# New-York Tribune.

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## VON CAPRIVI MAY RESIGN.

### RUMORED PRUSSIAN CABINET CRISIS.

THE PRIMARY EDUCATION BILL THE STUMBLING-BLOCK—ATTITUDE OF THE EMPEROR—COUNT VON ZEDLITZ-TRUTZSCHLER'S DECISION.

Berlin, March 18.—The "Kreuz Zeitung" publishes a report that Chancellor von Caprivi has resigned. It has received no confirmation, however. The "North German Gazette" confirms the report that Count von Zedlitz-Trutzschler, Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs, Instruction and Medicinal Affairs, intends to resign.

Rumors are current here that there is a partial crisis in the Prussian Cabinet, resulting from the meeting of the Ministers yesterday, at which the Emperor presided. The subject under discussion at this meeting was the Primary Education bill, and it is well known that there is a considerable divergence of opinion among the Ministers on this measure. The sudden return to Berlin of Herr Rauchhaupt, a leading Conservative, is believed to be connected with the impending resignation of Dr. Herrfurth, Minister of the Interior, and of Count von Zedlitz-Trutzschler.

A Cabinet meeting was held to-day at the residence of Dr. Von Boetticher, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, and representative of Chancellor Caprivi. Dr. Von Boetticher is ill, and is confined to his room. Count von Zedlitz-Trutzschler was not present.

At Thursday's Council the Education bill was not on the orders of the day, but came up in a conversation after official business, the Emperor saying that he wanted an agreement with the moderate parties, or, according to another version, expressing his desire to postpone decision on such an important and difficult matter. No regular discussion occurred. Count von Zedlitz was reticent, apparently feeling his inability to coincide with the Emperor's views. Chancellor von Caprivi observed that he ought to continue the discussion of the bill in committee. Count von Zedlitz forthwith wrote his resignation and presented it this morning. The Ministers to-day tried to convince the Chancellor that he need not identify himself with Count von Zedlitz.

The "Tageblatt" declares that a majority of those present at yesterday's Cabinet council advocated the withdrawal of the Primary Education bill. The "Post" says that the attitude of the Ministers toward the bill has changed, a majority of the Cabinet now being opposed to Count von Zedlitz-Trutzschler's views. Several journals mention Dr. Lucanus, Chief of the Civil Cabinet, as the probable successor of Count von Zedlitz-Trutzschler.

The withdrawal of the bill, after forcing it through the committee in a practically unamended form, would be a confession of great weakness on the part of the Government, Chancellor von Caprivi's attitude in regard to the much-discussed measure having been fully as decided as that of Count von Zedlitz-Trutzschler. It is stated that Herr Rauchhaupt, the leader of the Conservatives in the lower house of the Prussian Diet, now declines to accept certain clauses in the Primary Education bill, although the main body of the Conservatives are pledged to support the measure. The result of this action of Herr Rauchhaupt is to create a deadlock.

London, March 19.—"The Post" publishes the following from its Berlin correspondent:

Berlin, March 19, 2 a. m.—The Emperor sent Dr. Lucanus yesterday afternoon to induce Count von Zedlitz to reconsider. It is believed that Count von Zedlitz declined to withdraw his resignation. Chancellor von Caprivi's intention to resign is becoming more decided. He has represented to the Emperor that he must identify himself with Count von Zedlitz, whose views he personally shared. In the event of the Chancellor resigning, it will be difficult to anticipate his successor or a possible combination for a new Ministry. Dr. Miquel (Prussian Minister of Finance) is calmly awaiting events.

"The Telegraph's" Berlin correspondent says: "I hear that Chancellor von Caprivi desired to postpone a difinite decision on the Education bill, but that the Emperor insisted that he would brook no delay, and that the country's objections to the bill must be respected. The Emperor would not have left Berlin if Chancellor von Caprivi had really resigned. A high authority informs me that the crisis will place the Government in a stronger position, by ridding it of this difficulty. A satisfactory solution is certain to be found. There is no foundation for the presumption that Prince Bismarck is likely to be consulted."

Paris, March 18.—A telegram received here from Berlin says the reports that Chancellor von Caprivi and Count von Zedlitz-Trutzschler have resigned owing to differences that have arisen over the Primary Education bill are confirmed.

Cologne, March 18.—The "Cologne Gazette" to-day says it is reported among the members of the Prussian Diet that the Emperor, at yesterday's meeting of the Cabinet, stated that he did not wish the Primary Education bill passed exclusively by a Clerical majority. The "Gazette" expresses the hope that the resignation of Count von Zedlitz-Trutzschler will not induce Chancellor von Caprivi to resign. It adds that it will be an unusual occurrence if the Chancellor of the German Empire should resign because, in a single State a bill bearing the unmistakable stamp of one Minister did not pass.

The Cabinet crisis in Berlin is merely a Prussian affair, which does not concern the German Empire, unless it should bring about the resignation of General Von Caprivi, who could hardly remain Chancellor of United Germany if he should be no longer the Prussian Premier, an office which is by tradition intimately connected with that of Imperial Chancellor. Though the young Sovereign appeared to be determined to have the law of confessional primary education voted by the Prussian Landtag, he seems to acquiesce already in the resignation of Minister Zedlitz, who proposed the obnoxious law. He is said also to have declared that he did not "wish the Primary Educational bill passed exclusively by a Clerical majority." If that report is correct, the bill is defeated in advance; for the general sentiment of the Prussian legislators is adverse to introducing clerical predominance in schools.

The failure of Emperor William's policy in regard to religious matters, and also in relation to state Socialism, may induce him to concentrate his attention upon questions of foreign policy and of political economy. The latter, especially, were presented about two years ago, in a speech by Herr Miquel, as bound to unify the different political parties in Germany, the Centrists, National Liberals, Progressists, etc., which parties, he said, were showing signs of dissensions in their own ranks. Herr Miquel was at that time only a Deputy in the German Chamber; he is now Minister of Finance, greatly loved and appreciated by the Emperor; and he is even mentioned as the only possible successor of Chancellor Caprivi, in case of the latter's resignation. At any rate, soon after the speech of Herr Miquel, which is alluded to above, the German papers published in the beginning of 1891 many articles about the rumored formation of a new National party in the Fatherland. They published also the alleged manifesto of that party, though no names were signed to it. That manifesto advocated an economical policy, designed to further the interests of all classes, through a rearrangement of customs duties and taxation. It was opposed to granting privileges to certain classes of producers; and it deprecated also the ideas of State Socialism, which were then prevalent. Not much has been heard for a year about that supposed new German party, but the present Cabinet crisis may bring it into prominence.

### THE MINERS TO WORK FIVE DAYS A WEEK.

London, March 18.—The delegates to the conference of the Miners' Federation resumed their deliberation to-day. It was decided that after the men resumed work on Monday they should work only five days a week. The conference also decided that from April 11 the days on which mining would be done would be Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The miners have not worked hitherto on Sundays, and after April 11 Mondays will be observed as holidays by all members of the Miners' Federation. Despite the decision to resume work on Monday, it will be Wednesday before the pits are working at their full capacity. The price of coal declined 6 shillings per ton here to-day.

### DANISH DUTIES ON WHEAT AND RYE.

Copenhagen, March 18.—Despite the opposition of the Free Trade party, the Lower House of the Rigsdag fixed the duty on wheat meal and rye meal at 250 ore per 100 kilograms, and on whole wheat and rye at 125 ore.

## THE LIVERPOOL TRAGEDIES.

THE BODIES OF DEEMING'S VICTIMS BURIED—FEW NEW FACTS DEVELOPED.

Liverpool, March 18.—The village of Rain Hill was to-day thronged with visitors from every part of the Liverpool district, who were present for the purpose of attending the funeral of the victims of the terrible tragedy. The bodies were buried in the parish churchyard this afternoon. The expense of the funeral will be borne by the parish.

Dinkam Villa, the scene of the crime, is an object of morbid curiosity. Hundreds of persons stood idly about the premises all day, discussing Deeming and his crimes in tones that would bode ill for him if he was here instead of in Australia. No one of the crowd was permitted to enter the premises, which were surrounded by a cordon of police. The doctors who conducted the post-mortem examination were obliged to throw the windows wide open on account of the stench from the bodies. This enabled the great crowd to watch the work. The bodies, it will be remembered, are supposed to have been buried in August last, and decomposition was hastened by the plentiful application of chloride of lime. When the coroner's inquest had been opened the members of the jury protested against being obliged to view the bodies.

The first witness called was Albert Deeming, a brother of the murderer. His remarkable resemblance to his brother led to his being nearly mobbed by the crowd yesterday when he arrived at Rain Hill from Birkenhead, and it is said to-day by those who know the murderer that unless intimately acquainted with them it was hard to distinguish one from the other. When a photograph of his sister-in-law was shown to Albert he broke down and nearly fainted. He said he knew when he was summoned what he was going to see at the villa, as he had seen his murdered sister-in-law and her children in dreams. The witness also testified that he saw his sister-in-law just before she was murdered and that she then had £100 in her possession.

Walter Deeming, another brother of the murderer, and a number of policemen who had taken part in the search for and discovery of the bodies then gave their evidence and the inquest was adjourned.

The box shipped by Deeming to Plymouth, addressed "Mrs. Holds," which was never called for, was opened at Plymouth to-day. It was found to contain the clothing of Mrs. Deeming and the children. There was in the box a nightdress covered with blood stains.

A letter received in Liverpool from a woman who was on the vessel on which Deeming and his wife went to Australia says that Mrs. Deeming confided to her that her husband had turned out to be a villain and that he treated her brutally. The wife discovered her husband's true character during the honeymoon. He so ill-treated her on the voyage to Australia that she determined to leave him as soon as the vessel arrived at her destination and to return to England. The writer of the letter assisted Mrs. Deeming to buy her return passage, but after the latter had gone aboard the vessel to return to England her husband forced her to disembark.

It has been learned that Deeming tried hard to get control of the business of Mrs. Mather, whose daughter he married after murdering his wife and four children. He was frustrated in this attempt by Mrs. Mather's son, to whom Deeming sent a letter foully abusing him for interfering with his plans.

Perth, Australia, March 18.—Deeming, who is accused of having murdered his wife and four children in England, was brought to this city to-day by officers, prior to going to Melbourne, where court proceedings will be taken against him. The prisoner was strongly guarded, and every precaution was taken by the authorities to prevent him from escaping and to guard against his being attacked by the excited people. The railroad station was jammed with a great crowd of persons when the train bearing the prisoner and his guards reached the city.

The constables who had charge of the prisoner at once hurried Deeming from the train to a vehicle which had been held in readiness to convey him to the jail. A yelling, hooting mob of men and boys started after the carriage, but the driver whipped up his horses and soon outdistanced the runners, and in a short time had safely landed the prisoner in the institution where he will remain for a few days, until the formal magisterial inquiry is held and he is remanded.

The detective who hunted the prisoner down said that when Deeming was arrested and was questioned about the terrible charges made against him he affirmed his complete innocence of the crimes. He gave his name as Swanston and declared that he had no knowledge of the man known as Williams. He said that he was a resident of Windsor. He was voluble and was very willing to talk about the murders attributed to him. He seemed to be confident that when the proper time came he would be able to prove his innocence.

The police claim to possess proofs of the prisoner's identity. They seized some of his goods and among the things was a batch of letters and a basket containing female clothing.

## THE BIRTHDAY OF THE PARIS COMMUNE.

AN ORDERLY CELEBRATION—ANNIVERSARY OF THE REVOLUTION OF 1848—A PLOT AGAINST THE CZAR.

Paris, March 18.—Twenty-one years ago to-day the organized Socialists and workingmen of this city revolted against the French Government and established the Commune. This year the lawless element have been encouraged by the acts of the Anarchists, and the authorities feared that in the celebration of the day serious conflicts might occur. The Central Brigades and the Republican Guards were confined to their barracks, and all the police officers were instructed to quell promptly any incipient outbreak; but no disturbance occurred. The Revolution party held numerous banquets and conferences. The celebration will be continued to-morrow and on Sunday. To-day many persons went to the cemetery of Pere La Chaise and viewed the "Mur des Federes," where the Federes were shot. Many wreath and bouquets were placed upon the graves of the slain.

A committee of the Chamber of Deputies has unanimously adopted a bill making it a capital offence to blow up houses with dynamite.

St. Petersburg, March 18.—Special precautions have been taken to protect the Imperial family, in consequence of the receipt of communications from the Paris police to the effect that Nihilists have prepared to make an attempt to assassinate the Czar.

Berlin, March 18.—The anniversary of the Revolution of 1848 was marked by no unusual occurrence in this city. Many Socialists proceeded to the Moabit Cemetery, but they were not allowed to assemble in large numbers, either in or near the grounds. The police authorities had taken great precautions to prevent trouble. Large crowds of policemen, both mounted and on foot, were held in readiness for any emergency. All projected meetings of Socialists were prevented by the police. A few slight skirmishes occurred during the day. In one case a few ruffians tried to rescue a comrade who had been arrested, but they were easily dispersed by a body of eight policemen. Upon graves of victims of the revolution were placed two wreaths, bearing the words "Long live Anarchy."

Liege, March 18.—The attempt made yesterday to blow up the residence of the President of the Assise Court has caused the police to take active steps to discover the supporters of Anarchism in Liege. To-day the Public Prosecutor handed to the police a large number of warrants authorizing them to search the lodgings of all persons suspected of Anarchism.

## AGAINST AMERICAN CATTLE.

CANADA TO ENFORCE QUARANTINE REGULATIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Ottawa, March 18 (Special.)—Mackenzie Bowell, Acting Minister of Customs, telegraphed to-day to the quarantine officials in British Columbia to enforce in future the regulations against American cattle imported into Canada. This action will make it necessary for such cattle to go under ninety days' quarantine, and thereby will practically prohibit the business. Thus far the regulations have been kept in abeyance. The city of Victoria, on the coast, draws its beef supply wholly from the United States. Vancouver City is in a similar position. To-night all the British Columbia members waited on Premier Abbott, and protested against the enforcement of these regulations; but he would not consent to rescind the order. He said that these regulations were enforced with the object of having Canadian beef placed on the scheduled list by Great Britain, the same as the beef of all other countries.

### THE FIRST SWISS EXECUTION SINCE 1868.

Berne, March 18.—The first execution in Switzerland since 1868 took place to-day at Lucerne. The culprit was an Italian named Gatti, who had murdered Mile. Degen, a teacher. He was executed by the guillotine.

### A NEW ARGENTINE FINANCE MINISTER.

Buenos Ayres, March 18.—Senor E. Harsen, Under Financial Secretary, has accepted the portfolio of the Ministry of Finance.

### TAKING SEALS IN THE GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE.

St. John's, N. F., March 18 (Special.)—The schooner Sisters has arrived at Channel with 700 seals, taken in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. She reports three others with 1,000 seals each. Twenty steamers have gone north. The season is open, and the prospects are that a good many seals will be taken by people from the shore in punts.

## *A BIG NEW SHIP ASHORE.*

### THE WINDERMERE STRANDED AT DEAL BEACH.

SHE WAS BOUND FOR THIS PORT ON HER FIRST VOYAGE—ALL ON BOARD TAKEN OFF BY THE LIFE-SAVERS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Asbury Park, N. J., March 18.—In the severe snowstorm this morning the ship Windermere was stranded at the foot of Eighth-ave., just off Deal Lake. She struck the outer bar, broadside on, her nose pointing northward, at 6 a. m., and slid over to the shore side. As soon as the vessel struck signals of distress were made, and Captain Lambert Edwards, of the Deal Beach Life Saving Station, had his apparatus and crew on the beach in a jiffy. The big ship was in a dangerous position. The seas were sweeping over her, and the terrific northeast wind made it almost impossible for the life-savers to use their boats. The life-saving crews from the Long Branch and Shark River stations soon arrived at the scene, and Captain Edwards launched the big lifeboat, and with a picked crew rowed out to the foundering ship and brought ashore two sailors. The life-line was then shot out and made fast and the others of the crew were landed by means of the breeches buoy, without accident. The sailors were drenched by the surf while passing from the ship to the shore, but as soon as they landed on the beach willing hands helped them to the life-saving station at Deal Beach, where hot food and dry clothes were given to them. The crew, including officers and common seamen, numbered forty.

As soon as the ship stranded the Merritt Wrecking Association was informed, and late this afternoon a tug arrived from New-York. The ship is firmly imbedded in the sand about fifty yards from shore. An effort will be made to pull her off at to-night's high tide, but it is doubtful if she can be floated. The Windermere is an English steel clipper ship of 3,275 tons. She was built at Milford Haven, South Wales, and was launched in January last. She is 304 feet long, 42 feet 8 inches beam and 27 feet 5 inches depth of hold. Her mainmast is over 150 feet. She is owned by Fisher & Sprant, of Fenchurch-st., London, who own a fleet of large merchantmen. She was bound for New-York, and was consigned to Vernon H. Brown & Co., of No. 23 Beaver-st., New-York. After taking on a cargo of oil, she was to have sailed for Calcutta.

The ship sailed from Milford Haven on January 23 in ballast. During the passage boisterous weather was encountered, and owing to the meagre ballast, the ship behaved badly. Barnegat Light was sighted early Thursday morning. Here a pilot, Welch, of No. 6, the W. H. Starbuck, came aboard and endeavored to take the ship to Sandy Hook. A gale was blowing and the snow was almost blinding. Sandy Hook was reached early Friday morning, but the ship refused to mind her wheel, and then Welch undertook to wear the ship. She mis-stayed and despite all efforts drifted broadside on the bar at this place. This disaster could have been averted had those in command thrown out the anchors, but the pilot and Captain Windermere felt confident that they could reach the Hook without resorting to such a precaution. The officers and crew had been on deck without food for over eighteen hours, and the exposure and hard work exhausted them.

The crew spent the night at the life-saving station, and they will be sent to New-York to-morrow morning. There were twelve apprentices on the vessel, all of them robust young Englishmen, and several of them sons of wealthy parents. The Windermere was officered as follows: Captain, C. A. Windermere; first mate, G. Barnard; second mate, Frank Scott; third mate, Frank Parsons; fourth mate, Thomas Richardson; boatswain, George Welch; boatswain's mate, Charles Sloan; steward, Alfred Morrell; cook, Augustus Hope; carpenter, M. Jenkins; carpenter's mate, Henry Griffith; sail-maker, James Owens.

The Windermere came ashore within fifty yards of the spot where the New Era was wrecked on Sunday, November 12, 1854. Of the 425 passengers aboard the New Era, over 300 were drowned. A marble monument has been erected on the beach by James A. Bradley in commemoration of that disaster. It was near the same spot, too, that the French ship L'Amerique, the steamer Pliny and several smaller vessels were wrecked.

When the shipwrecked sailors were being brought ashore in the breeches buoy, the Rev. S. Edward Young, the pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, who is the chief advocate of the bill now pending in Congress providing for an increase of the salaries of the men in the Life Saving Service, helped to man the rope. He said he would like to have all the members of the United States House of Representatives witness this scene of bravery and skill. "This is one of the grandest exhibitions of the efficiency of our Life Saving Service that I have ever seen," he said.

Pilot Welch, who arrived here last night, told the story of the stranding of the Windermere, but said nothing about the neglect to let go the anchor when both he and the captain knew they were being driven on the beach.

## *A WHOLE FAMILY POISONED.*

TWO OF THEM DEAD AND TWO SERIOUSLY ILL—A YOUNG BROTHER ACCUSED.

Nashville, Tenn., March 18.—Mrs. Richard Melrose, her daughters Minnie, Katie and Mattie, and her oldest son, David, became violently sick last night after drinking coffee containing arsenic. Robert Melrose, the young son, drank little coffee, and it is a disputed question as to whether he drank any. He complained of being sick, and, drinking some salt and water, vomited freely. This morning Mattie and Katie, aged fifteen and seventeen, respectively, died. David and his mother are ill, but may recover. Robert is also sick, it is thought from drinking a small quantity of the coffee to-day.

The circumstances surrounding the case seemed to point to the guilt of Robert, and he is now under arrest to await the result of the inquest. He had given the family much trouble.

### *TOBACCO BURNED IN ST. LOUIS.*

St. Louis, March 18.—The extensive tobacco factory of Liggett & Myers, which covers nearly one-half of the block bounded by Thirteenth, St. Charles and Locust sts., took fire in the sixth story or sweating department at 8:30 a. m., and in an hour almost the entire upper part of the building was in flames. Several hundred people, men, women and children, were employed in the factory, but all of them appear to have escaped without injury. An estimate by members of the firm makes the loss by the fire as follows: On stock, $315,000; building, $25,000; machinery, $5,000; total, $345,000, which is covered by $430,000 insurance.

### *SENATOR MORRILL'S BRIGHT PROSPECTS.*

Washington, March 18.—Senator Morrill passed the most favorable night since his illness began. The physician in attendance looks for a still more rapid improvement of his condition within the next twenty-four hours. Senator Morrill's mental faculties are wonderfully bright and altogether every symptom points to convalescence. His family are much encouraged over the improvement in his condition and believe that he has passed the danger line.

### *SPRECKELS DENIES JOINING THE TRUST.*

Philadelphia, March 18.—Claus Spreckels gave an emphatic denial to-day when asked if he had finally concluded to join the Sugar Trust.

### *SECRETARY BLAINE CONTINUES TO IMPROVE.*

Washington, March 18.—Secretary Blaine is reported to be better to-day. He was able to leave his room for the first time since he was taken ill. During the day he transacted some private business requiring his attention. His physician hopes that he will be able to ride out early next week.

## A BLACK EYE FOR HILL.

### THE HOUSE COMMITTEE VOTES TO SEAT NOYES.

DEMOCRATIC REPRESENTATIVES DISGUSTED AND ANGRY AT THE SENATOR'S UNSCRUPULOUS INTERFERENCE—ALMOST A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, March 18. The House Committee on Elections to-day by a vote of 7 to 1 adopted a resolution which was offered by Mr. Moore, of Texas, last Tuesday, declaring that Hosea H. Rockwell was not elected a Representative in the LIId Congress from the XXVIIIth New-York District and is not entitled to the seat, and that Henry T. Noyes was elected and is entitled to the seat which Rockwell has occupied since the organization of this Congress under a fraudulent certificate based on false and fraudulent election returns, certified by Democratic boards of supervisors in the counties of Chemung and Seneca.

Three Democrats and four Republicans voted for the resolution, and one Democrat, Mr. Gillespie, of Pennsylvania, against it. The three Democrats who voted that David B. Hill's chum, Rockwell, is not entitled to the seat which he occupies were Chairman O'Ferrall of Virginia, Payne of Kentucky, and Lawson of Georgia; the four Republicans were Messrs. Haugen, of Wisconsin, Dean, of Ohio, Johnson, of Indiana, and Clark, of Wyoming. Mr. Moore, of Texas, who offered the resolution and would have supported it, was absent on account of illness. Four other Democrats and two Republicans were absent. Of the four Democrats Mr. Cobb, of Alabama, is in favor of Rockwell now; Mr. Johnstone, of South Carolina, is said not to have an opinion based upon an examination of the testimony; Mr. Brown, of Indiana, is understood to favor Noyes, and the attitude of Mr. Lockwood, of New-York, has not as yet been disclosed. At the last meeting of the committee he asked to be excused from voting on the ground that his position had been misrepresented by the friends of both parties and that it was delicate because of his relations with the contestee. Mr. Lockwood's request was granted. It is fair to infer, however, that if his judgment had been formed in favor of Rockwell he would not have hesitated to express it, and therefore it is assumed that he will vote to award to Colonel Noyes the seat which belongs to him.

It is regarded as of some significance that the three Democrats who voted against Rockwell to-day are Southern men, while the only member of the committee who voted for him is a Northern Democrat elected to this Congress by 13,779 votes in a district which at the same election cast 21,167 Republican votes, but divided them almost equally between two Republican candidates. Mr. Gillespie, therefore, like Mr. Rockwell, is a minority representative, but, unlike Rockwell, he does not hold his seat under a fraudulent title.

But a fact of much greater significance is the crushing defeat of David B. Hill in a Democratic committee of the Democratic House of Representatives—for the decision of to-day must be regarded in that light as well as a triumph of truth and justice. Because of his political and personal friendship for Rockwell, but still more because he was anxious to have the Elections Committee of the Democratic House of Representatives formally approve the methods of seat-stealing adopted by Democratic county boards of supervisors in the State of New-York, in this as well as in other cases, Hill has tried by every means in his power to obtain a report in favor of Rockwell. The exposure in these dispatches of the nature of Hill's efforts in this behalf has been the talk of the House in the last two days, and his conduct has been denounced by Democratic as well as by Republican Representatives as unprecedented and indecent.

Mr. Hill holds a seat in the United States Senate from the Empire State, and he has been formally suggested for the Presidency of the United States by the Democratic party of that State in convention assembled. It is not only pertinent, therefore, but highly important that his efforts in the Noyes-Rockwell case should be described in order that they may be understood, for they clearly reveal the character of the man whom the Democratic party of New-York has elevated to the high office of Senator of the United States, and now seeks to promote to the highest office in the gift of the people of the United States. And first a word as to the decision of the Election Committee. The committee is composed of nine Democrats and six Republicans. Its chairman is a Virginia Democrat, and as sincere and earnest a partisan as sits in the House of Representatives. His Democratic associates are equally strong partisans. In a contest between a Republican and a Democrat, every one of them would give the benefit of the doubt, if ground for doubt existed, to the latter. After hearing the arguments of counsel in the Noyes-Rockwell case, and carefully examining the law and the facts, a majority of the Democratic members of the committee reached the conclusion that Colonel Noyes was elected, and entitled to the seat. This shows that, in their opinion, no doubt existed of which Mr. Rockwell could become the beneficiary; in other words, Colonel Noyes's claim was so clear and so strong that it could not be resisted even by these strong partisans. There is good reason to believe that at one time such was the opinion of every Democrat member of the committee, with perhaps a single exception.

At that stage David B. Hill appeared in person upon the scene and began an intrigue to reverse the calm, dispassionate and intelligent judgment formed by individual members of the committee. One of his first acts was to summon to the Senate Chamber the most influential Democratic member of the Elections Committee and try to ascertain from him whether the Democrats would stand by Rockwell. That was on a day preceding a regular meeting of the committee, at which it was expected that the case would be decided. Failing to obtain an assurance which he regarded as satisfactory, Mr. Hill, it is asserted on good authority, then begged that the matter might be postponed, urging as a reason that if an adverse decision should be reached on the eve of the local elections which were about to take place in New-York, the effect would be injurious to the Democratic party there.

After considerable hesitation and with much reluctance, the Democratic members of the committee agreed to let the case go over, provided the Republican members of the committee did not object. The latter, knowing nothing of the real reason, but assuming that the Democrats were trying to agree among themselves so that a unanimous report could be made to the House, consented to the postponement. Hill had gained one point by concealing from the Democratic members of the committee his chief reason for begging for the delay.

On the day following the action of the committee he separately invited each of them to call upon him at his hotel at a certain hour, on the evening of the following Monday. One of the Democratic members thus invited accidentally learned, what none of the others knew, that all of them had been invited for the same hour of the same evening, and he sent a note to the New-York Senator, and did not attend. Four or five of the others, however, did respond. As soon as they were comfortably seated they learned to their astonishment that they had been summoned to hear Senator Hill's reasons why they must vote to keep Rockwell in his seat—the chief and strongest, if not the only, consideration urged being that he was a Democrat and the contestant a Republican. Senator Hill did not try to mince matters at all; his argument was so bold and so devoid of other considerations that the mere fact that Rockwell was a member of their own party and must be protected for that reason that several of his visitors felt ashamed as well as indignant, while the others, it is said, showed a disposition to waver and an inclination to submit to the demand that they should pocket their consciences and judgment and vote their partisan preferences.

On the following morning another meeting of the Election Committee was to be held. A few minutes before the hour for the meeting and after the chairman and several other members of the Committee had entered the committee room a member of the House, who is not a member of the committee, appeared at the door and called one of the Democratic members out, saying that a gentleman desired to see him immediately in the adjoining room. The summons was obeyed, and when the member entered the adjoining room in company with his friend he found Senator Hill, who remarked with a good deal of brusqueness that the member had not kept his engagement on the preceding evening.

"No, but I sent you a note and will give you the reason now for my non-attendance if you desire," was the reply. Several other persons were in the room, and Senator Hill replied that he did not want to know the reasons. The member then remarked that his committee was about to meet, and desired that the Senator make his business known at once. The latter replied that he wanted to talk about the Noyes-Rockwell case, and at once began a passionate argument in behalf of the latter, insisting that the Elections Committee should keep him in his seat. The member at last became impatient and said, in substance:

"Every legitimate argument that could be urged in Mr. Rockwell's behalf was used by his attorney when he appeared before the committee, and if you will excuse me for saying so, his argument was better than yours." Senator Hill immediately flew into a passion, and became extremely demonstrative in manner and gestures, as he demanded to know if the Democratic members of the Elections Committee intended to recommend the unseating of a Democrat and the seating of a Republican. The member became angry then and promptly resented this attempt at Senatorial bulldozing.

"I want you to understand, sir," said he, according to the recollection of witnesses of this remarkable interview, "that I regard your suggestion as unbecoming and improper. For my part, I shall perform my duty in this case according to my conscience and judgment, and I have no doubt that my colleagues will do the same. If that involves the unseating of a Democrat, why, the Democrat will have to go. This is a matter in which you have no right to interfere and attempt to coerce Democratic members of the committee to act contrary to the judgment which they have formed as jurors, after carefully weighing all the evidence in the case; such an attempt is an insult to them. If you have no further business with me, sir, I will bid you good morning." Whereupon the indignant Democratic member of the Elections Committee turned on his heel and left the room. So excited as well as angry was he that persons who were present feared that he might strike the Senator.

After the member had retired from the room Senator Hill turned to a Democratic Representative, who had witnessed the scene, and asked: "What sort of a man is he? What will he do?"

"He will do what he thinks is right," was the reply. The Representative who brought about the interview afterward apologized to the Democratic member of the committee, and explained that if he had known what Hill wanted he would not have acted as his messenger.

Strong efforts have been made to prevent any account of this occurrence from reaching the public, but it is due to the Democratic members of the Elections Committee that all the facts should be made known. The feelings of disgust and resentment provoked by Senator Hill's conduct throughout this whole affair are extremely lively, and there is no doubt that he has seriously injured Rockwell's prospects as well as furnished a fresh and extremely valuable revelation of his true character. There does not seem to be any way to punish him except by publishing the facts.

## *CHICAGO "BOODLE" INVESTIGATION.*

SENSATIONAL REVELATIONS EXPECTED FROM THE WORK OF THE GRAND JURY.

Chicago, March 18 (Special).—The only topic of conversation about the City Hall to-day was the "boodle" investigation begun by the Grand Jury. Only one witness was examined by the Grand Jury to-day, but the investigation is not yet fairly opened and there will be no limit to its scope, according to State Attorney Longenecker's assertion. All the officers of the various corporations which have been benefited by the actions of the Council will be called on to testify. Among the most prominent ones to be subpoenaed are President Billings, of the Gas Trust; Charles T. Yerkes, of the cable roads, and the promoters and officers of the two elevated roads now being constructed. Detective John Bonfield, who secured most of the evidence in the case, will tell a startling story of the doings in the room where the combine held its meetings. It is said that one of the Grand Jurors has been approached in a way that would indicate a probability of an attempt to tamper with the jury. It is highly probable that while the sitting Grand Jury will hear some of the evidence a Special Grand Jury will finish the work. For years the terms "City Council" and "boodle" have been synonomous. But what is everybody's business is nobody's business; so the tales of flagrant and unblushing corruption went along increasing year after year. During the last few months they reached such a climax of recklessness and effrontery that an organization of citizens was effected quietly to determine the truth of the alleged crimes. Detectives were employed, and plenty of money was forthcoming for the purpose. The result of this action is the present investigation, which promises to place several Aldermen and other local politicians in a decidedly awkward fix. The Economic Gas people and the Compressed Air promoters express indifference as to the outcome of the agitation, and assert their innocence. Corporation Counsel Miller said to-day that if bribery is proved it will be equivalent to declaring the Compressed Air ordinance null and void.

The inquiry which began to-day opened with a supposed "squeeler," as the first witness to disclose the secret money-getting methods of his fellow Aldermen. The witness was Alderman Stanley Kunz, who, while in his cups, gave utterance to some queer remarks the other night on the door of the Council Chamber, and who, it has been stated, felt that he had not received all he was entitled to when favors were being passed around for franchises worth hundreds of thousands. While Kunz was within the jury-room and being put upon the rack reports were current among the interested groups outside that at least one Alderman had fled the city, and that a number of others were under detective surveillance.

The State's Attorney seemed to have no doubt of the indictment of a number of the city fathers forming a well-organized ring, and the possibility that much larger fish would be caught in the net.

It is said that the combine met in a room in the rear of a saloon owned by a certain Alderman, for the division of the spoils. Bonfield rented a room directly over that used by the combine. Through a hole made in the ceiling and a microphone communicating with the interior of the lower room, the ex-chief of detectives saw and heard everything that went on below him. Shorthand reports of the scenes and conversation were made by the detective's assistants, who sat beside him while taking observations. Alderman Roth was defeated for renomination, and a report was current to-day that to him largely the initiation of the investigation was due.

When the jury assembles to-morrow President Billings, of the Gas Trust, will testify. Billings fought the passage of the Economic Gas ordinance. It is rumored that he will give positive evidence to the effect that he was made to understand that he could prevent the passage of the ordinance by bidding over the men behind it. It is also understood that he will testify that $150,000 was the figure named as necessary to prevent the passage of the Economic Gas ordinance and subserve the interests of the Gas Trust. He will also tell the names of Aldermen who told him of the amounts they had received to vote for the ordinance. Mayor Washburne will also be put on the stand in the course of the investigation.

### *THE BARON WANTS THE DIVORCE ANNULLED.*

St. Paul, March 18.—A dispatch from Sioux Falls, S. D., says: "A private cable from Paris conveys the interesting news that Baron De Steurs has taken steps to have annulled the divorce obtained by his wife here. The action of the Chevalier is generally approved and it is believed will be entirely successful."

### *THAT MISSING INSANE PATIENT.*

The sisters at St. Francis's Hospital in East Fifth-st. yesterday said that they had no knowledge of John Gallagher, the Boston magazine writer, who escaped from the hospital on Thursday morning. They had nothing to do with hunting him up. His brother, whose address they could not give, had taken the whole affair in charge.

## JUDGE MAYNARD'S DEFENCE.

### REVIEWING WITH PRIDE HIS DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT.

NO NEW FACTS PRESENTED—A PRACTICAL CONFESSION OF HIS GUILT—THE FULL TEXT MADE PUBLIC BY HIS ASSOCIATE IN THE SENATE STEAL, DELOS M'CURDY.

Delos McCurdy, the associate of Judge Isaac H. Maynard as counsel of the State Board of Canvassers and the Democratic party in the recent proceedings to steal the State Senate, yesterday made public the defence of Judge Maynard for the action which the Bar Association is about to investigate. The defence is in the shape of a letter written to the chief judges of the divisions of the Court of Appeals. It adds absolutely no new facts to the history of the case and contains not a scintilla of evidence tending to show that either Judge Maynard or his clients were actuated by any other motive than to keep the Republicans, by any possible means, from getting control of the Senate. Judge Maynard defends his actions as being strictly legal, but practically confesses that he and members of the State Board of Canvassers, who are supposed to be devoted to carrying out the law, regardless of party, were holding conferences to determine what action should be taken to keep the amended returns from Dutchess County from coming to their hands and how they might be disposed of if in spite of all they should come.

The defence is nothing more than the statement of the well-known facts in the case, from the point of view of Judge Maynard, so disposed and interpreted as to place his motives in the most favorable light possible. Its full text, exactly as given out by Mr. McCurdy, is as follows:

To Hon. Robert Earl, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, and
Hon. David L. Follett, Chief Judge of the Second Division:

So much has been said in regard to my conduct as an attorney for the State Board of Canvassers in the late contested election cases, by persons who are evidently unfamiliar with the facts, and it has attracted public attention to such an extent that I deem it appropriate to lay before you all the facts bearing upon my relations to those cases. I do this because you represent the only body which could, with any propriety, expect a statement from me upon this subject.

The facts are briefly these: I was retained by the State Board of Canvassers and by the individual members thereof, on December 1, 1891, to act as attorney and counsel for them in all matters and legal proceedings brought against them or calling for their action in the senatorial contests in the XVth, XVIth, XXVth and XXVIIth Senatorial Districts. Delos McCurdy, esq., of New-York City, was associated with me in the cases, and my appearance was not in any official capacity, but solely in my private capacity as an attorney, as the papers in the case will show. The Attorney-General was himself a party defendant in those proceedings, and I had no connection with them as Deputy Attorney-General. The appearances therein are all signed "I. H. Maynard and Delos McCurdy, attorneys for," etc.

DIVIDING THE RESPONSIBILITY.

Four other attorneys, of great eminence in the profession, were retained as counsel, and gave advice upon all important questions arising in the cases. Before the State Board of Canvassers met or had an opportunity to meet, or to take any action whatever, the members of the board were served with a large number of stays, ex parte orders and orders to show cause at special Term of the Supreme Court, with the accompanying papers, all of which were, as soon as served, delivered to me, with the request to attend to them and take such action as in my judgment would be lawful and proper. These orders accumulated, until, on December 5, there were five orders to show cause which came on for hearing at the Albany special Term, before Mr. Justice Edwards—two relating to the XXVIIth District, and one for each of the other districts. The proceeding in the XVth District was entitled "The People, etc., ex rel. William C. Daley and John I. Platt, against the State Board of Canvassers and the individual members thereof."

The argument of the cases lasted nearly the entire day, and was not concluded when the counsel for the relators, through the Hon. W. A. Sutherland, proposed that the parties should enter into a stipulation, by means of which all questions in controversy in the various senatorial districts should be taken to and submitted to the Court of Appeals for final decision. Especial emphasis was laid upon the fact that, if this proposition was accepted, it would put an end to the whole controversy relating to these elections. I said, in response, I was in favor of the proposition, but as it was entir