn, Miss Lena Bungert and Miss S. E. Wessells, of New-York City, Miss Emma Baker, of Sing Sing, and ex-Governor H. H. Wells, of Washington.

The American Bar Association will meet here next week.

Warm days and cool nights, together with an abundance of sunshine, make up the Saratoga weather of the present week.

JAPANESE OFFICIALS GO TO WASHINGTON.

Count Saigo, Secretary of the Imperial Japanese Navy, and his staff, composed of Captain Y. Shibayama, Lieutenants S. Harada, R. Funaki, K. Yoshiu, M. Hidaki and M. Saito and Paymaster N. Kataska, went to Washington last night. They will remain there for a week, after which they will return to New-York and from here expect to go to Newport and Boston. They sail for Liverpool on September 4. Count Saigo is on a tour of inspection of the various navies of the world with the object of acquiring a personal knowledge of the latest improvements in naval architecture and armament for the benefit of his own navy. Yesterday the party drove through Central Park and visited some of the public buildings under the guidance of Minister Kuki of Japan, who came to New-York to meet them.

ANXIOUS ABOUT A BROOKLYN ALDERMAN.

Since the sudden departure of Alderman Robert Spitzer from Brooklyn, numerous revelations as to his manner of doing business have become public. Yesterday George C. Dickman, a druggist, of Marcy and Park aves., applied to Police Justice Kenna for a warrant for his arrest, but decided to await further revelations. His story is that in March Spitzer obtained $400 from him and gave as security a mortgage on the property of John and Mary Dill, to become due on July 6. When it fell due Spitzer paid $300, but the balance is still unpaid, and Dickman has learned that John and Mary Dill executed no such mortgage and there is no record of any such instrument in the Register's office. A warrant has also been secured for the arrest of Charles I. Warth, who has been Spitzer's law partner, charging him with raising a check for $9.25 given by George Straub, a builder, to $69.25. It is not known where Spitzer and Warth are. The former's gold Aldermanic badge was pawned for $25 in this city recently. Spitzer was a prominent member of the Twenty-first Ward Republican Association and is only twenty-seven years old. He was elected a District Alderman last fall, and was one of the four Republicans in the Board. He had devoted much time and money to horse racing before he left the city.

SHE CAN'T THROW A BRICK.

From the Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Had Paris seen Helen attempt to shoo a cow out of the back yard it is safe to state that the Trojan war would never have been waged, and Homer would have been obliged to take the Haymarket riot for an epic. Had Antony seen Cleopatra chase a street car down a dusty avenue of Cairo it is also safe to state that he would have fled disenchanted back to Octavia, and the divorce court lawyer—"decree quietly secured; no publicity"—would never have made a cent from him. Had Dante seen Beatrice fire a half brick at the vandal hen which prospected for seeds in her flower bed every spring, it is again safe to say he would have sent back her notes, her white mouse pen wiper, the lava smoking set with "Merry Christmas" painted across the stern, and discontinued that rocky courtship which he subsequently celebrated in his poem known as "The Inferno."

In the three situations given above, the average woman is grand, massive, Titanic, incomprehensible. The man who witnesses these feminine moods from the weather side of a high board fence and does not stand with head bared, hushed and awe-stricken, has no poetry in his soul. In all she is great, but in the brick-throwing act she is greatest—and most dangerous. There is a physiological reason for this. It is not her fault that an ambulance wagon has to be rung up after her brick-throwing moods, nor that this kind of exercise always creates a flurry and an upward tendency in the window glass market. She cannot help aiming at the hen and bringing down the usual inoffensive citizen in the next ward. Her shoulders were not rightly constructed for ball tossing, and in the hurry incident upon laying the citizen she frequently forgets to consult her handbook on throwing, and makes the left hand do all the labor instead of the right, as laid down by the authorities. Nor is she mentally constituted for a base-ball pitcher. Many husbands who are not right-minded sneer at their wives' weakness of mental grasp in not being able to distinguish between a mutilated and jumped-on umpire and a three-base hit. These nice subtleties of the game may be thus lost to her, but it is not her fault. Her gray brain matter is not put up that way, architecturally speaking, any more than her shoulder is built to bring confusion and death to cows.

It will be observed by all who take the trouble to attend a baseball game, in the interests of science, that the best throwers have very square shoulders, and the shoulders of some are higher at the corners than near the neck. In these latter the clavicle tends upward as it leaves the spinal column, a circumstance which allows free play of the arm in any direction. Whereas, as is seen in a lady's skeleton, the smooth blade slopes down like a toboggan slide and overlaps the arm-socket in a manner which prevents her lifting her arm without cracking her shoulder-blade or bursting out a seam in her basque, either of which is calculated to discourage good marksmanship.

MR. CLEVELAND'S AMBITION.

THE FISHERIES AND CUTTING CASES.

RIGHTS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS VIOLATED WHILE HE PLOTS TO KEEP THE PRESIDENCY.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Instead of the reform Democratic Administration devoting itself to the task of laying pipe in order to perpetuate its power, would it not be serving the country better if it took up the fisheries and the Cutting case, or honestly endeavored to carry out the pledges it has made to the country? The Secretary of State made a demand on the Mexican Government that has been contemptuously ignored by the Government which arrested Cutting. To the suggestion that the latter may be pardoned, answer is made that the American will serve his term, and it looks as though he would unless he is rescued by hot-headed citizens of Texas. President Cleveland and Mr. Bayard evince no disposition to move further with this matter. Their advocates acquiesce in the contention of the Mexican Government that this is a case for State and not Federal action, and seem to be agreed that the United States Government exhausted its means of securing justice when it demanded the release of Cutting.

But let us imagine what Mr. Blaine would do, if he were in the White House at the present time. Is it conceivable that he would have approved such a demand as that made by Mr. Bayard and then have been silenced by Mexico's reply? During the excitement caused several years ago by the arrest of certain "suspects" in Ireland, who claimed to be American citizens, the Democratic press was aroused to a furious pitch by what was described as Mr. Blaine's indifference to the rights of Americans abroad. Columns were filled with heated descriptions of the lessons that England would have been taught if a Democratic Administration were in power, and the country was left to imagine that if England ever ran foul of a Democratic Administration its fate would be sealed without recourse to Socialists or Home Rulers. The fisheries question seems to present the very opportunity for which the Democratic party has been yearning. But Mr. Bayard is more diffident in dealing with it than he is with the Cutting case. Indeed, with the latter he started to bully Mexico, but when he discovered that the Mexicans—who, no doubt, had been closely watching his treatment of the fisheries affair—were not to be bullied, he subsided with a suddenness that leads the observer to believe that something was pulled from under him.

The Administration finds no time to devote to these "foreign questions," but though we are at the height of the dog days, when unusual exertion is particularly wearing on good men who weigh 250 pounds, the President can address himself to pulling wires and putting his political fences in order. It is no longer a secret that he is a candidate for renomination. His ante-election professions touching the wisdom of limiting the President of the United States to one term are forgotten. He has also forgotten that public office is a public trust; and bills that rob the taxpayer are allowed to become laws with a disregard of the public interest that only the most shameless of practical politicians could exhibit. It was asserted the other day in a Democratic newspaper that Mr. Cleveland was as ready to veto as to sign the public printing bill which was passed by the Legislature when he was Governor, and that his action was decided by careful consideration of the manner in which his personal interests would be affected. If the newspaper writers for his party are to be depended on, he is preparing to make a full instead of a partial surrender to the "spoilsmen." He has at last discovered that the Mugwumps are strong only in their own vaunts, and with that serene indifference to other pledges that he made, he will—so the story goes—throw the sentimentalists overboard without compunction. Though Mr. Hedden is not to be counted as a Mugwump, the new movement begins with his disposal.

The Collector makes anything but an imposing figure when contrasted with his predecessor—and that despite the manner in which Judge Robertson was hampered and embarrassed by the authorities at Washington; but Mr. Hedden's efforts to strengthen Governor Hill at least to have been formidable enough to alarm the President, who fears that Hill may be forced into his shoes in 1888. (This might be somewhat painful to Mr. Hill, for we have it on the authority of the observant editor of *The Sun*, that though Mr. Cleveland is a very large man he has a remarkably small and elegant foot. Mr. Hill may not wear such a small boot as the President's, but his friends affirm that his hat will go over Mr. Cleveland's head till it reaches the No. 26 collar that encircles the Presidential neck.) Well, Hedden goes because he is the Governor's adviser, and Mr. Manning retires from the Cabinet after receiving numerous rebuffs. The Secretary's offence appears to be that he could not commend what the President calls his "policy." Accordingly, he was treated with such scant courtesy shortly after that "policy" was developed that he rarely visited the White House. A Cabinet meeting was held on the day he suffered the paralytic stroke, and rumor asserts that Mr. Manning was not only snubbed by the President, but was insulted by the Pan-Electric Attorney-General. He left the White House in a state of great excitement and went to the Treasury, it is supposed, to write a letter resigning his portfolio. Before that letter could be composed he was stricken.

In the South there are not many Professional Civil Service reformers, and the spoils there have been distributed in a way to please the politicians. So the Solid South is with the reform President. Thus supported, with the New-York Custom House in the hands of his friend and with other Federal offices to be arranged hereafter, he need have no fear of Hill or the Mugwumps in the next National Convention. He is preparing to throw the Mugwumps overboard and exert his blandishments on the Democratic party in the belief that his fascinations will cause the party to forget his past political sins. But it is possible that the party will be able to see that Mr. Cleveland is animated, now as ever, by purely selfish considerations and is not to be trusted again.

In these circumstances it is not strange that the rights of American citizens may be violated with impunity by petty foreign States; that Civil Service reform is made a by-word and a scorn, and that Congressional acts most iniquitious are allowed to become laws. Mr. Cleveland has other matters to engage his attention—matters more personal than of a public nature. H.

Brooklyn, Aug. 9, 1886.

CORNELIUS VANDERBILT FOR MAYOR.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: I hope with whatever derision the suggestion implied in this heading may be met, that you will read what I have to say and permit your readers to do the same. The most common response to the suggestion will be: "Ridiculous. Vanderbilt would throw away millions by devoting his time to the city government." This may be so; but the time has come when great individual sacrifices must be made by some leading men if the downward tendency of municipal government is to be arrested. Who is more likely to make the sacrifice than Mr. Vanderbilt? Whose example would be more influential in making such sacrifices fashionable, and in breaking up that custom which has hitherto been so fatal, of men having the largest interests refusing personally to take the laboring oar for good government?

The call on Mr. Vanderbilt should not be an individual but a general one, representing capital and labor, the peaceful union of which is so essential to the public good. The spontaneous, ample and gratuitous provision made by Mr. Vanderbilt for employes of all railroads using the Grand Central Depot has excited widespread and grateful appreciation, and naturally also hopes that the intelligent philanthropy thus evidenced may be in other ways important to the public good.

As to pecuniary interest, it would scarcely affect Mr. Vanderbilt's action. In the vigor of life, trained to business, familiar with men and public affairs, who more competent than he to cleanse our "Augean stable," and show New-York the immense benefits to the public, and to the individuals who compose the public, of an unselfish, honest, economical business government? It is clear that he is a man who is wise enough to know when he has enough of this world's goods, and to feel that unblemished public character is the most valuable of all possessions to enjoy or to bequeath. The position named is worthy of the ambition of the ablest and best man the country contains. It is of manifold more importance and influence than Governor Cleveland or Mr. Hewitt. De Witt Clinton were proud to fill it. Is there any fault to be found with the step suggested, save that it lies in the line of those things which are not as common as the public good requires they should be?

New-York, Aug. 5, 1886. PRO BONO PUBLICO.

AN AWNING FOR THE BRIDGE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Among the many good things THE TRIBUNE has done for New-York, there are few, if any, more praiseworthy than your proposal for an awning over the Brooklyn Bridge. There are many thousands who cross the Bridge daily, and are exposed to the scorching heat of our sultry climate. A walk which under a good awning would be a pleasant and healthful exercise becomes an intolerable nuisance, alike painful and dangerous. The only objection to this much-needed improvement is that the increased weight would endanger the stability of the Bridge. That any sane man can advocate so ridiculous a theory is beyond my comprehension. The four cables are estimated to support 12,000 tons each. In addition to this there are 200 stays reaching 200 feet from the towers each way, leaving only one-half of the Bridge to depend on the four cables. Now the entire Bridge weighs only 12,000 tons, or one-fourth of the sustaining power of the cables, to say nothing of the stays and truss work. Now the roadway on which the awning is needed is 1,600 feet long by about 20 feet wide, or 32,000 square feet. Allowing four pounds to the square foot for the weight of the awning, it would make not more than sixty-four tons for the whole thing, for which there is a reserve sustaining power of at least 20,000 tons. Any further proof of the folly of this objection to an awning, it seems to me, is entirely unnecessary, and I sincerely hope you will use every effort to have a good galvanized iron awning completed as soon as possible. H. ROBINSON.

New-York, July 30, 1886.

NO DANGER FROM THE DISBANDMENTS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The "dissatisfaction" among members of the National Guard, regarding the late disbandments, exists more among the officials legislated out of office than anywhere else. Contrary to the views expressed in your editorial on Sunday, all true guardsmen see the utility of the changes. Live colonels like Jones (12th Regiment), Fincke (23d Regiment) and Camp (22d Regiment) have already expressed themselves as much pleased with the changes and are ready for any that have the one result in view: improvement of the Guard. You ask the question "Who would command in case of riots, needing the assistance of the State troops?" The same per-on who commanded during the railroad riots of 1877, viz.: the adjutant-general. At that time the troops were in the field and armories for nearly two weeks, and a better illustration of uselessness of division generals was never seen. NATIONAL GUARDSMAN.

New-York, Aug. 10, 1886.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE AMERICAN OPERA.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: It was authoritatively stated last spring that the so-called "American Opera" Company had had trouble in renting the Academy of Music for 1886-'87, but that finally Andrew Carnegie and Mrs. Thurber had given personal security and that that house would be used for the troupe. It is now stated (New-York papers of August 7) that on account of increased rent at the Academy the Metropolitan Opera House has been secured by that troupe. In Mrs. Thurber's review of the American Opera Company's first season, just published, mention is made of the vast co-operative service of the auxiliary organizations in Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, etc., in the support of the New-York School of Opera, and yet, in a card of C. N. Fay (one of the Chicago officers of that city's auxiliary) he invites the patronage of the public for the specific reason that none of their money shall be used to help American opera in any outside locality. Can you harmonize these conflicting statements for the enlightenment of your readers, and further can you inform us all why it is that the "American Opera" troupe has as yet brought out not one "American" opera? JEROME HOPKINS.

No. 46 East 14th-st., N. Y., Aug. 10, 1886.

THROUGH NEW-YORK STATE.

ADDRESSES AT CHAUTAUQUA.

CHAUTAUQUA, Aug. 13.—The Rev. J. W. Lee, of Atlanta, Ga., lectured this morning on "The Philosophy of Small Men." A meeting was held in the Amphitheatre this afternoon under the care of the International Sunday-school Committee, B. F. Jacobs, of Chicago, presiding.

Mr. Jacobs said the meeting was held in the interest of the Sunday-schools of America. Plans were to be formed for carrying on inter-denominational work in all the States and Territories of the United States and in the Provinces of Canada. The Rev. B. P. Snow, of Maine, reported an advanced Sunday-school movement in his State. Colonel Robert Cowden, of Ohio, reported an efficient organization and the ground well supplied with workers in his State. One-fifth of the population of nearly four million souls was in the Sunday-schools. The Rev. Dr. Hobbs reported great improvement in and enlargement of the work in Kentucky as a direct result of the international convention held in Louisville. The Rev. J. H. Babbitt, of Vermont, said that his State had a part in the work. It had sent an army of Christian workers into the West. Still Vermont was missionary ground. William A. Duncan, of New-York, Secretary of the Chautauqua Assembly, said that the States of New-York, Pennsylvania and Ohio had thirteen millions of people. Along the lines of commerce from New-York to Chicago are cities, great and small, teeming with people and perils. These cities are fed largely by recruits from the country, 70 per cent of whose people do not attend Christian churches. It is the work of the International, State and county Sunday-school unions to evangelize this entire mass. This afternoon the Rev. Dr. Carlisle, of South Carolina, addressed the C. L. S. C. Round Table gathering in the hall in the grove. At 8 o'clock this evening John Dewitt Miller, of Philadelphia, lectured on the "Uses of Usefulness." The American Society of Microscopists held its final session to-day. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Professor William A. Rogers, of Harvard University; assistant secretary, Dr. S. M. Mosgrove, of Urbana, Ohio. Treasurer Fell and Secretary Hellicott hold over until 1887. The International Sunday-School Executive Committee met and fixed upon Chicago as the place and June 1 to 3, 1887, as the time for holding the next international triennial Sunday-school convention.

JOTTINGS HERE AND THERE.

ALBANY, Aug. 13.—Detective Nolan this morning arrested Albert Polack, of New-York, for attempting to dispose of bogus lottery bonds.

NEWBURG, Aug. 13.—Congressman Beach's funeral at Cornwall, this afternoon, was largely attended. His body will be taken to Greenwood Cemetery to-morrow.

GLENS FALLS, Aug. 13.—The Warren County Veterans' Reunion is to be held here to-morrow. General Daniel E. Sickles is the orator of the day. He was born here. The old house where he was born is decorated with bunting.

NEWBURG, Aug. 13 (*Special*).—While blasting at McAfee, on the line of the Lehigh and Hudson River Railroad, a seam in the rocks was opened to-day disclosing the den of some wild animal, in which was discovered human and animal bones, some of them petrified. Possibly it was the den of a bear. D. W. B. Bradner, of Warwick, vouches for some of the bones being those of human beings. There are pieces of vertebrae of an animal bigger than an ox; probably a mastadon. The den is in a limestone quarry. Professor Cook, of New-Brunswick, is to be sent for, to learn the character of the bones found in the cave.

BLASPHEMY AT THE ANARCHISTS' TRIAL.

CHICAGO, Aug. 13 (*Special*).—Had one of the Anarchists on trial delivered the opening address to the jury he could have displayed little more violence and virulence against the police law authorities than did their attorney, Mr. Zeisler, in his address to-day. The speaker has been in this country less than three years, and his contempt and hatred of the police did not appear to be in any sense simulated. In his closing remarks Mr. Zeisler urged that the State's Attorney was "blinded by malice" and that he "had been influenced by the police conspiracy to send these men to the gallows."

There was a slight sensation in the court once when the speaker coupled the name of Police Inspector Bonfield with that of the Saviour, and it was thought for a moment that a rebuke would come from the bench, but Judge Gary permitted it to be passed without comment.

Mr. Ingham began his address for the State this afternoon.

WAUKESHA, Wis., Aug. 13.—It has just leaked out that A. C. Parsons, the Anarchist, made Waukesha his hiding place from the time he left Chicago after the Haymarket massacre until he returned to Chicago to appear in court. While here he lived with Daniel Horan a pump dealer, under the name of A. R. Jackson.

MR. HARRIOT WILL NOT APPLY FOR A PATENT.

Property Clerk Harriot at Police Headquarters recently invented a clever mode of fastening his gold watch to its chain, in order that he might not fall a prey to pickpockets. He exhibited his contrivance in the Detective Bureau yesterday and asked some of the detective-sergeants what they thought of it. They were much impressed by Mr. Harriot's inventive faculty and advised him to get a patent on his new catch. After he had restored his watch to his waistcoat pocket two of the detective-sergeants who have made themselves familiar with the tricks of the "light-fingered gentry" indulged in a friendly scuffle with Mr. Harriot. The smile which betrays consciousness of merit was still on the face of the Property Clerk when he went into the basement of the Central Station to look after the storing of some lost property. Later one of the officers handed to him a package which was labelled "Believed Stolen." He was about to give a receipt for it when he discovered that it contained his own watch. Then he noticed that his watch chain was dangling with the new catch still on the end of it. Mr. Harriot will not apply for a patent.

TROUBLE CAUSED BY A SMALL BOY.

There was a vexatious and unnecessary delay on the Third Avenue Elevated Railroad yesterday. City Hall train, with locomotive No. 29, stopped on the grade between Canal and Grand Street stations at 5:15 a. m., and when the engineer attempted to start the train it would not budge. He backed and filled and whistled for fifteen minutes, meanwhile the following trains blocking the track clear to the Ninth Street station. The passengers became excited and stretched half of their bodies out of the windows, and there were a delayed passengers die, but not until somebody found that a mischievous boy had put down the forward brake was the mysterious cause of the inability to move the train discovered. Then the brake was loosened, the locomotive of the rear train gave a push, and the belated passengers laughed at the lack of foresight or the carelessness of the train hands that caused the delay.

EAST NEW-YORK OPPOSING ANNEXATION.

Schiellein's Hall, in the Twenty-sixth Ward of Brooklyn, was well filled last night with the citizens of East New-York. The object of the meeting was to take steps to annul the annexation of East New-York to the City of Brooklyn. Justice Schiellein, who was chosen chairman, said that he had consulted J. Stewart Ross in reference to the matter and that there was a law for annulling the act, but he did not think it proper to state them in open meeting. A motion was made to employ Mr. Ross as counsel for the association, and a committee of three was appointed to solicit subscriptions to defray the expenses attending the effort to annul annexation. The association will be a permanent organization and will meet every Friday evening.

POLICEMEN FOR UPTOWN DISTRICTS.

The Police Commissioners have approved a plan submitted by Superintendent Murray for apportioning the 300 extra policemen among the precincts. More than half of the new men will be sent to precincts far up-town or in the Annexed District where the posts have been too long to be covered properly. Twenty-three who had been on probation were appointed patrolmen yesterday and twenty-six who had passed the civil service examinations were employed on probation. The Corporation Counsel has advised the Board that a policeman under charges who asks for retirement can be tried and punished before he is retired. A fine of thirteen days' pay was imposed upon Policeman Hogan of the Harlem Court Squad, under that advice, yesterday, and Hogan was then retired on a pension of $300.

STEINWAY'S MANAGER RETURNS HOME.

Charles J. Campbell, general manager of the Steinway and Hunter's Point Railroad, who left Long Island City a week ago, and was said to have taken $3,200 belonging to the company, returned home yesterday with Vice-President Cassebeer, who found him at Trenton, N