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DOING BISMARCK HONOR.

MEN OF POSEN VISIT HIM.

THE EX-CHANCELLOR DENOUNCES THE POLISH NOBILITY AND CLERGY.

DECLARING THAT POSEN IS AS NECESSARY TO EASTERN GERMANY AS ALSACE TO SOUTHERN GERMANY—ENTHUSIASM OF THE GREAT THRONG OF VISITORS—THE PRINCE'S LUMBAGO.

Varzin, Sept. 16.—This little village never before saw such a festival as began here this morning. Preparations had been making for days to receive the Posen delegation of Prince Bismarck's admirers. With daybreak the visitors came from the surrounding districts by the score. They found the streets already decorated with garlands, flags and arches spanning the roads which lead to the castle. Policemen who had been gathered from Stolpe, Coslin and other nearby points, closed the approaches to the castle, so as to leave free way for the delegation.

Prince and Princess Bismarck rose at 9 o'clock. Only members of the family circle were at breakfast—among them Count William Bismarck, his sister, the Countess Rantzau; and Dr. Schweninger, who came to the castle last evening in order to be with the Prince during the excitement of the reception. The railway arrangements had been made so carefully that all the accommodations of the castle and park were taxed to the last point. Special trains left Posen, Gnesen, Bromberg and Ravitch at 10 o'clock last night. At Schneidemuehl they were joined to trains from other points. The great line of cars, all packed with people, was divided into two sections, and ran thus to Varzin. The first section reached Hammermuehle at 11:25 o'clock, the other just before noon. Tents had been erected, and the tables for luncheon were spread before 11 o'clock.

The young men walked from the railway station to the castle. The older men were carried in the Prince's carriages, in vehicles used at his factories, and in wagons of all sorts. The procession was marshalled by Major von Tiedemann, who divided it into three battalions. At a farmhouse near the station each battalion halted and had grog, coffee and sausages, served by men from the Prince's estate. After this refreshment the procession was reorganized. The count then showed that 2,300 men were present and eager to take part in the march past the castle. Major von Tiedemann ordered a halt again when the head of the column arrived at the platform which was erected yesterday in front of the castle entrance. The delegates hastily broke ranks, and, crowding forward, gathered in a big semi-circle to await the Prince's coming.

BISMARCK AND THE REPORTERS.

Bismarck had already been on the veranda. He found to the right and left of the door several long tables, round which sat, elbow to elbow, the reporters of all the large journals in North Germany. "I am afraid you will find this a rather poor affair," he said, after exchanging greetings. "I am feeling rather fatigued, and fear I cannot give you much for your papers. I can tell you that I hope none of you will ever know the plague of lumbago, such as I contracted at my work."

Lieutenant Fischer, one of the originators of the demonstration, replied: "We have done very well, Your Grace."

Bismarck seemed hardly to hear him. He looked over the rows of reporters, clasped his hands behind his back, and said with a suggestion of sadness: "And all these gentlemen have sacrificed themselves for two nights to come and see what is but a ruin."

"But what is that," Lieutenant Fischer answered, "considering that Your Grace sacrificed so many nights for the benefit of the Fatherland?"

"Those days are over," said Bismarck, with a slight gesture. "They will not come again. Now I must go indoors and stay there until the procession arrives."

The United Press reporter asked after the Prince's health. "It is hard to say," answered Bismarck, "just how I do feel. I do not know whether my lumbago is worse when I sit or when I walk."

As he turned to the door he noticed on one of the press tables a velvet and silver bound volume. He opened it, disclosing the text of an illuminated address, but quickly closed it with the words: "I must not peep into the secrets in store for me."

Dr. Schweninger, who had been beckoning to the Prince for a minute or more, at last caught his eye, and induced him to go into the house. Afterward Dr. Schweninger explained to the United Press reporter that he feared for the Prince on account of his lumbago. The Prince's general health was good, the doctor said, and would carry him through many more years.

THE PROCESSION AT THE CASTLE.

It was about 1:30 o'clock when the bands were heard coming with the procession from the village. After the delegates had gathered round the platform, a Männerchor started "The Watch on the Rhine." Nearly 3,000 voices responded. The last strain of the grand chorus had hardly echoed from the castle when the old Chancellor came forward. A sea of hats, handkerchiefs and flags swept over the heads of the crowd, and for several minutes everybody cheered madly. As the cheering ceased, Major von Tiedemann stepped on the platform and proposed a final cheer, with some sentiment which was lost in the tumult of enthusiasm. Councillor Keunemann read the address. He said:

Thousands of men of all classes have gathered here to honor the man who realized the dream of many generations of Germans—the man who united Germany, of which our province shall forever form an integral part. There has been occasional vacillation in the administration of our province, but this has served only to deepen our attachment to the imperial idea embodied in Prince Bismarck's work. (Cheers.)

The Männerchor chanted "Hail, Bismarck" after the address, and, amid repeated cheers, Bismarck stepped forward to reply. He talked for forty-five minutes. The Prince at first spoke with his head uncovered, but soon complained that he was feeling an attack of his old enemy, the lumbago. He thanked the deputation for their good wishes, but said he would feel more thankful if they would put on their hats and allow him to do the same. This remark caused great laughter. The deputation complied with the Prince's request, and, having put on his own hat, the ex-Chancellor resumed his remarks.

He commented upon the references of Herr Keunemann to the Polish agitation in Posen, and said that he regarded the presence of a deputation from that province as a recognition of his share in the construction of the present Constitution of Germany. Nobody would deny, he asserted, that Alsace would never be surrendered until the Army of Germany was completely lost.

POSEN AS NECESSARY AS ALSACE.

So it was with Posen. Alsace was necessary to the protection of Southern Germany, and Posen was equally necessary to the protection of Eastern Germany. The lack of friendship between the German races was formerly much greater than it is now. The country had made rapid strides toward national unity. Referring to the achievements of Germany, the speaker said the national sentiments which had been evoked by them had brought about a state of mutual contentment. This remark elicited expressions of "Bravo" on all sides, which were renewed when the Prince declared that not only the "Watch on the Rhine," but the watch on the Warthe and the Vistula must be maintained.

Dwelling upon the hostility of the Poles to the Germans in 1831 and 1848, he said:

It was through moderation only that the union of the various tribes has been achieved, but 47,000,000 Germans will never consent to be ruled over by 2,000,000 Poles, especially not in this era of the rule of majorities. With the Poles their own nationality takes precedence in confession, but with a vast majority of the Germans the reverse is the case. I am not able to understand if any person in high place encourages the aspirations of the Poles. Germany's opponents are the Polish nobility and the Polish clergy. Even the German-speaking clergy are against the Empire. Our wives must enter the lists for German culture.

Continuing, he said that the Germans in many cases thought more of faith than of nationality. With the Poles and Frenchmen it was the reverse. It was now a matter of importance to know whether the Government was resolved upon an energetic support of Prussian nationality or not.

GERMANS AND POLES MAY BE FRIENDS.

Here Prince Bismarck was attacked with severe pains in his back and compelled to stop speaking for a short time. Resuming, he expressed his belief that friendly intercourse between the Poles and the Germans was possible. Arguing from the situation in Switzerland and Belgium, East Prussia might have replied that there was no agitation in those countries by the Catholic clergy. But why was the peace not disturbed in Silesia? Simply because there was no Polish nobility there. The vacillating policy toward Posen in the past was due to court influences. In closing the Prince said:

Whether up the mountain side or over sand or lava, we will advance all the same, even if our progress be slow. Therefore do not let your courage sink. The clouds will pass. It would be policy to support the Polish nobility on the Eastern frontier. What you may learn from the Poles is to hold firmly together. I trust it may also be the case that Germans, when their position is assailed, will belong to no party but the Nation alone. May you win over the women of Germany to these views, in the hope that this may be achieved. I say, "Long live German women and the Grand Duchy of Posen."

After the speech Dr. Schweninger handed the ex-Chancellor two glasses of champagne, which he emptied in two draughts. The Prince said:

A good talk with you about what moves my heart is evidently the best remedy for my lumbago, for now I feel better than I have felt for many days past.

The delegates then presented to the Prince various products of Posen—wines, hops, sugar, flour, etc. Dr. Kiehl read an address to Princess Bismarck, which was followed by the singing of the choral "Deutsche Frauen, Deutsche Frauen." At the close of the singing Prince Bismarck made the round of the gathering, indulging in a demonstration of wholesale handshaking. He conversed for some time with the members of the committee and others of the deputation, and the reception ended with the choral singing of "Ich Habe Mich Ergeben mit Herz und Hand."

Princess Bismarck received a bouquet of immense size as a present from the deputation, and the procession, to the music of two military bands, passed in review before the Prince and Princess. The deputation returned to Posen in special trains.

THE GERMAN NAVAL REVIEW.

OBJECT OF THE KAISER IN HAVING GREAT CROWDS WITNESS IT.

POPULAR EXCURSIONS TO SWINEMUNDE FROM ALL OVER THE EMPIRE—A BIG NAVAL GRANT TO BE ASKED FOR WHEN THE REICHSTAG MEETS—THE AGRARIAN LEAGUE—BISMARCK.

Berlin, Sept. 16.—The newspapers have found little room for accounts of the great naval review off Swinemunde, although they devoted columns to the East Prussian military manoeuvres. The display of warships, however, had the more political significance of the two. It was in fact a grand semi-political function for the benefit of the crowds which special trains took to the coast from all parts of the Empire. At first the official mind did not grasp the Emperor's reason for ordering the railway authorities to advertise popular excursions to the scene of the review. It now recognizes the fact that the Emperor was practising one of his clever schemes, preliminary to an important act of government. The royal railways carried northward thousands from Leipsic, Halle, Dresden, Breslau, Frankfort, Brunswick and Magdeburg. Their excursion trains from Berlin were filled. At Swinemunde the tourists found coasting steamers waiting to convey them to the fleet.

As the Berlin, Halle and Leipsic steamers passed the Imperial yacht Hohenzollern, the Emperor commanded his band to play popular airs, while he stood on the upper deck saluting them. These courtesies were intended to make the navy popular. In the last session of the Reichstag the Deputies declined to appropriate 4,500,000 marks for new naval expenses. In the coming session they will be asked to grant new items amounting to 10,000,000. By stirring the pride of the electors, the Emperor hopes to induce those who repudiated the smaller grant to look with favor on the larger one. He has already succeeded in giving 10,000 islanders, who never before saw a warship, a splendid naval spectacle.

The "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung," which is inspired from the Wilhelm-strasse, is publishing a series of articles under the caption, "The Government's Programme of Action and the Criticisms of Its Opponents." As the articles are worded in the foggiest style of the new editor, Dr. Griesmann, nothing definite can be learned from them except that the Government wishes all the parties of law and order to combine against the Social Democrats. Griesmann hints that the Emperor has new legislative plans to soften the lot of the workingman, but does not tell whether or not the Government purposes returning to the old repressive laws. The "Kölnische Zeitung" maintains that these laws will not be revived.

Herr von Plötz continues to justify his reputation of chief agitator of the Agrarian League. He has written a reply to the Emperor's Königsberg speech, in order to prove the nobility's right to oppose the Emperor's policy without being charged with disloyalty. Despite his repeated declarations, however, Plötz gives signs that he may yield. For instance, he closes his last open letter with the words: "Our King ought not to be left for a moment without the assurance of our confidence in him. He ought to remain unweakened and steadfast in his power and high prerogatives. The landlords and noblemen of Prussia will always be firmly loyal to him in every danger that may threaten the throne."

The Saxon authorities have begun a campaign against the spirit mediums and societies of spiritualists. The societies are suppressed on the ground that they do mental and physical injury both to the mediums and their patrons. The Supreme Court in Leipsic has rejected the appeals made by spiritualists against the action of the local authorities.

Prince Bismarck devotes most of his time nowadays to the supervision of his Varzin property. He employs two hundred men at his Hammermuehle works, and one hundred and ten more at Kampfmuehle in making paper. He exports much of the product to foreign firms, who make a speciality of their trade in Bismarck paper. Although he has twenty thousand square metres of timber at Varzin, the Prince is obliged to import from Russia most of the wood used in his factories. As ever, he takes a deep interest in the condition of his workingmen. Every one of them is well housed and well fed.

COUNT OF PARIS'S HOPES FOR FRANCE.

HIS POLITICAL TESTAMENT MADE PUBLIC—ANXIOUS FOR THE UNION OF ALL PARTIES UNDER THE MONARCHY.

London, Sept. 16.—The political testament of the late Count of Paris was made public to-day. The document, which is extremely brief, is dated Stowe House, July 21, 1894, and says in part:

As I have no knowledge of my future, I would not attempt to trace a line of conduct for my son, feeling with perfect confidence that he will always uphold the traditions of our house, which are love for France and the faithful discharge of all the duties incumbent upon him. I hope that France will soon be reunited, all parties finding a basis of common agreement under the traditional monarchy. If I went to Frohnsdorf in 1873, it was to show my respect for the hereditary principle. Since then I have tried to deserve the confidence of my party by fighting, although in exile, zealously for France.

The document closes by expressing the writer's trust that God has not abandoned France, to whom He gave Saint Louis and Jeanne d'Arc. The Count felt certain that France would return to her old religion, and meanwhile he could only hope for the unity of all existing parties. He was sure that his friends would understand that this was a necessary condition precedent to all they hoped for.

ANARCHISTS SURPRISED IN ROME.

Rome, Sept. 16.—The police to-day surprised four Anarchists in the act of posting an Anarchist manifesto near the Ministry of Marine. The Anarchists resisted the police, and in the ensuing fight three of them escaped. The fourth was taken to jail.

THE KING OF SIAM RECOVERING.

San Francisco, Sept. 16.—The steamer Oceanic, which arrived here to-day, brings news that the King of Siam continues to make progress towards recovery, and is now able to take walking exercise in his apartments.

SMASHED BY A GREAT WAVE.

THE ANCHOR LINE STEAMER ITALIA HAS A HARD VOYAGE.

SHE AND OTHER VESSELS FELT THE FORCE OF MR. DUNN'S HURRICANE, WHICH PASSED BY NEW-YORK AND MADE THINGS LIVELY ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC.

All steamers arriving yesterday from across the North Atlantic reported heavy weather. That hurricane which Mr. Dunn had discovered brewing in the Gulf Stream seems to have gathered force as it went eastward and to have made things lively for steamers bound across the "western ocean."

The Anchor Line steamer Italia, from the Mediterranean, had a rough experience. On September 8, latitude 42:30, longitude 41:05, she encountered a hurricane. The wind had begun to blow the day before with a force which gave promise of a storm, but the officers of the ship were not anticipating such a severe storm as swept down upon the vessel. In the afternoon of September 8 the wind had so much force and had stirred up such a heavy sea that it was found necessary to heave the ship to. A couple of staysails were set to keep her from foundering, as she rolled heavily in the sea. The gale developed into a hurricane at 6 o'clock that night, and to add to the anxiety of those on board the rudder chains parted and the steamer fell off into the trough of the sea. Before the hand-steering apparatus aft could be rigged a big sea boarded the steamer and swept everything movable from her decks. Two life boats were smashed into kindling wood by the big wave, and one lifeboat was taken from the davits and carried away. The doors of the smoking-room were smashed and the copper pipes which ran along the deck and supplied steam to the donkey-engines were broken and twisted into all sorts of shapes.

The engine-room skylight was broken by the force of the wave which poured down upon it, and salt water poured in a cascade into the depths of the ship. A considerable part of the North Atlantic Ocean found its way into the saloon, but the damage done was trifling. As soon as the hand-steering gear was rigged the ship was brought to and rode out the rest of the gale in safety.

The Wilson Line steamer Hindoo, from Hull, encountered the same gale which made things so lively for the Italia. It was on September 8 that the Hindoo encountered the gale. The storm was then at its height, and the steamer was in latitude 45:48, longitude 38:49. The steamer made tremendous lurches and plunges as she forged forward against the heavy sea. The Hindoo when she sails from this side carries cattle, and on her spar deck are erected temporary cattle stalls. These were all swept away by the seas which dashed over her bows. In spite of the fact that these cattle fittings had been built strongly, they were completely cleared from the deck, and big beams and stanchions were hurled into the air and swept away to leeward. The covers of the fore-hatch were swept off and a little water got below. However, the steamer, by slowing down, managed to ride out the gale in safety, and came into port little the worse for her rough experience.

The steamer Mannheim, from Rotterdam, in ballast, also had a trying experience in crossing the North Atlantic. On September 9 she encountered the hurricane. It lasted for eight hours, and was accompanied by a tremendous head sea. The steamer lay to and set her sails in order to steady herself in the seaway. The fore-staysail, storm-trysail and main-staysail were carried away, but she came into port without other serious damage.

HEAT, RAIN, THUNDER AND LIGHTNING.

AN EXCEEDINGLY UNCOMFORTABLE DAY IN THE CITY, FOLLOWED BY COOLING SHOWERS AND A BRILLIANT ELECTRICAL DISPLAY.

The predictions of Mr. Dunn were fully carried out yesterday in regard to the showers which fell upon the city and its suburbs last evening, but Mr. Dunn did not foresee that the crash of broken records which has recently made the North Atlantic a prolific source of interest would be carried into the weather record. Nevertheless the record of yesterday's heat surpassed anything of the kind for the same day of the year since the New-York office of the Weather Bureau was established. The mercury of the thermometer in the Weather Bureau's office on top of the Equitable Building got up to 84 degrees, and the nearest record of the same day in September was 82 degrees, in 1887. Fortunately the humidity yesterday was only 76 per cent, so while collars wilted on the necks of perspiring citizens the people whom pleasure called to the beaches made their way in throngs to the ferries and railways without any serious discomfort, and few people realized actually how hot it was.

The showers which had been predicted came down upon the city shortly before 9 o'clock. The surrounding country, however, had been visited by them before New-York was reached. By 8 o'clock telephonic communication with Staten Island was interrupted by the severity of the thunder showers which swept up through the Narrows. When the rain began to fall in New-York it came down fiercely for awhile, and was accompanied by heavy thunder and lightning of the most brilliant sort. In the lower part of the city the showers were heavier than they were in the northern portion.

All the news received last night at the Weather Bureau was to the effect that thunderstorms were prevailing in all the suburban districts. The prospects for to-morrow are for a day of cooler weather and for one more like the ideal September day.

While the heat of this September has not in its average equalled that of some former Septembers, it has by fits and starts made some most astonishing and uncomfortable records. The ferry boats and railroads which carry the summer excursionists out of the city were all so well patronized yesterday that one might have thought it was midsummer instead of the month of the falling leaf and waning sun. Such days as yesterday might properly give rise to the query, "Are the seasons changing?" It was an uncomfortable and disagreeable day for those who had to stay in the city, but those who went to the seaside found a fresh southerly breeze blowing which brought them comfort from the cool hollows of combing waves.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

Jamestown, N. Y., Sept. 16.—While on his way home this morning about 2 o'clock, Frank Johnson, a well-known citizen of this place, was fatally shot by Charles Oakley, a "tough." The men quarrelled early in the evening. Oakley is in jail.

Egg Harbor City, N. J., Sept. 16.—Ten thousand people attended the Atlantic County Agricultural Society Fair at this place to-day. Special excursion trains were run on the Pennsylvania and Reading railroads, bringing people from as far away as Camden. The exhibit of local products, including fruits, vegetables and poultry, was excellent. The amount was smaller than usual owing to the dry season.

Wichita, Kan., Sept. 16.—At Cobb Creek, near Minco, I. T., an old Caddo Indian, named Ki Wash, was found murdered yesterday. He had been strung up to a tree by the heels and shot through the head. On his breast was found pinned a paper warning the Indian police to keep their hands off a band of outlaws known as the Doolin gang. It seems that the dead man's son, who is an Indian police scout, got on the trail of this band recently and with a posse routed them, and in revenge the outlaws murdered the old man.

Sedalia, Mo., Sept. 16.—Thomas Clark, a farmer, living near Lamonte, was killed at 10 o'clock last night, the object being robbery. Clark had been drinking. He hired a stranger to work for him, and while on their way home the stranger placed a pistol at Clark's head and fired. A boy in the wagon sprang out to give the alarm and was pursued by the murderer, who fired at him but missed his aim. The team ran away with Clark's body and the murderer failed to get the money in Clark's possession.

Kewanee, Ill., Sept. 16.—Fire broke out in the house of William Frieland last night, and before the arrival of the company the entire structure, a two-story frame, was a mass of flames. The fire was caused by the explosion of oil which was used to kindle a fire in the cook stove. Mrs. Frieland was badly burned, and two children, three and six years old, were both burned to death.

Chicago, Sept. 16.—Albert Rafalsky, twenty-eight years old, a salesman, took a dose of morphine this morning and died at the Alexian Brothers Hospital. He left a note in his room stating that he had committed suicide and asking the police to inform Mark Rafalsky, of No. 60 East One-hundred-and-twenty-second-st., New-York.

Alpena, Mich., Sept. 16.—An effort will be made to recover the machinery from the Canadian steamer Enterprise, wrecked on North Point Reef, but the boat will prove a total loss. The wreckers have returned with 600 bushels of wheat only slightly damaged.

Chicago, Sept. 16.—Turner Bros. & Co., a clothing commission concern at Nos. 295 and 297 Fifth-ave., confessed judgment yesterday in the sum of $39,000. A deputy-sheriff took possession of the rooms of the firm.

BRECKINRIDGE NEARLY WON

RUMORS THAT HIS MANAGERS MAY TRY TO "DOCTOR" THE RETURNS.

THE OWENS LEADERS PREPARED TO BLOCK ANY SUCH MOVE—MR. OWENS'S PLURALITY NOT LIKELY TO EXCEED 400 AT THE OUTSIDE—AN ACCURATE FORECAST OF THE VOTE—FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE RESULT.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Lexington, Ky., Sept. 16.—The answer given yesterday by the Democratic voters of this district to Representative W. C. P. Breckinridge's brazen demand for a political and personal "vindication," though not so emphatic a rebuke as might have been desired in the interest of public morals, has, nevertheless, been promptly and gratefully accepted here as a decisive triumph for the forces of decency and good order. In the first bitterness of yesterday's defeat, Colonel Breckinridge and his lieutenants showed some inclination to contest the vote given to Mr. Owens in Scott County on the ground of fraud, and it was intimated that the District Committee, which is controlled by Colonel Breckinridge, would be asked to reverse the result of its primary by throwing out enough Owens votes to elect Breckinridge. But there is little likelihood of a serious attempt to "count out" Mr. Owens in this way.

Rumors are afloat here to-night that the Breckinridge managers may attempt, through the county chairmen in the district, to make alterations in the returns from certain precincts in Henry, Owens and Woodford counties sufficient to overcome Mr. Owens's slight plurality. A number of the county chairmen and members of the District Committee have been here to-day in consultation, and the Owens leaders are preparing to block any such movement, if it is attempted. The vote of the district will be canvassed next week in Frankfort by the Congressional Committee.

Desha Breckinridge gave out the following at 10 o'clock to-night:

While I cannot give out a statement by counties, I will say that the reports received by us have decreased Owens's plurality to 144 votes. I believe the committee will give the count to father. In the event that he does not receive the count, I am not prepared to say what will follow; may be a contest.

It was admitted to-day by three-fourths of the Breckinridge leaders that they were beaten on a fair test of strength, and that, too, in spite of the enormous political advantage of controlling the election machinery in every county in the district save one.

Owens's plurality over Colonel Breckinridge will probably be found on the official count to be about 400. The latest and completest returns published here and in Louisville show that the margin between the candidates cannot well be cut below 275 votes, while it may be stretched on a corrected summary as far as 400. A conservative statement of the vote by pluralities would show the following:

Counties.	Owens.	Breckinridge.
Bourbon	...	141
Fayette	...	164
Franklin	521	...
Henry	...	389
Oldham	164	...
Owen	...	914
Scott	1,194	...
Woodford	123	...
Totals	2,002	1,607
Plurality for Owens, 395.		

The fluctuations of feeling here last night during the receipt of the returns were sudden and startling. Early in the evening, when it was found that Colonel Breckinridge would have less than 200 plurality in this county, Fayette, and that Mr. Owens had carried Woodford and Franklin by handsome odds, and won an unexpected victory in Oldham, an impromptu jubilation was begun by the anti-Breckinridge forces, and nothing less than a plurality of 2,000 in the district was talked of. About 9 o'clock, when further returns showed that Breckinridge had carried Bourbon County, had held Owens down to less than 120 plurality in Scott County, and was polling an extraordinary vote in Owen County, the deserted Breckinridge headquarters filled up once more, and the air was filled with confident assurance of the "silver-tongued" orator's tardy victory. By 11 o'clock, when it was seen that Mr. Owens's margin had not been quite wiped out, the tide of feeling in the street set as suddenly and violently in the opposite direction, public opinion finally settled down in the conviction that Mr. Owens's advantage was too substantial to be overcome by any belated devices on the part of the opposition.

The amount of money wagered here on the result lent unusual interest to the excitement, and many bets were hedged while the success seemed to waver between the two rival candidates. It is estimated that inside the district $150,000 changed hands on the result of yesterday's primary, while probably from $50,000 to $75,000 was spent by the two factions on the canvass.

In the main, the vote ran exceedingly close to The Tribune's estimate of Saturday morning. In that estimate Mr. Owens's plurality in Scott County was put at 1,150; his actual plurality was 1,194.

In Woodford and Franklin counties the plurality for Owens over Breckinridge was estimated at 650; it turned out to be 644.

In the four Blue Grass counties, besides Fayette, it was calculated that Owens would lead Breckinridge by 1,800. His actual advantage was 1,697.

In the three "moss-back" counties of Oldham, Owen and Henry, Colonel Breckinridge's probable plurality over Mr. Owens was given as 1,150; it proved to be 1,139. Fayette County, as was predicted, was the real battle-ground of the contest, and the extraordinary efforts of the Owens forces here alone prevented Colonel Breckinridge from carrying this county by the 500 or 600 plurality which he expected, thus turning the scale in the district slightly, but sufficiently, in his favor.

The credit of yesterday's magnificent political victory is justly given by public sentiment here to the women of the Ashland district. Too much cannot be said of the untiring and effective work in this canvass of the Women's Owens Association in Fayette County, of which the venerable Mrs. Julia Hunt, the widow of one of Colonel Breckinridge's former intimate political and personal friends, is president, and Mrs. James Mulligan, wife of the present Consul-General of the United States in Samoa, is secretary. The women of the district, indeed, were from the beginning the real moral force behind the opposition to Colonel Breckinridge; and against their powerful influence the spurious and sophistical eloquence of the candidate and the arts of his political following proved equally of no avail. Great credit should also be given to the courageous and outspoken leaders of the Owens campaign, who persistently pushed the struggle on the single vital issue of Colonel Breckinridge's moral disqualifications, and could not be led by any wiles of the enemy to other grounds.

Finally, a most important factor in the fight to preserve the district from the success of Colonel Breckinridge's candidacy has been the press of the State and the country, under the lash of whose condemnation the present Representative has been forced to conduct his canvass painfully and in bitterness of spirit, from day to day.

So far there has been little talk about the Republican nomination in this Congress district. The district convention, for there is to be no primary election, is to meet on September 27 to choose a candidate; and it is not impossible that Major Henry Clay McDowell, a descendant of Henry Clay, and the present owner of the famous Clay homestead, Ashland, will be selected to make the race. The bitterness of the fight in the Democratic ranks will doubtless be carried into the Congress canvass, and a Republican candidate will have much more than a distant chance of success, although the normal Democratic majority in the district is nearly 7,000.

A MYSTERIOUS SUICIDE.

HE KILLS HIMSELF IN THE NEW YORK HOTEL.

ON FRIDAY NIGHT HE REGISTERED AS M. A. BELL, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, AND WAS FOUND DEAD YESTERDAY MORNING—PLENTY OF MONEY IN HIS CLOTHES.

With a brisk, springy step, a man of probably forty years walked up to the desk in the New-York Hotel, No. 663 Broadway, at 9:45 o'clock last Friday night. In the register he wrote in a firm business hand: "M. A. Bell, Cleveland, Ohio." The night clerk, William Mitchell, assigned him to a room on the fourth floor, and Wallace Cashmore, one of the porters, showed Mr. Bell at once to his apartment. Mr. Bell's only baggage was a canvas telescope bag, and he paid for his room one day in advance.

When Cashmore, at 9 o'clock yesterday morning knocked on the door of Bell's room he could get no response. Finally the door was opened with a duplicate key and Bell was found lying on the bed dead, with a bullet-hole back of his right ear. The revolver, a thirty-two calibre weapon, was lying on the bed, close to his right hand, which was partly closed. He had removed his hat, coat and shoes, and was lying at full length on his back, with his head on the pillow, which was soaked with blood. His face looked peaceful, and his eyes were closed as if in quiet slumber. Only one chamber of the revolver, which had been fully loaded, had been discharged.

On the table was a dispatch, written on a Western Union blank, which left no doubt that Bell had deliberately killed himself. The telegram was addressed to George C. Bell, No. 513 Euclid-ave., Cleveland, Ohio, and it read thus:

"I am dead; what shall they do with my carcass. M. A. BELL."

On another Western Union blank was this message:

"Don't even black your shoes for me, as I am not worthy or responsible for it."

This latter dispatch, which was written in a wavering, almost illegible hand, was not addressed to any one. Evidently the message had been written just before Mr. Bell shot himself, and in his nervous condition he had forgotten to write the address.

His coat and hat were lying on a chair, just where he had left them. The porter, Cashmore, told Julius A. Robinson, the proprietor of the hotel, and the latter at once informed the Mercer-st. station. Policeman Hogan was sent to take charge of the body, and late yesterday afternoon Deputy-Coroner Donlin gave a permit for the removal of it to Donnelly's undertaking rooms, No. 50 Sixth-ave. Nothing was found in Bell's room to give the slightest clew to the cause of his act. The two dispatches were the only messages the man left. It certainly was not lack of money which led Bell to kill himself, for in a pocketbook was found $175 76 in cash, and in another pocketbook were three large unset diamonds of the first water, valued at about $400 each. In the dead man's shirt was a diamond stud worth $350, and a diamond ring was on the little finger of his left hand. The ring, stud and unset diamonds were thought to be worth fully $2,000.

Other property found in the room included one gold watch and chain, two revolvers, including the one which fired the fatal shot, one emerald ring, one gold neckchain, a twenty dollar gold piece, two plain gold rings and some papers. The papers included rent receipts of property in Ohio. The canvas telescope bag contained chiefly articles of wearing apparel.

M. A. Bell was an utter stranger in the New-York Hotel, and the proprietor says he never was there before he registered Friday night. The night clerk, Mitchell, does not remember to have ever seen Bell before, and none of the regular guests in the hotel knew him.

After registering on Friday night Bell went directly to his room, and he had no conversation with the clerk or the porter. The latter after depositing the telescope bag in the room at once withdrew. No one knows when Bell arose on Saturday. He was not seen about the hotel anywhere during the day, and he had no meals or drinks there. In fact he did not enter either the dining-room or barroom, so far as the employes remember.

Where he spent Saturday is as much of a mystery as his reason for destroying himself. Cashmore, the porter, says he thinks Bell entered the hotel and went up to his room about 10 o'clock Saturday night. That was the last seen of him, and no one in the hotel during the night heard the report of a revolver.

Mr. Robinson sent a dispatch to the Cleveland address given in the dispatch written by the suicide, and gave out a copy of Bell's dispatch. It is supposed that George C. Bell, of No. 513 Euclid-ave., Cleveland, is a brother of the suicide. This dispatch was received in reply by Mr. Robinson, at 8 o'clock last night:

"Hold body; will come for him at once. Will arrive in the morning. GEORGE C. BELL."

All of the dead man's valuables were locked up in the hotel safe. An examination of the papers disclosed, besides the rent receipts, a ticket from Toledo to Cleveland, a ferry ticket and a proof sheet of some printed verses.

Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. 16.—A telegram was received to-night announcing the suicide in New-York of M. A. Bell, of this city. Bell was an investment broker of good business standing. The first his relatives knew of his death was the receipt of the dispatch written by himself to his brother, George T. Bell, No. 342 Euclid-ave. The dead man's family lives in Collinwood, a suburb of the city and consists of a widow and two daughters. Bell left home last Tuesday morning to transact business in New-York, but what that business was his family has not the slightest idea. His brother thinks that he was desperate with one of the severe headaches with which he occasionally suffered when he killed himself. So far as ascertainable, his business affairs are all straight. Two brothers went to New-York to-night to bring the body home.

THE VESTIBULE GAVE WAY.

ACCIDENT AT THE LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE OF A NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH—SEVERAL PERSONS HURT—ARCHBISHOP CORRIGAN PRESENT.

Just at the close of the ceremonies over the laying of the cornerstone of the new St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church yesterday afternoon the temporary floor in the vestibule gave way, throwing about twenty-five persons into the basement and badly injuring several of them.

The new church, which is at One-hundred-and-sixty-seventh-st. and Franklin-ave., is being built to replace the old edifice, which was burned on the night of April 8 last. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Thomas F. Gregg. Fully 3,000 persons were present at yesterday's ceremonies, and evry available space about the new structure was occupied. The accident occurred while the procession was filing through the vestibule and out of the church at the close of the ceremonies.

Archbishop Corrigan, accompanied by Father Gregg, Abbot Edelbrockt, Father O'Neill, the Rev. William O'Brien Pardow and the other members of the clergy, had just passed over the vestibule floor. They had scarcely gotten down the steps when the crowd began to surge through the vestibule, it is supposed, for the purpose of seeing the Archbishop. The police and ushers tried to keep the crowd back, but those behind crowded forward with such force that the vestibule was fairly jammed. Then it was that a part of the floor near the door gave way, letting a number of the people fall about seven feet into the basement. Immediately there was a small panic, but luckily every one except those who fell with the floor escaped uninjured.

Ambulance calls were immediately sent to the Fordham and Harlem hospitals, but when those who had fallen were taken out it was found that the accident was not so serious as at first supposed. Those injured were:

Michael Powers, thirty-eight years old, of 2,591 Eighth-ave. His ankle was badly sprained. He was attended by Dr. O'Leary, of Morrisania, and went home. Margaret Dawkins, forty-four years old, of 301 Eighth-ave., scalp wound; Mary Christy, nine years old, of No. 759 East One-hundred-and-sixty-seventh-st., badly bruised about the body; George Allen, nine years old, of No. 3,547 Third-ave., left leg severely bruised. The three last named were attended by Dr. Moneghan, of Fordham Hospital, and Dr. Gavin, of the Harlem Hospital, after which they went home. Joseph Grasse, seven years old, of No. 3,395 Third-ave., had his left arm broken. He was sent to Fordham Hospital. The only other person injured to any extent was the head usher, John H. Fleming, who fell over the edge of the broken floor after the accident and received several bruises. He went to his home.

Archbishop Corrigan and several of the clergymen assisted in the work of rescuing the wounded persons and in taking care of them while the ambulances and physicians were being summoned.

It was due to the assurance of the Archbishop and others that there was no great danger that a serious panic was prevented.

The exact cause of the accident is unknown, but as this part of the floor was only a temporary structure, it is supposed that the underpinning gave way under the great weight upon it. The floor did not fall with a crash, but the joists slipped from the ledge on which they rested, letting one side of it fall. Those who were thrown to the cellar were thus let down on a deeply inclined slide, and this probably prevented their being more seriously injured.

STILL IN THE FIELD.

MINOR CANDIDATES BRACE UP

THEY WILL TEST THEIR STRENGTH IN THE SARATOGA CONVENTION.

FASSETT, RUSSELL, BUTTERFIELD AND WOODFORD NOT READY TO GIVE A CLEAR ROAD TO MR. MORTON—A KEEN CONTEST FOR SECOND PLACE ON THE TICKET—THE PROBABLE CHAIRMEN—OUTLINE OF THE PLATFORM.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Saratoga, Sept. 16.—Saratoga enjoyed its usual Sunday rest to-day, despite the fact that a large number of delegates to the Republican State Convention had arrived in the pretty village by the early morning trains. But these delegates, while they conversed together upon political subjects on the broad piazzas of the big hotels, did so in an undertone and in a decorous manner, befitting the day, and there was little outward indication otherwise that the preliminary work of a great State convention was in progress.

There were two centres of political work. One was at the United States Hotel. Here, in one cottage facing the green lawn of the open court of the big hotel, were the headquarters of the Republican State Committee. The big pillars supporting the roof of the piazza were decorated with placards announcing the candidacy of George W. Aldridge, of Rochester, for Lieutenant-Governor. In one corner of the court, in the stock room, are found the headquarters of Mr. Aldridge, where Monroe County politicians always could be found at work upon his canvass for votes among the delegates to the convention. Cottage No. 9, occupied by ex-Senator Thomas C. Platt, was frequently visited in the course of the day by various delegates intent upon having a chat with him upon political affairs. Just beyond Mr. Platt's cottage was that of Judge Leslie W. Russell, the candidate for Governor of a large number of delegates in the northern part of the State. Still another candidate for Governor, General Daniel Butterfield, had headquarters in this wing of the building. Strolling along the piazza at times one saw the stalwart figure of Senator Charles T. Saxton, of Clyde, a candidate for Lieutenant-Governor. Warner Miller and Frank Hiscock read their newspapers and chatted with their friends upon this piazza most of the day.

Still another centre of political work was the Grand Union Hotel. Here under one roof were gathered the friends of J. Sloat Fassett, of Elmira, and of Stewart L. Woodford, of Brooklyn, both candidates for Governor, and the Erie County delegates, who are in mourning because the dangerous illness of James A. Roberts, of Buffalo, has compelled him to retire from the contest for Governor. The Erie County delegates now hope that Judge Haight, of Buffalo, will be nominated for Judge of the Court of Appeals.

COMPLIMENTARY VOTES WANTED.

The minor candidates for Governor—J. Sloat Fassett, Leslie W. Russell, Daniel Butterfield and Stewart L. Woodford—braced up to-day and declared that they would pers