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TO START THE COLLIERIES.

TROUBLE LOOKED FOR AT SHENANDOAH.

THE READING OFFICIALS SEEKING PROTECTION FROM GOVERNOR BEAVER—ADVANCED WAGES IN THE INDIVIDUAL COLLIERIES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

READING, Penn., Feb. 12.—The Reading Company has announced that to-morrow it will make a determined effort to start Shenandoah City and West Shenandoah and other collieries around Shenandoah, the scene of all the serious troubles in the region. Nearly 400 armed officers are now on the ground to protect employes. The general manager, McLeod, and the general superintendent, Sweigard, were taken through Reading to-day in a special car, on their way to Harrisburg. Their object was to urge Governor Beaver to place certain companies of the National Guard in readiness for active service. The special officers, it is alleged, are not as loyal to the company as they should be. It is asserted that many of them are Knights of Labor, and could not be held together in case of an attack. They are all well armed, it is true, and should be able to protect all persons desiring to go to work, as well as the company's property. The civil authorities also claim that they are prepared to meet any emergency, but it is a positive fact that many of those already sworn in as deputies are in sympathy with the strikers. Many of the company's special officers are veterans, and did valiant service in the late war. They are not cowards, but when it comes to shooting down their own friends, many of whom are relatives, comrades and lifelong friends, the question is asked, "Will they not hesitate?"

The individual collieries along the line of the Reading system have about all resumed work at the advance, and the company wants to start up also, but on the $2 50 basis. They claim that there are thousands of men ready and willing to resume work, but afraid to enter the mines for fear of bodily harm. They are thoroughly intimidated. The strikers say this is all nonsense. The company have been sending out reports from day to day since January 10 that certain collieries were in operation and that they would be kept running. William Logan, an old and experienced miner of Locust Gap, a strike leader, said to-day:

"The Reading collieries may be running, but are shipping precious little coal. Brookside is shipping from seventy-five to ninety cars a day. It is taken from the mine, run through the breaker, and into the cars without being prepared. It is said that they have 200 men at work. Why, bless you! it takes nearly 1,000 men and boys to handle that mine and breaker. The other collieries have barely enough men to mine sufficient coal to keep the machinery in operation. Every intelligent miner knows that Mr. Corbin wants to start up his collieries, and a few days will determine whether or not it can be done."

The ten individual collieries are now shipping from 800 to 1,000 cars of coal daily in the Reading Company's cars. They are all working full-handed. The Reading Company gets the freight and that is all. In the busy season when all the collieries are working it is nothing to see from forty to fifty trains of from 120 to 140 cars each pass through this city in twenty-four hours. From six to eight locomotives are all that are required to haul all the coal coming down the road now.

Penrose W. Hawman, master workman of the Reading District, was summoned to Pottsville last night. He held a long secret conference with the leaders there to-day. The latter have already received an inkling that the company will call the militia to its aid to start up its mines, and the purpose of the conference was to counsel the men to stand together and to attempt no violence. John L. Lee and Hugh McGarvey, who were before the Congressional Committee at Washington, returned to-day. The company officials have claimed right along that there are a large number of dissatisfied strikers who want to work, but are afraid of personal violence, and that they are willing to go to work just as soon as the company agrees to protect them. This Messrs. Lee and McGarvey deny. The former says that when the whistles blow to-morrow morning at the collieries it will be found that hardly a man will go to work. The last letter from the company is accepted by the miners to mean that no advance will be granted.

Operations will be resumed at Kehley Run Colliery to-morrow full-handed. A meeting of Kehley Run Assembly, Knights of Labor, was held this afternoon, and the men voted to go to work. No trouble is anticipated. There is no certainty that any of the Reading collieries in this vicinity will be worked to-morrow.

THE GOVERNOR NOT CALLED ON FOR MILITIA.

Harrisburg, Penn., Feb. 12.—A rumor having been circulated that General Manager McLeod and Superintendent Sweigart, of the Reading Railroad Company, had come to Harrisburg to consult with Governor Beaver in regard to State protection for their miners in the Schuylkill region, an Associated Press reporter called upon the Governor at the Executive Mansion shortly before midnight. The Governor declared that there was nothing whatever in the report, that he had received no word of any kind from any person, official or otherwise, on the subject, and that he had held no conference with any one.

PROMISES OF FINANCIAL AID.

Philadelphia, Feb. 12 (Special).—The usual all day Sunday meetings of the strikers at Port Richmond began at 9 o'clock this morning and continued until 6:30 p. m. It was reported that $500 would soon be distributed among the strikers, but these promises have been broken so frequently that those interested place no faith in them.

At the piers the supply of coal was about exhausted and the four colliers lying at the wharves will go to Baltimore to-morrow for cargoes. Retailers continue to keep the prices up to $7 50. An advance of 25 cents is exacted for the best stove coal. The experiment of using manufacturers' coke coal in the rolling mills has proved a success and it is stated that all the mills will use it in the near future.

THE STRIKE PREVENTS A CHURCH DEDICATION.

Philadelphia, Feb 12 (Special).—The congregation of the Reformed Episcopal Church at West Chester, which was to be dedicated to-day, have been compelled to postpone the ceremony for two weeks owing to the Reading strike, which prevents the delivery of the chairs and other furniture that was manufactured in Reading.

TO EVICT STRIKING CIGARMAKERS.

The meeting of the Central Labor Union yesterday was turned into a series of protests against various capitalistic organizations. The first matter touched was the sugar trust, and to the resolution were added all trusts and stock-jobbing schemes that control the cost of the necessaries of life. A strong resolution condemning these was adopted; likewise one denouncing Jacoby & Bookman and Kerb & Spies, two large cigar firms that have locked out their hands by so reducing the wages that the Union will not allow the men to work. This morning these firms intend to eject from their tenement houses the cigarmakers who formerly worked for them and were their tenants. From the buildings owned by Jacoby & Bookman thirty families are to be evicted, and three from Kerb & Spies.

THE STOREY WILL CASE SETTLED.

CHICAGO, Feb. 12.—The celebrated case of "Storey against Storey" has been practically brought to a termination by the formal order discharging Receiver Hurlburt from his position. The order shows that Mr. Hurlburt during his receivership of the Storey estate, collected $2,037,031 99 and paid out $2,042,602 60, leaving a deficit of $5,570 61. This deficit was charged to the account of J. J. West, Mr. Hurlburt's successor in office. It was further shown that Mr. Hurlburt had turned over to Mr. West all the real estate, personal property, book accounts, papers, vouchers and documents belonging to the estate of Wilbur F. Storey, and that he had no property of the estate in his hands.

The court found that the retiring receiver was entitled to $541 32, as the balance of compensation due him; that his secretary, Edward H. Beebe, was entitled to $162 50 for services, and Ewing, Collins & Ewing to $150 for legal advice. Mr. West was directed to pay these amounts and the court then declared Mr. Hurlburt's office vacant and his sureties released.

CONTRARY OPINIONS ABOUT PEACH BUDS.

LOCKPORT, N. Y., Feb. 12 (Special).—The recent cold weather, many claim, has been ruinous to the peach buds. A dispatch from St. Catharine's states that there is no fear of the buds being injured. Fruit growers and farmers in the region extending from Wayne County west to Niagara and Chautauqua are of the same opinion.

RUSTICATED SOPHOMORES RESTORED.

ITHACA, Feb. 12 (Special).—The faculty of Cornell University yesterday decided to reinstate the sophomores who were suspended recently for kidnapping a freshman. This action was taken in view of the promises of the lower classmen to abstain from freaks in the future. The exiles spent their days of rustication at Cortland and Tree Hollow and report their vacation as pleasant.

HIGH LICENSE IN PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA Feb. 12.—The new High License law will reduce the number of legalized liquor saloons in this city from more than 6,000 to less than 2,500. When the clerks of the Quarter Sessions Court closed their books yesterday there were 3,423 applications on file, and no others can be presented to the courts for the ensuing year. Of this number more than 1,000 applications will either be withdrawn or abandoned, principally because the bondsmen named in the applications cannot qualify under the law.

VALUE OF THE CANADIAN FISHERIES.

THE DOMINION PRACTICALLY DEPENDENT ON THE UNITED STATES FOR A MARKET.

HALIFAX, Feb. 12.—In order to show the value of the Canadian fisheries, Attorney-General Longley has prepared a table of statistics showing the catch for a number of years and the course the trade has taken. The fisheries are the best in the world, and the advantages of Nova Scotian ports as a base of fishing operations are unsurpassed. The total value of the catch this year in Nova Scotia is estimated at $8,500,000, of which the cod catch is credited with 55 per cent, and the mackerel and lobster catches with 15 per cent each. The course of the export trade for the last two years prior to the termination of the Washington treaty shows that of an export of about $5,000,000 worth of fish in each year the United States took 50 per cent and the West Indies 20 per cent.

The deduction from this is that the natural market for Canadian fish is the United States, while the mackerel and fresh fish trade is almost entirely dependent upon the United States as an export field. This year exporters are sending this class of fish to the United States, and paying the enormous duty because there is nowhere else to send it. But the cod or dried fish has been driven by the duty almost entirely out of the United States market. The figures given sufficiently indicate the importance and value of the fishing industry to these Provinces, and as yet it is only in its infancy, there being comparatively little capital embarked in the business, the great fish merchants leaving the work of the catch to small fishermen who bring them here to sell. If it was conducted on the plan of the Gloucester merchants, by fitting out large vessels, the industry might be developed enormously.

The Attorney-General also advances the opinion that the essence of the fishery question between the United States and Canada is the trading privileges in Canadian ports. The Canadians do not care so much about the use of their grounds with certain restrictions as to the method of catching the fish as they do the right to "touch and trade" and buy bait in Canadian ports, and thus enter into competition with the Canadian fishermen on equal terms, and also with the local and export trade. As a solution of the whole question, the Attorney-General suggests the exchange of free fishing privileges for free fish, and takes the opportunity to make an argument in favor of reciprocal trade in all natural products. The indications at Washington, he believes, point to a probable surrender of the privileges without an equivalent, a result which he is persuaded will be resented by all spirited men in the Dominion.

MINISTERIAL CRISIS AT ROME.

Rome, Feb. 12.—The Senate yesterday rejected by a vote of 60 to 32 a bill empowering the Government to reorganize the central administration. Signor Crispi having announced that he would accept the passage of this bill as a vote of confidence, the Ministry is expected to resign.

PUBLIC MEETING IN LONDON.

London, Feb. 12.—Thousands of persons gathered in Trafalgar Square this afternoon to attend a meeting announced to be held there. The meeting was adjourned, however, to the Thames Embankment, where several speeches were made. There was no disorder, and the police did not interfere.

WOLVES ESCAPE FROM SANGER'S CIRCUS.

London, Feb. 12.—A pack of caged wolves escaped from Sanger's Circus to-day. The elephants, camels, horses and other animals became mad with terror and were liberated with difficulty. The wolves were trapped in a stable, where they furiously devoured a horse already slain. They still fiercely defy capture.

THREATENING MOVEMENTS IN THE EAST.

Philippopolis, Feb. 12.—It is rumored that an order to mobilize the Bulgarian army is about to be issued.

Constantinople, Feb. 12.—Russia threatens to sever diplomatic relations with Turkey if the latter persists in sending Kiamil Pacha to Sophia as Turkish Commissioner. On the other hand Bulgaria maintains that the Berlin Treaty provides for the sending of a Turkish Commissioner to Bulgaria, and that failure to send a commissioner would be tantamount to assenting to the independence of Bulgaria.

THE POPE'S JUBILEE PRESENTS STOLEN.

Rome, Feb. 12.—Various valuables which were presented to the Pope as Jubilee offerings and which were on exhibition, have been stolen from the Vatican. Among the stolen articles are a chalice valued at £2,000, some gold snuff boxes and several pairs of slippers.

REMODELLING RUSSIAN LAWS.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 12.—The Czar has ordered the formation of a Commission for the remodelling of the laws respecting the Imperial family, so as to authorize morganatic marriages of younger members of the family under certain conditions.

THE CROWN PRINCE WELL AND LIVELY.

San Remo, Feb. 12.—The German Crown Prince arose this afternoon and sat up for several hours. He is exceedingly well and lively.

WHEN WILL THE RATE WAR END?

CONCEDED TO BE THE MOST DISASTROUS DISTURBANCE KNOWN TO WESTERN SYSTEMS.

CHICAGO, Feb. 12 (Special).—No question is asked oftener, no subject is more canvassed among the managers of the Western railway lines, than that regarding the probable duration of the present rate war. It is conceded, to begin with, that it is the most disastrous in the history of the railroad interests in Western territory, inasmuch as it involves in one common disturbance the Northwest, the West and the Southwest. Moreover, while in other wars there has always been a solution offering itself in some direction, at the present time the managers are completely at sea. Notwithstanding that they are represented as being belligerant, pugnacious and relentless destroyers of revenue, there is not one manager that would not welcome a permanent peace and a restoration of rates.

Unfortunately there is and has been for months an irresistible pressure which has driven the corporations, in spite of all efforts to oppose it, toward rate reductions and they have been compelled to yield much against their will. Not a railway official in this section whose opinion is worth having, believes that the war will close inside of three months, and a majority say that six months will not see the end of it. Still more singular, not one of them is exactly clear in his own mind as to how it is to be ended.

One Western president says—and his opinion is entitled to great weight—that while there may be temporary compromises, there never will be solid peace or a possibility of a permanent good understanding until three things are accomplished—the reorganization of the Wabash system, the consolidation under one management (the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy) of the Chicago, Burlington and Northern, the Hannibal and St. Joseph and the Kansas City, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs lines, and the dismemberment and parcelling out among the other lines of the Stickney system—Chicago, St. Paul and Kansas City. His reasons for this are patent and need not be explained, but it will be admitted that if the war is to continue until all this is accomplished it bids fair to run much longer than a year.

MISCELLANEOUS RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

George H. Williams, general freight agent of the New-York and New-England Railroad Company, has tendered his resignation, taking effect on March 15. General Williams has been identified with the New-York and New-England Railroad for sixteen years. It is understood that he is to be appointed to a position in connection with one of the larger trunk lines.

"The Oregonian," of Portland, Oregon, said in an editorial in its issue of January 23, that the joint lease between the Oregon Navigation and the Union and Northern Pacific Railroads is forbidden by a law of the State. It says that the law expressly states that no lease can be made with any company owning a competing or parallel line. This clause, "The Oregonian" claims, absolutely forbids the Northern Pacific any participation in this lease, as it is clearly a parallel line, and urges an extra session of the Legislature to repeal the law if the matter can be reached in no other way.

At the Register's office Saturday the New-York, Lake Erie and Western Railroad Company filed a car trust mortgage to James Roosevelt and Charles Steele and others, trustees, to secure the payment of $150,000 and other liens for the purchase of cars. The mortgage is guaranteed by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. The agreement between the officers of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company and the New-York, Lake Erie and Western Railroad under which the association known as the New-York Car Trust of 1888 was formed December 20, 1887, was also filed. The document specifies that the association is formed for the purpose of furnishing cars to railroad companies. It has a capital stock of $1,500,000.

Pittsburg, Feb. 11 (Special).—A Pennsylvania Company official said to-day that the annual reports for the entire Pennsylvania Railroad system will show a phenomenally large increase in freight business for the last year. This official attributed it to the Inter-state law and a prosperous year. The new law had resulted in a steadiness of rates which gave merchants confidence and they shipped in large quantities. This same official said that, as predicted by railroad men, the weak point of the new law is being developed this year, that is, the advantage given the Canadian roads.

CLEVELAND AND HILL IN BUFFALO.

THE PRESIDENT CANNOT OBTAIN THE DELEGATION FROM HIS OLD HOME.

BUFFALO, Feb. 11.—Nowhere is the effort to secure a renomination by President Cleveland watched with more interest than here, his former home. It is certain that the delegation from Erie County to the State Convention to choose delegates to the Democratic National Convention will be opposed to President Cleveland, notwithstanding the efforts of Postmaster Sackett, Editor Fleming, of "The Courier," and the other leaders of the Cleveland faction.

The Cleveland people are a good deal discouraged. Recently Editor Fleming, Postmaster Sackett and other Buffalonians went to Washington. They were closeted with the President and Dan Lamont, and the situation was gravely discussed. Sackett, later, in the bar-room of his hotel, under the influence of good company and two or three rounds of drinks, informed several of his hearers confidentially:

"I told the President and Lamont that if they didn't do something for us in Buffalo the jig was up. Those Sheehan boys will get a clean delegation for Hill if we don't get right to work. And to do anything of importance I told the President and Dan that we had got to have some patronage to give out. And they promised to give the matter the fullest consideration, and do what they could for us."

By the "Sheehan boys" are meant John C. Sheehan, the secretary of the Aqueduct Commission in your city, and William F. Sheehan, the Democratic leader in the Assembly. The former is the older of the two brothers and the more experienced politician. No one who knows them here underrates the ability and influence of the Sheehan boys. John C. Sheehan aided Grover Cleveland to obtain the nomination for Governor, and the succeeding year, contrary to the direction of the district convention, which chose him a delegate, he at Saratoga advocated Mr. Cleveland's nomination for the Presidency, and aided in securing the majority of the delegation from this State for him. The Sheehan boys were prominent factors in dividing the State Committee between Cleveland and Hill at its recent meeting. They are tireless workers and good organizers. Both have demonstrated before now that they have the majority of the Democratic voters of this city behind them in a faction fight.

In view of these facts Governor Hill's mild speech in favor of harmony in the party delivered in Brooklyn on Thursday evening excites a good deal of ridicule here. The fact is that President Cleveland was never a popular man with his party here, and with the Sheehans and their following championing the cause of Governor Hill, there is very little chance of the President securing the delegation from his old home.

ONE DIVORCE TO TEN MARRIAGES.

THE PROPORTION THAT PREVAILS IN ST. PAUL—BEATING THE CHICAGO RECORD.

ST. PAUL, Feb. 12 (Special).—Statistics published here to-day show that Minneapolis takes the lead in the number of divorces, excelling Chicago and every other city in the United States in the proportion of divorces to marriages. About 1,800 divorces have been granted in Hennepin County, in which Minneapolis is situated, since 1853. The first divorce granted was in 1885, when Judge Chatfield severed the bonds that united Rhoda Bostwick and Reuben Bostwick. The first action for divorce, however, was begun in 1854. Two divorces were granted in 1855. In 1856 there were none; in 1857, 3; in 1858, 8; in 1859, 2; in 1860, 3; in 1861, 6; in 1866, 17; in 1871, 17; in 1886 there were 107 divorces, the largest number granted in any one year. There were 160 divorces asked for in 1887, and some of these cases are still pending. Of the whole number of divorces 35 per cent were for cruel and inhuman treatment, 25 per cent for desertion, 15 per cent for drunkenness, 15 per cent for adultery and ten per cent for other causes. About 60 per cent of these divorces were granted to Americans. On an average from year to year there has been a divorce for every ten marriages.

MORE REPUBLICAN CLUBS IN VERMONT.

DELEGATES EXPECTED FROM SEVENTY-FIVE TOWNS AT THE MONTPELIER CONVENTION.

ST. ALBANS, Vt., Feb. 12 (Special).—Saturday was a red letter day for the organization of Republican clubs in Vermont, upward of twenty State League clubs having been formed on that day. The number of organized Republican clubs in Vermont at the present time is sixty-two, and there promises to be at least seventy-five towns represented by delegates in the convention of Republican clubs to be held at Montpelier, February 15. Among the clubs which were organized on Saturday are the following:

Republican Club of Waterbury; president, E. F. Palmer; secretary, Frank L. Knight; treasurer, George W. Atkins; vice-presidents, A. Ropes, C. V. Arms, J. S. Wheeler; delegates, William P. Dellingham, G. E. Moody, Henry F. Hill.

Republican Club of Northfield; president, J. H. Orcutt; secretary, J. H. Winch; delegates, Frank W. Plumley, George Nichols, F. N. Whitney.

Republican Club of Alburgh; president, Jed. P. Ladd; secretary, H. L. Reynolds; delegates, Jed. P. Ladd, H. L. Reynolds, H. L. Sowles.

Republican Club of Sheldon; president, John F. Draper; secretary, Walter Hungerford; delegates, C. P. Hogan, R. D. McLeod, Z. H. Thomas.

Republican Club of Milton; president, C. J. Ladd; secretary, E. B. Flinn, delegates, E. B. Flinn, H. Rankin, Horace Robinson.

Clubs were also organized on Saturday in Waybridge, Hyde Park, Swanton, Rochester, Bradford, Island Pond, Ludlow, Georgia, Barton, Westford, Braintree, Hartland, Montgomery, Stowe and Albany. The Republican club movement has been a success far beyond the expectations of the most sanguine friends of the State League plan of organizing clubs. The results of the work of organization by the Republicans of Vermont show that the people are fully alive to the dangers that threaten the industries and farming interests of the State by Democratic assaults on the tariff.

KILLED BY A ROBBER IN OPEN DAY.

A FARMER MURDERED IN ILLINOIS WHILE HIS FAMILY WERE AT CHURCH.

MARISSA, Ill., Feb. 12 (Special).—Major G. W. Guthrie, a wealthy farmer near this city, was murdered to-day. At 10 a. m. the family went to church, leaving Major Guthrie alone in his house. At 12 o'clock, when one of his daughters entered the house, she found the dead body of her father lying on the floor of the sitting-room. Neighbors were summoned, and an examination of the premises showed that after the family left him Major Guthrie began to shave himself in his bedroom. While he was thus engaged the house was entered by a thief. The intruder was discovered, and the farmer seized a pistol which he kept in a bureau-drawer. The bedroom showed that a violent struggle took place, and the burglar and his victim staggered out to the sitting-room. Here the thief seized the revolver and shot Major Guthrie through the breast, killing him. He robbed the body of a gold watch and $30. An attack was made on a small safe in the sitting-room, but it resisted the effort of the thief, who used an axe and a crowbar. The theory is that the thief expected to secure the keys and rob the safe. Guthrie was reported to have a large sum in the safe. A posse is scouring the country for the murderer.

MISS CUMMINGS HAS A BAD FALL.

SHE GOES DOWN AN OPEN CELLAR-WAY IN FIFTH-AVE.—A PORTER'S CARELESSNESS.

Miss Lillian M. Cummings, of Elberon, the daughter of Mrs. Minnie L. Cummings, narrowly escaped a serious accident on Saturday afternoon. She was walking up Fifth-ave. with her mother when they stopped in front of Dunlap's hat store, near Twenty-third-st., to inspect some bonnets in the window. A door of the cellarway in front of the show window had been carelessly left open by the porter. This was not noticed by the ladies and Miss Cummings stepped into the open space. She caught her foot at the same moment and then disappeared. Her mother was for a moment overcome by fright and then her screams drew a crowd to the spot. The porter, who was coming up the stairway, caught Miss Cummings as she fell and she was carried up to the store unconscious.

At the Tremont House yesterday, where Mrs. Cummings is staying, she was indignant over the carelessness in leaving open the cellarway on the sidewalk. Her daughter, she said, was still prostrated by nervousness and her physician stated that she would probably be kept in the house several weeks by her injuries.

THE SIN OF LITERARY PIRACY.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The Rev. Dr. Van Dyke, of the Brick Church, New-York, preached to a large audience to-night in the New-York Avenue Presbyterian Church, upon "The National Sin of Literary Piracy," his sermon being a review of the international copyright question in its moral aspects. Although the weather was stormy Mrs. Cleveland was present and there was in the audience a fair representation of Congress.

THE BARK FAIRMOUNT ASHORE.

Bay Head, N. J., Feb. 12.—The bark Fairmount, Captain King, from Antwerp to New-York, struck a sand-bar about half a mile off shore at this place at 4 o'clock this morning, and grounded. The crew of the Life-Saving Station at this place went to the rescue and succeeded in bringing the crew, consisting of seventeen persons, ashore. The vessel was laden with 7,000 empty barrels and had been out sixty days.

MR. BLAINE NOT A CANDIDATE

URGENT FOR HARMONY IN THE PARTY.

PRESAGES OF REPUBLICAN VICTORY.

A LETTER TO B. F. JONES FROM FLORENCE, ITALY—REVIEWING THE GROWTH OF REPUBLICAN SENTIMENT IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS—THE WITHDRAWAL DUE TO PERSONAL CONSIDERATIONS.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 12.—"The Pittsburg Commercial-Gazette" will publish the following to-morrow:

"B. F. Jones, chairman of the National Republican Committee, has received a letter from Mr. Blaine declining to allow his name to be presented to the National Republican Convention as a candidate for the Presidential nomination. When asked whether Mr. Blaine's declination would prevent his friends from nominating him anyhow, Mr. Jones said:

"'As I am chairman of the National Committee, I do not think it would be proper for me to have anything to say on that subject.'

"'Do you think Mr. Blaine would accept the nomination if tendered to him?'

"'I have no authority to speak for Mr. Blaine, and have no conjectures to offer on the subject. The letter speaks for itself, and I must decline to be interviewed on this question.'"

The following is Mr. Blaine's letter in full:

FLORENCE, Italy, Jan. 25, 1888.

B. F. JONES, esq., *chairman of the Republican National Committee:*

SIR: I wish, through you, to state to the members of the Republican party that my name will not be presented to the National Convention called to assemble in Chicago, in June next, for the nomination of candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States.

I am constrained to this decision by considerations entirely personal to myself, of which you were advised more than a year ago. But I cannot make the announcement without giving expression to my deep sense of gratitude to the many thousands of my countrymen who have sustained me so long and so cordially that their feeling has seemed to go beyond the ordinary political adherence of fellow-partisans and to partake somewhat of the nature of personal attachment. For this most generous loyalty of friendship, I can make no adequate return, but I shall carry the memory of it while life lasts.

Nor can I refrain from congratulating the Republican party upon the cheering prospects which distinguish the opening of the national contest of 1888, as compared with that of 1884. In 1882 the Republican party throughout the Union met with a disastrous defeat. Ten States that had supported Garfield and Arthur in the election of 1880 were carried by the Democrats either by majorities or pluralities. The Republican loss in the Northern elections compared with the preceding National election exceeded half a million votes, and the electoral votes of the Union, divided on the basis of the result of 1882, gave to the Democrats over 300 electors out of a total of 401. There was a partial reaction in favor of the Republicans in the elections of 1883, but the Democrats still held possession of seven Northern States, and on the basis of the year's contest could show more than 100 majority in the Electoral Colleges of the whole country.

But against the discouragement naturally following the adverse elections of these two years the spirit of the Republican party in the National contest of 1884 rose high, and the Republican masses entered into the campaign with such energy that the final result depended on the vote of a single State, and that State was carried by the Democratic party by a plurality so small that it represented less than one-eleventh of 1 per cent of the entire vote. The change of a single vote in every two thousand of the total poll would have given the State to the Republicans, though, only two years before, the Democratic plurality exceeded 192,000.

The elections of 1886 and 1887 have demonstrated growing strength in the Republican ranks. Seldom in our political history has a party, defeated in a National election, rallied immediately with such vigor as have the Republicans since 1884. No comparison is possible between the spirit of the party in 1882-3 and its spirit in 1886-7. The two periods present simply a contrast—the one of general depression, the other of enthusiastic revival. Should the party gain in the results of 1888 over those of 1886-7 in anything like the proportion of the gain of the year 1884 over 1882-3, it would secure one of the most remarkable victories of its entire existence. But victory does not depend on so large a ratio of increase; the party has only to maintain relatively its prestige of 1886-7 to give to its National candidate every Northern State but one, with a far better prospect of carrying that one than it has had for the past six years.

Another feature of the political situation should inspire Republicans with irresistible strength. The present National Administration was elected with, if not upon, the repeated assertions of its leading supporters in every protection State that no issue on the tariff was involved. However earnestly Republicans urged that question as the one of controlling importance in the campaign, they were met by the Democratic leaders and journals with persistent evasion, concealment and denial. That resource the President has fortunately removed. The issue which the Republicans maintained and the Democrats avoided in 1884 has been prominently and specifically brought forward by the Democratic President, and cannot be hidden out of sight in 1888. The country is now in the enjoyment of an industrial system which in a quarter of a century has assured a larger national growth, a more rapid accumulation and a broader distribution of wealth than were ever before known to history. The American people will now be openly and formally asked to decide whether this system shall be recklessly abandoned and a new trial be made of an old experiment which has uniformly led to National embarrassment and widespread individual distress. On the result of such an issue, fairly presented to the popular judgment, there is no room for doubt.

One thing only is necessary to assure success—complete harmony and cordial co-operation on the part of all Republicans—on the part both of those who aspire to lead and of those who are eager to follow. The duty is not one merely of honorable devotion to the party whose record and whose aims are alike great, but it is one demanded by the instinct of self-interest and by the still higher promptings of patriotism.

A closer observation of the conditions of life among the older Nations gives one a more intense desire that the American people shall make no mistake in choosing the policy which inspires labor with hope and crowns it with dignity, which gives safety to capital and protects its increase, which secures political power to every citizen, comfort and culture to every home. To this end, not less earnestly and more directly, as a private citizen than as a public candidate, I shall devote myself, with the confident belief that the Administration of the Government will be restored to the party which has demonstrated the purpose and the power to wield it for the unity and the honor of the Republic, for the prosperity and progress of the people. I am very sincerely yours,

JAMES G. BLAINE.

ANOTHER RICHMOND IN THE FIELD.

AND HE'S THE ONE THAT PAYS THE FREIGHT.

THE DEMOCRATIC MONKEYS ARE GOING TO HAVE AN AWFUL TIME DIVIDING THAT CHEESE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, Feb. 12.—The Hill Democrats are much displeased with "Jones, of Binghamton." As Lieutenant-Governor, he repudiated all connection with the ordering of an $800 piano or a $600 billiard table for the Executive Mansion, and the whole blame of that aristocratic proceeding falls on the head of David B. Hill. But Mr. Jones has done worse. The Hill men say that a few days ago Frederick Cook, the Secretary of State, told Mr. Jones that he was going to Washington, and that thereupon Mr. Jones said:

"Well, tell President Cleveland that I am a candidate for Governor."

Mr. Cook was startled and replied, "Oh, but I don't relate gossip."

Mr. Jones, however, was serious. He would not be merry on such a theme. Therefore, he said in a tone which showed that he was in dead earnest:

"It will not be gossip. I am a candidate for Governor."

HE'S PAID THE FREIGHT ON LOTS O' SCALES.

Whether or not Mr. Cook told President Cleveland of this remark on his recent visit to Washington is not known. The Hill Democrats who circulate this story, of course, say that Mr. Jones is absurdly ambitious to aim to get such a nomination. At the same time, they recollect with some anxiety that Mr. Jones attended about fifty fairs last fall and made speeches at them all to the farmers. Moreover, they recollect that his business is that of making scales for farmers, and that, therefore, his acquaintance among them is large. Mr. Jones obviously has struck for the granger vote, and it is chiefly among the County Democrats, his friends say, that he is strong as a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor.

THE FRIENDS OF MR. JONES SAY HE IS RIGHT.

Mr. Jones's friends say that he has a right to enter the field as a candidate for Governor, since Mr. Hill's closest friends are saying that he declines a nomination for a third term as Governor and is a candidate for President. The field being open, they say Mr. Jones has a legitimate right to become a candidate for Governor. Moreover, they argue that Mr. Jones, having gallantly filled the hole in the Democratic State ticket of 1885, made by the dropping out of Roswell Pettibone Flower, he should receive the support of Governor Hill out of gratitude. Mr. Jones's friends say that his acquaintance with the farmers of the State in 1885 saved the Democratic State ticket and elected Mr. Hill. It would therefore be ungrateful for Mr. Hill to oppose his candidacy for Governor, when Mr. Hill no longer wants the place.

SIXTY PLACES THE GOVERNOR HOPES TO FILL.

Democratic politicians hint that Governor Hill intends the present week to nominate men for a good many of the State offices. There are nearly sixty of them that he can fill now, if the Senate gives its consent, and there seems to be more of a disposition among the Republican Senators to confirm nominations made by the Governor than there has been for several years preceding this. One of the nominations that the Governor purposes making, if he makes it, will show clearly that he is still working for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency. This nomination will be that of James W. McMahon, of Ellicottville, Cattaraugus County, for State Assessor, to succeed Staley N. Wood, of Hinsdale, in the same county, whose term expired nearly two years ago. Mr. McMahon is a member of the Democratic State Committee, representing the XXXIVth Congressional District, which has within its territory the counties of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany. He was elected as a Cleveland man by the Cleveland leaders in the district, and his loyalty to the President's interests was depended on because a brother of his had been made a postmaster in Cattaraugus County. Great, therefore, was the indignation of the Cleveland leaders when McMahon, at the recent meeting of the Democratic State Committee, voted with the Hill Democrats for Roswell P. Flower for National Committeeman, and voted on all motions also with the Hill men. McMahon is said to have been drawn away from the Cleveland men by a promise from the Governor of appointment as State Assessor.

A CLEVELAND MAN TO BE UNSEATED.

If Governor Hill succeeds in getting McMahon confirmed, he not only will have secured a faithful adherent in the Democratic State Committee, but he will also, by ousting State Assessor Wood, succeed in kicking a strong Cleveland man out of office.

The Governor, also, it is said, may nominate men for Quarantine Commissioners of New-York, one to take the place of Thomas C. Platt, whose office is technically vacant while he is contesting his right to it with the Attorney-General, and the other to take the place of David W. Judd, who died last week.

A LITTLE CONSULTATION IN NEW-YORK.

Edward Murphy, jr., of Troy, chairman of the Democratic State Committee, was again in New-York yesterday on political business and had a long conference with the leaders of the County Democracy organization at the Manhattan Club. It singularly happened that ex-Assemblyman O. U. Kellogg, of Cortland County, was in New-York on the same day, ostensibly on legal business. Mr. Kellogg has been an intimate personal and political friend of Colonel Daniel S. Lamont, the President's private secretary, for fifteen years. Residing, as he does, in the centre of the State, Mr. Kellogg has been a most useful collector of political news—Democratic political news—for Colonel Lamont. Taking a keen interest in politics, he has done this work for Colonel Lamont gladly, and the latter, no doubt, has felt grateful.

A STILL HUNT FOR SUPPORTERS.

Mr. Kellogg's presence in New-York, therefore, is interpreted by Democratic politicians here to mean that Colonel Lamont is carrying on some secret negotiations with the leading Democrats of the State in behalf of President Cleveland. Democratic politicians, of course, suspect that Mr. Kellogg's mission in New-York is to negotiate with Tammany Hall for its support of the President for a re-nomination. Tammany's price is said to be the New-York Post Office. Will it get it? Democratic politicians think it will.

Governor Hill will give a reception to the State officers and to the members of the Legislature on Tuesday night. Invitations have been sent out, it is said, to a large number of Democratic politicians also, and the gathering will have a decidedly political character. The reception will, of course, be attended by all loyal Hill Democrats, and Cleveland Democrats may be expected to go also to learn whether the Governor is in earnest in seeking the Presidency.

FOUND DYING IN BROADWAY.

William S. Stansbury left his home, No. 222 West Thirty-ninth-st., yesterday morning to go to Dr. E. B. Belden's office, No. 141 East Twenty-first-st. He reached the doctor's office about 9 o'clock, had a consultation with the physician over some trifling ailment and at about quarter to 10 o'clock started for his home. At Broadway and Twenty-first-st. he fell on the sidewalk. He was picked up and taken to the New-York Hospital, where he died last night, presumably from heart disease. Stansbury was for twenty years the confidential clerk of Charles H. Macy, grocer, at Sixth-ave. and Forty-third-st. He left there recently and has since been in the employ of Albro, at Thirty-fifth-st. and Sixth-ave. His family were unable to account for his disappearance and went to Police Headquarters and had a general alarm sent out for him.

A NEW COUNTERFEIT SILVER CERTIFICATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The Secret Service Division of the Treasury Department has discovered that a new counterfeit of the $5 silver certificate has been put in circulation. The bill is about three-sixteenths of an inch too short.

LEAPING TO THE ICY STREET.

VICTIMS OF THE BROOKLYN FIRE.

SEVEN PEOPLE INJURED, ONE FATALLY, IN ESCAPING FROM THE BURNING BOARDING HOUSE.

One of the most disastrous boarding-house fires in Brooklyn in years occurred early yesterday in what is known as the Harper Mansion, at Nos. 105 and 107 Clark-st., opposite the head of Monroe place, on Brooklyn Heights. The scene was of the most exciting character and there were many narrow escapes. One man who sprang from a third-story window received what are likely to be fatal injuries, and three other boarders and three servants received lesser injuries. There were forty persons in the house, and the escape of all after the fire had gained great headway was regarded as marvellous. The house was kept by Mrs. E. McCombs, and was a fashionable and popular boarding place. Mrs. McCombs was asleep in her room on the first floor at 2:15 a. m., when her door was burst open and a manservant, named "Barney," who was employed to care for the furnace and do other heavy work, rushed up to her bed and shook her, shouting "For God's sake, Mrs. McCombs, get up! The house is on fire." He then rushed to the other rooms and roused the inmates, as far as the smoke, which filled the house, would let him. Instantly a scene of terror arose. The smoke had filled the well in the centre of the house around which the circular staircase ran, and escape in that way was apparently cut off. The inmates of the front rooms got out of the windows to the balcony over the porch, which extended over half the front of the house.

ICE BEFORE AND FIRE BEHIND.

There were men, women and children in their night dresses chiefly, with a few outer garments hastily thrown over their shoulders, and some in bare feet on the icy roof. Their screams of "Fire!" "Help!" "Save!" and other ejaculations filled the air and roused the entire neighborhood. A crowd of persons who hastily rose from their beds soon gathered at the scene, but were powerless to render aid to get the people from their perilous position. Suddenly a third-story window opened and a man in shirt and trousers was seen to spring from it amid a blinding cloud of smoke and fall to the area below. He struck against the iron railing and received a fracture of the skull, a compound fracture of the right leg, a fracture of the collar-bone, and severe internal injuries. Two other occupants of the third floor sprang from their windows to the balcony on the second floor and were slightly hurt, and another jumped to the alley-way adjoining the house.

Meantime Guy Duval, a young man of No. 8 Monroe place, seeing the women and men on the balcony, bethought himself of a ladder at his house. Aided by his brother, H. C. Duval, private secretary to President Chauncey M. Depew, of the New-York Central Railroad, they carried the ladder to the house and put it up to the top of the balcony, about twenty feet from the ground, and succeeded in carrying down the imperilled persons.

MAKING THEIR ESCAPE IN THE REAR.

While this was happening in front of the house, some of the boarders and the servants made their way out of the rear windows to the roof of an extension over the back piazza, but two of the latter were hurt in jumping from the third story. The occupants of a two-story extension, running back of one-half of the house, were able to descend the back stairs in safety, and those from the roof at the rear finally went down the same way through a window.

All this time there was no aid from the Fire Department, owing to delay in sending in an alarm. It was fully twenty minutes from the time that the fire was discovered, and every one was outside the house, before any water was poured on the flames. The second and third floors and attic were almost completely burned out, and every thing in the house will prove nearly a total loss. Most of the boarders lost all their effects save what was locked in trunks which were not burned. The flames broke out along a hot air flue between the first and second floors. The losses were estimated to amount to fully $30,000. The damage to the house was estimated at $15,000; Mrs. McComb's loss on furniture will be not far from $8,000; while the boarders' losses will amount to $6,000 or $7,000.

LIST OF THE INJURED PEOPLE.

The following persons were injured:

COOMBS, Gustav A., broker, age forty, jumped from the third story window to the ground and fell so as to strike his head against the railing. He received a fracture of the skull, a compound fracture of the right leg, a broken collar-bone and severe internal injuries. He was taken to the Long Island College Hospital, where his recovery is not expected.

GORDON, John, age twenty-seven, a salesman, jumped from his window on the third floor to the alley on the east side of the house and received a severe wound on the head, bruises over his right side, and serious internal injuries. He was taken to the Long Island College Hospital, but later his friends took him home with them.

WYATT, Miss Mary, age twenty-seven, sprang from a third-story front window to the balcony below and struck her head against the low railing about the edge, receiving a scalp wound. She was cared for at the house of a friend.

STATLER, Sarah, age twenty, a servant girl, received injury to her back by jumping from the third story to the roof of the rear extension. She was taken to the Brooklyn Hospital.

RUSSELL, Mary, age twenty-three, a servant, was injured in a similar manner and was taken to the same hospital.

REYNOLDS, Minnie, age twenty-five, a servant, jumped from the window of her room on the second floor of the extension into the arms of two men standing in the alley on the east side of the house and was injured in the left leg and back. She was cared for in the adjoining house.

The Harper house was built about sixty years ago and when new was one of the most pretentious mansions on Brooklyn Heights. It was long occupied by Joseph Wesley Harper, of the firm of Harper Brothers, and was the centre of much social festivity. He was the father of the present head of the firm. After the death of the elder Harper, the property was sold and was bought in by two of the daughters, Mrs. Lynde and Mrs. Dodge, who still own it.

DANGEROUSLY STABBED BY JEALOUS RIVALS.

Screams of "murder" coming from the tenement-house No. 87 North Sixth-st., Williamsburg, last night attracted a police officer, who arrested Andrew and John Peposh, Hungarian brothers. They and a countryman named Zopp were paying attention to the same young woman, who favored Zopp above her other suitors. A jealous quarrel arose and Zopp was set upon and stabbed about the face and neck, receiving wounds which will probably prove fatal. His assailants were fully identified by Zopp at the hospital and were locked up for examination by Justice Nacher to-day.

CLAIMING A PULLMAN CAR FOR TAXES.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 12.—The Pullman Palace Car Company and the authorities of this State are having serious trouble. The company refused to pay taxes on its property in this State, claiming that it had already been taxed in the State where its manufactory was, and that therefore it could not again be taxed in this State. The matter was taken to the United States Circuit Court, where the company was defeated, but they promptly appealed to the United States Supreme Court, where the matter now stands. Their tax in the State will amount to about $2,000, and they persistently refuse to pay. The Sheriff of Harvey County seized a Pullman palace car at Halsted for non-payment of taxes and chained it to the track.

An attorney of the Pullman Car Company of Chicago called upon Attorney-General Bradford regarding the Halsted seizure, and begged some sort of concession, a delay in forcing the laws of the State, etc. Attorney-General Bradford gave him no satisfaction. He would not in any way agree to hold the State rights in abeyance. The attorney will begin an action in replevin to gain possession of the car.

MADE INSANE BY THE LOSS OF HER LOVER.

Sadie Brown, a young woman, was taken to the Insane Pavilion at Bellevue Hospital yesterday from her home, No. 112 Forsyth-st. She came from Philadelphia about a week ago. She was arrested for disorderly conduct in the street on Friday and taken to the Eldridge Street Station. Her strange actions were continued in the station house. She raved all night about her lover who, she said, had deserted her. She was allowed to go home and on Saturday night became violent. Yesterday she threatened to kill herself and was removed to the hospital. She talked about her lover all the time. Nothing is known of her history. At her boarding-house she left a trunk full of expensive clothes.

ICE BLOCKADE AT FALL RIVER AND MT. DESERT

NEWPORT, Feb. 12.—Fall River is again partially blocked by ice, and the New-York passenger steamers are making Newport a terminus. Freight boats still go through to Fall River.

Bangor, Feb. 12.—A dispatch to "The Whig," from Mt. Desert Ferry, says that there was a large crew at work on Saturday and to-day cutting a channel for the boats to get through. They will have it clear by noon to-morrow. This will be the first trip in sixteen days. The ice for over a mile is twenty inches thick.