WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

MEN AND AFFAIRS AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

THE WORKINGS OF THE FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND ITS UNSCRUPULOUS CAMPAIGN AGAINST SENATOR INGALLS—A STORY OF GENERAL BELKNAP—JUSTICE MILLER'S UPRIGHTNESS—PUBLIC OPINION AND PUBLIC MEN.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Dec. 4.—A man who has made a careful study of the workings of the Farmers' Alliance in the West and South says that the importance of this organization and its object are not fully understood by the public. There is a false impression throughout the country that it is independent in its action and that in its political plans it is non-partisan. He calls attention to the fact that it has always shown itself to be an auxiliary of the Democratic party and should be so considered wherever the organization takes any part in politics. In proof of this he cites the fact that its first victory in South Carolina resulted in the election of a Democrat. In Georgia, through its co-operation, General Gordon, a lifelong Democrat, has been returned to the Senate. Senator Pugh, who has just been re-elected, is one of the most extreme Democrats in the Senate. He has been supported throughout his contest by the Farmers' Alliance.

Thus far the triumphs of this organization have been of a local character. In Kansas they are making a campaign against Senator Ingalls upon almost no other ground than that he is a Republican. In every instance in that State during the last election the Farmers' Alliance worked with the Democrats. In districts where the Democrats were the stronger the Alliance adopted its candidate, and where the Alliance was strong the Democracy withdrew its candidates in favor of the Alliance. Their campaign against Mr. Ingalls is conducted with a definite purpose. They have selected Kansas as the ground for making the first break in the Republican strongholds. The issue there made is sharp and well defined. If they defeat Mr. Ingalls, then the Farmers' Alliance organization will take shape, form as a National party and will co-operate with the Democrats throughout the North. If Senator Ingalls succeeds in his fight, and the probabilities are now that he will, the future of this party will be confined to its share in local campaigns.

The fight being conducted against the Senator is one of the most remarkable ever made against any Northern Republican. The means employed are those of desperate and unscrupulous men. A friend of the Senator told me to-day that the Senator receives upon an average at least once every week an anonymous letter threatening him with assassination. The opposition are weakly trying to frighten the Senator away from the State during the actual settling of the question by the Legislature. The election will take place in January. The feeling stirred up by the Alliance is so severe that some of the Senator's friends think that it will not be safe for him to go to Kansas, but the Senator, who fought these opponents face to face during the last campaign, without attempting in any way to yield to their demands, laughs at the fears of his friends, and says with the characteristic energy of a fearless fighter that he will be upon the ground at the proper time, whatever threats may be made.

The principles of the Farmers' Alliance have never been fully published. This student of the workings of this society says that during the Kansas campaign the representatives of this organization professed ideas and advocated doctrines which went beyond any ever proposed by the most rabid Paris Communists. The Anarchist theories of John Most, the wild diatribes of the Socialistic assassins of Chicago who were executed several years ago, were mild in comparison to the declamations of these Alliance orators. They acted under the most despotic decrees. The morning of election day the members were ordered to take certain votes, to proceed to the ballot-boxes and to speak to no Republican on the way until the vote was deposited in the box. All freedom of speech was denied to the members of this organization. No scheme of financial madness was too wild to be indorsed. Doctrines were promulgated in remote communities where formal reports of them never reached the papers, which were destructive to every social principle. The agriculturists, who have hitherto been considered the mainstay of the Nation, are suffering from a passing epidemic which this student calls a species of madness. Under its influence they submit without question to the arbitrary decrees of their leaders, whose plans are destruction and whose methods employed to secure such results are ruthless beyond anything ever known before in the history of any political campaign in this country.

A story was told me to-day of one of the last pieces of bad luck in the life of General Belknap. From the time he was compelled to resign from Grant's Cabinet he had one misfortune after another. Those who knew him always believed that he was in no way to blame for the trouble of that time. He always had the sympathy of the leading men at Washington, where he made for years a struggle against a dark future without complaint. He picked up for a time a good line of business. He represented one or two of the Western railroads and looked after their legal business at Washington. But nothing that he turned his attention to seemed to succeed, and when he died he left almost no estate.

Several weeks before he died he could not meet the obligations on a piece of property next to the house of Justice Blatchford. The amount due on the property was not great, but it was too much for the ex-Secretary. He sought in every direction to sell the property for more than the mortgage, but he could not, as Washington was deserted and real estate was not active. The foreclosure sale was ordered. A friend of General Belknap who knew that Justice Blatchford desired to extend his house wrote to him to come on and bid at the foreclosure sale. This friend of General Belknap was then prepared himself to bid up the property to a fair degree, as he knew the Justice was anxious to have it. The Justice came here and was on the ground before the sale began. General Belknap's friend arrived a few moments later. He had just heard of Justice Miller's death. Without thinking, he spoke of it, and a moment later Justice Blatchford was gone to the Miller house to make inquiries. During his absence the auction began and the lot was sold much below its value because there was no bidding. General Belknap, who had heard of Justice Blatchford's arrival in town, came to the auction to learn how much he was going to save from the wreck. He arrived immediately after the Justice had gone away. His friend said:

"General, I have ruined you, and without any intention."

He then explained how he had spoken of Justice Miller's death and the result. General Belknap simply threw up his hands as if that was the sort of luck he was to expect, and walked away without a word.

A prominent public man said to me the other day: "There is nothing in the official life at Washington. Few public men save anything, or can save anything, if they have only their salaries to depend upon. Few of them have their lives insured. There are many families living in Washington to-day in poverty who only a few years ago were flattered and run after as members of official life. It is the pleasure of the power that fascinates and enthralls. The places upon the Supreme Court bench are considered in the legal profession the most desirable of the official places. They are the only offices, with the exception of the Army and Navy, which have a retiring pension. Yet few of the Justices are able to leave anything to their families. When families are left in comfortable circumstances, it is where their heads were rich before going upon the bench.

"It is one of the pleasant things to know in connection with the history of the Supreme Court that there have never been any scandals connected with its administration. The majority of the Justices have been poor and have been in positions where they could have made enormous sums of money through their advance knowledge. But no one ever heard of a Justice of the Supreme Court speculating, and out of all the gossip of Washington I have never heard any one accuse the Justices of indiscretion in the way of giving out advance information. Several years ago a sensational newspaper charged Justice Miller with having furnished Jay Gould with advance information concerning an important railway decision. This was a most cruel and unwarranted story. If there had been anything in it Justice Miller would not have died the poor man that he was. There was no member of the bench who was more respected than he, and the moderation of his expenditures when in life, and the lack of fortune he left behind him, show how upright was his career."

This same public official, who now occupies one of the highest offices in the Government, said that the trouble about American politics was that there was nothing in it, either in fame or money. Public opinion in this country did not always rule. Concerning this he said: "I mean the best public opinion. We are subject to ruthless waves of emotion—I won't call them opinions—which come without rhyme or reason, and put an end to the career of our best men. The newspapers of America are never weary of poking fun and attacking public men. To be a member of Congress is, from a newspaper point of view, to be an object of derision or suspicion. The House is the training school for public life. It is the only place for a beginner who seeks to make a reputation in a National sense. To-day the House is an impossible place for the development of a new reputation. Men come and go there without being known, and often the most vigorous and powerful efforts are simply wasted."

T. C. CRAWFORD.

SULLIVAN'S "GOLDEN LEGEND."

Whether or not Sir Arthur Sullivan's cantata, "The Golden Legend," benefited much from the performance which it received last night at the first concert of Mr. Wiske's New-York Chorus Society might be set down as a debatable question. Sir Arthur is a very distinguished man, and the fact that a serious work of magnitude, one in which he himself takes a more than ordinary paternal pride, should have been ignored in the chief city of America for four years when the offspring of his lighter moods are so largely sought after is a fact which might be thought by some to be a just cause for wonderment. The case, however, is not so unreasonable as it seems at first blush. Sir Arthur is not the only genius in this world who disagrees with a considerable portion of the globe's population, a judicious portion moreover, concerning the direction in which his talents lie. Like many a comedian on on the theatrical stage who is convinced of his tragic bent, he is inclined to look upon his operettas as trifles and to attach great importance to his oratorios. His position in the musical world of Great Britain insures a chorus of praise for everything he does, but it is obvious, in spite of all that and more than all that, in spite of royal patents and royal friendships, that the test of time proves him to be mistaken and the people to be right in their judgment of his works. His setting of scenes from Longfellow's "Golden Legend" collated by Mr. Joseph Bennett with an eye to dramatic continuity and unity is a serious effort; that cannot be gainsaid. But we would be tempted to question that man's soundness of judgment who would rank it with any one of the composer's operettas in respect of freshness and spontaneity of melodic invention, ingenuity of treatment or truthfulness of expression. It never rises to real greatness, and, indeed, seldom swings itself above the commonplace, while its monotonous sentimentality, the everlasting placidity of its movement and the stagnation of its dialogue render it a striking example of musical somnolency. A judgment like this may sound hard, but it is not a hasty one, nor is it formed on last night's hearing. The text which Longfellow furnished in his poem invites to musical setting, but it has been better set by Mr. Buck, and with due deference to Sir Arthur and Mr. Wiske we have no hesitation in saying that the cause of music would have been better subserved had the American composer's work been performed than it was by the production of Sir Arthur's. This, however, is a matter that has nothing to do with the merit of the cantata or its performance, and does not enter into the judgment which must be passed upon them.

Mr. Wiske's energy and enterprise are remarkable. How he succeeded in getting together so good a choir as he stood before last night is little short of a mystery. It is not a choir of great excellence in the matter of quality of tone, but its work under the circumstances was highly commendable. It was so good that we wish for the sake of choral music in New-York that it could have been a little better—that the tone emitted had been fuller and richer and that Mr. Wiske's beat had been a better guide to the singers and instrumentalists. The choir is about 200 strong. The solo parts were in good hands, those namely of Miss De Vere, Mrs. Clapper Morris, W. J. Lavin and Carl Dufft.

READY FOR THE ANNUAL DINNER.

THE ST. NICHOLAS SOCIETY INSTALLS ITS NEW OFFICERS—ORATORS AT THE FEAST.

The St. Nicholas Society last night held in Delmonico's the annual family gathering which precedes the big dinner. The officers who were elected on November 10 were installed with all due ceremony, and everything is now in readiness for to-morrow night's festivities. There was a large attendance of the members of the society—whose member-ship lists are now filled to the present utmost number of 600—and the installation exercises were conducted with taste and eloquence by James W. Gerard and Herbert B. Turner. The following officers were installed:

President, James William Beekman; vice-presidents, Frederic J. de Peyster, Chauncey M. Depew, Edward King, S. Franklin Stanton; treasurer, Charles A. Schermerhorn; secretary, John B. Pine; assistant secretary, E. Benedict Oakley; chaplains, the Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Vermilye, Bishop Potter; physicians, Dr. Stuyvesant Fish Morris, Dr. T. Matlack Cheesman; consulting physicians, Dr. Stephen V. R. Bogert, Dr. Gouverneur M. Smith; managers (for the term of four years), J. Seaver Page, H. H. Cammann, Douglas Taylor; stewards (for the term of three years), F. Augustus Schermerhorn, Charles C. Haight.

The following is a list of the toasts to be presented at to-morrow evening's dinner in Delmonico's, with the names of the speakers who will respond to them: "St. Nicholas," Bishop Potter and the Rev. Dr. Greer; "Our City," Seth Low, president of Columbia College; "Our State," Chauncey M. Depew; "The Army and Navy," General W. T. Sherman and S. Nicholson Kane; "The Founders of New-Amsterdam," Judge A. T. Clearwater, of Kingston, N. Y.; "Holland," the Rev. Dr. van Dyke.

The Brazilian admiral, Henry M. Stanley and A. J. M. Jephson will, it is expected, be at the dinner.

MISS MATHER TO PLAY BERNHARDT'S PART.

Miss Margaret Mather arrived in town yesterday and will at once begin rehearsals of "Joan of Arc," which she is to play at the Fifth Avenue Theatre on Monday evening. The play, she says, is the same in its essential points as that presented by Mme. Bernhardt, but the characteristics which appeal more strongly to a French audience than to an English and American one have been modified, and there is more action than in the French version. Some new stage effects are also introduced. All Gounod's music, which was composed for the French play, will be used, and a large chorus has been selected and is in training. The mounting and costuming of the play will be elaborate and carefully arranged, though the central part does not admit of especially great display in the matter of costume. Miss Mather is much pleased with the arrangements that have been made thus far, and thinks that she has a good company. The cast is as follows:

Joan of Arc	Margaret Mather
Thibault	Otis Skinner
Jacques d'Arc	Giles Shine
Siward	Henry E. Walton
Pierrello	G. Waring
Gordon	Gilmore Scott
Isabelle	Carrie Jamieson
M ng tte	Beatrice Ingram
King Charles VII	John Malone
De Thouars	Howard Kyle
Loys	Murthe Porteous
Iseult	Leonora Bradley
Count de Vendome	S. Wardle
Xantrailles	M. Fitzgerald
Warwick	Everard Cole
Nicolas	Harold Hartsell

NOTES OF THE STAGE.

Digby Bell and Laura Joyce Bell are soon to rejoin the McCaull Opera Company, which is now travelling in the West. The company is soon to produce one of the earlier works of Franz von Suppe, which has never before been heard in this country. The leading part is that of an Egyptian king, which will be played by Mr. Bell. Other members of the company are Miss Helen Bertram, Miss Annie Myers, Miss Josephine Knapp, Chauncey M. Olcott, W. Dungan and William Blaisdell. The company expects to play a season in New-York lasting the whole of next summer.

The performance at Tony Pastor's Theatre this afternoon will be a testimonial to Miss Bessie Bonehill, whose songs have formed attractive features of the performances given at the house since the beginning of the season.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal will play "The Queen's Shilling" at the Fifth Avenue Theatre this evening.

NO LITERARY REVOLUTION.

WHAT PUBLISHERS SAY OF THE NEW COPYRIGHT BILL.

CHEAPER BOOKS AND A FAIR COMPETITION AMONG AUTHORS FOR HIGHER PRICES.

Undoubtedly the Senate will pass the International Copyright bill with the House amendments. Undoubtedly the President will sign it. Then justice will be done. Expect not too great things, however, for a little while. The law will not go into effect until July 1, 1891. New-York publishers agree that there will be no sudden change in the situation of literary affairs.

"There will be no revolution in the publishing business," said Charles Scribner yesterday. "The immediate effect of the law—assuming that the bill becomes a law—will be the holding back of new works till such time as a copyright may be had in both countries, Great Britain and the United States. I have personal knowledge of a number of important books that are being withheld. If Stanley had not been an American citizen I feel sure that his book would not have appeared till next summer. Being an American, of course he could get a copyright in this country. The English author would be debarred from that. I do not expect to see any great or noticeable change in the price of books. The day of the 10 and 15 cent literature is practically over anyway; over, because publishers found that it did not pay them to turn out books at such a price. I think we shall still have the 25-cent and the 50-cent novels, as we have at present. You must have noticed that the price of cheap books has steadily advanced in the last two or three years, and it may be accounted for on the ground of self-preservation. Publishers were not making anything out of the cheaper reprints. No, there was no combination among them to raise prices. Another immediate effect of the new law will be the impetus it will give to the printing business. There will be no more shell-plates, as the bill provides that the books published here must be put in type here. These shell-plates are simply electrotypes, ready for the press, all that they require after reaching here being the 'backing' to bring them to the proper height for printing. The most important operation of the bill will be among authors, both native and foreign. We shall have a better class of literary work, because authors being sure of higher remuneration, will devote more time and thought to their manuscript. The American author will be on level terms with the British, and there will be greater incentive to do good work. The law will benefit all of us. I do not see any reason why there should be a great increase in the publishing business. Nor, on the other hand, should there be any decrease. The bill, as I take it, will revolutionize nothing. Its operation will be gradual."

"One of the first things the new law will do," said Henry Harper, of Harper & Brothers, "will be to check or absolutely stop the importation of cheap reprints, a business started and largely carried on by foreign houses with establishments in this country. Canada, for instance, has been over-running the country with paper editions of standard works. A day or two ago I saw a copy of 'Ben Hur' that had been published in Canada selling for twenty-five cents. Now, we do not publish any cheap copies of General Wallace's book, and the effect of this foreign reprint is easily apparent, yet under the existing law we are helpless. The new bill is going to help publishers by keeping out these cheap reprints; it is going to help printers by keeping out electrotypes or 'shell-plates,' and it is going to help American authors by enabling them to compete on fair terms with foreigners. We have done a good deal of the 'shell-plate' business, though most of our books are set up in our own type. I think one effect of the bill will be to encourage the exportation to Great Britain of plates made in this country. However, the public will not notice any sudden change in affairs. It will take time for the new condition to have its effect. In the price of cloth editions there is not likely to be any change; only the cheaper literature will be affected.

"Authors will derive great benefit from the operation of the new law. How? Well, take for instance William Black and W. D. Howells, who, for the sake of argument, we will assume, are on equal terms to begin with. The country is flooded with cheap reprints of Black's works. They can be bought anywhere at 25 and 50 cents a copy. On the other hand we are obliged to keep up the price of Howells's books to, say, $1 50 a copy. We control their publication, but have absolutely nothing to say about the publication of Black's. Possibly many readers regard Black's books as good as Howells's, in which case it stands to reason that in order to save $1 25 they will buy Black's and let Howells's alone. Howells is the sufferer. It is our rule to remunerate authors on the royalty plan, and I think that is now the custom with most American publishers; so that the larger the sale the greater the remuneration. To enlarge the sale of Howells's books we must bring their price nearer to the price at which Black's are sold, that is, we must reduce the one or increase the other. This will undoubtedly increase the price of Black's books, and I believe it will tend to reduce the price of Howells's. Of course, it is understood that the measure is not retroactive. Every foreign book issued prior to July 1, 1891, will be pirated. Only those published after the law goes into effect are protected. Then we may see a new work of Black and a new work of Howells selling on the same counter at the same price. Such competition will benefit the American author. And it will also benefit the foreign author, as he will then be sure to receive on his books the royalty which in a majority of instances is now denied him."

"Publishers then will have to skirmish abroad for desirable manuscripts, as managers skirmish even now for new plays," suggested The Tribune reporter who listened to Mr. Harper.

The reply was: "Of course we shall have our agents in London and Paris on the lookout for acceptable works. As a matter of fact, we have them there now. So have other American publishers, and each tries to get the first hold on a new work of importance. Trade courtesy, however, controls such matters. If we find that the Appletons are trying to secure a certain work we never think of interfering."

"It looks like international copyright at last, after fifty-three years of effort," said George Haven Putnam. "The first bill on the subject was introduced by Henry Clay, in 1837, at the solicitation of the Copyright League, of which William Cullen Bryant was president and G. P. Putnam was secretary. I feel sure that the Senate will pass the Simonds bill, and, of course, the President will sign it at once, as he advocates it in his message. We can only guess at the effect of the new law, but I believe we can guess pretty close. As regards authors, I don't think that either American or British need look for any sudden or great increase in their income. I am a little nervous, however, about a possible inundation. Some time ago I abandoned the publication of American fiction, driven thereto by a ruinous competition with cheap reprints of foreign works. Our friends, Henry Holt & Co., in this building, did the same. Whenever we received a manuscript we returned it unopened, accompanied by a circular letter informing the author that we did not publish fiction and inviting him to write to his Congressman in behalf of the Copyright bill. When the bill becomes a law, suppose all these hundreds of authors come back at me with their stories? What can I do?

"I think this bill will bring about a rapprochement between British and American publishers that will redound to the benefit of both. There will be a planning among them for the control of larger markets, which will help authors, publishers and the reading public. Authors will receive higher remuneration and will do better work, because they can afford to devote more time to the preparation of their manuscript; publishers will sell 1,000 books where they now sell 100, and the public will get those books at a reduced price. Publications of all kinds will be better executed. Nowadays most of the cheap work turned out is only half done. We are obliged to hurry to beat the pirates, who depend on our literary judgment—having none of their own—and try to get to the market with our own wares before we can reach it ourselves. The new law will put an end to all this scrambling; we shall see less of this 'scramble material,' and be enabled to turn out better work. Most of the cheap literature of the day is made up of reprints of works that the reputable houses have brought out and paid a royalty on. You would be surprised to know how many establishments there are which are without literary counsel. They cannot afford to employ it, so they use ours.

"Under the new law a reduction may be looked for in the selling price of certain lines of American fiction and other current literature. Under the present cut-throat competition the publishers of the works of such authors as Howells, James, Aldrich, Bret Harte and other leading American writers have given up the attempt to compete with the unpaid-for reprints of foreign writers. Knowing that they can depend on certain (comparatively limited) circles of readers, they find it more profitable to obtain from them the highest prices they are willing to pay. When foreign works are put on the same level as those of American writers, the publishers of the latter will find it to their interest to plan for the widest popular sale, and for this purpose will at once issue their books at popular prices. The selling price of books depends not on the copyright, but on the requirements of the market and the extent of the market that is controlled by the author and his representative. American buyers are now accustomed to cheap books, and will not buy dear books, and the publishers are not likely to throw away their money by making dear books for which they could not find a sale. The wider the markets and the greater the number of editions between which the first outlays can be divided, the smaller the cost of each copy, and the lower the price at which each copy can be and will be supplied. With assured markets and an assured control to authors of the results of their literary undertakings, there will be a great increase in the publication of international series, which will provide for American readers, at the lowest prices, satisfactory editions of the works of the leading writers of the world, American, English and Continental. As Brander Matthews has pointed out, the cheapest books to be bought to-day in the United States are mostly inferior stories by contemporary English novelists, while the cheapest books to be bought to-day in Europe are the best works by the best authors of all times. In France and Germany, countries fully under the control of copyright, both domestic and international, the first issues of standard and current publications, both copyright and non-copyright, are cheaper than anywhere else in the world."

The Appletons, Henry Holt & Co., and other leading publishers, entertain the same opinions as set forth in the foregoing interviews.

Robert Underwood Johnson, secretary of the American Copyright League, tells an interesting story of the long fight for the bill. The literature on the subject was voluminous and nearly all the world was called on at one time or another to help the work along. Memorials were sent to Congress by the score. Forty-eight well-known Western authors prayed for the passage of the bill; all the Southern writers prayed for it; the leading American composers prayed for it; the librarians of the country prayed for it; the educators of the country prayed for it; thousands of American citizens who earn their living in whole or in part by their pen—including nearly all the famous names in literature—prayed for it; typographical unions throughout the country prayed for it; the press prayed for it. The wonder is it did not become a law years ago.

This bill, which is the cordially accepted platform of the entire copyright movement, provides that the privileges of the domestic copyright law shall be extended to authors of foreign countries, on the following conditions:

The work so copyrighted must be printed from type set in this country. This insures that there shall be the minimum of disturbance to the book-printing trade: that books for the American market shall be published near to it by those familiar with its peculiar needs, and familiar with the widespread demand for cheap editions. "The London Times" says that this provision will make New-York the publishing centre of the world. It will contribute to the growth of American literature by enabling the American author to compete with cheap American books in the American cheap market now reserved for foreign works, which pay nothing to the author.

The sale of foreign editions and plates of works so copyrighted is not permitted. This is in accordance with the present domestic copyright law, and is a corollary of the foregoing. To omit it would be to take away with the left hand what is given with the right; but exception is made of permitted importations of foreign books in parcels of "two copies for use and not for sale," with the permission of the owner of the American copyright. This is for the benefit of colleges, libraries and schools that may desire special English editions; but copyright will tend to identity of editions, and books not copyrighted may be imported as heretofore.

Editors may import newspapers and periodicals for quotation, even when they contain copyright articles. There is, therefore, no hardship on the press.

There were two amendments to the bill as passed in June, the first naming the date of its operation as July 1, 1891, instead of 1890, and the second a reciprocal clause, as follows:

Sec. 13—That this act shall only apply to a citizen of a foreign state or nation when such foreign state or nation permits to citizens of the United States of America the benefit of copyright on substantially the same basis as its own citizens, or when such foreign state or nation permits to citizens of the United States of America copyright privileges substantially similar to those provided for in this act; or when such foreign state or nation is a party to an international agreement which provides for reciprocity in the grant of copyright, by the terms of which agreement the United States of America may at its pleasure become a party to such agreement. The existence of either of these conditions shall be determined by the opinion of the Attorney-General of the United States, whenever an occasion for such a determination arises.

SELECTIONS FROM THE MAIL.

NOT SEEKING TO DELAY JUSTICE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I notice in your issue of December 2 an editorial upon "Electrical Obstruction," in which you refer to the Wood case in such a manner as to leave the impression upon the reader that the case is being delayed in the interest of electrical companies. To this I desire to enter my most emphatic denial. As Wood's counsel I have never, directly or indirectly, received any assistance, financial or otherwise, directly or indirectly, from any electric company, or from any other source. I have advanced the money to pay all expenses, and have done it for the sole reason that I do not believe Wood to be guilty, and it would be a disgrace to execute him for taking the life of the ruffian whom he killed.

The facts were not known to the jury or counsel at the time of the trial, and had not later developments convinced me of his innocence I should not have made a prolonged fight. For over ten months Wood was confined in the Tombs before he was brought to trial, though he never asked for delay, and the witnesses for the prosecution were at all times at hand. Justice was not so swift at that time, but as soon as he was convicted I was asked to stipulate to advance the case before the Court of Appeals, and I did so; and the same was submitted in June when, had I not consented, it could not have reached that court before October. I deny that delay has been my object; and if your paper wishes to be fair and you will assign one of your staff to investigate the facts you will be quite as anxious to save the man as you now seem to have him executed. The appeal is not "frivolous," but is founded on the law, and I expect it to secure a new trial and a different verdict. It is an honorable fight for a human life, and I trust that you will do yourself the justice of investigating and correcting the wrong you have done a poor and helpless man. Yours truly, R. J. HAIRE.

New-York, Dec. 4.

CLOTHING WANTED FOR POOR CHILDREN.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The clothing-room of the New-York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children is entirely empty. Over a thousand miserable little children rescued by it during the last eleven months from the slums of this city have completely used up the scanty supply it had on hand. The rags in which these poor little creatures are brought to the society are so saturated with filth and vermin that it becomes necessary in almost every case to burn them up and replace them with new clothing.

Will not the charitable appreciate this appeal, and send without delay to the society such cast-off clothing and shoes for children as will replenish its empty stores? If notice be mailed to the society it will gladly send to any residence indicated for such donation. The need is imperative and the children are really suffering for the supply. The winter is approaching and promises to be unusually severe.

ELBRIDGE T. GERRY, President.

New-York, Dec. 4, 1890.

BELMONT AND GREELEY: A MEMORY.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Your obituary notice of the late August Belmont omitted any reference to one event in his life which I hope you will think not out of place on the occasion.

Jefferson Davis was a United States prisoner held without bail upon the charge of treason, and from term to term of the court was demanding a trial. To get the elephant off our hands those great patriotic and philanthropic men Horace Greeley, Gerrit Smith, John Miner Botts and August Belmont, in the face of public prejudice, entered bail for the prisoner and set him free.

The last time I saw my old lifelong friend, Greeley, I asked him if he supposed that the real merits of that transaction would be generally understood, and he replied, "Oh, no, David, not in my day, but later on, and finally the truth is sure to be triumphant."

Rutland, Vt., Nov. 26, 1890. D. E. NICHOLSON.

THE BAPTIST SOCIAL UNION MEETS.

The New-York Baptist Social Union had its regular monthly meeting and dinner last evening at Delmonico's, the Rev. Theodore M. Banta presiding. The following were elected officers: Lewis C. King, president; Edward S. Clinch, first vice-president; A. C. Cheney, second vice-president; James E. Newcomb, secretary, and W. D. Morse, treasurer. The following members were elected to compose the new board of directors: The Rev. Messrs. Theodore M. Banta, L. M. Lawson, William M. Isaacs, W. D. Murphy, Thomas R. Harris, John Beaver, Charles A. Myers and Henry C. Mandeville. The speakers were the Rev. R. Marshall Harrison and the Rev. Dr. John Hall, who spoke on the subject of city evangelization. About sixty ministers and laymen were present.

PROMINENT ARRIVALS AT THE HOTELS.

ALBEMARLE—Mrs. Morrison R. Waite and daughter, of Washington. FIFTH AVENUE—Ex-Congressman Ambrose A. Ranney, of Boston; Franklin Fairbanks, of Vermont, and Colonel R. Dalgety, of Jamaica. MURRAY HILL—Ex-Governor H. B. Bigelow, of Connecticut; Cornelius A. Logan, of Ohio, and Orville D. Baker, of Augusta, Me. VICTORIA—Dr. George B. Loring, recently U. S. Minister to Portugal. WINDSOR—Railroad Commissioner E. W. Kinsley, of Massachusetts.

MR. AMMIDOWN ALL RIGHT.

THE RITTENHOUSE CO.'S STATEMENT.

TIGHT MONEY CAUSED THE SUSPENSION—AMMIDOWN & SMITH NOT AT ALL EMBARRASSED BY IT.

The statement of the Rittenhouse Manufacturing Company of Passaic, whose failure was announced yesterday, as filed with the application for a receiver shows liabilities of $893,373 and assets $866,181. The liabilities consist of cash advanced by Ammidown & Smith, $196,000; advanced by others, $216,214; drafts and notes outstanding, $436,923; due for merchandise, $44,236. The assets are: estimated value of mill property and machinery, $315,463; raw wool and other material and partly manufactured goods, $299,027; manufactured goods consigned to Ammidown & Smith, $247,291; bills receivable, $4,400.

Ammidown & Smith, dry-goods commission merchants at Nos. 58 and 60 Worth-st., assert that the failure of the Rittenhouse Company will not cause any trouble to their firm, as they expected it and accordingly prepared for it. The firm had no interest in the Rittenhouse Company further than selling its product, but Mr. Ammidown, the senior partner, was a large stockholder in the company. Mr. Ammidown said yesterday that his firm was a creditor of the Rittenhouse Company for about $200,000, but the firm had over that amount in goods of the company on hand, so that the firm's loss would be little, if anything. Concerning the condition of his firm, he declared that it was worth at the lowest figures $500,000 over and above what it owed, making every allowance for all possible shrinkage and loss. The liabilities would not exceed $200,000 and the firm had more than that in cash and outstanding accounts. The business was established in 1861, as Ammidown, Lane & Co., and it was succeeded by the present firm on January 1, 1883, both members having been partners in the old firm.

Mr. Ammidown said that he really knew little about the affairs of the insolvent company, as he had not been in Passaic for more than a year. The firm of Ammidown & Smith had handled much of the output of the mills. There had been no difficulty in selling the goods. The failure had been caused by the general stagnation in business and by the tightness of the money-market. It had been almost impossible to raise large sums of money. The business during the year had been good, with the exception of the last thirty-five or forty days. Mr. Ammidown could not say what would be done with the mills of the company. It was too soon to determine whether they should remain in operation or be closed. Mr. Ammidown was also unable to say what were the assets and what were the liabilities of this firm. He added, however, that the capital of the company was $200,000, of which he owned $160,000. He was of the opinion that he would lose all of his interest in the firm, as the stock would be worthless in all probability. The employes of the company, he added, would not lose any money. They received their wages every two weeks, and they would be paid in full. The assets were made up chiefly of the machinery, the manufactured products and the raw material on hand.

"Ammidown & Smith and E. H. Ammidown," said Mr. Ammidown, "are not affected in the least by this failure. They are as solid as they ever were."

The other stockholders were T. M. Moore, a lawyer, of Passaic; a Mrs. Darling and E. L. B. Gardiner.

Judge Andrews, of the Supreme Court, yesterday granted an attachment for $5,000 against the Rittenhouse Company in favor of A. M. Davis & Co. William Barbour, the receiver of the company, is quoted as saying that the liabilities are about $800,000. He will continue to run the mills for the creditors as long as it is desirable to do so. The failure was due to tight money, not to tariff legislation.

The Rittenhouse Company was incorporated in 1872 under New-Jersey laws with an authorized capital stock of $500,000, of which $200,000 was paid in. The plant is valued by some at $300,000 and is said to be unencumbered. The concern did an annual business of about $700,000. In the trade here it is believed that the statement from Passaic that the liabilities are over $800,000 includes the capital stock. This idea is based on a statement made by Mr. Ammidown about ten weeks ago, to the effect that the last annual stock-taking of the company showed assets of $519,000 and liabilities $178,000.

The failure seems to have no bad effect upon the dry-goods trade here. A number of well-known merchants were of the opinion yesterday that it would have no influence upon the trade whatever.

TROUBLES OF BUSINESS MEN.

Julius Sonn & Brother, manufacturers of ruffings at No. 8 Greene-st., have been closed up by the Sheriff on executions aggregating $8,977 in favor of the following creditors: Mechanics and Traders' Bank, $2,006; H. B. Claflin & Co., $2,738; J. & I. Sonn, $4,233. The business has been established eight years, and they claimed a capital of $20,000. The liabilities are reported to be $40,000.

Richard H. Allen & Co., the local branch of the large cotton house of Thomas H. Allen & Co., of Memphis, Tenn., who failed recently, filed their statement of liabilities and assets yesterday at the Cotton Exchange. They say that their actual liabilities are $40,367 07, and the actual assets $94,054 43, which will represent creditors and members of the firm.

THE PATERSON SILK FAILURES.

Nightingale Brothers, the silk manufacturers of Paterson, N. J., whose embarrassment carried down the importing house of John T. Walker, Son & Co., have offered their creditors 50 cents on the dollar—10 per cent to be paid in cash and the rest in notes secured by mortgage on the mill property. A committee consisting of William T. Ryle, raw silk importer, of New-York; ex-Judge John S. Barkalow, of Paterson, and Mr. Church will investigate and report on the offer. Mr. Ryle is the assignee of John T. Walker, Son & Co., Mr. Barkalow represents the Broadway National Bank of New-York, and Mr. Church the Yokohama Specie Bank. These two banks are large holders of the embarrassed firm's paper.

The ribbon-manufacturing firm of Walz, Benz & Keller, who assigned last week, estimated their assets at $25,857, but appraisers appointed by the assignee reported yesterday that the property was worth only $11,382.

Joseph Hartley, another ribbon manufacturer who failed last week, has offered 25 cents on the dollar, but a number of the creditors are unwilling to accept the compromise because Mr. Hartley had given preferences, by chattel mortgages, to two of the creditors.

THE TWILIGHT CLUB'S BIGGEST MEETING.

The Twilight Club discussed "How Shall We Prevent Crime" at its dinner at Morello's last night, those who spoke including several persons who were well acquainted with crime. Some of these had gained their knowledge by prosecuting criminals, others by defending them; one speaker was warden of a large prison; others had been thrown in contact with vicious men and women in their efforts to reform them, and one speaker admitted frankly that he had served several terms of imprisonment. As these were for political offences committed in Germany, he did not seem to be at all ashamed of his record.

The Rev. J. Howard Suydam, of Jersey City, presided with the greatest success, launching every speaker with a clever joke or bright saying. Warden Augustus A. Brush, of Sing Sing Prison, read an able and thoughtful paper embodying his experience on the reformation of criminals. Other speakers who made telling addresses were Colonel A. H. H. Dawson, Carleton T. Lewis, representing the Prison Association of New-York; M. Oppenheim, who had been an inmate of several German prisons as a political offender; Mr. Wilkins, of the Brooklyn Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children; John Swenton, C. L. Woodbridge, Assistant District-Attorney John W. Goff and Congressman-elect John De Witt Warner.

About 140 persons, the largest number that has ever attended an ordinary meeting of the club, were present. Among them were Assistant Postmaster John Gayler, Lawson Valentine, the Rev. Messrs. Harris and Bolles, George S. Page, John D. Archbold, S. C. T. Dodd, General G. W. Wingate, Drs. Jerome B. Walker and John S. Allen, and Captain John Codman.

CLASS ELECTION AT PRINCETON.

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 4 (Special).—The senior class elections were held in the Old Chapel last night. The offices were the last honors to be bestowed by the class, and the contests for many places required repeated balloting before a choice could be made. The elections resulted as follows: Master of ceremonies, William C. Spicer; class president, Edgar Allan Poe; class secretary, George B. Agnew; class orator, George W. Wallace; class poet, James H. Dunham; ivy orator, Pringle C. Jones; historian, George P. Wheeler; presentation orator, Alfred P. Dennis; prophet, Halsey Durand; censor, Charles C. Dana; Washington's Birthday orator, James Barnes; class of '76 prize debater, Samuel Semple; class day committee, Edwin A. S. Lewis, Robert B. Wallace, Frank H. Payne, John W. Valliant, Glenn F. McKinney, John H. Sealy, William H. Bradford, William R. Deemer, William B. Blackwell, W. Christy Bryan, George J. Bergen, H. Denny Paxton, Jeremiah S. Black, Franklin T. Moore and James C. Myers; "Nassau Herald" editors, Homer R. Miller, Joseph S. Roddy, James A. Matheson and George Dugan; ode committee, Frank H. Payne, George P. Wheeler, Alfred B. Yeomans; memorial committee, George S. Patton, Harry H. Durell and Charles T. Mixer.

THE BRAZILIANS AT THE CASINO.

The four lower boxes on the right of the auditorium at the Casino were draped with United States and Brazilian flags last night in honor of the party of Brazilian officers who occupied them as the guests of Admiral Gherardi. The party consisted of Admiral Gherardi, Admiral Silveira, Captain J. Noronha, Captain C. Noronha, Captain Rodgers, Lieutenant Commander Chadwick, Commander Stirling, Lieutenant Paul, Lieutenant Huse, Ensign Bullard, Pay Inspector Billings, Lieutenant Frank and Lieutenant-Commander Leutze. After the first act of "Poor Jonathan" the orchestra played the Brazilian National hymn, after which the guests in the boxes bowed and bowed acknowledgments to the orchestra, and to the audience for its applause. "The Star-Spangled Banner" was then played and the Brazilians led in the applause.

"POOR JONATHAN" IN PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia, Dec. 4 (Special).—Millocker's comedy opera, "Poor Jonathan," was presented in this city for the first time to-night by Rudolph Aronson's opera company in the Chestnut Street Theatre. The opera was well received.

THE KILL VON KULL YACHT CLUB.

Albany, Dec. 4 (Special).—The Kill von Kull Yacht Club, of Port Richmond, Staten Island, has been incorporated. The trustees are Richard H. Disosway, John J. Caughey, M. Sterling, George H. Treadwell, George Ross, Charles A. Ingalls, Robert Schalkenbach, David J. Jones and Edwin J. Van Pelt.

Flint.

Flint fashions fine, fanciful furniture for first families for frugal figures.

When baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

MARRIED.

BARRIE—BLUNT—At the residence of the bride's parents, 100 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, on December 3, by the Rev. H. Price Collier, Eugenia, daughter of Edmund Blunt, to Robert Barrie, of Philadelphia.

BLOODGOOD—MILLER—On Wednesday, November 19, 1890, at Lee Avenue Congregational Church, by the Rev. Henry A. Powell, Lillie Bailey, daughter of Mr. Oliver P. Miller, to Devan Postley Bloodgood, both of Brooklyn.

COLMAN—BODINE—On Wednesday, December 3, at the residence of the bride's brother, New-Brunswick, N. J., by the Rev. Dr. W. J. McKnight, Emily Pancoast, daughter of Joseph Bodine, to N. Stewart Colman, of Montclair, N. J.

DRAYTON—AYERS—On Tuesday, December 2, at the residence of the bride's parents, East Orange, N. J., by the Rev. Alexander Mann, Marie Louise, daughter of Simeon M. Ayers, to Samuel Drayton, of Middlebush, N. J.

RUSHMORE—MURRAY—On Wednesday, December 3, 1890, at the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church, Plainfield, N. J., by the Rev. Wm. R. Richards, Jean Bertram, daughter of John W. Murray, to Townsend Rushmore, both of Plainfield, N. J.

TALMAGE—KETCHAM—On Monday, December 1, by the Rev. Henry Van Dyke, D. D., Mary Van Winkle, daughter of William P. Ketcham, to Thomas Hunt Talmage, of Brooklyn.

Notices of marriages must be indorsed with full name and address.

DIED.

BAYAUD—On December 2, at the "Strathmore," 1,674 Broadway, after a lingering illness, Adelaide E. Bayaud, daughter of the late John Bayaud.
The relatives and friends of the family and of her brothers, Theo. W. and Geo. D. Bayaud, are respectfully invited to assist at the funeral, at 1 p. m. on Friday, from St. Ann's Church, 18th-st. near 5th-ave.
Interment at Greenwood.
Kindly omit flowers.

BENTON—Entered into rest at Trinity Chapel Home, Mrs. Benton, aged 81 years.
Funeral services from Trinity Chapel, 25th-st., near Broadway, on Saturday, Dec. 6, 1890, at 9:45 a. m.

BROWN—At Woodbridge, N. J., on Wednesday, December 3, Jane, widow of Alexander Brown.
Services at her late residence on Saturday, December 6, at 10:30 a. m.

DELAVAN—At her residence, in Sharon, Conn., December 1, Josephine Maria Delavan, in the full hope of a blessed immortality.
Interment Wednesday, December 3, at 3 p. m.

DODGE—In West Hoboken, N. J., on the 2d December, Washington A. Dodge, aged 80 years.
The funeral will take place on Friday, the 5th inst., at 1 p. m., from the residence of his son-in-law, F. G. Messmer, 847 Palisade-ave., West Hoboken, N. J.

GLENNEY—On Wednesday, December 3, Ernest L., eldest son of Walter L. C. and Eva Gregg Glenney, aged 17 years and 16 days.
Funeral from his late residence, 114 Brooklyn-ave., Brooklyn, N. Y., on Friday, 5th inst., at 3 o'clock p. m.
Interment private.

KEELER—On Thursday, December 4, Caroline Ward, wife of John Keeler, and daughter of the late Isaac Ward.
Funeral services at her late residence, 147 East 46th-st., on Saturday, 6th inst., at 2 o'clock.
Kindly omit flowers.

MARVIN—Suddenly, on Sunday morning, November 30, Eliza Rowland, widow of the late Walter T. Marvin.
Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral services at St. Andrew's Church, 5th-ave. and 127th-st., on Friday, December 5, at 10 a. m.
It is requested that no flowers be sent.
Interment at Westport, Conn.

MITCHELL—On Wednesday, December 3, 1890, Ellen A. Mitchell, wife of B. G. Mitchell.
Funeral services at her late residence, 224 West 129th-st., at 8 o'clock this evening.

MORAN—On Thursday, December 4, at her residence, 76 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, Mary F., widow of the late Francis Moran.
Notice of funeral hereafter.

NEWTON—At Bloomfield, N. J., December 3, Ellen Conover, widow of Isaac Newton, aged 76 years.
Funeral services Saturday, December 6, at 3 o'clock, at the residence of her son, Mr. John Newton, 455 Franklin-st., Bloomfield.
Relatives and friends are respectfully invited.

ROSS—On the 3d inst., at East Orange, New-Jersey, A. Stoughton Ross, eldest son of Christian K. Ross, of Germantown, Penn., in the 27th year of his age.
The funeral will be held at the residence of his father, East Washington Lane, Germantown, on Saturday afternoon, December 6, at 2 o'clock.
Kindly omit flowers.

MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY.

Office, 380 Sixth-ave., corner 23d-st., N. Y.

Special Notices.

A.—A.—

CASWELL, MASSEY & CO.,

Broadway, cor. 25th-st., and 5th-ave., cor. 47th-st.,

are now receiving and opening an unusually large stock of HIGHEST QUALITY and best finished

TOILET ARTICLES

Specially selected by one of the firm in Europe and most suitable for XMAS PRESENTS. The leading lines are

IVORY HAIR BRUSHES,
IVORY POWDER BOXES AND MIRRORS,
TORTOISE SHELL BRUSHES
AND COMBS,
SETS OF MILITARY HAIR BRUSHES,
DRESSING CASES,
"TANTALUS" SPIRIT STANDS,
FINEST ENGLISH CUT GLASS BOTTLES,
PERFUMERY, SACHETS,
SOLID SILVER PUNGENTS,
MEDICINE CHESTS,
BOXWOOD AND WICKERED BOTTLES.

A.— Robert Somerville, Auctioneer.

By ORTGIES & CO.,

FIFTH AVENUE ART GALLERIES,

366 5th-ave., near 34th-st.

SALE THIS, FRIDAY, EVENING,

at 8 o'clock.

DR. FESSENDEN N. OTIS'S

Collection of

AMERICAN PAINTINGS.

A.—A.—

VIOLET. Florentine Violet Orris Sachets, made by Caswell, Massey & Co., readily communicate a true violet perfume to laces, paper and handkerchiefs.

Avoid the many imitations.

Exhibition of the Tapestry after Raphael's "Miraculous Draught of Fishes" and other important pieces at the Associated Artists, 115 East 23d-st., Friday and Saturday, 5th and 6th, from 10 to 4.

Postoffice Notice

(Should be read daily by all interested, as changes may occur at any time.)

Letters for foreign countries need not be specially addressed for dispatch by any particular steamer, except when it is desired to send duplicates of banking and commercial documents, letters not specially addressed being sent by the fastest vessels available.

Foreign mails for the week ending December 6 will close (promptly in all cases) at this office as follows:

SATURDAY—At 8:30 a. m. (supplementary 10:30 a. m.), for France, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Turkey, per s. s. La Champagne, via Havre; at 8:30 a. m. (supplementary 10:30 a. m.) for Great Britain, Ireland, Belgium, Netherlands, Austria, and Norway (Bergen), per s. s. Etruria, via Queenstown (letters for other European countries must be directed "per Etruria"); at 8:30 a. m. (supplementary 10:30 a. m.) for Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Norway (Christiania), and Russia, per s. s. Werra, via Bremen (letters for other European countries, via Southampton must be directed "per Werra"); at 9 a. m. for Norway direct, per s. s. Thingvalla (letters must be directed "per Thingvalla"); at 10 a. m. for the Netherlands direct, per s. s. Amsterdam, via Amsterdam (letters must be directed "per Amsterdam"); at 10 a. m. for Jamaica and Greytown, per s. s. Hondo (letters for Belize and Guatemala must be directed "per Hondo"); at 11 a. m. for Hayti, per s. s. Prins Maurits (letters for Curacoa, Venezuela, Trinidad, British and Dutch Guiana must be directed "per Prins Maurits"); at 11 a. m. (supplementary 11:30 a. m.), for Fortune Island and Jamaica, per s. s. Alisa (letters for Jacmel and Aux-Cayes must be directed "per Alisa"); at 1 p. m. for Campeche, Chiapas, Tabasco, and Yucatan, per s. s. Orizaba (letters for Cuba, Tampico and Tuxpam direct, and other Mexican States, via Vera Cruz, must be directed "per Orizaba.")

Mails for China and Japan, per s. s. China (from San Francisco) close here December *12, at 6:30 p. m. Mails for Australia, New-Zealand, Hawaiian, Fiji and Samoan Islands, per s. s. Alameda (from San Francisco), close here December *7, at 6:30 p. m. (or on arrival at New-York of s. s. Aurania with British mails for Australia.) Mails for the Society Islands, per ship Tropic Bird (from San Francisco), close here December *25, at 6:30 p. m. Mails for the Hawaiian Islands, per s. s. Australia (from San Francisco), close here December *29, at 6:30 p. m. Mails for Newfoundland, by rail to Halifax, and thence by steamer, close at this office daily at 8:30 p. m. Mails for Miquelon, by rail to Boston, and thence by steamer, close at this office daily at 8:30 p. m. Mails for Cuba, by rail to Tampa, Fla., and thence by steamer (sailing Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays), close at this office daily at 2:30 a. m. Mails for Mexico, overland, unless specially addressed for dispatch by steamer, close at this office daily at 3 a. m.

*The schedule of closing of Trans-Pacific mails is arranged on the presumption of their uninterrupted overland transit to San Francisco. Mails from the East arriving on time at San Francisco on the day of sailing of steamers are dispatched thence the same day. Registered mail closes at 6 p. m. previous day.

CORNELIUS VAN COTT, Postmaster.

Postoffice, New-York, N. Y., Nov. 28, 1890.

Religious Notices.

REV. RAPHAEL BENJAMIN, M. A., formerly of Cincinnati, will preach on "A Good Man's Influence" Saturday morning. Fifteenth Street Temple.