OPPOSING THE LODGE BILL.

FREE-COINAGE REPUBLICAN SENATORS UNITING TO DEFEAT THE MEASURE.

DEMOCRATIC OBSTRUCTIVE MEASURES ALREADY RESORTED TO—THE CHANCES OF PASSING THE ELECTION BILL BY THIS CONGRESS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Dec. 7.—The Election bill occupied five days of the time of the Senate last week, from three to four hours being spent upon it each afternoon. Yet the progress made so far upon this measure has been almost inappreciable, and, practically, a vote is as far off now as it was last Tuesday. Two short, set speeches have been delivered in opposition to the bill by Messrs. Turpie and Pugh, and an exceedingly long and prolix argument against it, began on Friday and continued yesterday, will be renewed to-morrow by Senator Gray. All these speakers are minority members of the Committee on Privileges and Elections, and they, with Mr. Vance, who is to follow next, are simply clearing the way for the real obstructive debate on the bill which will be maintained on the Democratic side, chiefly by Messrs. Morgan, George, Call, Daniel and a few other choice spirits of equally formidable powers of fluency and endurance. Under the present rules, such a programme, with the necessary replies from Republican Senators involved in it, will carry both sides through to the end of the session next March, or to some point this side of adjournment at which, for the sake of other business, the Election bill will have to be abandoned unconditionally. The intention of the minority in the Senate to fight that measure to the end by all possible methods of obstruction has not yet fairly declared itself, but it cannot be doubted.

The only hope of the bill's passage lies now in a change of the rules, yet no actual movement has been made so far to forge an amendment to the rules through the Senate. Nor is the situation on the Republican side of the chamber such as to encourage the caucus committee in any immediate effort to secure the adoption of "the previous question." The most that is likely to be done for the present in the way of pressing the Election bill will be to lengthen the daily session of the Senate by changing the hour for meeting to 11 each morning. Night sessions may also be resorted to, but not at once. Altogether the prospect is not a highly satisfactory one to those Republicans who have been looking forward to an early redemption of party pledges in the direction of honest Congressional elections.

The obstacles just now in the path of Mr. Hoar and the other advocates of the speedy passage of the Senate substitute grow chiefly out of the contention of last session in the Republican ranks between the free-coinage and anti-free-coinage men. By a curious coincidence the few decided opponents of the Election bill on the Republican side are leading advocates of free coinage at any cost to party harmony, and they have recently been striving to prejudice, and, if possible, destroy, the chances of the pending bill by stirring up again all the annoying differences of opinion of last summer. Messrs. Plumb, Teller, Paddock, Stewart, and others are now insisting that the Silver law of the long session must be displaced by a new free-coinage measure, and they are arranging to strike a bargain over the Election bill in such a way as to insure their success with a free-coinage measure later in the winter. If the great majority of Republican Senators will concede what they demand as to silver, they will turn in and help to enforce a rule which will take away from the minority in the Senate its veto power over legislation. If, however, the great body of Republicans insist on a fair chance for the present silver law, Mr. Plumb and his friends are said to threaten a renewal of their alliance of last spring with the minority, this time not for their own political benefit, but simply to pull chestnuts out of the fire for the imperiled Southern Democracy. There are, perhaps, from five to seven Republican Senators who are now counted upon as likely to vote against the Election bill, if it comes to its passage. With the present membership of the Senate, seven adverse Republican votes would defeat the bill. When the two Idaho Senators take their seats the Republican detection will have to reach eight. On the simple issue of the Election bill these eight votes could not be held in coalition with the minority. But with the free-coinage question behind the Lodge measure, a combination might be formed strong enough to defeat the Elections Committee in default of satisfactory pledges as to silver legislation. In fact, until the new Idaho Senators are sworn in and a sufficiently united front can be maintained, the caucus committee will probably decline to introduce and press a rule for closing debate. But it is evident to every observer that with the passing of every week the prospect of securing a new rule and getting a vote on the Election bill grows more distant. Republicans generally hope that the silver question can be successfully kept in the background, as is should be, until the new rule is introduced and the election measure disposed of.

The free-coinage senators are now the only serious obstacle in the way of the progress of the Lodge bill. If they can be brought to support the Republican programme in good faith, the party's promise of a free and fair vote for Representatives in Congress will be fulfilled. They will have to shoulder the responsibility if the efforts of Mr. Hoar and his colleagues of the Election Committee fail. It seems idle to look now for any final action on the pending bill before the Christmas recess, if, indeed, there is to be any suspension for the holidays. A lingering discussion of the measure may have, in fact, the disagreeable result of forcing the Senate to sit all through December. In that case the three full weeks left before the beginning of January will offer ample time for the Republicans to "get together" in earnest in support of the election measure. But it might as well be admitted that a good deal of hard work must be done within that time and a more vigorous and active party spirit developed, if the present Senate substitute is to get through that body, or an election law of any kind be added to the statute books by the 51st Congress.

A FAVORABLE OUTLOOK FOR THE SHIPPING BILLS.

Washington, Dec. 7 (Special).—The friends of the Shipping bills, which passed the Senate last session and are now pending in the House, feel confident that one or both of them, or a substitute combining the chief features of both measures, will pass the House at this session. If only one of the bills is passed it will probably be the Tonnage bill, the friends of which claim a good majority in the House; there having been several informal conferences within the last few days, the result of which has been to make them more confident of success than they were when Congress reassembled. The idle assertions made by a few free-trade advocates of free ships have made no impression whatever upon the friends of the pending bills. The "free-ships" fallacy was extremely popular with Democrats a few years ago, and by some friends of the protective system it was regarded as dangerous, but it has lost ground, and now awakens no alarm whatever in the minds of intelligent observers of legislative tendencies in Congress. The life would be promptly stamped out of any "free-ship" promotion which might be brought before either branch of the present Congress, and not before the free-trade Democrats control the Senate by a strong majority will such a proposition have any chance in that body.

A prominent and influential Republican Representative said to a Tribune correspondent to-day that he regards the prospect of the passage of at least one of the pending Shipping bills as extremely favorable, and he is a man whose judgment of legislative probabilities is rarely, if ever, at fault.

DEMOCRATS ATTACKING THE TARIFF.

Washington, Dec. 7 (Special).—The Democratic leaders in the House evince a strong disposition to attack the tariff at this session, by proposing a few hundred amendments, more or less, when the Hawaiian bill is brought forward for action. Some of them desire to adopt the same tactics toward the Tobacco Rebate bill, but it now seems probable that they will be restrained by the influence of Southern and Western tobacco manufacturers and dealers. There does not seem to be any insuperable objection, parliamentary or otherwise, to uniting the two bills, as they are both designed, in effect, to correct errors in the Revenue law, which was enacted as a single measure at the last session of Congress. If the Ways and Means Committee should combine the bills, they might thereby avert or escape from the embarrassment in which the leaders of the free-trade minority threaten to involve the proposed amendment to the Revenue law, otherwise, the Hawaiian bill may be so borne down by free-trade "amendments" as to insure its failure.

A TALK WITH REPRESENTATIVE HOUK.

Washington, Dec. 7 (Special).—Representative Houk, of Tennessee, does not agree with Democrats, or Republicans either, who attribute the recent reverses of the Republican party to the new Tariff law or the Election bill. To a Tribune correspondent yesterday Judge Houk said:

"In Tennessee both the McKinley law, as it is called, and the Election bill were sources of strength to the Republicans. H. Clay Evans would have been triumphantly elected in the 11th District but for the fact that the Democratic Legislature had gerrymandered the district so as to give it a big Democratic majority. I think that next to McKinley, Evans made the finest run of any Republican who was defeated. Democrats in Tennessee believe in Protection, and on the stump in my district—yes, all over the State—Democrats had little to say about the question of protection, although they attacked the new law. We want our iron, coal, steel, zinc, copper, marble, etc., protected, and the McKinley law gives us that protection. A strong effort was made to defeat me, and my opponent had all the money he required, but it didn't stop my Democratic friends from voting for me as they had done in the past."

When asked if the Republicans would modify, or amend the tariff law, Mr. Houk replied: "The law will stand as it is. The Presidential campaign will be fought out on the line of the McKinley bill, and by that time its beneficial effects will be felt by the country and appreciated."

PLANS FOR REAPPORTIONMENT.

THE NEW BILL WILL PROBABLY BE BASED ON A HOUSE WITH 356 MEMBERS.

Washington, Dec. 7 (Special).—As intimated in Washington dispatches to The Tribune several days ago, it is extremely probable that the House Committee on Census will agree to recommend the passage of a Reapportionment bill on the basis of a House with 356 members—a total which will prevent the loss by any State of a part of its present representation in Congress or the Electoral College. Many Republicans are of the opinion that a bill which is so just to every State and which is fair and liberal in the extreme, politically speaking, will disarm Democratic opposition and pass the House without much difficulty. That opinion probably will not turn out to be correct. A good many Democrats will oppose any bill which may be offered by a Republican committee, in the hope of preventing any action on the subject until after the next Presidential election. If Governor Hill, of New-York, and other Democratic leaders who agree with him are able to control the minority in Congress, the Democrats there will unite in denouncing as "partisan and unjust" any bill which may be presented, and in straining every nerve to defeat it.

Mr. Outhwaite, of Ohio, who is an active candidate for Speaker, is out in an interview to-day denouncing the proposition to fix the total number of Representatives at 356. He would prefer, in the interest of "fairness," a total of 330, based on a false ratio of 1 to 154,802, instead of the true ratio of 1 to 151,911, which, he says, would increase the representation of eight States by one each, of one State, Minnesota, by two, and of one State, Nebraska, by three. Seven States would lose one each and New-York would lose two Representatives. The States which would gain under the "fair" scheme of Outhwaite would be: Arkansas 1, Colorado 1, Illinois 1, Minnesota 2, Nebraska 3, New-Jersey 1, Oregon 1, Texas 1, Washington 1, total 13. The States which would lose would be: Indiana 1, Iowa 1, Kentucky 1, Maine 1, New-York 1, Ohio 1, South Carolina 1, Virginia 1, total 9; net gain 4. It will be perceived that by this scheme the net loss of the states which are regarded as safely Democratic would be zero; the net loss of the States which are regarded as "doubtful" would be three, and the net gain of the states, which, for apportionment purposes only, Mr. Outhwaite would classify as Republican, would be seven. Under that arrangement neither California, Massachusetts, Michigan, Pennsylvania nor Wisconsin would gain a Representative. The eight States which would lose in all nine Representatives have 101 Representatives in the present Congress, and the four last-named States, which are fairly entitled to one more Representative each, but which would gain none, have fifty-seven votes in the present Congress, making a total of 158 votes, or only eighty votes less than a majority of the House as now constituted. The danger that Mr. Outhwaite's "fair" proposition will be adopted, therefore, seems to be remote.

A NICE PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION.

HOW SHALL THE VACANCY IN THE COINAGE COMMITTEE BE FILLED?

Washington, Dec. 7 (Special).—The parliamentary lawyers of the House of Representatives are discussing and trying to solve a novel and knotty problem and one which claims a much greater share of public interest than such questions usually do, inasmuch as the fate of the Free Silver Coinage bills which have been referred to the Committee on Coinage may depend upon the solution. At the last session a majority of the committee was opposed to free coinage and it was sustained by a majority of the House, the result there being the passage of the Silver Coinage law now in force. Subsequently Mr. Conger, of Iowa, who was chairman of the committee, resigned his seat in Congress to accept the Brazilian mission, and the chairmanship thus became vacant. He was opposed to free silver coinage. The Speaker is not authorized to fill a vacancy in the chairmanship of a committee unless the vacancy has been caused by the death of the incumbent; other vacancies in a committee he may fill. For example, Speaker Reed appointed Mr. Vaux, of Pennsylvania, to the vacancy in the Coinage Committee, caused by the promotion of Mr. Mutchler, of the same state, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Randall. Under the rule the Committee on Coinage consists of thirteen Representatives and one Delegate, the latter, of course, having no vote. Of the twelve representatives who remain members of the committee since the retirement of Chairman Conger, six are known to be opposed to free coinage. They are Messrs. Walker, Massachusetts, Romeis, Minnesota; Knapp, New-York—Republicans; and Messrs. Tracey, New-York; Wilcox, Connecticut, Vaux, Pennsylvania—Democrats. Five are set down in favor of free coinage: Messrs. Wickham, Ohio; Carter, Montana; Bartine, Nevada—Republicans; and Messrs. Bland, Missouri; and Williams, Illinois—Democrats. The twelfth member, Mr. Taylor, of Illinois, voted with the opponents of free coinage last session, but he introduced a bill for limited free coinage last week, and is now claimed by the free-coinage men. His bill provides for the free coinage of all silver produced or smelted in the United States, and for the issue of Treasury certificates in exchange for the silver bullion now "held for a rise," which is estimated at 12,000,000 to 14,000,000 ounces, and most of which, it is claimed, is in the hands of speculative investors. If Mr. Taylor should unite his fortunes with the free-coinage members, they would be able to tie the committee. Now the rules provide that the Committee on Coinage shall be composed of thirteen voting members, and also that "the first-named member of each committee shall be the chairman, and in his absence, or being excused by the House, the next-named member, and so on as often as the case shall happen, unless the committee by a majority of its members elect a chairman."

Here is where the parliamentarians find difficulty. Some of them contend that the "absence" or "excuse" meant is merely a temporary "absence" or "excuse," and not a permanent absence caused by the resignation of membership of the House, which, so far as the existing Congress is concerned, creates a permanent vacancy. Other able parliamentarians maintain the contrary view, and hold that the "next-named member," who in this case happens to be Mr. Wickham, a free-coinage man, becomes chairman, unless the majority of the committee decides otherwise.

It is understood that the Speaker is in some doubt as to the proper construction of the rule. If he shall conclude that the "next-named member" becomes chairman, or that the majority of the committee may choose a new chairman, he probably will at once appoint the thirteenth member of the committee. There is no reason to believe that Speaker Reed's views on the silver question have undergone any material change or modification since he appointed the committee a year ago, when the opponents of free and unlimited silver coinage were in the majority. Mr. Reed's friends say, with an air of confidence, that he is not inclined to favor "limited unlimited" coinage of silver now, any more than he would favor limited vaccination or inoculation.

The advocates of free and unlimited silver coinage, however, in the House, as well as in the senate, are extremely hopeful, if not confident, of success, and they will abate none of their efforts on account of the prospect of an executive veto in case a measure shall pass both branches of Congress.

TO INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF HALF DOLLARS.

Washington, Dec. 7 (Special).—The importance of the bill introduced yesterday by Senator Sherman to provide for the recoinage of the smaller silver coins of the United States is enhanced by a statement of some of the facts and circumstances connected with the introduction of the measure. There is an active demand in all parts of the Union for an increased supply of half and quarter dollars. Senator Sherman's bill is intended to supply a public want, and besides having the Senator's active support, it has been submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury and has received his cordial approval. The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to cause the subsidiary coins of the United States now in, or which may hereafter be received into the Treasury and sub-Treasuries of the United States, which are abraded, worn, mutilated, defaced, or otherwise unfit for circulation, or are of denominations for which there is no current demand, to be recoined at the mints of the United States into such denominations of silver coin now authorized by law as may be required to meet the demand therefor. The loss incident to the recoinage of such uncurrent silver coins into new coins is to be paid from the gain arising from the coinage of silver bullion into coin of a nominal value exceeding the cost thereof, denominated "the silver profit fund."

The attention of Senator Teller, of Colorado, one of the leading champions of free coinage and a generally enlarged use of silver, was drawn to the provisions of Mr. Sherman's bill, and he remarked that it would doubtless accomplish a good purpose, especially if, in exercising the discretion given by the bill, the Secretary of the Treasury should recoin an increased proportion of half-dollar pieces. Mr. Teller says he has heard from Denver and various other parts of the country that half-dollar pieces especially are scarce and are desired in greater number.

In the original draft of this bill there appeared an additional section, which, however, was erased by Mr. Sherman, because it did not meet his approval nor that of the Secretary of the Treasury, to whom the proposed new enactment was submitted. The omitted section provided that the silver coins of the United States of less denomination than $1 should thereafter be a legal tender in sums not exceeding $20 in all payments of public and private debts, and when held by any National bank should be counted as a part of its lawful reserve.

COLUMBUS'S FIRST VOYAGE.

A RARE HISTORICAL GEM FOR SALE.

THE ENHANCED VALUE OF LETTERS OF THE GREAT DISCOVERER.

At a stated meeting of the New-York Historical Society, held on Tuesday evening in the lecture hall, Second-ave. and Eleventh-st., an interesting paper was read by Eugene Lawrence entitled "The First Voyage of Columbus." There was a large attendance, many ladies being present. Some points of historical interest were touched on by the reader in a way that brightened up the "old, old story," and his recital of the trials of the long-hearted Genoese with his "convict crew" were vividly depicted in a manner that secured the full attention of a sympathetic audience. The lecturer referred to the educational progress of the people and the great interest which is being developed in the better knowledge and appreciation of the life and actions of Columbus and the growing desire to perpetuate his memory in the United States, which is apart from the forthcoming Exposition in Chicago, exemplified in many ways.

He mentioned particularly the great influence for good exerted by such benefactors of the people as the late James Lenox, and ventured the opinion that the present time was most appropriate for some millionaire to emulate his deeds. The Lenox Lyceum was a source of pride to the New-Yorker and a lasting monument to Mr. Lenox's fame, containing, as it does, a collection of Columbiana unsurpassed in the world and equalled only by that at Seville.

Mr. Lawrence in closing his admirable paper—which was rather hurriedly read, to the chagrin of the audience—remarked that his learned friend Dr. Moore had interested him greatly by his remarks on the appreciation and rise in value of documents, reprints of letters and memorials of Columbus generally, instancing particularly two cases, viz., the reprint of the first letter of Columbus disposed of at the Barlow sale, one purchased for the Boston Public Library and the other by Brayton Ives, of this city. They brought respectively $1,300 and $2,300, having been purchased by Mr. Aspinwall in London for 15 guineas and 23l 10s.

The most valued printed document in existence, in relation to Columbus, is that in the possession of F. Quaritch, of London. It is the first printed copy of the first letter of Columbus written from Lisbon to Ferdinand and Isabella when the court was in Barcelona, and printed there. This is held for $15,000. An opportunity such as this seldom occurs to secure possession of a literary gem that would be worthy the attention of our bibliographers. The urbane and erudite superintendent of the Lenox Library, Dr. George H. Moore, in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer, referred at length to the remarkable influence the name of Columbus exerted during the present century, giving some facts in relation to the name of King's College to that of Columbia College, and expressed the hopefulness in the near long sums of our princely collectors would start a suitable memorial of the discovery in this city.

The resolution was seconded by Dr. E. De Costa, who referred to the influence of the large animals, birds and weeds on the progress of discovery, remarking that parrots generally considered very foolish birds had, at the instance of Columbus, the Indians, who noticed that a flock of them flew southwest, induced Columbus to change his course. Had it not been so, he would have made the land somewhere on the coast of North Carolina, and this country would have perhaps been of the present time subject to Spanish rule.

The resolution was carried unanimously and the paper was ordered printed in the proceedings of the society.

The Duke of Veragua, who is the last lineal descendant of Columbus, and who takes his title from a place on the coast of Costa Rica, where the great admiral believed he had discovered a king solomon's mine, was a few days ago reported to be dying in Madrid. Of the twenty-nine documents in the genuine handwriting of Columbus that are known to be in existence, sixteen are in the archives of the Duke of Veragua, and their value as a marketable asset can hardly be estimated. Ten of these are letters from Columbus to his son Diego, three to Father Gorricio, one to Ferdinand and Isabella and twelve to Queen Isabella. Whatever priceless literary treasures will go to a problem, doubtless to the Spanish National collections at the Louja in Seville, where there are thousands of other manuscripts unopened, uncatalogued, that may revolutionize history and clear up many doubtful points in regard to the life of Columbus and his contemporaries. In any case, the disposition of these sixteen manuscripts will be an occurrence of importance to all bibliographers, hydrographers and historians should the Duke of Veragua not recover.

LINCOLN'S SEARCHING QUESTION.

From The Washington Post.

Jesse Harper: When Lincoln was practising at the bar before Judge Davis, afterward justice of the United States supreme Court, a rather startling incident happened at one of the neighboring villages. Some kind of a religious meeting was being held. The weather was warm and the church windows were open. Somebody outside threw a live duck through the window to the great consternation of some of the congregation and the merriment of the rabble.

It was a flagrant and notorious breach of the law which protects religious meetings. Singleton fell upon two young men of respectable family who were out in the church, but who happened to be in its immediate vicinity at the time of the outrage. One of these young men sued on the county prosecuting attorney and swore out an affidavit against his companion. The case was brought before the local squire, but under legal advice the young man waived preliminary examination and was held under quite considerable bonds to appear at the next Circuit Court at Springfield.

The parents of the accused were in very great distress at the vexatious and degrading predicament in which their son was placed. They went to Lincoln and offered him a retainer.

"Are you satisfied that your son is innocent?" was Mr. Lincoln's first question. The parents said they were satisfied of it.

"Then," said the future President, "let me have an hour's private conference with the boy, after which I will tell you whether or not I will accept your retainer."

The young man duly appeared at Mr. Lincoln's office and an interview of the most private nature took place between them. Mr. Lincoln became then and there convinced of the boy's innocence and accepted his parents' retainer.

When the day of trial arrived there was a full courtroom, for the friends and neighbors of the parties concerned flocked to Springfield to be present at the trial. The prosecutor was a very little man who lisped abominably. He did not feel himself big enough for the case, so he employed a lawyer to assist him as big as Judge Davis himself, but who, unlike the judge, had a voice as sonorous as a lochen.

Lincoln sat quietly at one of the tables in the bar busily engaged in writing out a brief of some case entirely foreign to the one in hand. The case was called. Lincoln rose with calm dignity and said: "Your Honor, I appear for the defendant." Then he sat down and coolly resumed his writing.

The jury was empanelled, but Mr. Lincoln had no objection to make to either one of them. The prosecution accepted the jury, wondering what on earth Lincoln's game could be. The big assistant prosecutor made the opening address to the jury, and fulminated against the defendant in the approved style of prosecuting counsel. Lincoln went on with his writing. Witness after witness was called for the prosecution, but when they were turned over to Lincoln he had no question to ask them. He said so, and quietly resumed his work on that interminable brief.

Then as a coup de grace the prosecuting witness was put upon the stand. He was a silly witness. His testimony was apparently a perfect chain. It was delivered coolly, calmly, and with an assumption of candor. The witness was sometimes critical, and had to be drawn out by the little prosecutor when his evidence was damatory of the defendant. At last his examination in chief was concluded, and the prosecutor said with an air of triumph, "Mr. Lincoln, take the witness."

Mr. Lincoln stopped his writing at once, threw his feet upon the table, and, looking steadily at the silly witness who was leaning himself for the usual ordeal of cross-examination, said slowly:

"Young man, is it good roads you have in your village to get upon this witness stand and swear to a lie?"

The witness was staggered, and flushed to the face like red ink. The little prosecutor dashed in drill also, accompanied by his colleague in sonorous lisps. "Your Honor, I object." Then the two raised a little babel, in which the words "unusually" and "outrageous" were mainly distinguishable.

"Mr. Lincoln," said Judge Davis, "have you any special reason for this language?"

"I have, your Honor," replied Lincoln.

"Then," said the Judge, "you may proceed with the question, and the witness must answer it, yes or no."

Mr. Lincoln repeated the question in the same calm, deliberate manner in which he had before propounded it. The witness choked and gasped, and when the judge calmly insisted again that he should answer it he faltered.

"Take him in the Sheriff's room," said Judge Davis, adding sarcastically, "the weather is very sultry. The house is very close. The atmosphere is too much for the young man. Mr. Clerk, call the next case."

Lincoln had resumed the writing of his brief, and when some of the witnesses came to him and asked him if they might go home, he answered that the case was over and those who did not want to stay need not do so.

He was right—the case was over. Shortly afterward Judge Davis, at the request of the prosecuting witness, was called into the Sheriff's room, when the young man confessed that he himself threw the duck in at the church window. He said that he and the defendant had both been paying attention to the same girl, and he had been discarded. In revenge for the triumph of his successful rival he had trumped up this charge, and, by the aid of confederates, had hoped to successfully sustain it in court.

Progress.

It is very important in this age of vast material progress that a remedy be pleasing to the taste and to the eye, easily taken, acceptable to the stomach and healthy in its nature and effects. Possessing these qualities, Syrup of Figs is the one perfect laxative and most gentle diuretic known.

GRAND ARMY BUGLE-NOTES

GENERAL ALGER AND THE LOGAN STATUE

PREPARATIONS FOR THE INSTALMENT OF OFFICERS—ELECTIONS IN VARIOUS POSTS.

Ex-Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic General Russell A. Alger, of Michigan, stopped in New-York on Friday on his way to Washington, where he has been summoned by the Secretary of War to attend the meeting of the Logan Monument Committee. General Alger is chairman of the committee and also treasurer of the Monument Fund. One of the questions which calls him to Washington is the selection of the site for the monument. In speaking of this the General said: "Mrs. Logan is anxious to have it placed in Iowa Circle, where she can see it from her own window in her home. I told her that where she wanted it the site was sure to be. But I did not hesitate to say that I disagreed with her. In my opinion the place for the Logan Monument, as well as Sheridan's, is in Pennsylvania-ave. They are both equestrian statues, and I think that people will generally agree with me that the main thoroughfare of the Capital is the proper location for both. Nevertheless, Mrs. Logan's wishes should decide the matter and they probably will so far as her husband's statue is concerned."

Commander-in-Chief Veazey, in his general orders from the headquarters of the Grand Army, announcing the death of Senior Vice-Commander Richard F. Tobin, of Boston, pays this eloquent tribute to his memory:

A gallant young sailor in the Navy under Farragut; an able and accomplished official of his native State and city; a worthy comrade from his entry as a recruit; a distinguished commander of his department in 1886, and fitly chosen to the high office from which he has been mustered out by death. Comrade Tobin was universally and justly loved, trusted and honored, and his record will be a fair and spotless escutcheon to all time. Brave, true, loyal and sincere, we all mourn his death. Born November 20, 1844, he was yet young for his final bell to strike, to bid farewell to shipmate and comrade.

As a mark of respect to his memory, all National, department and post officers will, for thirty days after the receipt of this order, when on duty, wear the usual badge of mourning upon the left arm, black crape five inches wide, and a knot of the same material upon the sword hilt; all colors of the order will be draped in mourning for a like period by attaching with black ribbon two streamers of black crape six inches wide and four feet long, to the ferrule upon the lance below the spear-head. Departments or posts having staff colors will display them at half mast on the day succeeding the receipt of this order.

The aides-de-camp upon the staff of the Commander-in-Chief for this Department, appointed upon the recommendation of Department Commander Clarkson, are as follows:

John G. Van Petten, Claverack; David M. Rankin, Troy; Francis H. Graves, New-York; John Lynch, Brooklyn; Francis A. Lederle, New-York City; Henry E. Philips, Mount-ville; Frederick A. Lamb, Cornwall; John H. Van Wyck, John S. Seibert, John E. Blackgrove, and George H. Dorr, New-York City; John S. Power, Woodcliff; L. L. Williams, R. Northrop, Brooklyn; Thomas C. Kinkaid, Albany; George Hugunin, Syracuse; Albert M. Cudner, New-York City; A. S. Decrispeny, Newburg; George Chappell and John V. Blair, New-York City; Charles H. Burdick, Brookfield; George W. Kingsbury, Clifton Springs; E. K. Bentley, Newark; W. H. Hall, Saratoga; William C. Ford, Little Falls; Daniel P. Bailey, Albany; William F. Pine, Troy; Herbert N. Woodruff and Ferdinand L. Barram, New-York City; C. H. Smith, Brooklyn; Milton Race, Rochester; W. D. Russell, Williamson; Isaac L. Rich, Moores; Hayes Schanck, New-York City; Horatio J. Warner, Poughkeepsie; John Parks, Medina; James W. Hooker, New-York City; William T. Burrows and Alexander H. Dey, Brooklyn; Cass Williams, Rochester.

Adjutant-General W. A. Wallace, Department of New-York, has issued his statement showing the strength of the Grand Army in this state on muster-day for the quarter ending September 30. It is as follows:

Number in good standing last report	49,760
Gained by muster during the quarter	607
Gained by transfer during the quarter	98
Gained by reinstatement from suspended or delinquent during the quarter	529
Gained by delinquent posts during the quarter	780
Total gain	1,014
Aggregate	47,670
Lost by death during the quarter	119
Lost by honorable dismissal during the quarter	54
Lost by transfer during the quarter	112
Lost by suspension during the quarter	454
Lost by dishonorable dismissal during the quarter	1
Lost by delinquent posts during the quarter	170
Total loss	910
Number in good standing	46,760
Expended for relief during the quarter	$3,801
Number of members or their families relieved	203
Other persons relieved	218

The annual election for officers has been held in many of the Grand Army posts of New-York and other cities in this neighborhood, and preparations for the installation ceremonies according to the ritual have begun. It is the intention in most posts to make these approaching ceremonies more than usually impressive and attractive, and in every proper way occasions of festivity. Past Department Commander James S. Fraser, General Nicholas W. Day, Past Commander Herman W. Thum, Colonel Charles McKeever, Commander William McKinney, General M. T. McMahon, Past Junior Commander-in-Chief Joseph Hadsell, Past Commanders Joseph W. Kay and Charles W. Coulter and General McLean are among those who are relied upon to act as installing officers during the season in New-York and Brooklyn. Various post elections have resulted as follows:

Alexander Hamilton, No. 182, Commander, F. S. Bartram; senior vice-commander, Thomas W. Smith; junior vice-commander, John W. Russell; quartermaster, D. James McAllister; surgeon, Dr. D. C. Clark; chaplain, T. Frank Smith; officer of the day, W. C. Reade; officer of the guard, William R. Willis; delegates to department encampment, James A. Colvin, William T. Wood.

Lafayette, No. 139, Commander, General Egbert L. Viele; senior vice-commander, J. D. Thompson; junior vice-commander, James B. Bush; quartermaster, Henry F. Hermer; surgeon, Dr. H. W. Mitchell; chaplain, A. B. Hoyt; officer of the day, George W. Nelson; officer of the guard, Robert A. Morrison; delegates to encampment, Theodore W. Greig, John H. Cook, William F. Rogers, William Lee Darling, Richard L. Saltsbury; alternates, Frederick Eckel, Max G. Ecker, David Enright, Jay T. Thomson, Lemuel D. Evans; delegates to encampment committee, William A. Cogg, John Hamilton, George W. Sanden, Joseph J. Little, Charles E. Hemer, Charles Apgeler, Benjamin F. Watson, N. W. Jewell; alternates, P. H. Murphy, J. S. Roche, Charles L. Gunn, Herbert F. Ward, Meredith L. Jones, Henry P. Butler, J. A. Blanchard, J. H. Miles, Richard H. Greene, J. G. Smithwick.

Phil Kearny, No. 8, Commander, James McMullen; senior vice-commander, J. M. Adams; junior vice-commander, George H. Stevens; surgeon, Dr. Duffy; chaplain, James Fredricks; officer of the day, John Crook; officer of the guard, John McAdam; delegate to encampment, H. Decker; delegates to memorial committee, Charles T. Hyatt, Joseph Silver, Owen McGovern.

Dahlgren, No. 913, Commander, William McIntee (his fifth election); F. W. Hofele, senior vice-commander; James J. Murphy, junior vice-commander; J. Kopple, quartermaster; E. Flatmoer, chaplain; William M. Shaw, officer of the day; Oscar Pagett, officer of the guard; delegates to encampment, William Clancy, John Cummings, James J. Murphy.

Kolles, No. 32, Commander, Joseph Wenk; senior vice-commander, Charles Kayser; junior vice-commander, Peter Kuper; quartermaster, Theodore Schmidt; surgeon, Dr. William Baker; chaplain, Philip Eder; officer of the day, Christian Bauer; officer of the guard, Philip Young; inside sentinel, John Schaller; outside sentinel, Charles Heuer; delegates to encampment, Herman W. Thum, William Wiese, Peter Vetter, Charles Pfeil, Henry A. Kraus.

Adam Gates, No. 220, Frederick M. Vincent, commander; William H. Smith, senior vice-commander; James A. Daly, junior vice-commander; John P. Lenahan, quartermaster; Dr. John P. Richardson, surgeon; George Herbst, chaplain; William Ackerman, officer of the day; Joel McLean, officer of the guard; Patrick J. O'Brien, Augustus Stoppelkamp, delegates.

Volunteer, No. 459, Commander, F. W. Robbins; senior vice-commander, Robert B. King; junior vice-commander, John W. Jagger; officer of the day, David Orr; chaplain, George E. Button; surgeon, Charles White; quartermaster, F. H. Bachman; delegate to department encampment, F. H. Bachman.

Lloyd Aspinwall, No. 690, Commander, William F. Kelsey; senior vice-commander, Charles H. Lincoln; junior vice-commander, Gilbert Adams; surgeon, S. W. Goodrich; chaplain, E. B. Kenney; quartermaster, N. I. Holland; officer of the day, Matthew McQuade; officer of the guard, E. B. Demarest; delegates to department encampment, Matthew McQuade, Michael Kerwin.

William G. Mitchell, No. 539, Commander, William Atkinson; senior vice-commander, James D. Boardman; junior vice-commander, George W. Van Wagener; quartermaster, John W. Crawford; surgeon, J. W. Hosford; chaplain, S. T. King; officer of the day, Mathew Sloan; officer of the guard, Ernest Bartrow; delegate to encampment, P. M. W. Verhoeven.

Rankin, No. 10, Brooklyn—Commander, Alfred T. Wilson; senior vice-commander, James P. Holland; junior vice-commander, James Whilldin; surgeon, John Johnson; chaplain, the Rev. Job G. Bass; officer of the day, Alexander D'Elion; officer of the guard, Timothy Quinn; quartermaster, John McGaughan; delegates to encampment, Charles A. Shaw, John H. Walker and James P. Holland.

Winchester, No. 197, Brooklyn—Commander, William C. Flint; senior vice-commander, Charles E. Greene; junior vice-commander, Fred A. White; surgeon, Edward Burger; quartermaster, Robert Johnson; chaplain, William B. Bennett; officer of the day, John G. Schaudel; officer of the guard, William Bowley; council of administration, Daniel E. Christie, William J. Kay, John Farrell, E. H. Sinsabaugh, Gilbert Golding; delegate to department encampment, J. W. Kay.

H. B. Claflin, No. 578—Commander, Edward J. Atkinson; senior vice-commander, Howard Whitney; junior vice-commander, Walter Dull; surgeon, Dr. Morgan; quartermaster, E. F. Sherry; officer of the day, Andrew Sutton; officer of the guard, Thomas Harrison; delegates to department encampment, James Owens and Thomas Megram.

John A. Dix, No. 135—Commander, C. Stockton Halstead; senior vice-commander, George E. Shafford; junior vice-commander, C. H. Dennison; quartermaster, Edward A. Landers; chaplain, T. J. Hammill; surgeon, George H. Broadhurst; officer of the day, H. W. Chapman; officer of the guard, William M. Abbott; delegates to department encampment, Cornelius Ten Eick, General Nicholas W. Day; delegates to memorial committee, General Nicholas W. Day, Archibald Stewart, George W. Roberts.

Charles H. Freeman, of Corning, is generally regarded as the choice of a large majority of the Grand Army in the State for Department Commander Clarkson's successor. A great many comrades throughout the department were anxious to continue Colonel Clarkson's excellent administration another year, but he refused to listen to such a proposition. As the case now stands, Comrade Corning will have no opposition when the encampment takes place in February.

New-York Grand Army men will present the name of Adjutant Theodore W. Greig, of Lafayette Post, for Junior Vice-Department Commander, with the best of chances for his success.

Ex-Judge George M. Van Hoesen, who has ably and satisfactorily filled the office of chairman of the New-York Memorial Committee during the last two years, will be urged to accept another election.

Comrade Samuel Collins, of John E. Bendix Post, is talked of as Captain Hyatt's successor as Grand Marshal.

The Farragut Naval Veteran Association presented the national colors to the Sunday-school of the Woodlawn Methodist Episcopal Church last week. Loyall Farragut, son of the great admiral, was one of the speakers.

Wadsworth Post presented a beautiful silk flag to the St. Paul's Temperance Cadet Corps, Fifty-ninth-st. and Ninth-ave., on Friday evening. A delegation from Robert E. Lee Camp, ex-Confederate soldiers of New-York, made up a part of the audience.

John A. Dix Post has adopted a memorial by a unanimous vote, asking Congress to grant the application of the Eleventh Army Corps Association to place General Franz Sigel on the retired list of the Army.

The regular monthly meeting of the New-York City Association of Union ex-Prisoners of War will be held at the armory, Broadway and Forty-fifth-st. on Friday evening.

In compliance with the request of the last National Encampment at Boston, Commander-in-Chief Veazy has begun arrangements for the celebration of the quarto-centennial of the organization of the Grand Army, April 6, 1891.

More posts are following the example of Lafayette Post, and have discarded the old G. A. R. uniform of brass buttons and cavalry hats, as recommended by The Tribune three years ago. Among the posts which have adopted the neater dress in whole or in part and whose general appearance is proportionately improved, are E. D. Morgan, Phil. Kearny and Reno.

The twenty-fourth annual encampment of the Department of Rhode Island will take place in Music Hall, Providence, on February 6, 1891.

The next annual encampment of the Department of West Virginia will be held in April in Buckhannon. The day is not yet fixed.

The next National encampment of the Sons of Veterans will be held at Minneapolis, and the "sons" of the West are making great preparations for it.

Andrew Carnegie has generously offered to give the iron for a Memorial building at Gettysburg in honor of the fallen heroes of the Pennsylvania Reserves, who fought so valiantly on that bloody field. The newspapers men of Philadelphia have offered to advance the money for its completion, and trust the Legislature to refund what they advance.

*A TALK WITH MR. HEARST'S TRAINER