A CHANCE FOR REDEMPTION.

DR. PARKHURST ON THE COMMITTEE OF FIVE HUNDRED.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE MOVEMENT TO PURGE THE LOCAL REPUBLICAN ORGANIZATION—AN ANALYSIS OF SOME OF THE FIGURES RECENTLY DISCLOSED.

In response to a request for his opinion of the work and aims of the Committee of Five Hundred, which has set out to give the Republicans of New-York an honest, representative organization, the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst has made the following statement for publication:

"I accede to your request, not because of any particular interest in local Republican politics as such, any more than I have in local Democratic politics as such, but because fraud of the quantity and quality of that recently perpetrated in the course of Republican enrolment in this city cannot exist without tainting everything that it comes near to, nor be tolerated without bringing dishonor upon all who fail to lift up their voice in indignant protest.

"It is encouraging to know that there is enough moral dignity and honor remaining in the party in this city to rise up in mutiny against the impudent invasion upon political rights which the Platt-Lauterbach combination has practised. It has been looking for some weeks a good deal as though the decent anti-Platt Republicans had not the courage, on the eve of a Presidential election, to defy the Republican Judases who had been trying to sell out the honor of the party for the thirty-pieces-of-silver sort of reward. If the Republican party were so morally near death's door that a protest against iniquity and an organized effort to stamp out iniquity would tend to hasten its own decease, the more that decease was hastened the better, and the quicker the decaying corpse was hurried under ground the healthier it would be for the city, the State and the Nation.

"If any people of honest pretensions still cling to the aforementioned faction on the ground of its being the 'regular' organization, and in that way practically condone and indorse the systematic bulldozing of which this desreputable clique has made itself guilty, such ones, if they had lived in 1775, would have borrowed British guns to kill American revolutionists because revolutionists were rebels against what was 'regular' and traditional; and if they had lived in the time of our Lord, would have prided themselves on driving crucifixion nails because his life and doctrine were subversive of tradition and uniform procedure. It passes comprehension the blind tenacity with which men of naturally good parts will cling to what is transparently false and odious, if only it carries in its pocket the credentials of 'regularity.'

"The Republican party of this city has now before it the opportunity to redeem itself and to open for itself a new and a better chapter in its local history. The character of its Committee of Five Hundred is, in almost the entirety of its membership, a guarantee of the solidity and integrity of its purposes, but if there can be found cowards enough to combine with the Platt-Lauterbach traitors to defeat the committee's intention, it will not be the first time that timid righteousness has confederated itself with the devil to the thwarting of the purposes of honesty and progress.

"There are brazen insolence and colossal dare-devilry about these enrolment frauds that is thrilling. I had thought that Tammany was bad, but the look of the thing is that Tammany could go to school a good while to Mr. Lauterbach without coming to the end of what either he or his senior associate could teach them in the way of 'colonizing,' ballot-stuffing, or political dirty work generally.

"In looking over the Summary of Enrolment as produced by the committee of investigation having that matter in charge, my eye is arrested by the statistics furnished of the XXVth Assembly District, in which my church happens to be situated. It reports that there were 1,564 more Republicans enrolled in that district than there are Republicans living in the district—which may be good Plattism, but is dreadfully poor morality. Of those fraudently enrolled the same statement informs that twenty-one are in the next world already—no further details specified. A movement must be already moribund that is driven to the straits of recruiting from the graveyard. Of 497 we are told that there is no trace, which leaves us to infer that they are creatures purely of the Platt-Lauterbach frenzied imagination; or, if put in the terms of ethics rather than of poetry, that the versatile gentleman, who, in a recent issue of "Gunter's Magazine," discourses glibly and prettily about 'honesty and efficiency in political reform,' 'tled' that number of fictitious Republicans into his padded rolls, for the purpose of stealing a victory that he had not the forces to win. There is also a memorandum of a considerable number of Tammany men who appear to have cheerfully consented to serve as political stuffing—a circumstance which is interesting not only as throwing a ruddy light on the meaning of the 'Address on Partisanship' which Mr. Lauterbach recently delivered before the Nineteenth Century Club, but also as showing the willingness of the Tammany mind to work in as ally when the enterprise is understood to be in the interests of Mr. Lauterbach's candid and public spirited superior. It only illustrates in a small way how easy it is for the Croker and the Platt spirits respectively to clasp in relations of fraternity when there is any mischief brewing or any Machiavellian purpose to be subserved.

"I do most sincerely trust that the movement of the Committee of Five Hundred will receive all the encouragement which it so richly deserves, not so much because of my interest in the local Republican party, as because I believe in decency and love to see political tricksters of any and every party cast forth into the outer darkness of public reprobation."

PLATT TALKS WITH HIMSELF.

ONE OF HIS INTERVIEWS THAT DEALS WITH THE OPPOSITION MOVEMENT.

It has been frequently asserted by those who have followed the investigation of the enrolment that if Thomas C. Platt could escape responsibility for the outrageous proceedings he would follow his usual course in such matters by repudiating the entire scheme and those of his henchmen who carried it out. Such action on his part was rather expected by the Committee of Twenty-five, as they knew his fondness for leaving his friends in the lurch; and they will feel considerably relieved, therefore, when they learn this morning that Platt, after surveying the situation, has decided for once to stand by his confederates. No doubt he would be glad to run away as usual, but Lauterbach has been too cunning for him. He has evidently got the Boss in the same toils with Thornton, Gruber, Sims and the gang, otherwise Platt would never have come out as he did last night in defence of the shameful frauds.

This defence, which made its appearance at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last night, is in the usual form of an interview with himself. It occupies eight type-written pages, and bristles with personalities. Mr. Brookfield, Mr. Bliss, Mr. Root, Mr. Smith and Mr. Milholland are attacked, and all sorts of terrible things are said about The Tribune, because it has temerity to insist that members of the Tammany Hall General Committee and dead men are not eligible for membership in the Republican organization of this county. Of course Platt does not admit this; he says The Tribune is angry because it failed to get the police printing, though he knows perfectly well—better, indeed, than any man in New-York—that the printing in the year 1894, to which he evidently refers, was offered again and again to this paper if it would "let up" on his doings. He knows that the offer was laughed at, as well as he knows that he is lying when he declares the Committee of Five Hundred is made up largely of the "Industrial Alliance of four years ago." Most of that "Industrial Alliance" was furnished by Mr. Platt and went back to him. Its chief officer, John McMackin, now holds a job in the office of Charles W. Hackett's friend, the State Engineer and Surveyor.

Equally false is his statement that the list of the Committee of Five Hundred "is fraudulent." There is not a single name on the list that does not belong to a Republican in good standing, and whose owner cannot be found at the address given—which is more than can be said of about thirty thousand of those on the Platt organization rolls in this county. When that list was published in The Tribune it was stated that no name was used that had not been handed in personally by the individual or by a friend who assumed to speak for him. In case any mistake had been made, The Tribune promised to correct it promptly. A mistake was made in the case of General Varnum; it was corrected. Another was made in the case of Mr. Einstein; it was corrected as quickly. Platt says similar mistakes were made in the case of General Butterfield, ex-Judge Gedney and Colonel Ethan Allen.

General Butterfield is one of the directors of the State Club, and was treasurer of the Committee of Thirty. He has had a week to correct an error, if one existed, but he has said nothing on the subject, although he has been in correspondence with the secretary of the Committee of Twenty-five and also with this paper. Colonel Allen was vouched for by one of his closest personal friends. He also has had plenty of time to correct any misuse of his name, but nothing has been heard from him except through Platt. As for ex-Judge Gedney, it is difficult to resist the conclusion that Platt has misrepresented him. Mr. Gedney gave authority to John E. Milholland to use his name, and, what is more, expressed to his friend, Dr. Seaman, last Wednesday, absolute approval of what had been done by the committee.

Another point that Platt attempts to make is that the blame for the fraud rests upon the plan of the Committee of Thirty. This is absurd. The Committee of Thirty's plan was practically set aside by Lauterbach when he appointed the Committees of Three to supervise the work in revising the enrolment and conducting the primaries in the various Assembly districts. The idea of holding Messrs. Bliss, Root and others responsible for Lauterbach's devilry, when it is a historical fact that they and forty other reputable citizens protested most emphatically against the entire proceeding, is an exhibition of nerve that few men except T. C. Platt and Amasa Thornton would be capable of making.

Mayor Strong and good people generally will be interested to know that, according to Platt, "the conduct of the chiefs of the present reform administration has been a thousand times more disgraceful than any of the known transactions of Tammany Hall. Bribery and corruption have stalked through the streets day and night. It is no secret that positions with salaries of thousands of dollars a year have been offered to Republican leaders to betray the organization; neither is it a secret that men who had obtained places are threatened with dismissal or have been dismissed when they fail to obey the orders of the bolting bosses. No man, black or white, has been safe from the attacks of the city government's emissaries."

To break the force of the shameful disclosures against the Lauterbach machine, Platt attacks Collins and other Brookfield district leaders, ignoring the fact that the Committee of Twenty-five has not spared a single district in its investigations. As for the XXVth District, he is sadly in error. He contends that at the time of the enrolment by the Committee of Thirty Mr. Milholland declared this particular district was stuffed with the names of "non-residents, dummies and repeaters." Nothing of the kind was ever said. On the contrary, the XXVth was one of the few where an honest enrolment had always been conceded until Amasa Thornton and "Cole" Sims undertook, with the aid of "The" Allen and Tammany Hall, to capture it for Platt.

Perhaps the most pathetic part of the interview is his fervid protest of sincerity in behalf of Mr. Morton. His interest in politics, he declares, consists only in his "ardent and heartfelt desire for a triumph of Republican principles." It was this "ardent and heartfelt desire" that led him to pad the Republican lists with Croker's followers.

ROTTEN THROUGH AND THROUGH.

FRAUDS IN THE RECENT ENROLMENT AND PRIMARIES.

RESULTS OF AN IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION OF THE REPUBLICAN MACHINE IN THIS COUNTY.

To the Republican County Committee and the Republican party in the city of New-York:

The undersigned committee of the Republicans have been engaged for some time in an investigation of the alleged frauds in the Republican enrolment in this city, and in the recent primaries. After due consideration, and mindful of the gravity of the situation in view of the approaching National election, we deemed it essential to the welfare of the party that a thorough and impartial investigation should be made by a committee consisting of Messrs. John Sabine Smith, Paul D. Cravath, Adelbert H. Steele, Benjamin Oppenheimer and John S. Wise, who immediately undertook the task assigned to them. Their report transmitting the statement of C. N. Jones, recently associate actuary of the New-York Life Insurance Company, whom they selected to conduct the investigation, is appended. We wish to emphasize our belief in the entire impartiality and sincerity of this investigation.

Notwithstanding the charges which have been frequently made in the public press, we had no adequate conception of the magnitude and enormity of the frauds and irregularities which have been perpetrated in connection with the Republican enrolment and the recent primaries until the investigation of the enrolment in several of the Assembly districts had been made and the results tabulated.

In view of these results there can be no escape from the conclusion that the present enrolment is rotten to a degree never before paralleled in the history of the party, and that the primaries and conventions in many Assembly districts based upon it, by which delegates were elected to the County Committee for 1896, are unworthy of serious consideration.

An organization based upon such wholesale frauds cannot command the confidence of the Republican party nor of the public.

We, therefore, urge that the organization of the County Committee for 1896 be not effected until reasonable time has been given to complete the investigation now in progress and to secure adequate relief.

Primaries are the fountain-head of all representative government, and the primaries necessarily spring from the enrolment. If the latter is fraudulent the entire party structure is tainted and unworthy of confidence and respect. This is a subject in which every Republican, whether his name be upon the rolls or not, is interested, for all look to the organization of the party to secure honest conventions and truly representative nominations.

For the foregoing reasons, and in the interest of the harmony and efficiency of the Republican party, we earnestly request that no permanent organization of the County Committee be effected until the completion of this investigation.

Joseph H. Choate,	Cornelius N. Bliss,
Samuel Thomas	William Brookfield,
Anson G. McCook,	Benjamin Oppenheimer,
Wager Swayne,	Elihu Root,
R. C. Alexander,	Horace Porter,
John C. O'Conor,	Isaac V. Brokaw,
Elias Goodman,	Edward Mitchell,
Charles Stewart Smith,	John S. Wise,
John E. Milholland,	A. H. Steele,
John Sabine Smith,	Joel B. Erhardt,
E. W. Bloomingdale,	Paul D. Cravath,
S. V. R. Cruger,	John Proctor Clarke, Committee.

New-York, Jan. 16, 1896.

CUT THIS OUT AND SIGN IT.

FORM OF PROTEST AGAINST THE SWINDLE PRACTISED BY THE HENCHMEN.

The demand for the printed blanks of protest against the fraudulent character of the recent Republican primaries and the enrolment conducted under the direction of the Platt-Lauterbach henchmen and mercenaries has taken on really remarkable proportions. So widespread is the belief of most Republicans in the extent and brazen character of the swindle that they are simply pouring in their requests for the printed blanks.

In response to suggestions, and to facilitate the requests of this large and increasing number of applicants, The Tribune reproduces the form of blank, so that any Republican so desiring may cut out the copy, sign his name and address and send it to the headquarters of the Committee of Investigation, at No. 143 West Forty-first-st. Communications should be addressed there to C. N. Jones.

Following is a reproduction of the printed blank in a convenient form:

NEW YORK, January ....., 1896.

To Joseph H. Choate, Cornelius N. Bliss, Samuel Thomas, William Brookfield, Anson G. McCook, Benjamin Oppenheimer, Wager Swayne, Elihu Root, R. C. Alexander, Horace Porter, John C. O'Conor, Isaac V. Brokaw, Elias Goodman, Edward Mitchell, Charles Stewart Smith, John S. Wise, John E. Milholland, A. H. Steele, John Sabine Smith, Joel B. Erhardt, E. W. Bloomingdale, Paul D. Cravath, S. V. R. Cruger, John Proctor Clarke and others of the Committee:

The undersigned, Republican voters of the ..... Assembly District, hereby express their sympathy with your efforts to expose the frauds in the Republican Enrolment and in the recent Primary Elections of the Republican Organization in this County, and assure you of their hearty co-operation in your efforts to make the Republican Organization in this County truly representative.

Name.	*Address.*

MONEYED INTERESTS FOR MORTON.

SENTIMENT IN THE WEST AS WARNER MILLER FOUND IT.

Ex-Senator Warner Miller returned last evening from his trip to the West. Mr. Miller spent several days in Chicago and also in Detroit where he saw many prominent bankers, business men and capitalists.

The ex-Senator went West, he said, to look after the interests of the Nicaraguan Canal. Incidentally, however, he saw many Republicans of influence belonging to Illinois, Michigan and other Western States, and took pains to acquaint himself with the trend of sentiment on the Presidential question.

Mr. Miller said last evening that he found a decided tendency toward Governor Morton's candidacy, particularly among moneyed men. There was a feeling among the advocates of sound money in the West, Mr. Miller discovered, that Governor Morton was the safest man that could be put up. This was due in a great measure to the Governor's successful and conservative career both as a financier and a statesman.

Among the well-known Republicans whom Mr. Miller took counsel with in Chicago was ex-Senator Charles B. Farwell, who had exceptional facilities for knowing how the moneyed interests stood in the West. Mr. Farwell, Mr. Miller said, was for Morton, and represented the disposition of the solid men of Illinois as extremely favorable to the Empire State's Governor. The delegation from Illinois in the Republican National Convention at St. Louis, Mr. Miller learned, would be divided, but he was assured that Governor Morton would receive earnest support from Illinois delegates.

In Michigan Mr. Miller found substantially the same inclination toward Morton among business Republicans and those who are believers in strong, sound money policy. While in Detroit Mr. Miller was informed that General Russell A. Alger would be urged to permit his name to be submitted as a candidate for the Presidency. This movement, however, could not be construed as inimical to Governor Morton or likely to result to his disadvantage. Mr. Miller was convinced that Governor Morton would receive votes from the Michigan delegation and that he would have substantial support from many other States of the Northwest. The outlook for the Governor in that part of the country Mr. Miller regarded as highly encouraging.

MR. CROKER DISAPPOINTS THE BRAVES.

HE STOPS IN WASHINGTON ON HIS WAY TO THIS CITY, IT IS SAID, TO ENJOY THE SOCIETY OF MR. CLEVELAND.

Richard Croker did not get back to New-York yesterday from his Florida trip, as some of his most enthusiastic Tammany admirers expected. Telegrams received in this city from Savannah and other Southern points represented the retired ruler of the Wigwam as due here yesterday afternoon. All the regular trains arriving at the railroad stations from Southern points were carefully watched by anxious citizens determined to get the first grasp of the hand of the ex-chief as he set foot on Manhattan soil. But all the watchers were disappointed.

It was said by some of Mr. Croker's subjects, who allege that they have confidential relations with him, that he had stopped off at Washington to talk over the "third term" question with Mr. Cleveland. They said it was uncertain how long the President might keep Mr. Croker at the National Capital, but the chances were that he would not be able to tear himself away from Mr. Cleveland's society before to-morrow or next day.

At Mr. Croker's house, No. 5 East Seventy-fourth-st., it was said that no message had been received there from him, and that he was not expected until about the middle of the week.

A list of the guests to be invited to the Tammany dinner for Mr. Croker, to be given at the Hotel Savoy on February 11, will probably be made public soon after the ex-Boss's return.

YARN ABOUT AN ALLISON CLUB HERE.

It was announced yesterday that C. F. Warley, of No. 52 West Thirteenth-st., had received letters from Congressman Henderson, of Iowa; Rear Admiral Walker, and other friends of Senator Allison, authorizing him to start an Allison Club in this city for the purpose of booming the Iowa Senator for the Presidency. The report further intimated that General G. M. Dodge, of No. 1 Broadway, would be the president of the new club.

General Dodge lives at the Union League Club, but he could not be found yesterday. The matter is taken by politicians as a hoax. Mr. Warley, who is named as the organizer of the club, is practically unknown to politicians in New-York. They said that it would be impossible to start an Allison boom in this State, which would surely send a solid delegation for Morton. They looked upon it, if the report was true, as a Quixotic undertaking. James S. Clarkson, who is Senator Allison's lieutenant in the Presidential fight, says that he knows nothing about the matter.

LAST OF AN INDEPENDENT LINE.

San Francisco, Jan. 26.—After the arrival of the steamer Washtenaw, the Panama Steamship Company will go out of business. Since December 15 the company's employes have been chiefly engaged in winding up operations and leases on the two other steamers of the line have been relinquished. The Panama Railroad Company intends to continue its operation as independent carrier between Atlantic and Pacific ports, but future ocean transportation will be made through its connection with the Pacific Mail Company.

STATE POLITICAL NOTES.

The last early Republican Convention in this State was held in Utica on February 25, 1880. Roscoe Conkling was in command. The delegation was instructed to vote for General Grant for a third term. General Grant, however, was not nominated, though the greatest fight in the history of National conventions was made in his behalf.

Platt's evening organ in Poughkeepsie is "The Star." It displayed some twinklings of independence early last summer by venturing to attack Platt's adviser and chief lieutenant, "Lou" Payn, but long before cold weather set in it was chained to Payn's triumphal car and cheering for him more loudly than the rest. Its independence died in infancy. Such a record naturally qualifies it to defend the fraudulent Lauterbach enrolment, when almost every other organ of the Boss remains silent in contemplating these shameful disclosures. A sample of this defence will compare favorably with anything ever put forth by Ananias or his wife: "Some time ago these same people started the cry of fraudulent enrolment because they saw that they could not control the County Committee. A new enrolment was demanded in every district that had been carried by the regulars, but the districts carried by themselves were to stand, even though it was shown that fraud had been practised as barefaced as any that had been charged upon the regulars. The offer made for re-enrolment of all was not accepted, for this was not what they wanted. Indeed, it was not intended from the start as it would do away with all chance to cry fraud, and thus spoil the game entirely." On such unadulterated lying any comment would be the quintessence of superfluity.

The readiness of the Morton boomers to talk about other candidates is to "The Rochester Post-Express" evidence of the insincerity of the movement that Platt has started in the Governor's interest.

According to "The Syracuse Standard" the Raines excise bill is fatally defective, in that it permits the establishment of a liquor-shop anywhere "by the payment of the required tax and compliance with other simple conditions." "No bill," says "The Standard" "should be passed at Albany this winter that deprives property-owners of the right of protest. The abolishment of boards of excise may be a reform, but no one thing argues for their retention more than the knowledge that before them at least objection may be filed and urged to unrestricted extension of the saloon business. If it be not desirable to invest the county treasurer with the privilege of discriminating against locality in issuing tax certificates he should be prohibited from exercising his power in any case where within a certain radius there is a certain percentage of remonstrants. We believe there should be a general acquiescence in the establishment of a saloon, particularly in a residence district, before it is legalized by either tax or license."

Mr. Brookfield's remark still troubles the politicians, particularly those who are anxious to succeed Mr. Morton in the Executive Mansion. "The expectation of the bosses," says "The Utica Press," "is that on account of it being a Presidential year and the Governor running at the same time, even Republicans who do not approve of them will swallow their discontent and vote for their candidate in the interests of harmony. It is quite possible that in this respect they are reckoning without their host. Anyhow, the remark of Mr. Brookfield has been widely quoted and frequently repeated. A Republican President might win without the electoral vote of New-York, but gubernatorial candidates are made uncomfortable."

Even the cautious "Journal," of Syracuse, admits that the movement among the Anti-Platt Republicans of New-York City for a new organization is "very decided."

In his recent lecture in Rochester Dr. Parkhurst said that the responsibility for the present Tammany government, or what remains of it, in this city, rested largely upon Mr. Lexow, "that little tricky Senator of Tom Platt's," who turned his back on "the gang of reformers." The worst class with whom he had to deal, the doctor said, was the half-bad men. "The better a man is, if bad," he continued, "the more dangerous he is to deal with and the greater his capacity for mischief. Unmixed depravity I rather like. There is a directness and frankness about it that leaves you knowing where you are standing and where you are at. That is why I like 'Dick' Croker. That is why I used to be fond of 'Paddy' Divver and 'Tom' Grady, and other administrative and legal lights of my city. I feel entire confidence in them. I know just where I shall find them. There is no Hyde-Jekyll business about them. They are consistent. When you talk about them, people know what you are talking about, but when you talk about men that are 50 per cent imp and the other 50 angel of light, the performance becomes complicated, the intelligence of your auditors goes to pieces and you wish that all men were thoroughbreds, either of one description or the other."

Commenting on Dr. Parkhurst's lecture "The Syracuse Post" remarks that he is a good deal wiser than when he first entered the lists against Tammany. "He accomplished stupendous results," adds "The Post" "before he had obtained any fighting experience. The lessons he has learned are lessons which every municipal reformer must also learn. The fight for good city government is against bad men in all parties and in none. Those who begin it must expect the opposition of spoils hunters and machine leaders, but they can take courage in the fact that when the issue is squarely presented there are more men in favor of good government than there are opposed to it."

So long as it is known beforehand exactly what will be done at the State Convention, "The Poughkeepsie Eagle" thinks the question as to the time of holding it is a matter of little importance. "The snap part of the thing," it adds, "will come in connection with the district conventions, and they ought not to be held until the spring opens." It will be remembered that the prime object of Hill's snap convention was known beforehand, too, but that did not prevent the reputable Democrats of the State from rising in such numbers as to completely annihilate him as a Presidential candidate.

HER PALACE WAS A PRISON.

PECULIARITIES OF MRS. ANNA ASPINWALL.

Pittsburg correspondence of The Philadelphia Record.

Mrs. Anna R. Aspinwall, of this city, by whose will the Episcopal Hospital, in Philadelphia, is left all her estate, estimated to be $3,000,000, was a woman of excellent family and decided eccentricity. In some ways she was quite as peculiar as the famous Hetty Green. She was a granddaughter of James Ross, of this city, who for half a century was the acknowledged head of the local bar, was twice elected to the United States Senate, was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1790 and three times a candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania. He owned a great deal of land in the vicinity of Ross-st., the land where the court-house now stands, some 2,000 acres of what is now Ross Grove, the site of the town of Aspinwall, and more in the Bellefield District. His son, James Ross, jr., was also a lawyer and large land-owner. Mrs. Aspinwall's mother was Ann Ross, the daughter of the elder Ross, and she married Edwin Coleman, whose father was Robert Coleman, the millionaire mine-owner of Cornwall and Lebanon. The issue of this marriage was Mrs. Aspinwall and her sister, who became the wife of Alexander Livingston, of New-York. The Livingstons' daughter, Mary, married Martin L. Delafield, of New-York City, and are well known in fashionable society in Philadelphia.

All the Colemans and their connections in Philadelphia are understood to look with more curiosity than personal interest on the outcome of the suit, because they never knew very much about or expected very much from the lonely woman whose will has just been made public. Mrs. Anna R. Aspinwall, whose will is at stake, married Captain George Ainsworth Aspinwall, of New-York, and had two children, a son and daughter, but both died before they were of age. Two weeks ago last Monday Mrs. Aspinwall's remains were buried beside her husband and children, in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn.

Shortly after Mrs. Aspinwall's husband's death she built here a large mansion. It is picturesque in location, being on a knoll, surrounded by a thick growth of trees, but it is now both lonely and antiquated. It is in the Ben Venue section of the East End district. The edifice is partially screened by the trees and a high board fence, and these and the grass-grown drives, combined with the isolation, quaintness and quietness of the place, suggest a portion of the past century hidden away and forgotten in the march of time. It was a fit abode for this peculiar woman. She received no calls, refusing all attempts to lead her into social relations with those about her. She had her retinue of servants, and one old housekeeper in whom she relied. The general administration and care of her estate and the collection of rents, etc., she turned over to Colonel William A. Herron. It is said she made him no end of trouble, often sending for him daily, and sometimes several times a day. Fortunately he lived not far away. He was very kind to her, and was about the only person with whom she could or would get along without quarrelling. She was very fond of travel, and would start for foreign countries upon a few hours' notice, leaving her servants in the house a year at a time, with no idea when she would return.

On her downtown visiting days the old carriage with its one horse, driven by the woman driver, and Mrs. Aspinwall sitting in the back seat, were such a sight in the streets as to cause the observer to turn for a second look at the odd equipage. Many a remark has been passed as to who the odd-looking couple were. One of Mrs. Aspinwall's peculiarities was the kind of money she insisted on having from her banker. For bank notes she had an abhorrence that seemed unaccountable; nothing would do her but the yellow metal. When the teller would push her amount over the counter she would slip it into the spacious pockets of her dress and walk out satisfied. Mrs. Aspinwall's aversion to visitors was carried to the extreme. The housekeeper did not dare to break over the rule that no one should be admitted, and would at once refuse to take a message to her mistress, knowing in advance what the answer would be. So the number of visitors to the house was small. A nephew even was refused admittance. He came from New-York City about two years ago to see his aunt. As soon after his arrival as was possible he made the visit to Craig-st. It was no use; she would not see him. Another and still another attempt was made by the young man, but each time he met with the same answer.

The old lady thought it strange that he should live for so many years without a thought for her, and then, when she was advancing in years, and not very strong, suddenly take a notion to look her up. She connected his sudden solicitude with a desire on his part to become possessed of some of her generous bank account, and acted toward him accordingly. The bulk of Mrs. Aspinwall's estate is understood to be located here, although there are known to be other interests of hers, including a good many stocks and bonds in Philadelphia. The Pittsburg properties consist mainly in unproductive real estate, although it is productive of some rents. It is estimated by a gentleman in a good position to judge to be worth about $500,000. If rightly managed it would produce more as time goes on, and become immensely valuable. Some of this property, which was formerly worth only $50 an acre, is now worth $20,000 an acre. Not long ago she gave some land valued at $30,000 to the West Penn Hospital, in this city. It is supposed here that her Philadelphia properties came through the Colemans, from her father's side, and that they are probably not so extensive as her Pittsburg estate. The same source of information thought that the $3,000,000 estimate of her estates should be at least divided by three, and he was of the opinion that her estate would not exceed $700,000. George W. Guthrie, a leading attorney of this city, is the sole surviving executor under Mrs. Aspinwall's will, which was drawn here and dated November 2, 1885. A few days ago Register Conner admitted the will to probate, and letters testamentary were issued, by consent, to Mr. Guthrie.

WHO WILL SUCCEED MR. COWEN?

Baltimore, Jan. 26 (Special).—Republicans and Democrats of the IVth Congress District are greatly exercised over the announcement of John K. Cowen, the newly elected president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, that he will shortly resign his seat in the House of Representatives. The IVth District is the wealthiest and most important in the State. It comprises the uptown wards of this city. Governor Lowndes has intimated that he does not see the necessity of calling a special election when Mr. Cowen resigns, but it is more than probable that he will be persuaded to do so. Some of the most prominent men in both parties are named as candidates for the nomination. On the Republican side they are William T. Malster, John V. L. Findlay, Robert H. Smith, who was Mr. Cowen's opponent last fall; ex-Congressman H. C. Stockbridge, State Senator Frank Strobridge and Captain J. Frank Supplee. The Democrats named are ex-Governor and ex-United States Senator William Pinkney Whyte, ex-Judge Fisher, W. Cabel Bruce, president of the State Senate, and ex-Congressman Isador Rayner. On the Republican side the name of Mr. Findlay is received with particular favor, especially by the older heads in the party. Mr. Findlay has represented the IVth District in Congress before, but as a Democrat. "It would be but another sign of the times," says one of his admirers, "if he should appear on the floor of the House of Representatives as a Republican, championing the cause of Protection." Mr. Findlay supported the Republican ticket last fall. Mr. Stockbridge has also served the district in Congress for a term of two years, having defeated Mr. Rayner.

Governor Lowndes has limited the time for filing applications for State offices to next Tuesday, January 28. There are three or four applicants for nearly every one of the many offices at his disposal.

WILL CONTINUE THE POLICY OF GILLAM.

Canajoharie, N. Y., Jan. 26 (Special).—A conference between W. J. Arkell and leading artists of "Judge," occasioned by the death of Bernard Gillam, the cartoon artist, was held last night and the future arrangements of the publication planned. Mr. Arkell to-night said: "The policy of Gillam in connection with 'Judge' will be followed as near as possible, and artists of his own selection will carry on the work. His cartoon assistants, who have been scattered, will be brought to the home office—Grant B. Hamilton from Youngstown, Ohio; Eugene Zimmerman from Horseheads, N. Y., and Fred Victor Gillam from Springfield, Ill. It might be interesting to know that Gillam received a salary of $25,000 a year and a percentage of the profits from the paper. I have decided to divide this equally among the staff artists who have been with the paper ten years."

Mr. Gillam willed all his property to his wife. His estate is valued at $250,000.

DEMANDS $100,000 FOR FALSE ARREST.

Chicago, Jan. 26.—Suit for $100,000 for false arrest was begun in the Circuit Court yesterday by John E. Crawford against the First National Bank, the Security, Title and Trust Company, Seth Dudley, trust agent of the company; Orville Peckham and J. D. Woolley, attorney for the bank. The plaintiff is secretary of the Cushman United Telephone Company, and was attorney for the late Mrs. Elizabeth Pope. Connected with the Telephone Company as electrician was A. C. Wheat, who occupied a portion of Crawford's office, and who had access to the latter's desk. December 3 Wheat was arrested at the First National Bank while in the act of endeavoring to secure the bank's certification to a check bearing Mrs. Pope's name, which, it is said, was forged. He was examined by officials of the bank, declared he had not forged the checks, and was promised leniency if he would expose the guilty person. Wheat then said Crawford had committed the alleged forgeries, amounting in all to between $1,100 and $1,200, and Crawford was arrested.

Before the hearing of the case was finished Crawford was indicted by the Grand Jury on eight charges of forgery, and the case was then dismissed in the justice's court, where Crawford says he was prepared to show his innocence. On the indictments he was held in a bond of $1,200. In the Criminal Court on Friday Judge Ball stated that the evidence on the part of the State did not make out a case that would warrant the jury in finding the defendant guilty. The Judge then instructed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty, which was done, and Assistant State's Attorney Todd dismissed the other indictments. Mr. Crawford is a son of ex-State Senator W. F. Crawford, of Rock Island County, and has always stood well in the community.

BURNING OF A SEASIDE HOTEL.

Gloucester, Mass., Jan. 26.—The Bass Rock House, on the south side of East Gloucester, was destroyed by fire early this morning. It was one of the finest and largest summer hotels on the New-England coast, and was owned by the estate of Henry Souther, of Boston. The building was surrounded by many fine cottages, all of which are unoccupied at this season of the year. The fire, which originated in the kitchen, is attributed to an incendiary, as the building was unoccupied. The entire Fire Department was called out, but owing to the distance from the city proper it was some time before the firemen could get to work. Several nearby buildings caught fire from the burning embers carried by the wind. The firemen succeeded in saving the latter with slight loss. An annex to the hotel, containing thirty rooms, was in the course of construction, and the stock for this, the hotel proper and the furniture were totally destroyed. The loss is estimated at $50,000, with an insurance of $30,000.

HOUSE MAIL BOXES.

From The Washington Star.

Postmaster-General Wilson has issued an order similar to that issued by his predecessor, Mr. Wanamaker, in regard to house mail boxes.

In 1890 and 1891, in response to an invitation by the Postmaster-General, over 1,600 box devices were submitted by various inventors to be submitted to a committee of postal experts, consisting of John B. Harlow, the postmaster at St. Louis; Cornelius Van Cott, postmaster at New-York; Captain Henry Sherrill, postmaster at Washington; James E. Bell, superintendent of delivery in the Washington postoffice; W. B. Smith, of Washington, postoffice inspector, and Thomas M. Hart, postmaster at Boston. From the 1,600 boxes six were selected as meeting the feasible requirements of the case. A practical test was given in the use of these boxes in St. Louis and Washington with excellent results. The carriers, instead of ringing the doorbell and waiting for some one to answer it, were able to drop their letters in a box, open another compartment in the same box and take the letters which had been posted and proceed on their route. There was a saving of time to the carrier, and householders were very much pleased with the innovation.

Postmaster-General Wilson has now reaffirmed the order of Postmaster-General Wanamaker, and directs postmasters and postal clerks and carriers to recommend and urge upon householders the use of mail boxes. The householder must provide himself with a box at his own expense, and must select some one of the six approved by the Department. These vary in size, utility and cost. Some are simply small, stout iron boxes, from which the carrier takes letters that have been posted and then deposits in the box mail which he may have to deliver. Some are intended to be fastened upon the inner side of the door, others are designed to be built into the side of the wall when the house is constructed.

In the practical tests, collections were made from these boxes in Washington and St. Louis for one month. For these tests the Department itself supplied the boxes, and, of course, they were placed, not over the whole of either city, but upon certain selected carrier routes, and solely with a view to a practical test. It was found that they saved to each carrier from an hour to an hour and a half each day. Mr. Harlow, the postmaster of St. Louis, and Captain Sherwood, Washington's postmaster, promptly and unhesitatingly gave their fullest indorsement to the scheme. The innovation is looked upon by the Department as one which has every recommendation in its favor. Not only does it save time both to the carrier and to householders, but it adds a feature of security in the posting and delivery of mails which is certainly desirable. It was also found in the St. Louis test that four times as much mail was handled over a route on which these boxes had been placed than previous to their use.

MALIGN INFLUENCE AT WORK.

From the Congregationalist.

Governor Morton, of New-York, now that the Presidential bee is buzzing in his bonnet, has begun to play politics, and has not scrupled to cripple the cause of Civil Service in the Empire State if thereby he may further his own interests. He has appointed a pronounced "spoilsman" as member of the commission charged with the responsibility of executing the Civil Service Law, and persisted in the nomination, notwithstanding the protests of the best element of his own party. This act, and Lieutenant-Governor Saxton's subserviency in naming Platt henchmen as chairmen of many of the most important Senate committees, are indicative of the malign influence which Mr. Platt exerts—an influence that demands the most strenuous opposition if the party is to retain the confidence of the voters of the State. It is a happy omen that the New-York Tribune and men like Mr. Choate and Mr. C. N. Bliss are leading in a revolt against such leadership.

'TWAS THE HOME TEAM LOST.

From The Quincy (Ill.) Herald.

The glass-armed toy soldiers of this town were fed to the pigs yesterday by the cadaverous Indian grave-robbers from Omaha. The flabby, one-lunged Reubens who represent the Gem City in the reckless rush for the baseball pennant had their shins toasted by the basilisk-eyed cattle drivers from the West. They stood around with gaping eyeballs, like a hen on a hot nail, and suffered the grizzly yaps of Omaha to run the bases until their necks were long with thirst. Hickey had more errors than "Coin's Financial School," and led the rheumatic procession to the morgue. The Quincys were full of straw and scrap iron. They couldn't hit a brick wagon with a pickaxe, and ran bases like pallbearers at a funeral. If three-base hits were growing on the back of every man's neck they couldn't reach 'em with a feather duster. It looked as if the Amalgamated Union of South American Hoodoos was in session for work in the thirty-third degree. The geezers stood about and whistled for help, and were so weak they couldn't lift a glass of beer if it had been all foam. Everything was yellow, rocky and whangbasted, like a stigtossel full of dogglegamman. The game was whiskered and frost bitten. The Omahogs were bad enough, but the Quincy Brown Sox had their fins sewed up until they couldn't hold a crazy quilt unless it was tied around their necks.

HE WANTS TO DAM THE NIAGARA.

From The Washington Post.

When a man talks about damming the Niagara River it would seem as if he had a pretty large project on his hands. Yet that is what Mayor N. S. Boynton, of Port Huron, Mich., is seriously considering, and he talked with Senator Brice yesterday for quite a while upon the subject.

"Since 1835," said Mayor Boynton to 'The Post' man, "the level of the lakes has decreased five feet. This is not guesswork, but the result of actual measurement. Last year, owing to the deepening of the channel, the water in Lake Huron was lowered nine inches. My idea is that if a dam about four or five feet high be thrown across Niagara River at Grand Island, about half-way between the falls and Buffalo, it will cause the water of Lake Erie to rise, it will increase the depth of water in the Detroit and St. Clair rivers and in Lake St. Clair. Another dam at the south