A FAT YEAR ON THE TURF.

GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON AT RACING.

A BOY WHO WANTS TO BE A JOCKEY—NOTES AND COMMENTS.

This is going to be a fat year for somebody on the turf. Stakes worth many thousand dollars have already closed with large lists of entries. Others close on Friday, March 1, representing an aggregate value of more than a quarter million dollars. These are the prizes offered by the Monmouth Park Racing Association, the New-York Jockey Club, the Saratoga Association, the National Jockey Club, the Maryland Jockey Club and the Rockaway Steeplechase Association. The Monmouth Park season of 1889 will be divided in three meetings as heretofore, the first summer meeting, the midsummer meeting and the second summer meeting. There will be twenty racing days, beginning Thursday, July 4, and ending Saturday, August 17. Besides the stakes that have already closed, which include the junior champion, with $10,000 added; the Lorillard, $10,000 added; the Monmouth Oaks, $1,500 added, the July Stakes, $1,500 added, and the Hopeful Stakes, $1,500 added—besides these, thirty-six stakes are offered, the added money to which is over $76,000. Here we have altogether forty-one stakes, with over $91,000 added money. This leaves room for at least eighty purses and overnight handicaps, to each of which the association will add an average of $750, making $60,000 more, which together with the $91,000 in stakes, gives a total of $151,000. The aggregate value of all the prizes to be won at the Long Branch course will exceed $250,000. Oh, for a Tremont to pick up some of these good things.

The New-York Jockey Club, which enters the list with the most agreeable intentions, which has lopped off two weeks of the Monmouth season and secured one day from the Coney Island people—very wonderful achievements—is not less liberal in its stake offerings than the older clubs. Of course, it could not afford to be. During its meeting of twelve days, in the last two weeks of August, it will give away $68,000 in stakes and purses. The richest prize will be the Great Eclipse Stakes, which will be worth at least $20,000 to the winner. Entries for twelve fat stakes close on March 1. It is said that Leonard W. Jerome, the president, has expressed himself as in favor of charging an extra admission fee of $1 to the betting inclosure at the new Westchester track, his chief purpose being to keep out the "star-gazers and touts," and give room for respectable people to bet. Furthermore, Mr. Jerome agrees with John Hunter, president of the American Jockey Club, that the daily charge to bookmakers for stands in the betting ring should not be more than $50.

F. McWilliams, a youth living at No. 201 West Thirty-second-st., sends the following communication to the racing column of The Tribune:

"As I read your account of jockeys in Monday's paper, and as you take such an interest in them, please be so kind as to inform me how I can obtain a situation on the race-track."

All right, young man. If you mean business, go to the track at Jerome Park, Sheepshead Bay or Gravesend, and tell the first trainer you meet that you want a job in his stable. It is likely that he will say he has more boys already than he knows what to do with. Possibly he will inquire if you were ever in a stable before, if you have had any experience at the business, if you ever rode a horse, how much you weigh, etc. If you are green, tell him so frankly, but give him to understand that you won't be green long. Don't let him see any green in your eye, no matter how green you may feel. If you fail to get a place with him, remember that there are dozens of other stables just as good perhaps, where you might be taken in. Don't be discouraged by one or two or three refusals. A faint-hearted boy will never make a good jockey.

Should you succeed in getting a place, you won't find the life so hard as the trainer would make you believe it is. Whenever the writer goes to the race-track out of the racing season he finds droves of stable-boys playing baseball. Every stable has its regular nine. Some of the big ones have two or three. It is astonishing how much ball those boys find time to play. And the trainers frequently look on and enjoy the fun. The regular duties of the day begin at 8 o clock, as comfortable an hour as any boy could wish for. The biggest part of your work would be exercising the horses. This is done by straddling a blanket and riding at a walk or slow canter round and round under the shed that walls in the stable on all sides. In most stables each boy is assigned to a certain horse, and it is his duty to keep the animal in as good condition as he can, and to clean the bridle and saddle every day, just as diligently as a National Guardsman doesn't clean his musket.

You must not expect to become a jockey in a few days. Sometimes an apprenticeship lasts a year, sometimes two years, sometimes three. The majority of stable-boys at the end of three years find themselves too heavy to ride, and so they remain stable-boys until a better job turns up. Many of the most successful trainers used to be jockeys. They remained in the saddle until they became too heavy to ride, then they retired. The recent raising of the weights will keep jockeys in the saddle much longer than they could ride under the old schedule. Last year McLaughlin, Garrison and Murphy expected to retire before the season of 1889, but since the scale was raised four pounds they have decided to stick to their calling a little longer. McLaughlin says that he is going to ride at 112 pounds this year. Just now he weighs nearly 140 pounds, but at Memphis, week after next, he will begin to reduce. Garrison can make 112 pounds without serious trouble. Murphy will not go below 115, except on extraordinary occasions. George Taylor can ride at 100 pounds without reducing, and Barnes's regular weight is only ninety-five pounds. Hamilton tips the beam at 130 pounds, and will probably ride for Senator Hearst at 110.

It is extremely hard to believe that any good thing can come out of the Brighton Beach race track, and it is not entirely agreeable to admit that, with one or two exceptions, our best jockeys were graduated from that delectable spot. But McLaughlin learned his first lessons there under the tutorship of "Father" Bill Daly, and was a "hustler" before he began riding for the Dwyers. The best riding Garrison ever did was done at the Beach. He also was one of "Father" Bill's boys, so much one of them that the odor of Brighton Beach will cling round him as long as he lives. Hamilton was taught to ride by the Lakelands, who continue to regard him as the best horseman that ever sat in a saddle. George Taylor began his career at the Beach, but did not become distinguished until he took a post-graduate course at Clifton.

Goodale—well, Goodale is an accident if ever there was one. Having signed with the Sage of Brookdale for the present season at the comfortable salary of $4,000, he must be treated with more than ordinary respect, but there's no harm in saying that the discoverer of Goodale is the ubiquitous and versatile "Ed." Plummer. The boy was riding cripples at Clifton and Brighton Beach at the time when D. T. Pulsifer came East with a lot of third-rate horses trained to a winning edge. Pulsifer, who didn't care to expose his horses by putting up a well-known jockey of acknowledged ability, was persuaded by Plummer to employ Goodale. All that the Westerner wanted was a boy to sit on his horses' backs and hold their heads up; they were fit to win without the assistance of a jockey. So Goodale was engaged, and the surprising and numerous victories of Pulsifer's horses were laid up to his credit. It is an old turf proverb that good horses make good jockeys. The excellent condition of Pulsifer's string brought Goodale rapidly to the front, and before the end of the season he took rank as a jockey. His engagement with Mr. Withers is the opportunity of a life-time. Hanrahan is a capital trainer. If the Brookdale horses are ridden this year half as well as they will be trained they will win many fat prizes. And Goodale will receive all the credit. Thus jockeys are made.

By the way, it is said that Goodale has had a fair education, and that he studied law in the office of General Roger A. Pryor. Moreover, it is asserted that he ran away from home four years ago and started for Arizona to scalp Indians, but fell in with some racing men at Hoboken, who induced him to go to Guttenburg and turn jockey.

The capital stock of the New-Jersey Jockey Club is $500,000, divided into shares of $200 each.

A correspondent (W. J. B.) sends the following version of the familiar rhyme about the color of a race-horse:

One white foot, buy him;
Two white feet, try him;
Three white feet, look all about him;
Four white feet, go without him;
Four white feet and a white nose,
Take off his hide and throw it to the crows.

It has been suggested that Robert Bonner buy the pacer Johnston and drive him and Maud S. tandem, placing Johnston in the lead, he being the faster by two and a half seconds. What a sight it would be—a pacer with a record of 2:06 1-4 leading a trotter with a record of 2:08 3-4! Of course Mr. Bonner would never consent to let any horse lead Maud S.

"Pittsburg Phil," the high roller from the Smoky City, who relieved the bookmakers of $70,000 in 1887 and returned $60,000 of that sum last year, talks of starting a racing establishment, and is now in California selecting youngsters for his string. "Phil" is a good judge of horse flesh. He was never known to take a tip, but makes all his bets on breeding and public form. His method is to pick out a horse of fair merit, follow him until he is ripe, and then "jump on him with both feet." Plunger Walton paid small fortunes for tips and always had an army of touts in his service. The "Ghost," whose apparition waxed fat in the ring last season, didn't know the names of a dozen horses in training. He captured every tip that came in his way, and not infrequently backed five or six animals in a single race. His extreme liberality with tipsters secured him a great deal of valuable information. "Pittsburg Phil" has selected Ganymede as the best three-year-old in "Lucky" Baldwin's stable, and Madalene is regarded as the coming two-year-old. He believes they will sweep everything. Among the older division he places Los Angeles in the front rank. In J. B. Haggin's string he says, "Look out for world-beaters in Salvator and Ransom."

Galore, the imported English racer who is expected to make a bold bid for the Suburban at 115 pounds, is ill at Hempstead, L. I. No wonder. Give a horse a rough ocean voyage of two weeks, take him off the vessel as soon as it reaches port and march him twenty or thirty miles through snow and over frozen roads before he gets off his sea legs, and see if he gains health or speed! Galore must be a pretty good animal to survive his experiences of the last month.

The Driving Club of New-York offers $10,500 in stakes for its September meeting. Its spring meeting will be held at Fleetwood Park on May 21, 22, 23 and 24. Concerning the development of the trotter some interesting deductions may be drawn from "the 2:20 list," as published in "The Spirit of the Times" of last week. This list comprises the names and records of all the horses that have trotted one mile to harness in 2:20 or better. Maud S. stands alone at 2:08 3-4. Jay Eye See comes next at 2:10; then follow St. Julien, 2:11 1-4; Guy, 2:12; Maxey Cobb and Rarus, 2:13 1-4; Harry Wilkes, 2:13 1-2; Belle Hamlin and Phallas, 2:13 3-4; Clingstone, Goldsmith Maid and Trinket, 2:14; Patron and Rosalind Wilkes, 2:14 1-4; Hopeful, Prince Wilkes, and Stamboul, 2:14 3-4 (Stamboul has just been sold for $50,000); Arab, Favonia, Lulu and Majolica, 2:15, etc. Three have records of 2:15 1-4; four, 2:15 1-2; three, 2:16; six, 2:16 1-4; two, 2:16 3-4; three, 2:17; nine, 2:17 1-4 (including Dexter); eight, 2:17 1-2; five, 2:17 3-4; seventeen, 2:18; sixteen, 2:18 1-4; eight, 2:18 1-2; sixteen, 2:18 3-4; eighteen, 2:19; twenty-seven, 2:19 1-4 (including Bell Boy, who was sold last week for $51,000); twenty-eight, 2:19 1-2; nineteen, 2:19 3-4; thirty-two, 2:20.

HANDICAP DECLARATIONS.

The following declarations (due February 20) will probably complete the list of withdrawals from the handicaps of the Coney Island Jockey Club:

The Suburban—Firenzi 128, Kingston 128, Sir Dixen 122, Defaulter 112, Now or Never 106, Larchmont 103, Donnybrook 98.

Sheepshead Bay Handicap—Kingston 130, Firenzi 128, Egmont 125, Sir Dixon 123, Catspaw 116, Fitzroy 114, Defaulter 113, Larchmont 105, Donnybrook 100, Her Lilyship 90.

Bay Ridge Handicap—Firenzi 128, Kingston 127, Sir Dixon 120, Belvidere 114, Donnybrook 101, Eolo 98.

Volunteer Handicap—French Park 128, Madstone 118, Cynosure 115, The Lioness 115, Sluggard 111, Chemise 110, Harry Kirkover 108, Ben Harrison 108, Woodburn 108.

TO REPEAL NEW-JERSEY LOCAL OPTION.

THE DEMOCRATS FIND IT DIFFICULT TO ENFORCE THE DECISION OF THE CAUCUS—STATE FINANCES.

Trenton, N. J., Feb. 24.—The Legislative session of 1889 was supposed to be convened for two purposes, the election of a Democratic United States Senator and the repeal of the local option law. Such was the view taken by the majority, and the first half of the work has been accomplished. The second and more difficult part comes on for consideration to-morrow night. The Weris bill has been drawn to catch votes. It was imperative that all the Democrats in both houses should support it, and it has been whittled and tinkered into its present shape to meet every Democratic taste. After all the efforts, there are three Assemblymen who are acknowledged bolters, one who is suspected, and two Senators who are considered doubtful. There is no probability of any Republican helping out the Democrats, and the five men who have as yet failed to agree with the caucus must all be placated in some manner. How it can be done no one ventures to whisper. Meantime, there are loud roars in the lobby. The report has been circulated in some way that the brewers have $40,000 left from their campaign fund last November, and there is a keen appetite for just about that amount to be distributed among the deserving poor of the third house. If the bill could not be passed by the Democratic caucus, there is exceedingly remote hope for it in any other way, and the lobby hunger is likely to go unappeased. It is said that when the final vote in the Senate is reached Senators Baker and Smith will vote for the bill, but that they will attempt to amend it. In this they would probably have the aid of the Republican Senators, and could thus do as they chose. They cannot, therefore, claim that party pressure left them powerless, and as they are anxious to justify themselves somehow to their local-option constituencies, they are expected to try the amendment scheme. The caucus majority will have all the political aid they want in the effort to bring the men into line. Senator McPherson has promised to help, as soon as the caucus come to an agreement, and ex-Governor Abbett is counsel for the brewers. Governor Green will lend his influence, and the politicians who will control the next nomination for Governor will be at hand. Altogether, it will be a great occasion.

The condition of the State finances is such that some action is probable in the matter this week. For several years the State's expenses have increased more rapidly than even the large addition to the income by the corporation tax acts of 1884 would warrant. Expenditures have risen in four years from $1,120,000 to $1,540,000, and while the income has been a quarter of a million greater, only large payments of back taxes have kept the mill going. Last Monday evening President Werts said no extra appropriation would be possible this year, because the State was $400,000 behind now, and had no money to complete the State House. There has been talk of a general State tax, but that would raise a tempest which no Legislature would venture to brave, least of all one so burdened as this. There are two courses open, one to ignore the whole subject and "let the deficiency accumulate," and the other, to repeal the permanent appropriation laws, strip officials of their power to draw from the Treasury without restriction, and provide for State expenses by annual appropriation bills. Some regulation and economy will then be possible, and the extravagance which had occurred in certain departments for two years past will be checked. It is a question without partisan import and it deserves most careful consideration and thorough treatment. The source of the difficulty is really the exceeding wealth of the State. The State receives all the income from riparian grants for its school fund, gets most of the taxes paid by corporations of all kinds, and has no debt to speak of. The money comes so easily that it goes with celerity.

The Redistricting bill will probably be passed in its present condition, and the Republicans are looking upon it with the alarm that might be felt if the results of redistricting the Assembly districts were not so generally harmful to the party attempting the change. The smallest heed has been paid to population in the redistricting.

Madison, on the Morris and Essex Railroad, ships 40,000 roses a day from its eighty greenhouses to the New-York market.

The Railroad Commission bill, now before the Assembly, may be amended somewhat, but it is thought its principle will be approved and adopted.

The new State House is nearly completed. While it lacks the simple dignity of the old structure and reminds one of an ambitious insurance company, the interior will be convenient, pleasant and healthy.

The water question in Newark is approaching a settlement, and the city will undoubtedly secure a new supply within a short time, whether or not it makes a contract with the present bidder, the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company.

THE "CARD FAKE."

From The Pittsburg Chronicle.

A gentleman residing in Allegheny relates a story of the card "fake," which of late has been successfully operated by the boys. By the way, little boys and girls are drafted into the business in large numbers. The cards, which are of the fancy picture variety, much appreciated by very small children, and which may be bought at any of the book stores for a few cents a gross, are put up into rough, envelope-shaped packages. They are addressed with the names of the persons residing in the houses at which they are left. The names are probably obtained from the directory. In each package are placed a short letter and a dozen cards. The letter or rather the sample seen by a reporter runs thus:

"Will you be so kind as to buy some of these cards? They are 5 cents apiece or three for a dime. I will call for the package in half an hour. I am a poor boy and my mother is sick, and I am trying to make a living for her and myself."

These packages are left, say, at all the houses in a block, or perhaps two blocks, if the boy has been enterprising enough to supply himself with a sufficient number of packages. The writing of the letter is in a boyish hand, but plain enough to be easily read. The servants take these packages to their employers, and as they are properly addressed they are, of course, opened and examined. If the gentleman or lady of the house, which ever happens to open the package, does not detect the trick as a piece of professional begging, which it is, and she or he liberally disposed, the boy will receive a quarter and probably half a dollar when he returns for his cards, besides, in most cases, all of the cards back again. The card "fake" has had a prosperous run on the North Side, and readers in the wealthier sections of the East End and city proper may expect its arrival before long unless this exposure makes it necessary for the professionals engaged at the business to substitute some other swindle.

CHANGED SCHOOL METHODS

WHAT THE NEW PLAN WILL ACCOMPLISH.

MR. JASPER'S OPINION ON THE DEFECTS OF THE WHOLE SYSTEM—OTHER REFORMS PROPOSED.

Teachers in the public schools are anticipating, with some anxiety, the operation of the changes in the by-laws recently adopted by the Board of Education. While there are several minor modifications, that which will affect them most is the new classification. All who have been teaching for less than five years will be subject, as heretofore, to the yearly examination of their classes by the superintendents; but teachers who have passed that period will be graded in the several studies which each has taught, according to their standing during the last five years. The classes of those who have ranked the highest will be exempt from year to year from the examinations, at the discretion of the City Superintendent.

Before June 1 the Committee on Teachers is to designate those who are free from such supervision, and with the superintendent and his staff formulate rules for the guidance of these teachers. This list is prepared by the superintendents from the records of the teachers, and from the opinions of the principal under whom each one has taught. In addition to all notes, records and marks, the personal knowledge of the officials is to be taken into consideration, in order that all the qualifications of the teacher may have proper influence. That one has received the highest mark, "excellent," for five years, will not of itself be the only consideration, nor if one has not always obtained that mark, will he necessarily be placed in the non-exempt class. This list, when it has been approved by the Committee on Teachers will only be known to the committee and the superintendents.

WORK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.

The City Superintendent, or his assistants, are required to visit every school not less than once a year to aid the non-exempt teachers, or to render any assistance or give suggestions to those who may be exempt. No marks are to be assigned, but a statement will be made of each class, and that placed on record for the Superintendent and the Committee on Teachers. When the principal of a school reports that the instruction or discipline of a teacher is unsatisfactory, or when from any cause the Superintendent may deem it expedient, he can investigate the case and ascertain if the teacher requires the regular supervision and assistance. On such investigation the City Superintendent may, with the concurrence of the Committee on Teachers, determine whether such teacher shall, therefore, be subjected to the regular supervision.

If a board of trustees, an assistant superintendent, or the principal of any school reports that the instruction or discipline of a teacher in such school is detrimental or injurious to a class or school, and that further supervision and visitation are useless, the Superintendent is immediately to investigate and report the case to the committee, and if it finds the complaint sustained, the teacher is reported to the Board for removal. In the same manner complaints against a principal, made by a commissioner, trustee, or superintendent, are to be investigated and reported on. The principals of the schools are to assemble in convenient groups from time to time by the direction of the Superintendent, for conference or advice with him or his assistants; and the teachers are to hold meetings of the same character and for the same purpose. At such times the schools in which are the teachers who attend the meetings are to be dismissed an hour earlier. Methods of instruction are to be discussed at these meetings, and teachers and principals will be required to attend at least two of them each school year.

"I am not opposed to an advance in school methods because it will make a change," Mr. Jasper said, "notwithstanding the frequent statements that have been made to that effect. It is easy to suggest changes, but quite another thing to adopt them in a system where a general change may effect a revolution, and an expense which will soon run up into hundreds of thousands of dollars. Mere experiments cannot be made general until their result has been ascertained.

"What do you think of the criticisms that the New-York schools are inferior to those of other cities in the country?" the reporter continued.

"I am not at all in sympathy with such assertions," said Mr. Jasper. "We have as a body just as good teachers as other cities. We have just as good schools and just as good a system. When I say this I do not mean that all is perfect. There is always room for improvement. Changes have been made continually. If we are behind in one or two features it does not follow that the system is bad, but that those features should be corrected. The changes can only be made slowly in so great a system, affecting as it does 160,000 pupils. It is a great deal better to be slow than hasty, and those who criticise do not consider this. They are as a rule persons who are not familiar with the workings of our schools.

CRITICISING A MEMORIAL.

"I may instance here the memorial of the Public Education Society, and I do not criticise its purpose. Anything which interests the thoughtful public in our schools is of value to the schools. Much is given in their paper that is worthy of careful consideration. But I am surprised when a man of such a world-wide reputation as an educationalist as Professor Newberry gives the weight of his name to a document which criticises the system, and uses for argument so many unfair and glaring misstatements of fact as this paper contains. He cannot have given it the same attention which he gives to his own studies. Were I guilty of half the errors which this memorial makes, and which it had every opportunity to correct, I should not deserve to hold my position another day. It attacks over-crowding in the public schools and gives figures. Yet it does not give the reason of such overcrowding. It does not say that this is a thing of the past. But it might have been ascertained at my office before the paper was written that the Board had directed the strictest enforcement of the by-law to prevent over-crowding, and that to-day this is reduced to a minimum in the schools. Their figures are obsolete, yet they are presented as facts. Their statements as to the removal of teachers and of the duties of trustees are entirely at variance with the facts. The memorial attacks the arbitrary rules of the 'Teachers' Manual' as depriving the teachers of discretionary powers, and adds that it might be useful if it could be taken as a suggestion. Now the main purpose of the Manual is to be suggestive, and this fact could be seen and read in plain type from the beginning to the end of it.

NOT WILFUL MIS-STATEMENTS.

"These features I mention because such statements coming from those who are believed to be well informed are misleading to the public, and damage the reputation of the schools quite as much as the real evils which are deplored. I do not suppose they are wilful misstatements, but they are none the less reprehensible. The schools have been overcrowded, because the Board hesitated to enforce the law which should keep children out. New schools have not been built, older schools have got out of repair, not from the fault of the Board of Education, but because the city government, for several administrations, persistently refused to provide means for new accommodations, or to defray the necessary expenses for the current wear and tear on these old buildings. For nearly four years almost noting was done to meet the needs of the schools; there was no money. Is it a wonder, then, that there should be complaints of a lack of school accommodation, of worn-out pipes and buildings, of bad sanitary conditions? These things are known to the Board and to all who know public school affairs. Since Mayor Hewitt's term began every effort and all mean have been taken and are new being employed to remedy these troubles. But the loss of four years' time and the increasing needs cannot be met in a month or a year; it will require a number of years for the Board to repair what it has lost in that interval."

Mr. Webb, chairman of the Committee of Eight, says that his committee will in a few weeks present another report dealing with other features of the school system. What these are he does not say, but he thinks the views of the committee will not be received with the same amount of opposition which met the first report. It is understood that the subjects which the committee will present next will be the examination of the pupils for promotion and the methods of marking them. The report will recommend fewer of these examinations for promotion, and will make sugestions as to the course of study for the higher classes of grammar schools for admission of pupils to the Normal and City College.

A CANINE MONOMANIAC.

From The Philadelphia Record.

In an uptown residence of some fashionable pretensions there is a little dog who is of such an aesthetic turn of mind that he has become infatuated with the flowers in the design of the parlor carpet, and he is now a monomaniac on that point. The little fellow is a very pretty Skye terrier. When he was first allowed to frequent the parlor he immediately took a fancy to the flowers in the carpet, and finally settled upon one which suited his taste to a "t." The more he saw of it the greater became his fascination, until finally he could not be attracted from it. Caramels and other toothsome morsels were looked upon by him with a disdain eminently befitting a puny canine of his high social standing and ready discernment of the beautiful in art. He would rub his black nose against the flower, then wriggle back a short distance and jump at it. When he became convinced that the flower was not afraid of him he pawed it with his little claws and wore a hole almost through the carpet.

A few days ago the idea of presenting the dog with a real rose—which was the flower that appeared in the design of the carpet—occurred to the head of the house, and he took a few of them home one evening. The little terrier looked at them in a curious way at first and then at the flower in the carpet, and finally made a dash at the real flowers and tore them into shreds, after which he returned to the unreal article.

At one time during the course of his love-making, when it was found that he would destroy that portion of the carpet with which he was infatuated, he was taken away and locked in a room for two days. But he refused to take the most tempting food and seemed to be pining away until he was again allowed in the parlor. He is there now, and is likely to remain until his death or the cure of his ailment.

ASSERTING AN AMERICAN POLICY.

THE PANAMA CANAL RESOLUTION WARMLY RECOMMENDED TO THE HOUSE.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Representative McCreary, of Kentucky, in behalf of the majority members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, has prepared a report recommending the adoption of the Edmunds Panama Canal resolution. The report says the resolution comes to the House after being carefully considered and almost unanimously adopted by the Senate. It reaffirms a public policy that is of both National and international importance. The joint resolution under consideration, the report says, is in accordance with the declarations made by President Monroe in 1823, applied to existing conditions and the development of events. Quotations are made from the declarations of some of our Presidents and many of our leading statesmen to show that they have taken even a stronger position than that maintained by the resolution under consideration, and that they objected not only to European colonization or the extension of European political systems on the American Continent, but to any project which would give a European government a new foothold in America.

The joint resolution under consideration, says the report, simply declares that the Government of the United States will look with serious concern and disapproval upon any connection of any European government with the construction or control of either the Panama Canal or the Nicaragua Canal, and will regard such connection or control as injurious to the rights and interests of the United States, and as a menace to their welfare, and asks if any one can deny the truth of these propositions. History shows that wherever governments put their money, they soon follow with their power. In the light of past events, can we doubt what would be the result if England or France or any of the great Powers of Europe should construct, or, by indorsing bonds, control such an important transit as a ship-canal across the Isthmus of Darien, or a ship-canal across Central America? If any European Government should construct or assist in the construction of a great public improvement in another country, the assertion of that power by the Government can be followed by the right of defending that improvement. Colombia and Nicaragua are both weak Republics, and they would soon be forced to yield, either by treaty arrangements or concessions to the Governmental authority promoting the enterprise. A conflict of interests with either would certainly occur, and the weak Power would succumb to the greater Power, and the ultimate result would be European domination in Panama or Nicaragua, and perhaps an extension of the domination to other Republics.

The present, the report declares, is an opportune and important time to annouce an American policy with regard to the Panama Canal. De Lesseps has failed in his scheme, work has stopped, and the Government of France has been asked to construct or control in some way the construction of the canal. Its control by an European Government cannot but be regarded as injurious to the rights and interests of the United States and as a menace to our welfare. Moreover, our treaty obligations and the far-reaching and binding guarantees made by the United States with the republics through which the proposed interoceanic canals are to be constructed, makes it of paramount importance to the people of the United States that any attempt on the part of European Governments to engage in the construction or control of these canals should be watched with the greatest vigilance and looked upon with serious concern and disapproval. In conclusion, the report says:

The time has come for our Government to define its position and take a stand in behalf of our sister republics of the Western Hemisphere. The day of the isolation of the three Americas has passed. Each year brings the United States and the republics south of us in closer communication, and the day is not far distant when the three Americas will be connected by railroads and bound together in common hopes and common ties. The adoption of the resolution will help to preserve the autonomy and advance the best interests of our sister republics south of us. And, finally, it is in the direction of that destiny which, when fulfilled, will make the Western Hemisphere a constellation of republics.

THE PANAMA CANAL COMPANY IN COURT.

Paris, Feb. 24.—The Civil Court and the Tribunal of Commerce both claim jurisdiction over the Panama Canal Company, and the question has been referred to the Appeal Court. In the meantime proceedings taken under either jurisdiction are liable to annulment, according to the decision of the Appeal Court.

THE SPIRITS WERE BASHFUL.

MRS. SAWYER FAILS TO MAKE HER THREATENED EXPOSURE OF "SPIRITUALISM."

Dockstader's Theatre was well filled last evening with people who wanted to see the so-called science of spiritualism explained. It had been announced that Mrs. Carrie Sawyer, a "medium," would evoke spirits and then show how the fraud was accomplished. The evening began with some clever feats by Kellar, music by the Spanish Students and skilful juggling by Melville. When Mrs. Sawyer was introduced she was warmly greeted by those who apparently were willing to amend the adage, "Believe only half what you see and nothing that you hear," to "Believe nothing that you hear and less of what you see."

Mrs. Sawyer gave an "exhibition of slate-writing." There was nothing mysterious about this. Her explanation, perhaps, was less satisfactory than the performance. The trick, as she herself confessed, consisted merely in changing the slate for one on which something had been written. A ten-year-old child could have accomplished the same thing with equal facility and less mystery. She did one thing which required some dexterity. A blindfolded man having been seated opposite her, she took hold of his right hand with her left, and vice versa. A ring lay in her lap, and by running the man's hands over his face and hers by turns she managed to slip the ring over her own wrist without the man being able to feel that she had disengaged one of her hands from his for an instant. By a facile movement of the arm she let the ring slip from her wrist along his arm. There followed some "spirit manifestations," accomplished in much the same way.

The spectators began to grow impatient, and cries of "Show us an 'expose'" were heard from different parts of the house. Mrs. Sawyer then tried to make spirit forms appear from a curtained cabinet. The spirits must have been bashful, for they would not come forth, although now and then, as the curtain was drawn back for an instant by an exceedingly material-looking hand, a flash of white could be seen within. Mrs. Sawyer did not offer to explain how this was done, and the crowd began to yell with lusty voices for a genuine "expose." At this particular moment everything about the theatre took on a severely material hue. There were several "spiritualists" in the house and they declared that this was not "spiritualism" at all. About forty voices explained, all at the same time, that they had seen Mrs. Sawyer call forth two and three spirits from a cabinet in her own house. Mrs. Sawyer meanwhile had beaten a discreet retreat and couldn't be coaxed to show herself. Mr. Kellar announced that the Spanish Students would give more selections and the crowd started for the door.

AN IMMENSE HOTEL TO BE BUILT.

PLANS FOR A HANDSOME AND COMMODIOUS STRUCTURE—SOME OF THE DETAILS.

Among the many new buildings to be erected in Brooklyn this year will be an immense hotel at Washington and Concord sts., on the northeast corner, plans for which have already been filed. The architect and the builder promise that it not only will be the most complete thing of the kind in the city, but will also be as handsome as any building here. Work on the new building has not yet been begun, but it is said that the hotel will be completed in 1890. It will be managed by a syndicate of Brooklyn and New-York capitalists.

The plot of ground upon which the hotel will be built was recently purchased from Colonel John F. Owings, for $150,000, and has a frontage of 130 feet on Washington-st. and 132 feet on Concord-st. The cost of the building itself, as estimated, will be $210,000. The facades will be of granite, red sandstone and buff brick, elaborately ornamented, of the Renaissance style of architecture. Throughout the ten stories the hotel will be thoroughly fireproof. Above the mansard roof, which will be covered with French tiling, will be an ornamental tower, from which an excellent view of parts of Long Island, Manhattan Island and New-Jersey may be obtained. Besides the height of the building, the advantage of the site, in regard to the view that will be had from the upper windows, is enhanced by reason of the fact that it is one of the highest spots in the city. From the curb to the roof the distance will be 170 feet.

In the basement will be the boiler and engine-rooms, barber-shop, bakery, storerooms, servants' laundry and receiving-room. Coal and wine vaults will occupy the sub-cellar. The first floor will contain the offices, reading and lunch room, cafe and barroom, ladies' parlor, and a restaurant for transient guests. From the large hall on this floor, the main entrance will open on Washington-st, the ladies' entrance being on Concord-st. On the same floor will be the parlors, public and private dining-rooms, committee-rooms, etc. The remaining eight stories will contain about 450 bedrooms, all of good size.

An iron staircase will run the height of the building on the outside, thus providing a safe exit for the guests in case of fire. The hotel will be provided with all the conveniences known, including electric lights, telephones, two swift elevators, etc. The first floor will be covered with mosaic tile and the hall and principal rooms will be wainscoted with marble.

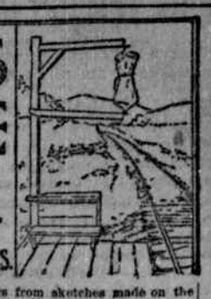
SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE

FOR MARCH CONTAINS

THE RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE.

BY

EX POSTMASTER GEN. T. L. JAMES.



A most interesting and valuable paper, illustrated by many drawings from sketches made on the mail-trains by Herbert Denman. General James strongly commends the Civil Service laws as applied to the service, and has much to say which must excite attention. The article forms the eighth of the successful RAILWAY SERIES. The April issue will contain a paper in this series by CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

R. L. STEVENSON'S serial, "The Master of Ballantrae," is continued, accompanied by a (frontispiece) full-page drawing by William Hole.

A GERMAN ROME is the title of a valuable paper by W. B. Scott, describing the recent excavations at the little-known German city of Treves, which for more than a century was the capital of the Roman Empire. Fully illustrated.

WAGNER'S HEROES AND HEROINES. A delightful paper by W. F. Apthorp. The illustrations are specially interesting and include many portraits in character of the chief singers in the German Opera.

SHORT STORIES: "Extenuating Circumstances," a clever tale, by William McKendree Bangs, and "An Eye for an Eye," by Robert Grant.

SHORT ARTICLES: "Mexican Superstitions and Folk Lore," by T. A. Janvier, and "Economy in Intellectual Work," by W. H. Burnham.

THE END PAPER is contributed by Henry James, who writes "An Animated Conversation" (in dialogue form), discussing international social topics with wit and satire.

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CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS, Publishers, NEW-YORK.

CUPS ACROSS THE SEA.

TALK ABOUT AMERICAN YACHTS GOING AFTER THEM.

THE NEW-YORK CLUB'S HOUSE AT NEWPORT—A RACE OF ICE-YACHTS.

There has been considerable talk during the last week among New-York yachtsmen regarding the practical challenge published in "The London Field," directing their attention to the fact that the Cape May and Brenton's Reef Challenge Cups which Sir Richard Sutton's cutter, the Genesta, carried home with her in 1885, are still in the possession of the British winners. The same article, it will be remembered, suggested that in place of a British challenge for the America's Cup, this season be marked by a contest made by American yachtsmen for these American cups now in the hands of the foreign opposition. The usual consequence of such discussions has also been the result in this case, and the customary unfounded gossip has been published. It has been said that beneath a veil of mystery certain yachtsmen in this city have already been making preparations to accept this challenge and bring the cups back where they belong. Inquiries among those conversant with the facts in yachting circles show that there is absolutely no foundation at the present time for any such guesswork, although it is, of course, desirable that the only proper step should be taken. Frederick Tams, of the Seawanhaka, said to a reporter the other day that it would cost $10,000 to take a yacht to Great Britain for the purpose of racing for those cups. This is undoubtedly the truth. Mr. Tams also made the timely suggestion that, combining patriotic business with personal pleasure, one of our wealthy yacht-owners might this year, with his craft, visit the Paris Exposition, and incidentally stay long enough to take away the mugs from their present alien possessors.

The New-York Yacht Club has at last taken a step which will be remembered not only by the members of the club themselves, but by those who are fortunate enough to enjoy the club's hospitality. The contract for the erection of a club-house at Newport has been awarded. The building is not intended for a home for the yachtsmen, but simply as an appropriate place of meeting for the amateur sailormen and their guests. The club-house will be on Sawyer's wharf, will be two stories high and will have two piazzas. It will be surmounted by a high roof, a cupola and a flagstaff. The building will be in colonial style and the interior finish will be in natural wood, the rafters being shown much as is the case with the conventional boat-house. The club has been in need of a proper boat landing at Newport for years, and with the new wharfage acquired at other harbors, the equipment for next season will be greatly improved.

The Larchmont Yacht Club has shown a tendency for extending its field so as to include other varieties of sport besides the direct purpose of its organization. Tobogganing, skating and other winter sports have been in vogue at the picturesque club-house whenever the weather has permitted. Another departure was made on the birthday of the Father of his Country, in the form of a wing-shooting tournament, to which members and their friends were admitted. The club enjoys the advantages of extensive grounds, so situated as to allow an indulgence in this pastime. The shooting-grounds bear comparison with any in this neighborhood, excepting, perhaps, those at Tuxedo Park, and that their merits were appreciated was shown by the generous participation in the contest. Such a spirit in a club of the kind is to be commended, and will show its results in greater harmony and greater interest in the club's behalf than would be the case if the members were not brought together during the dreary winter months.

Ice-yachting has so far this season been dull. The great ice-yachting centres in this neighborhood are on the Hudson River above Poughkeepsie, on Orange Lake and on the Raritan. The only club which this winter has launched its swift craft on the waveless Hudson to sail a regatta is the Carthage Landing Ice-Yacht Club. The starters in this race were the White Wing, Whiz, Ethel and North Star. The course was twenty miles, and the pennant was won by the North Star. The ice was smooth, the wind was fair, and the race was close.

For many years there has been a rivalry among many ice yachtsmen as to the comparative merits of the lateen and the long sail, but there is no doubt that the easiest-handled rig for a cranky, swift-turning ice yacht is the ordinary sloop rig. With a ten-knot breeze blowing, an ice yacht running on a bow-line, sheets taut, jib firm and flattened, and just the shimmer of a shake in the forefoot of the mainsail, a feather could not fly lighter, but under these conditions breathing is difficult and the scenery somewhat blurred.

NOTES.

The schooner yacht Nokomis, has gone into the possession of the former owners of the pilot schooner Story and will end her days as a pilotboat. She is one of the stanchest keel schooners in these waters.

Miss W. V. Wilson, Frank Swan, and Mr. Van Cox, of the Ocean Steamship Company, New-York, were guests of the Carthage Landing Ice Yacht Club during the annual regatta at Poughkeepsie last Thursday.

The committee in charge of the construction of the new club-house of the New-York Yacht Club at Newport consists of Ogden Goelet, E. D. Morgan and Captain Gouverneur Kortright.

The Orange Lake Ice Yacht Club, of Newburg, sailed five races last Wednesday on Orange Lake. There was a fine west wind and the four starters