A WASHINGTON CENTENNIAL.

CONGRESS COMMEMORATES THE INAUGURATION OF THE FIRST PRESIDENT.

CHIEF JUSTICE FULLER'S ORATION UPON THE LIFE, THE AIMS AND THE WORK OF WASHINGTON—TRIUMPH OF THE FEDERAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT—SCENES IN THE HOUSE DURING THE CEREMONIES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Dec. 11.—Congress commemorated to-day, by appropriate ceremonies, the centenary of the inauguration of the first President of the United States and of the first meeting of Congress under the Constitution. The chief interest centred in the address delivered by the Chief Justice, and the distinguished audience which had gathered in the Hall of the House of Representatives to listen to it. The audience on the floor included the representatives of nearly every civilized country on the globe, while their families occupied seats in the galleries. The President and his Cabinet, the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, the Justices of the Court of Claims, the members of the International American Conference and the Maritime Congress, the Diplomatic Corps in full uniform, the Major-General commanding the Army, the Admiral of the Navy and other dignitaries, great and small, occupied conspicuous seats in front of the presiding officer's chair. The scene was picturesque rather than imposing, and not altogether free from ludicrous incidents which somewhat marred the dignity of the occasion. Congress has never been accused of investing ceremonials of this kind with a superabundance of stateliness, nor of impressing the spectator with a feeling other than that the proceedings partake of the character of an impromptu gathering. Yet the Committee of Arrangements did better, perhaps, on this occasion than any of its predecessors has done before.

Still, there is a great deal that might be improved upon. It is not necessary, for instance, to permit the desks of members to remain on the floor during such a ceremony, and to sandwich about 500 or 1,000 cheap camp chairs among the more pretentious revolving chairs daily in use, and, at the same time, lug in from a distant retiring lobby or committee-room sofas and armchairs of every possible shape and description, until the whole floor looks more like the assorted stock of an auctioneer of second-hand furniture than anything else. It does not add to the dignity of the proceedings, either, for members to bring on the floor of the House crying infants in arms, to drown the voice of the orator of the day, nor does it seem entirely in place for members to clap their hands, in the fashion of Eastern monarchs, for pages to run their errands during the proceedings, and tramp on the toes of their guests, or pass and repass in front of the President of the United States. And it is decidedly objectionable to employ a stuttering doorkeeper, who is unable to announce from the bar of the House the coming of its guests, except in a rich brogue, and even then not with anything like correctness. It must also strike most of the foreigners as something remarkable that, while they are expected to appear in full diplomatic uniforms, many of their entertainers do not think it worth their while even to don black coats. The smoking in the back part of the hall, surreptitiously indulged in during the sittings of the House on ordinary occasions, and the lounging on sofas near the fireplaces, are features also not altogether attractive while ceremonies like those of to-day are in progress.

The House suspended its regular business shortly before 1 o'clock, in order to inform the Senate of its readiness to begin the ceremonies. Every available seat in the galleries had long before this been occupied by the fortunate holders of tickets, in most cases the families and friends of Senators and Representatives. In the Diplomatic gallery Mrs. and Miss Blaine occupied conspicuous seats in the front row. The adjourning section, reserved for the President's household, was notable only for the absence, on account of the death of Mrs. Harrison's sister yesterday, of every member of the White House family. The Speaker's gallery was occupied by Mrs. Reed and the wives of Representatives Hitt, Bayne and Butterworth. In another part of the gallery sat a cousin of the Chief Justice, and the cousin's daughter, the former remarkable for his resemblance to Henry Ward Beecher. On the floor of the House, aside from the regularly invited guests and the Members of Congress, were to be seen comparatively few celebrities, one member of Mr. Cleveland's regular Cabinet, Don Manuel Dickinson, and another of his kitchen Cabinet, General Farnsworth, of New-York, perhaps, excepted.

A few minutes after 1 o'clock the President and his Cabinet were announced. He entered, leaning on the arm of Secretary Blaine, looking a trifle fatigued after his night journey from Chicago, but walking with a firm step down the centre aisle to where places had been reserved for him and his Cabinet immediately in front of the Speaker's chair. Then followed in short order the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, the Justices of the Court of Claims, the Vice-President and the Senate, General Schofield, accompanied by Generals Vincent and Rosencrans, and last of all the Diplomatic Corps, all of its members in full uniform, and the delegates to the International American Conference and the Maritime Congress and the members of the Venezuela Claims Commission. Vice-President Morton, who had taken a seat at the right of Speaker Reed, then called the assembly to order and prayer was offered by the Chaplain of the Senate. The Marine Band, stationed in the lobby behind the Speaker's chair, followed with "Hail Columbia."

As soon as the last note had died away Senator Hiscock and Representative Bayne, chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Arrangements, escorted the Chief Justice to the desk below the Speaker's. The Chief Justice took a roll of paper from under his gown, placed it in front of him on a small desk, adjusted his glasses, gave his mustache an extra twirl, and, slightly clearing his throat, began to read his address. His voice at first was indistinct and he undoubtedly was nervous, for the leaves trembled in his hands and he moved uneasily from one side of the little desk to the other, but he soon regained his composure, and with it his ordinarily clear enunciation. The address, however, was so long that he evidently felt the necessity of reading it quickly, and in this way some of its good points were lost to the audience. He spoke about an hour and a half. In part he said:

By the terms of that section of the Act of Congress under which we have assembled "in further commemoration of the historic event of the inauguration of the first President of the United States, George Washington," the 30th of April, A. D. 1889, was declared a National holiday, and in the noble city where that event took place its centennial anniversary has been celebrated with a magnificence of speech and song, of multitudinous assembly, and of naval, military and civic display, accompanied by every manifestation of deep love of country, of profound devotion to its institutions, and of intense appreciation of the virtues and services of that illustrious man, whose assumption of the Chief Magistracy gave the assurance of the successful setting in motion of the new government. Nothing on the occasion of that celebration could be more full of encouragement and hope than the testimony so overwhelmingly given that Washington still remained first in the hearts of his countrymen, and that the example afforded by his career was still cherished as furnishing that guide of public conduct which had kept and would keep the Nation upon the path of glory for itself and of happiness for its people.

The majestic story of that life . . . never grows old. . . .

Washington had become first in war, not so much by reason of victories over the enemy, though he had won such, or of success in strategy, though that had been his, as of the triumphs of a constancy which no reverse, no hardship, no incompetency, no treachery, could shake or overcome. And because the people comprehended the greatness of their leader and recognized in him an entire absence of personal ambition, an absolute obedience to convictions of duty, an absolute love of country, of themselves, and of mankind, he had become first in the hearts of his countrymen. Because thus first, he was to become first in peace, by bringing to the charge of the practical working of the system he had participated in creating, on behalf of the people, whose independence he had achieved, the same serene judgment, the same sagacity, the same patience, the same sense of duty, the same far-sighted comprehension of the end to be attained that had marked his career from its beginning. . . .

Of the future greatness of the new Nation, Washington had no doubt. He saw, as if face to face, that continental domain which glimmered to others as through a glass darkly. The great West was no sealed book to him, and no one knew better than he that no foreign Power could long control the flow of the Father of Waters to the Gulf. He is said to have lacked imagination, and if the exhilaration of the poet, the mystic or the seer is meant, this may be true. His mind was not given to indulgence in dreams of ideal commonwealths like the republic of Plato or of Cicero, the City of God of Augustine, or the Utopia of Sir Thomas More, but it grasped the mighty fact of the empire of the future, and acted in obedience to the heavenly vision. . . . During the entire Presidency of Washington, upon the details of which it is impracticable here to dwell, time for solidification was the dominant thought. The infant giant could defend himself even in his cradle; but to become the Colossus of Washington's hopes, the gristle must have opportunity to harden.

After more than seven years of devotion to the interests committed to his charge, and intense watchfulness over the adjustment and working of the machinery of the new system, having determined upon his own retirement, thereby practically assigning a limit to the period during which the office could with propriety be occupied by his successors, still regarding the problem as not solved and still anxiously desiring to contribute to the last to the welfare of the constant object of his veneration and love, he gives to his countrymen in the affecting farewell of "an old and affectionate friend," the results of his observations and of his reflections on the operation of the great scheme he had assisted in creating and had so far commended to the people by his administration of its provisions. . . .

It is matter of congratulation that the first year of our second century witnesses the representatives of the three Americas engaged in the effort to increase the facilities of commercial intercourse, "consulting the natural course of things, diffusing and diversifying by gentle means the streams of intercourse, but forcing nothing," success in which must knit closer the ties of fraternal friendship, and bring the peoples of the two American continents into harmonious control of the hemisphere. . . .

While direct alterations in the Constitution have been few, the fundamental law has been developed in the evolution of National growth, as Washington, indeed, anticipated. "Time and habit," said he, "are at least as necessary to fix the true character of government as of other human institutions;" and "Experience is the surest standard by which to fix the real tendency of the existing constitution of a country." . . . Doubtless, in many instances, the Constitution has been subjected to strains which have tested its elasticity without breaking the texture, but the watchfulness of party has aided to keep the balance true, absolute infraction has been depreciated or denied, and a law-loving and law-abiding people has welcomed the rebound which restored the rigid outline and even tenor of its way. . . .

What Washington wanted, as Lodge's fine biography makes entirely clear, was that the people should become saturated with the principles of National unity and love of country, should possess an "American character," should never forget that they were "Americans." Hence he opposed education abroad, lest our youth might contract principles unfriendly to republican government; and discouraged immigration, except of those who, by "an intermixture with our people," could themselves, or their descendants, "get assimilated to our customs, measures and laws; in a word, soon become our people." To be an American was to be part and parcel of American ideas, institutions, prosperity and progress. It was to be like-minded with the illustrious men who have served the cause of their native or adopted land, from Washington to Lincoln. It was to be convinced of the virtues of republican government as the bulwark of "the true and genuine liberties of mankind," which would ultimately transmute suffering through ignorance into happiness through light. . . .

Is it possible to conceive a more searching test of the wisdom and lasting quality of our form of Government than that applied by the Civil War? Is it possible to conceive of a more convincing demonstration than the reconciliation which has followed the conclusion of the struggle, and the complete reinstatement of the system in harmonious operation over the entire National domain? No conquered provinces perpetuated personal animosities, and, by the fact of their existence, through despotic rule over part, changed the government over all. On the contrary, the States, vital parts of the system, and in whose annihilation the system perishes, resumed the relations temporarily suspended, and the continuance of local self-government on its accustomed course prevented the old connection from carrying with it the bitterness of enforced change. It was the triumph of the machinery that its practical working so speedily assumed its normal movement substantially uninjured by the convulsion that had shaken it. . . .

However difficult it may be fully to appreciate the influence of great men upon the cause of civilization, it is impossible to over-estimate that of Washington, thus exerted through precept, as well as by example. In the general recognition of to-day of the effect of that which he did, that which he said, that which he was, upon the public conscience, is found the justification of the confident claim that popular government under the form prescribed by the fundamental law has ceased to be an experiment. Neither foreign wars, nor attacks upon either of the co-ordinate departments, nor the irritation of a disputed National election, nor territorial aggrandizement, nor the addition of realm after realm to the empire of States, nor sectional controversies, nor the destruction of a great economical, social and political institution, nor the shock of arms in internecine conflict, have impaired the structure of the Government, or subverted the orderly rule of the people. But the deliverance vouchsafed in time of tribulation is as earnestly to be sought in time of prosperity, when material acquisition may deaden the spiritual sense and impede the progress of human elevation. . . .

And so the new century may be entered upon in the spirit of optimism, the natural result, perhaps, of a self-confidence which has lost nothing in substance by experience, though it has gained in the moderation of its impetuosity; yet an optimism essential to the accomplishment of great ends, not blind to peril, but bold in the fearlessness of faith whose very consciousness of the limitations of the present asserts the attainability of the untravelled world of a still grander future. No ship can sail for ever over summer seas. The storms that it has weathered test and demonstrate its ability to survive the storms to come, but storms there must be until there shall be no more sea. But as amid the tempest in which our Ship of State was launched, and in the times succeeding, so in the times to come, with every exigency constellations of illustrious men will rise upon the angry skies, to control the whirlwind and dispel the clouds by their potent influences, while from the "clear upper sky" the steady light of the great planet marks out the course the vessel must pursue, and sits shining on the sails as it comes grandly into the haven where it would be.

At the conclusion of the address the assembly slowly dispersed in the order in which it had gathered, "to the playing," as the official programme had it, "of the Marine Band." By some wags the playing of the band and the dispersing of the crowd were declared to stand in the relation of cause and effect.

FOR THE GRANT MONUMENT.

GRAND ARMY MEN MEET, FORM PLANS AND PASS RESOLUTIONS.

An important step was taken last evening by representatives of the various posts of the Grand Army of the Republic in the State of New-York, at a special conference, which was held in the officers' room in the armory of the 69th Regiment. It consisted of a definite plan submitted and adopted whereby the members of the Grand Army of this State, and later, when their indorsement shall be obtained of the Nation, bind themselves to raise the rest of the money which is necessary to build the Grant monument. Ex-Governor Alonzo B. Cornell, of the Grant Monument Fund Committee, attended and gave a history of the efforts made by the promoters of that scheme to collect the sum originally fixed upon as necessary to erect the monument. General Egbert L. Viele, commander-elect of Lafayette Post, with whom the idea of the conference originated, presided, and among the commanders present of the various posts throughout the State were:

Dr. G. B. Balch, Horatio Seymour Post, No. 590; C. H. Van Gorder, Post No. 589; Joseph C. Abeel, Past Commander George C. Strong Post No. 534; J. R. Hays, Post No. 564; Charles H. Lee, Kerswell Post, No. 149; J. A. Eden, Post No. 3; Albert B. Wood, Post No. 182; Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Berridge, Lathrop Post, No. 138; Sergeant Gastland, Post No. 80; Robert Kelly, William B. Carpenter Post, No. 634; J. E. Young, Post No. 509, New-Rochelle; George Washburn, Wadsworth Post, No. 77; W. A. Townsend, Post No. 95, Peekskill; General Charles H. T. Collis, Lafayette Post; John Scott Power, R. J. Marks, Post No. 560; A. Wilkinson, Winchester Post, No. 197; J. N. Frazer, Post No. 538; T. E. Harder, Post No. 372; General Ira M. Hedges, Post No. 179; A. M. Clarke, George Washington Post, No. 103; John R. Robbins, Post No. 459; Samuel Collins, Post No. 402; Thomas L. Brooks, Post No. 543; Edward P. Doherty, Post No. 436; George A. Price, U. S. Grant Post, No. 327; George H. Sharpe, Post No. 127; Floyd Clarkson, Post No. 140; W. A. Clapp, Post No. 140; Robert Kelly, Post No. 634; Dr. J. T. Burdick, Rankin Post, No. 10; T. E. Harder, Post No. 372; Comrade Banta, Post No. 140; Richard H. Greene, Post No. 140; J. B. Eaton, Post No. 144; Comrade Van Gorden, Post No. 58; Comrade Ennis, Post No. 338; John Palmer, Post No. 5, Albany; John W. Corning, Garfield Post; Colonel Loeser and Comrade Adams, Post No. 458; H. L. Hunt, Post No. 618; W. H. Hemstreet, Post No. 614; James J. Keenan, Post No. 436; C. C. d'Homegue, Post No. 350; Comrade Hanbold, Post No. 264; Paul Kamerer and George L. Kilmer, Lincoln Post.

Colonel John Hamilton was secretary, and Theodore W. Grigg assistant secretary. These resolutions, proposed by General Collis, and seconded by General Ira M. Hedges, were unitedly agreed to:

Resolved, That we appeal to our comrades throughout the Union to discourage all discussion touching the advisability of removing the remains of General Grant to some other locality, and thus aid in surmounting at least one obstacle to the completion of the present design; for while the loyal people may and ought to perpetuate his unsullied fame by the erection of monuments in every city of the Union, his mortal remains can have but one resting place, which having been designated by her who survives him and will hereafter rest by his side, should be accepted as final, and not be made the subject of a controversy which must bring pain to his surviving family.

The grave of General Grant will be a National tomb. No State, no city, no community will claim its ownership. It must be simply an enduring and awe-inspiring tribute from Americans to an American.

Resolved, That we urge on the trustees of the Grant Monument Association the importance of adopting some general plan of building under which at least that portion of it appropriated for the tomb may be at once commenced and completed at an early day.

Resolved, That we recommend to our respective Posts that upon the adoption of such a plan, standing committees be appointed by each Post in the Department of New-York to raise funds, by voluntary subscription or otherwise, from the patriotic citizens of their several localities for the purpose of increasing the amount now on hand.

Resolved, That a committee of seven of which the chairman and secretary shall be members, be appointed formally to present these resolutions to the next State encampment and urge official action and co-operation and the setting aside of Sunday, April 27, 1890 (Grant's birthday), for the purpose of initiating the movement by the comrades of the G. A. R. of the State of New-York.

THE PHYSICIAN RAISED A DISTURBANCE.

Dr. Willis B. Prosins, of No. 55 West Twenty-fourth-st., who was formerly the house physician in the Ninety-ninth Street Hospital, was fined $10 for disorderly conduct in the Jefferson Market Police Court yesterday. While drunk, he called on one of the boarders of Mrs. Ellen Traphagen, at No. 160 West Twenty-third-st., and raised such a disturbance that an officer was called in to arrest him.

DETAILS OF REVOLUTION.

NEWSPAPERS AND LETTERS BY THE BESSEL.

BULLETINS ISSUED TO THE PEOPLE OF RIO ON THAT CRITICAL DAY.

The steamer Bessel, which arrived at Quarantine late Tuesday night from Brazil, brought newspapers and letters to the merchants of this city which give some details of the actual scenes of the first days of the revolution in Rio. The most important papers were sent to William M. Ivins. The earliest date they bear is November 15, the day of the revolution. The "Cidado do Rio," an afternoon paper of that day, is extremely joyful over the course of circumstances. Across the front page, underneath the official title of the journal, runs the words: "Long Life to the Army, which has Liberated Us." The paper is printed in the form of a bulletin giving from hour to hour the main occurrences of the day.

According to its disconnected and unsatisfactory story, the revolution broke out in reality at 2 o'clock in the morning. The Adjutant-General of the army with his brother officers and several battalions of infantry and cavalry took full possession of the barracks at that hour and prepared to assume control of the town on the following morning. At 6 o'clock a. m., Marshal Deodore da Fonseca assisted by his troop, the men of the navy, the police and firemen, took possession of the city. Soldiers filled the streets at all points and the Rua Do Omvidor became so crowded with interested and frightened people that it was impossible to pass that way. The regiments which played the principal part in the revolt were the 1st, 7th, 9th and 24th Cavalry. The cadets at the military academy and the students of the various institutions in Rio were soon infected with the spirit of the revolution, and at 10 o'clock rushed through the streets armed with weapons from their armories, followed by people of all classes, toward the Campo de Sant- Anna, one of the public squares of the city, where they filled the air with cries of "Viva la Republica Brazilliana." The square soon became a scene of the wildest enthusiasm, which reached its climax when General Deodore da Fonseca approached the place.

About 9 o'clock, as nearly as can be estimated, Baron de Ladario, Minister of Marine, while stepping from his carriage to enter his office, was met by an officer, who said: "I arrest you in the name of the army."

"Who are you to dare arrest me?" came the quick and determined answer of Ladario. At the same time he drew his revolver and fired, but failed to hit his man. The officer returned the fire at once, shooting four times, and Ladario fell. People rushed at once to his rescue. He was taken to the palace of Itamaraty, in the neighborhood, when it was learned that he was wounded in the forehead and the leg. For a time his life was despaired of and rumors were sent abroad that he was dead. This, however, proved to be untrue.

At 11 o'clock the proclamation of the Republic, which has been published already in The Tribune, was made public. It was received with the greatest enthusiasm and the Army and Navy and officers cheered and cheered again.

After the Emperor, Empress and the Count and Countess d'Eu had been summoned from Petropolis to the palace in Rio, a guard of soldiers was placed at the various entrances, with strict orders to allow no one to enter. The other particulars regarding the fate of the Emperor have already been published.

At 7 o'clock in the evening, after an afternoon of continued excitement, marching and cheering, accompanied by entire suspension of business, an officer of the cavalry rode through the streets of the city, crying: "The General Deodore da Fonseca has ordered the people to be quiet. The city is in charge of the soldiers, who have been commanded to shoot any person who attempts to misuse the property of others!" This order was obeyed, and the night was comparatively quiet. On the 16th the parades were continued, and the enthusiasm remained at a high pitch. A letter to Mr. Ivins, written on that date, says: "I have just heard that Figumredo and Maybrink, two bank presidents, have been arrested for conspiring against the Republic. Too much Ouro Preto and Figmredo was the cause of the revolution. The people could stand it no longer."

ASKING RECOGNITION BY PORTUGAL.

THE NEW REPUBLIC HAS THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE—A STORY OF THE REVOLUTION.

Lisbon, Dec. 11.—Senhor Bocayura, the Brazilian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has sent a cable dispatch to Senhor H. de Barros Gomes, the Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs, a formal request that he shall have proclaimed the recognition of the Brazilian Republic.

London, Dec. 11.—The manager of the National Bank of Brazil, referring to the adverse English comments regarding the stability of the Republic, telegraphs that the comments are groundless. He says that complete tranquillity prevails throughout the country and the people have entire confidence in the Government. Everything looks well.

"The Times" prints a letter from Rio Janeiro, under date of November 21, giving further details of the revolution in Brazil. When the Army leaders learned that the Imperial authorities intended to disperse the troops at Rio they resolved to resist to the point of deposing the Ministry. The Republicans seized the advantage thus offered them and worked hard for a fortnight, maintaining the utmost secrecy regarding their plans. In some way the Government got wind of what was going on and resolved to send the 7th Infantry away on November 15, instead of November 20, as had been intended. The Cabinet met late at night on November 14. At daybreak on November 15 the Ministers of the Navy, Foreign Affairs and Justice and the Prime Minister were all at the arsenal to witness the landing of the naval battalion which had been ordered to mount guard in the barracks in Acclamation Square, where the troops were quartered. At 6:30 as the marines arrived the whole Cabinet met at the War Office, and three infantry battalions were formed before the extensive frontage of the barracks. Later several regiments of cavalry and the whole police force joined. At 8:15, when the Cabinet considered that there was a sufficient force at their command to compel the recalcitrant battalion to march, General da Fonseca appeared on the scene, and all the officials inside and outside the barracks received him with acclamations and cries of "Down with the Ministry!" Baron Ladario, the Minister of Marine, on coming from the Arsenal, was invited to surrender as prisoner of Marshal do Fonseca and the Army). It was at this moment that the shooting scene already described occurred.

General da Fonseca then entered the barracks and informed the Ministers that they were deposed. He spoke bitterly of the Premier and the Minister of Justice, and, while he released the others, declared them prisoners. Later, at the urgent request of their comrades, he released them, but on learning in the evening that the Premier had had an interview with the Emperor he rearrested the Premier.

As soon as the news spread every commercial house closed its doors in terror. It is said that General da Fonseca was simply carried away, as the deposition of the Government alone cost him dear, and that he resolved at the last moment to cast his lot with the Republicans. While Dom Pedro, with Count Preto, was trying to form a new Cabinet the Republicans met at the Municipal Palace. The city Aldermen resolved to declare for the Republic, and sent a message to General da Fonseca asking him to proclaim that the dynasty was forever abolished.

Senhor Constant organized the coup, while Senhor Barbosa was the real organizer of the new constitution. The latter is a learned man, of great resource, and thoroughly conversant with the constitutional history of England and America. It was he who insured the banks with confidence, and induced them to maintain the rate of exchange.

"The News's" dispatch from Lisbon says that Dom Pedro has engaged rooms at the Hotel Beau Sejour at Cannes; and that he will refuse to abdicate in favor of his grandson. Exchange on Brazil has advanced to 30 1-4. The agent in London of the Brazilian Bank has shipped £5,000 to Rio Janeiro, which, it is stated, is urgently needed by the Brazilian Government for military purposes.

THE EMPRESS'S JEWELS STOLEN.

Lisbon, Dec. 11.—The ex-Empress of Brazil has received a telegram from Rio Janeiro informing her that all her jewels have been stolen, and that the police are investigating the case. This loss will be a heavy blow to the Imperial family. In the collection of jewels were comprised the finest Brazilian diamonds there are in the world. If the Brazilian Republic should decline to continue Dom Pedro's income, the loss of these treasures will be severely felt, as they were looked upon as the chief immediate resource of the family.

URGING EIGHT HOUR AND BALLOT REFORM LAWS

Boston, Dec. 11.—The second day's session of the American Federation of Labor was called to order at 9 a. m. by President Gompers. There are affiliated with the American Federation 3,800 local unions and a membership larger than in any other organization in the world. The annual report took strong ground in favor of eight-hour legislation. Regarding the first International Labor Congress, it suggests that the Executive Council be authorized to hold the congress in the city selected for the World's Fair. The prospect of ballot reform was referred to hopefully. Vicomte Le Meaux and Mlle. Le Meaux, of France, who were introduced by the State Board of Arbitration, were invited to seats upon the platform. By invitation of the convention Secretary William H. Sayward, of the National Builders' and Boston Master Builders' Associations, made an address, in which he strongly advocated organization, both by employer and employed, as leading to a better understanding and adjustment of labor problems, and assured the delegates that he was not opposed to organized labor, but intended as far as possible in his place to secure harmony and good feeling.

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CHANGES IN THE THIRD DISTRICT.

Another important political change has cropped out in the IIId Assembly District. The resignation of Police Justice Daniel O'Reilly from the County Democracy organization has already been made known. His purpose, it is now given out upon authority, is to join Tammany Hall, and, in going over to his former political enemies, he will take with him the bulk of the County Democracy of the IIId District. Alderman Patrick Napoleon Oakley, Assemblyman James A. Monaghan, Jacob Phillips, Justice O'Reilly's right-hand man, and other prominent men holding high rank with the "Counties" in that district are "wid' the Judge." Arrived within the Wigwam, these new recruits are to have the unusual privilege of voting at the Tammany primaries which take place next month.

The "Judge" is announced already as a candidate for the leadership of the district, and with the solid vote of his County Democracy followers to start with he will be a formidable opponent to Civil Justice Charles M. Clancy, who has been "laying pipe" for some time to wrest the baton of power from Register James J. Slevin, the present leader of the IIId. This new complication seems likely to result in a three-cornered fight, which will prove an unusually edifying thing. With two candidates, Slevin and Clancy, to divide the "Simon-pure" Tammany vote, and recognizing the favor with which the new acquisition, Justice O'Reilly, is known to be regarded by Leader Croker and other big chieftains of Tammany, the chances of O'Reilly for stepping at once into the leadership of his district are regarded as excellent.

It was rumored yesterday that ex-County Clerk Patrick Keenan, County Democracy leader of the XIIth Assembly District, was engaged upon his letter of resignation from that organization, and that "Pat" was another pilgrim whose ultimate destination was the Wigwam.

EX-EDITOR WEST ON TRIAL.

Chicago, Dec. 11 (Special).—Newspaper men from all parts of the country were in attendance at Judge Grinnell's court to-day at the opening of the trial of the ex-editor and president, James J. West, of "The Times" Company, on the criminal charge of over-issue of stock. Some of the ablest counsel of the city have been retained by both sides. Mr. West, though pale and visibly excited, faced his accusers with an air of assurance. Mr. Walker in his opening statement to the jury, said that the prosecution would prove that the over-issue of stock was clearly for fraudulent purposes and that it well accomplished its objects. He invited the jury to consider the financial affairs of "The Chicago Times" Company, from its organization in January, 1888. According to the charter, the capital stock was to consist of 10,000 shares of the value of $100 each. Before there was a formal issue of stock, Mr. West, as president, took a certificate with its stub, before the stockbook was bound, filled it out for 200 shares, and issued it to himself. He then pledged it at Stephen W. Rawson's bank for $10,000 for his personal use, and those shares are still outstanding. A few days after the stock was formally issued Mr. West signed certificates for 10,000 shares the full amount, not taking into account the 200 shares already issued. Mr. Walker then went on to describe other over-issues of stock, in amounts ranging from one share up to 500, which West assigned to himself and pledged at various banks. Mr. Walker charged that West, in April, 1889, secured a loan of $100,000 from John P. Odell, of the Union National Bank, on security of stock which was altogether an over-issue, representing stock, the certificates of which, it was claimed, were cancelled.

NAVY INTELLIGENCE.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Chief Engineer David Jones has been ordered to the New-Hampshire, December 20. Chief Engineer M. M. Heaton has been detached from duty at the West Point foundry, and ordered to duty at the Quintard Iron Works, N. Y.; Passed Assistant Engineer Robert Crawford, from the New-Hampshire, and placed on waiting orders.

ARRANGING FOR MRS. SCOTT LORD'S FUNERAL.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The funeral of Mrs. Scott Lord will take place to-morrow. Private services will be held at 11 a. m., at the Church of the Incarnation, which will be attended by the President and the relatives and immediate friends of the family. The burial will be in Rock Creek Cemetery.

TO SUCCEED JUDGE T. C. GREEN.

Charleston, W. Va., Dec. 11.—Governor Wilson to-day appointed Daniel B. Lucas, of Charlestown, Jefferson County, to fill the unexpired term in the Supreme Court of Appeals of Judge Thomas C. Green, who died last week.

PRESIDENT SETH LOW MADE DOCTOR OF LAWS.

Albany, Dec. 11 (Special).—The Regents of the University conferred the degree of LL. D. upon Seth Low, president of Columbia College, to-day.

WINTER NOTES FROM DIAMONDS.

Philadelphia, Dec. 11.—The officers of the Athletic club have abandoned all intentions of joining forces with the Brotherhood. Manager Sharsig said to-day that the Athletics would play on their old grounds next season, Brotherhood or no Brotherhood.

Canton, Dec. 11.—Three of Canton's pennant-winners, Zecher, Sharp and Delehanty, have deserted their club and have joined the Altoona team.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—"The Times" says: Charles A. Weidenfeller, president of the Chicago Players' League team, is mentioned as an available man for the presidency of the Players' League of America. The annual meeting occurs in New-York on Monday, and the players, with whom Mr. Weidenfeller is a general favorite, are determined to push his claims. He, however, states positively that he is not a candidate. "I think either Mr. McAlpin, of New-York, or Mr. Corey, of Boston, will be chosen," said Mr. Weidenfeller.

THE STATEN ISLAND ATHLETIC CLUB.

The annual election of the Staten Island Athletic Club was held at the club-house, at West Brighton, last night. Many of the members attended the Walker-Wiman wedding and the vote cast was lighter in consequence than was anticipated. The ticket elected was as follows: Eberhard Tabor, president; W. A. Lentilhon, vice-president; O. T. Johnson, treasurer; and W. C. Davis, secretary. The board of managers to serve two years was elected as appended: F. W. Janssen, R. Penn Smith, W. C. Walser, John W. Cole, James Brown, and Robert K. McMurray. Robert Mazet was elected to serve a one-year term.

WAS THE DEATH ACCIDENTAL?

Patrick McGowan, a laborer, of No. 731 St. Ann's-ave., was found lying at One-hundred-and-fifty-third-st. and Third-ave., at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, with a bad wound over his right eye. He was taken to the Thirty-third Precinct Police Station, where it was found that his skull was fractured. He had been drinking. He regained consciousness long enough to give his address, but died without telling how he had received his injury. At 11 o'clock last night he died.

NERVOUSNESS IN HORSES.

From The Atlantic Monthly: H. C. Merwin.

There is one respect in which all the most distinguished trotters have resembled each other, and that is in their nervous energy, in high spirit and courage. That flame which the Washington Hollow horseman detected in the eye of Flora Temple came out afterward in the resolute burst of speed with which she finished her last miles. Dexter was represented as being "chock full of fire and devilitry," and capable of jumping like a cat. Hiram Woodruff spoke of his "wicked head." Goldsmith Maid had a strong will of her own, and the excitement she betrayed on the eve of a race showed how fine was her organization. "She would stand quietly enough," says her driver, "while being hitched to the sulky, although she had been previously kicking and plunging in her stall, but she would shake and tremble until I have heard her feet make the same noise against the hard ground that a person's teeth will when the body is suddenly chilled; that is, her feet actually chattered on the ground. The instant I would get into the sulky all this would pass away, and she would start in a walk for the track as sober as any old horse you ever saw." Harus was so nervous that he never could have been driven with safety on the road, and his courage was of the finest temper. St. Julian was exceedingly high strung, and in hands less patient and discreet than those of his trainer might never have been subdued to the purpose of racing. Jay-Eye-See, though I know less of his personal history, is notorious for the pluck he showed on his last quarters of his hard miles, and Maud S. is the most spirited, the most determined and at the same time the gentlest of animals.

This nervous energy is the result of generations of breeding, and while it insures speed, calls for extra care and attention. Once in a great while a dull mettled horse has speed, but the great majority depend upon their nervous energies to carry them along. A well-bred trotter scents the battle from afar and goes into the contest with a readiness that shows not only a willing spirit, but a desire for the fray. In scoring, the horse will often give evidence of as much intelligence as its owner, swinging into line, taking the right position and showing by every movement its love of the contest. The desire to trot has been secured by the breeding and is the result of nervous energy stored through generations and strengthened by education and feeding.

WHERE FETTERMAN FELL.

GENERAL BRISBIN REVISITS THE SCENE OF THE PHIL KEARNY MASSACRE.

THE GRAVES ON CUSTER BATTLEFIELD MARKED AFTER TWENTY-THREE YEARS OF NEGLECT.

Fort Custer, Mont., Nov. 16.—Captain John W. French's Company D, 25th Infantry, has just completed a most melancholy duty, the setting up of tombstones over the graves of 111 officers, soldiers and citizens, who fell at the Phil Kearny Massacre, on December 21, 1866. There are many painful memories connected with the massacre of Colonel Fetterman and his men, or, as it is generally called and best known to the country, "the Phil Kearny Massacre."

The Government had determined to find a shorter route to the Yellowstone Valley from the Platte River, in Wyoming, and sent out a regiment under Colonel Henry B. Carrington, 18th Infantry, to occupy the Powder River region and build three forts, Phil Kearny, at the crossing of Piney Creek, Fort Reno further up, and Fort C. F. Smith at the crossing of the Big Horn River. The occupation of this country by armed forces gave great offence to the Indians and especially to Red Cloud and his bands, who claimed to own the country, though it really belonged to the Crow Indians, who were friendly to the whites and did not object to the building of the forts. Red Cloud protested, and finally ordered the troops to leave the country, or he would go to war with them. Little attention was paid to his talk, but true to his threats he one day attacked and killed a party of soldiers and citizens who were going from Fort Phil Kearny to Fetterman, on the Platte. This was the signal for war, and the fighting soon became general along the whole line from Big Horn to Phil Kearny. So closely did the Indians invest the forts and watch the roads that it was impossible for small parties to travel, and supplies for the garrisons even with large trains and strong escorts were in danger. The skirmishing and fighting had been going on all summer when on December 21, 1866, the little children who had been playing just outside the gates of Fort Phil Kearny ran in, calling out, "Indians! Indians!" At the same moment, almost, a picket stationed on a high hill called Picket Hill, near the fort, signalled that the wood train had been attacked while coming in with fuel for the post. They were about two and a half or three miles off, and the picket reported had gone into corral and were "standing off" the Indians. Colonel Carrington at once ordered a relief party to go to their assistance, and Colonel Fetterman was detailed to lead it. Fetterman's own company, with Company C, 2d Cavalry, under command of Captain Brown, and some detachments, constituted the relief force. Lieutenant Grummond, 18th Infantry, at his own request was permitted by Colonel Carrington to go with Fetterman. The whole command, when it left the fort, consisted of Colonel Fetterman, Lieutenant Grummond, Captain Brown, Wheatley, the guide, Fischer, an old frontiersman, seventy-six enlisted men and two or three citizens whose names are not known. Not one returned alive.

Colonel Carrington gave explicit orders to Colonel Fetterman to be careful, and under no circumstances to go beyond Lodge Trail Ridge, which would divide him from the fort and hide his column from view. After Fetterman had marched out with his infantry Colonel Carrington repeated his orders to the cavalry officer, who was saddling up, and did not go out quite as soon as Fetterman and his men. No attention was paid to Carrington's cautions, and the command marched straight ahead and over Lodge Trail Ridge, out of sight and communication with the fort. Soon after Fetterman had gone it was discovered that no medical officer had gone with him, and Colonel Carrington directed Dr. Hines, with an orderly, to overtake Fetterman, if possible. Hines started, but soon returned, saying the train had gone on to the woods, and Colonel Fetterman was on the ridge, with hosts of Indians in front of him and on his flanks. When asked why he did not push through he said it was impossible; there were so many Indians he could not get near Fetterman. Pretty soon sharp firing was heard, which became heavier every moment, but seemed further away. It was evident Fetterman was driving the Indians before him. For a time the firing almost ceased, then it sprang up again and roared. It was evident now a battle was in full progress, and the anxiety at the fort became painful. Volleys were heard, which is a pretty sure sign of hard and hot work. The strain could be endured no longer at the fort, and Captain Ten Eyck, Lieutenant Matson, Dr. Hines and Dr. Ould, with a relieving party, marched from the fort to aid Fetterman. They went at a double quick and straight for the hill over which Fetterman had disappeared. The firing had ceased. Either he