THE CIRCUS BEGINS.

FIRST PERFORMANCE OF THE SEASON AT THE MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—A LARGE AUDIENCE AND A GOOD SHOW.

The circus has a hard row to hoe, because the New-York public has been taught for so many years to believe that there is only one circus in the world. But the circus will hoe its row, because it is a good circus. Also the row is ripe for the hoeing. It may take a little time, for the public is slow to learn some things; or it may not take long, for the public is quick to catch the realities of other things. The audience of last night at the Madison Square Garden seemed to indicate that the town would soon discover the worth of the show, and the applause which was bestowed seemed to indicate that what there were there had discovered it already.

There were many people on hand last night to see the first performance of the combined Adam Forepaugh and Sells Brothers' circuses, and they were well repaid. It had all the elements that are necessary for a varied and amusing show, and it had some elements that were novel. As is usually the case, some of the principal hits were made by features of which perhaps least was expected. The burlesque musical performance of the clown band was extremely funny, and delighted the audience more than some of the really remarkable feats of acrobatics and riding. Another of the best acts of all was that of Woodward's trained seals and sea lions. They have been seen here before, though not in a circus, and they cannot be seen too often by those who enjoy exhibitions of animal training. No more remarkable instance has ever been seen here, or perhaps anywhere. The Hagenbeck show was a wonderful show, and there was a good deal of it, but there was no one act in it better than this of Mr. Woodward's seals. They do not do all that trained dogs do, but they do some things that trained dogs never do.

The aerial act of the Hanlons has long been known here and elsewhere, and has seldom been excelled. It is done as smoothly and as effectively as ever. The performance of Achille Philion, who goes up a long spiral on a revolving globe, is different from the performance of the kind that was last seen here, inasmuch as Mr. Philion stays on the outside of his globe, instead of shutting himself up in it. He also adds a display of fireworks to the rest of the excitement of his adventure.

There is too much expert riding to be mentioned in detail. This department is under the direction of Frank J. Melville, who knows all about it, and the Melvilles have been circus riders and directors of circus riders since the memory of man goeth not to the contrary. Both the Forepaugh and the Sells Brothers shows have hitherto made a specialty of trained elephants, and so the elephants become an especially important feature of the present aggregation. A herd of elephants has usually been looked upon merely as so many tons of bone and hide, worth so much for exhibition and including so many receptacles for the peanuts sold by the man who paid for the privilege. But the managers of the present show look with a sort of contempt on an elephant who is not also an actor, and speak of him in a slighting manner, as if to say: "We don't quite remember what we hired him for."

Such are two big African elephants, which have ears that are worth going to the Garden to see, but no talent to speak of, except for the stowage of peanuts. African elephants are not domestic animals, like the Indian ones, and they have no pretty little ways. There are plenty of other animals, including some particularly fine tigers. But the trouble with tigers is that they do not eat peanuts, and so lack the gentle, social ways of the animals which have that civilized taste, as almost all the others in the show have. Peanuts are wasted on any beast of the cat tribe, but almost all the others have an understanding with the man who has the privilege of selling them, and are grateful for all that they get.

It may be remarked, just as a reminder, that the circus is to stay for only two weeks, and nobody must complain, when he goes to the Garden the week after next and does not find it there, that the managers did not advertise the fact and the papers did not mention it. Two weeks will end it, and there will be no more for a year, so let that be understood.

OLD DELMONICO'S CLOSED.

LAST OF THE RESTAURANT AT FIFTH-AVE. AND TWENTY-SIXTH-ST.

Delmonico's place at Fifth-ave. and Twenty-sixth-st. was closed last night. The place was filled from early evening until a late hour with patrons of the famous restaurant, all anxious to be in at the end.

Many of the old-timers whose names have always been associated with the great feasts served in this place were present last night to wish success to their host in the new house at Fifth-ave. and Forty-fourth-st., which was opened about a year ago.

Delmonico was at No. 23 William-st. in 1827. In 1832 he moved to No. 76 Broad-st. In 1836 the place at Beaver and William sts. welcomed his patrons. Ten years later a fire drove him to Broadway and Morris sts., where the Stevens House now stands in its old age. In 1855 Delmonico was found at Broadway and Chambers-st.; Fifth-ave. and Fourteenth-st. in 1861, and at the place closed last night in 1876.

SMALL FIRE AT MANHATTAN CLUB.

QUICK WORK OF A FIRE PATROLMAN PREVENTS A SERIOUS BLAZE.

If it had not been for the energetic action of the firemen, the Manhattan Club, which accupies the old Stewart mansion, at Thirty-fourth-st. and Fifth-ave., might have been without a home this morning. A fire broke out in the chimney in the southeast corner of the building about 7:30 last evening, which had in it the making of a fine blaze, but by quick work was extinguished so soon that, it is said, some of the members of the club who were in the building at the time did not even know there had been a fire. The trouble was caused by a fire in the grate of a parlor on the first floor of the Thirty-fourth-st. side, which became so hot that the accumulated soot in the chimney above was ignited.

Frank Hof, of Fire Patrol No. 3, who happened to be passing on a Thirty-fourth-st. car at the time, noticed a dense volume of smoke and sparks issuing from the chimney, and at once sprang from the car and turned in an alarm, after which he dashed into the building and hastened to the top floor and out on the roof. Percy Thompson, a member of the club, who had been sitting before the open grate, noticed the fire at the same time, and roused some of the attendants. Hof was mean while tearing chunks of soot from the top of the chimney and throwing them down to loosen the burning soot below. The alarm was responded to quickly, and three engines, two trucks and a fire patrol were on the scene in a few minutes. The firemen dragged a hose into the building, and had the fire out in a jiffy. A great crowd had collected outside at the sound of the engines, but dispersed in disappointment when they saw there would be no excitement.

The damage was slight, consisting only in injury to the carpets from water. The parlor, from which the fire started, contained several costly paintings, among which were two recently bought by Judge Truax, but none of these were injured.

LETTERS ON T. J. HAVEMEYER.

Henry O. Havemeyer yesterday obtained letters of administration on the estate of his brother, Thomas J. Havemeyer, who died intestate on April 9, from Surrogate Fitzgerald. Mrs. Sarah Louise Jackson, of Westchester, is appointed joint administrator of the estate.

The application is granted on the petition of Henry O. Havemeyer, a brother of the decedent, who estimates the value of the personal property at $500,000 and the real estate at $200,000.

The names of the heirs at law and next of kin are given as Henry O. Havemeyer, of Greenwich, Conn., brother; Frederick C. Havemeyer, of No. 125 West Eighty-fourth-st.; Kate B. Belloni, of No. 14 East Sixty-sixth-st., sister; Sarah L. Jackson, Westchester, sister; Theodore A. Havemeyer, of No. 244 Madison-ave., nephew; Natalie Mayer, of Mahwah, N. J., niece; Marie H. Tiffany, of No. 244 Madison-ave., niece; Blanche Duncan, of No. 244 Madison-ave., niece; Emilie Potter, Westchester, niece; Minnie H. Butt, of No. 8 West Fifty-second-st., niece; Theodore A. Havemeyer, jr., Hempstead, grandnephew, and Charles F. Havemeyer, grandnephew.

Rumors About Gas.

The street is filled with them. It is a poor day which does not have at least one new incorporation, or merger, or vast scheme to float bonds upon and send prices flying up and down on the Stock Exchange. These are rumors, most of them idle. But if anybody wants to know some absolute facts about gas, let him study the wonderful history of the widening use of gas during the past ten years. From being a mere illuminant, it has become a power to drive engines, and an admirable means of heating and cooking. Gas for power and gas as a fuel have broadened the field immensely. The fall in the prices of raw material and a lessened cost of production have made it possible to use gas economically in ways not dreamed of a decade ago. It is almost an ideal agent for heating, and as for cooking by gas, that has become the one method favored and followed by professional cooks, restaurants and hotels, and by every housekeeper abreast with the times. These are some of the facts about gas, as opposed to the rumors which fill the air.

THE DOLLAR DINNER TO-NIGHT.

W. J. BRYAN TO BE THE STAR SPEAKER—THE BILL OF FARE.

The dollar dinner of the workingmen in memory of Thomas Jefferson will be held in the Grand Central Palace to-night. William J. Bryan is to be the star speaker. Other speakers are expected to be Governor Pingree of Michigan, Major Jones of Toledo, Dr. McGlynn, Charlotte Perkins Stetson and ex-Congressman Towne, of Minnesota. The following is the bill of fare:

Soup.
Cream of asparagus.
Fish.
Kennebec salmon.
Entree.
Beef à la mode, cream potatoes.
Roast turkey and cranberry sauce.
Ice cream and cakes.
Coffee.

The dinner is not a free silver one, as was that on Saturday, but is on broad, non-partisan lines for the labor element of the city. D. B. Van Vleck, secretary of the Dinner Committee, said last evening that fifteen hundred tickets to the dinner had been sold. Tables will be arranged to seat nineteen hundred persons at the dinner. On the main floor the tables will be placed in long rows. The tables for the speakers and guests of honor will be on the stage. John Brisben Walker will preside.

OBITUARY.

THOMAS BROWN.

Thomas Brown, who for sixty-two years had kept an undertaking establishment at No. 192 Rivington-st., and who called himself the oldest undertaker in New-York State, died at his home, No. 816 Lafayette-ave., Brooklyn, last night. His assistant, who had been with him fifty years, says that during his career Mr. Brown has buried between 75,000 and 80,000 bodies, and that he had scarcely missed a day at his business up to three months ago, when he was stricken with Bright's disease. He was born in Chatuagay Four Corners, Canada, on August 10, 1813. When a young man he came to New-York and learned the trade of ship caulking. After working several years in Webb's shipyard, at West Fifth-st., he started the undertaking business, which he had continued ever since.

Mr. Brown was a stanch Republican, and one of his greatest treasures was a copy of the first issue of The Tribune. He was an active and devout Methodist of the old-school stamp, was a member of several Methodist churches in Manhattan at different times, and was one of the organizers of the Attorney Street Church. He was a class leader for forty years, and it was his boast that for thirty years he never missed a class meeting. Since moving to Brooklyn, thirteen years ago, he had belonged to the Sumner Avenue Methodist Church. In the early seventies Mr. Brown served two terms as a member of the Board of Education of New-York City, and was at one time a candidate for Alderman in the Thirteenth Ward. He was a member of Nebo Lodge, Knights of Pythias; of Keystone Masonic Lodge, and of the Veteran Masons. A widow and two daughters survive him. The funeral will be held to-morrow night at 7:30 o'clock, the Rev. H. H. Beattys officiating. Burial in Cypress Hills.

MARTIN A. MAYER.

Martin A. Mayer died suddenly from Bright's disease on Sunday, at his boarding-house, No. 2 West Forty-seventh-st. Although he had for a long time suffered from the trouble, he had been in unusually good health recently, and his friends thought he had entirely recovered. He spent Saturday afternoon with his wife in Larchmont Manor, N. Y., where he was accustomed to live during the summer. Next day after his return to New-York he was suddenly taken violently ill, and, despite the efforts of five physicians, quickly lost consciousness and soon afterward died. He was about forty years old, and was a dealer in clothes in this city, where he had lived most of his life. He leaves a widow. The funeral will take place at the home of his brother-in-law, Charles B. Gregory, No. 28 Halstead-st., East Orange, N. J., this afternoon.

OBITUARY NOTES.

Chattanooga, Tenn., April 18 (Special).—Judge James B. Cooke, a former member of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, and one of the most eminent citizens of this region, died to-day at the age of eighty.

Huron, S. D., April 18.—Albert Lowry, formerly of Davenport, Iowa, is dead, at the age of eighty-three. He was twice a member of the Iowa Legislature, and was Centennial Commissioner for Iowa. Colonel Lowry was a member of the Convention that nominated Harrison and Tyler, and called the first conference in Philadelphia for the organization of the Republican party.

THE CALL TO MR. CONNELL.

FRIENDS IN THIS CITY DISCREDIT A STORY THAT HE HAS DECLINED.

The rumors that the Rev. Alexander Connell, pastor of the Regent Square Church, London, would decline the call to succeed the late Dr. John Hall in the pastorate of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church are at least premature. A cable dispatch printed in this city yesterday stated that Mr. Connell arrived in London on Sunday, but from one of the trustees of the Fifth-ave. church who keeps himself in daily touch with London it was learned yesterday by a Tribune reporter that Mr. Connell left Bombay, India, on the steamship Caledonia, which sailed on April 1, and that it had not yet been reported, and would probably not reach port until to-day or to-morrow.

Apart from this, however, Mr. Connell, even should he have arrived home, has not yet been formally acquainted with the action of the congregation of the Fifth-ave. church. William Brookfield, who carried the call with him, landed in England only late on Monday night, and consequently has not yet had the opportunity to convey the invitation to Mr. Connell. That the cable dispatch referred to is not well founded is shown in the statement that Mr. Connell, after reaching London, learned of the recent death of his father, and started at once for his home in Scotland. The Tribune's informant, who is Mr. Connell's closet friend in this country, stated that the minister's father had been dead some years. Undoubtedly great efforts will be made by his congregation to keep Mr. Connell in London, and it is expected that at the reception which has been prepared by the members of the Regent Square Church for Friday night to welcome home their pastor, some statement will be made by Mr. Connell as to the action he will take on the call from this city.

NOTES OF THE STAGE.

If it were not thought necessary for a newspaper to mention all the theatres that people say they are going to build, the papers would have a good deal more space for printing the news. It is now announced that there is to be a new one somewhere or other on the upper west side of the city, work to begin next September and the house to be ready to open in April, 1900. It is to seat 650 people, and the prices of seats are to range from $2 to $5. It is unnecessary to say that only the rich are invited, and it is reasonable to suppose that they will be so delighted at being allowed to pay those prices, along with the usual rate of premium to the hotel speculators, that they will cheerfully make the journey to the upper west side of the city and keep the house full all the time.

The Earl of Roslyn, called on the stage James Erskine, has decided not to come to America this spring. He was engaged for the production of "His Excellency the Governor" at the Lyceum Theatre.

At the Lyceum Theatre yesterday afternoon Miss Isadore Duncan appeared in an entertainment given for her own benefit, and performed dances illustrative of idylls by Theocritus and Bion. The subjects chosen were "The Bridal of Helen," "The Triumph of Daphnis," "The Death of Daphnis" and "The Lament of Adonis."

Alice E. Ives and Jerome H. Eddy, the authors of "The Village Postmaster," are writing a new rural play to be called "The Country Judge." It will be produced next fall.

Chauncey Olcott closes his season in "A Romance of Athlone" on June 3 at the Grand Opera House. He has arranged to make a tour of Europe this summer.

The New-York Banks' Glee Club gave the third concert of its twentieth season at Carnegie Hall last evening. The soloists were Miss Charlotte Maconda, soprano; Miss Bessie Silberfeld, pianist, and Hubert Arnold, violinist.

John Philip Sousa and his band will give their only concert of the season at the Metropolitan Opera House next Sunday evening, at which Mr. Sousa will play his new march "Hands Across the Sea" for the first time. The soloists will be Mme. Juliette Corden, soprano; Miss Bessie Bonsal, contralto; George Leon Moore, tenor; Leland H. Langley, basso; Sada, violinist, and Herbert L. Clarke, cornetist. A new hymn for solo and quartet written by Sousa to the words of Knox's poem, "Oh, Why Should the Spirit of Mortal Be Proud?" will also be given for the first time.

The Castle Square Opera Company will end its second season of opera in English at the American Theatre on May 6. The repertory for the final week, beginning on May 1, will be as follows: Monday and Tuesday nights, "Faust"; Wednesday matinee and night, "Il Trovatore"; Thursday and Friday nights, "Romeo and Juliet," and Saturday matinee and night, "Aida."

The Fifth Avenue Theatre was closed last night, and will remain closed till the beginning of an engagement which has been made with De Wolf Hopper. The exact date of this has not been determined. Charles Coghlan's period there is definitely ended. John A. Reed, Mr. Coghlan's manager, said last night that there were only a few debts outstanding on account of his management of Mr. Coghlan's tour, and that he should settle these as soon as possible. The supernumeraries, he said, would be paid in full and in a short time.

DR. HILLIS CRITICISED.

HIS USE OF NOVELS AS TEXTS A STARTLING INNOVATION.

A VIGOROUS EXPRESSION OF OPINION FROM DR. CUYLER, SUPPLEMENTING HIS REMARKS AT THE MEETING OF THE BROOKLYN PRESBYTERY.

Church circles in Brooklyn were stirred yesterday over the somewhat free criticism directed at the Rev. Dr. N. D. Hillis, of Plymouth Church, by the Rev. Dr. Theodore L. Cuyler, on account of Dr. Hillis's use of popular novels as texts for his Sunday evening discourses.

Dr. Cuyler was at the April meeting of the Brooklyn Presbytery in his old church, the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian, on Monday night, and among other things he said, in speaking of the orthodoxy of the Brooklyn Presbytery:

"I am glad to see that the Brooklyn Presbytery has been spared some of the afflictions that have affected the Church on the other side of the river. With regard to our pulpits here, I am glad to see that no Presbyterian minister in Brooklyn has massacred the Scriptures in his pulpit. I am glad to see that no Presbyterian minister has yet descended to take his text from popular novels."

The friends of Dr. Hillis could not help but take affront at this, as Dr. Hillis is the only minister in Brooklyn who is taking popular novels as texts. Last Sunday night he spoke to a large congregation on Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter," and he will follow with sermons on other novels.

When Dr. Cuyler was seen at his house, No. 176 South Oxford-st., last night, he said:

"I did not know that the proceedings in my old church would be generally reported, but now that I am called to account for my utterances, I am free to say that I meant all I said, and more, too. Last night I took only a playful shot at the newcomer down on the Heights, a man whom I admire on account of the praise he received in the West and since coming to Brooklyn, but I feel that he has made a great mistake in beginning his pastorate in Brooklyn by laying aside the Bible and taking his text from a novel. It is an unprecedented thing for a Brooklyn minister to do, and although I have not spoken to them directly about it, I am sure that I voice the sentiment of Dr. Behrends, Dr. Storrs, Dr. Meredith, and others in the Congregational and Presbyterian churches in Brooklyn when I say that Dr. Hillis has done an amazing thing in beginning his ministerial career in Brooklyn by placing the Bible to one side and taking his texts from novels.

"In fact I know only one minister in this country who ever did such a thing in his pulpit on Sundays, and he was Theodore Parker, of Boston. He used to preach from Shakespeare. Such a course would be all right in a course of lectures during the week, but on Sunday it is an entirely different thing. I am an older man than Dr. Hillis and can take the liberty of speaking my mind about such a step. The people of Brooklyn, I am sure, expected that he would have a message of salvation for them when he came to Plymouth Church. The Bible has not been preached out, and it never will be. The greatest ministers in the world to-day are finding new delights in the Bible from week to week, and it is what the great tired and thirsty world wants, a draught from the ever-lasting spring. Dr. Hillis seems to act on the assumption that all the people of Brooklyn have been brought up on the popular novels, whereas the other ministers proceed on the assumption that the people of Brooklyn have been brought up on the Bible and feed them that on the Sabbath day.

"I feel very strongly in this matter. I feel that Dr. Hillis has made a great mistake in doing as he has done, and as soon as I see him I shall tell him so. I expect to see him in May at the seventy-fifth anniversary exercises of the American Sunday-School Union, in Philadelphia. We are both down to speak from the same platform on that occasion, and if I don't see him before I shall have a word with him then. The great men of our times and other times have found the Bible sufficient for their needs when they came to preach. Henry Ward Beecher, to my knowledge, never preached on Sunday, taking his text from popular novels. He used to wander away from his text a good many times. He used to say that a text was a gateway into a field, and that when you got in you were privileged to wander about, but that is a different matter entirely from thrusting aside the Bible on Sundays and taking a novel in its place. The people need the Bible on Sunday. They have the novels during the week. Sunday is the time for the Good Book, and for a Christian minister to push it to one side and take a popular novel in its stead is a sign of degeneracy, it seems to me.

"I hope that Dr. Hillis will see the error of his ways, and cut short his course of novel sermons. There is no message of salvation in a novel. Why should a sermon be preached from George Eliot by a Christian minister? Didn't she live openly in such a manner as to flagrantly violate one of the commandments? What sort of morals could she inculcate? Gladstone said to me once: 'The great danger of the American Republic is the low ideals of life and the laxness of its divorce laws with a growing multitude of your people.' Why, then, should a Brooklyn minister preach from a novel written by a woman who flagrantly violated one of God's commandments during a long period of her life? The people need the message of salvation on Sunday from their ministers. Giving them anything else reminds me of a colored brother I read about the other day. He announced his text as Paul's message to the 'Philippines,' fourth chapter and second verse. One of his church members got up and said: 'Now, Brudder Jones, don't. We done have dat Philippine business six days in de week, and we want sumthin' out'n de Bible on Sunday.'"

Dr. Hillis could not be found last night. It was said by some of his friends that he had gone to Atlantic City on account of his wife serious illness.

SENATOR GRADY FAILS TO ATTEND.

HAD PROMISED TO DEFEND TAMMANY HALL BEFORE THE NINETEENTH CENTURY CLUB.

Senator Thomas F. Grady apparently broke faith with the Programme Committee of the Nineteenth Century Club, and failed to appear at its meeting, held last night at Delmonico's. As a result there was some disappointment. Other speakers were substituted. The Senator and ex-School Commissioner Agar had been scheduled to talk on "A Year of Greater New-York." They were to have had fifty minutes each, the Senator defending the Tammany position, and Mr. Agar showing that the rule of Tammany is not for the good of the people. The meeting, which was largely attended, was to be started at 8:30, but as Senator Grady had not appeared, there was a delay until 9 o'clock. Then Mr. Agar made his speech. It was after 10 o'clock when he ended, and President Taylor said that no word had been received from Mr. Grady. Speaking of the Senator he said: "He has communicated with us in no way. He may be detained by an accident, or some other influences may have been at work lately."

This was greeted with laughter. Mr. Taylor then said he would have to get speakers from the club to answer the argument of the first speaker. He selected Walter S. Logan and E. R. L. Gould.

A FREAK OF THE CURRENT.

Several thousand people in and around Herald Square, as the theatres were letting out last night, were treated to a remarkable pyrotechnic display. Some defect in the machinery of two uptown electric cars on the Sixth-ave. under-trolley line caused a "short circuit," and for a block there came out of the slot a sheet of blueish flare that shot up through the ties of the elevated railroad overhead and illuminated the city for blocks about.

The spectacle was a gorgeous one, and as it flashed up and down with lightning speed there was a "zip-zip" sound that was audible for some distance.

The cars were crowded with passengers, and there was a great scramble for safety. No injuries were reported. The company electricians finally located the trouble and succeeded in getting control of the current.

ORDERED TO THE STATE CAMP.

Albany, April 18.—Adjutant-General Andrews today issued an order providing for the opening of the State Camp of Military Instruction, at Peekskill. The following organizations are designated to attend camp: Squadron A, Troop C, the 1st, 2d and 3d Batteries, the 7th and 23d Regiments and the 4th, 10th, 11th, 16th, 17th, 23d, 27th, 28th, 39th and 40th Separate Companies. The 6th Battery and the 7th Regiment will be ordered on field service near their home stations for a period not exceeding eight days.

ANTHRACITE COAL PRICES.

The general sales agents of the anthracite coal companies held another session downtown yesterday and informally adopted the following schedule of prices, to take effect immediately: Chestnut and stove, $3 75 a ton; egg, $3 35; grate, $3 15. These prices are "net on board" at tidewater. For this region they represent deliveries at the pier in Jersey City, the price of coal delivered "alongside, New-York"—on this side of the North River—being 15 cents higher on each grade. The schedule adopted yesterday is identical with that adopted in June, 1898. The big contracts for coal are made about May 1, however; so the rates just agreed upon will govern all these contracts.

CAPTAIN F. A. COOK ARRIVES.

When the Red D Line steamship Philadelphia reached this port last night from Porto Rico a Navy Yard tug came alongside her at Quarantine and took off Captain Francis A. Cook, of the cruiser Brooklyn, who had started for home because of the serious illness of his wife. She died, however, on Sunday, at Annapolis. He will start by train for Annapolis early this morning.

The Philadelphia also brought North Commander Rodgers, of the Indiana.

NEW-JERSEY NEWS.

RUSS REBUKES FAGAN.

HOBOKEN SCHOOLS MADE TO AID THE DEMOCRATIC MACHINE.

Edward Russ, who resigned as a member of the Hoboken Commission of Public Instruction after ten years' service in the Board, as told in yesterday's Tribune, said yesterday that he severed his connection with the public schools for the reason that they have been made a part of the political machinery. "Mayor Fagan," he remarked, "has pawned the educational interests of this city, and has given the Democratic City Committee a blanket mortgage on the public school system."

Mr. Russ is a Democrat, but has made every effort in the past to keep politics out of the schools. He succeeded fairly well until last year, when the Democratic City Committee was allowed to levy assessments upon the employes of the School Board amounting to 2 per cent of their salaries. Further than that, the Democratic machine was so hungry for the distribution of patronage that the privilege of appointing census-takers was taken away from the Commissioners and the City Committee selected the entire list of twenty-two census enumerators.

Mr. Russ's decision to retire from the Board was reached in November last, when Mayor Fagan insisted on the reinstatement of a school principal who had been suspended. Eugene Kiernan, principal of Public School No. 5, was absent without leave last October. Mr. Russ says he made a careful investigation, when told that Mr. Kiernan had left town for his health, and that he found two whiskey bottles in the principal's desk and one in a closet in the schoolroom. The president of the Board suspended Mr. Kiernan under the rules, and sought to have the principal brought before the Board on charges. He did not succeed, however, on account of the interference of Mayor Fagan. Mr. Russ said that he pleaded with the Mayor not to permit Kiernan to be reinstated without trial, but Fagan told him that he did not care how Russ felt about the matter or how he voted. Russ says that the Mayor remarked: "I have the votes and Kiernan will go back."

Kiernan was away for about five weeks, and when he returned the Board did not try him, and he was reinstated and received full pay for the time he was absent.

The Mayor's action in interfering in this case made Mr. Russ exceedingly indignant, and he at once sent in his resignation, which took effect yesterday.

Mr. Russ said that he saw from time to time that the members of the Commission were not acting in the best interests of the schools, and he appealed to Mayor Fagan to stop it, but without any avail.

"The Commissioners," remarked Mr. Russ, "began to feel as if they were no longer responsible to the public, but to Mayor Fagan." Mr. Russ remarked that the fact that employes of the Board appealed to outsiders with influence to get them out of trouble, instead of allowing the Commissioners to consider their cases, had a demoralizing effect upon the school system.

He bitterly resented Mayor Fagan allowing the Democratic political machinery to levy an assessment of 2 per cent upon the salaries of employes of the Board.

"It was once an honor to be a School Commissioner," he said. "Membership now is an insult to a man's intelligence."

DAVIS SMILES COMPLACENTLY.

HOOS LIKEWISE SMILES AND KEEPS HIS OWN COUNSEL ABOUT APPOINTMENTS.

Mayor Hoos of Jersey City is reticent about the appointments to be announced Friday, and even influential persons, supposed to have his confidence have tried in vain to elicit from the Mayor some definite promise concerning those candidates in whom they are interested. The Mayor smiles and is silent. The silence of the Mayor has caused lots of conjectures, and the general impression is that he is in doubt and has not completed his slate.

"Bob" Davis stated yesterday that he has not the slightest idea what the slate will be, but his apparent disinterestedness in the distribution of patronage is regarded as an indication that the Democratic boss provided against a repetition of the Mayor's independent action last spring in making appointments without consulting him by securing either the appointments or pledges before the Mayor was renominated. There are a few close political friends of Davis who earnestly declare that Davis had a conference with the Mayor and suggested the appointments that would be satisfactory to him, and then withdrew, and is allowing the Mayor to use his own judgment concerning the appointments.

The Mayor has been disposed to select men who are not prominently identified with the machine, but are well known and will be satisfactory to the people, and has expressed regret that he allowed machine politicians to influence him immediately after his installation two years ago to name officers who have not added credit to his administration. It was this disinclination to again be duped that induced the Mayor to assert his independence last spring and select appointees without conferring with the bosses. It is believed by many that the Mayor will surprise the machine men again.

City Treasurer Dickinson, whose term will expire next Saturday, has been elected secretary and treasurer of the North Hudson Light, Heat and Power Company, a corporation organized by Bernard M. Shanley, and will enter upon his duties next Monday.

PLUCKY PATROLMAN RYAN.

THOUGH SHOT FOUR TIMES BY A BURGLAR, HE CAPTURES A CONFEDERATE.

Patrolman William Ryan, of the Newark Police Department, proved himself one of the bravest officers of the force in an encounter with a burglar early yesterday morning, in which Ryan was shot four times and in his wounded condition was able to seize and hold one of the confederates of the burglar. Ryan is now in St. Michael's Hospital. He was patrolling at Bridge and Front sts. shortly after 3 a. m., and when passing the saloon of John Brady noticed that the shades, which are usually up, had been drawn down so as to hide the interior. He also noticed a man standing behind a tree on the opposite side of the street. Ryan climbed upon a window sill and looked over the curtain. He saw a man behind the bar. The man also saw the officer, and dashed for a side window, where Ryan met him.

The burglar drew a revolver and fired point-blank, the bullet penetrating Ryan's left shoulder. Ryan was staggered by the shock, but returned the shot without effect. The burglar fired two more shots, one of them striking Ryan's right hand and knocking the weapon from his grasp. As he stooped to recover the pistol the burglar fired again at his back, and the bullet struck a button, which probably saved Ryan's life. Ryan fired again, and a return shot from the burglar wounded him in the wrist.

The burglar had managed to wriggle out of the window and started up the street, stopping once to fire his last shot. Ryan started in pursuit, but seeing that in his wounded condition he had no chance of catching the burglar, he dashed across the street and seized the skulker behind the tree. The fellow showed fight, but was made submissive by a blow with the officer's club.

Night Watchman Sutton, of the Isobell Porter Company's factory, had heard the shots, and ran up at this moment. He stood guard over the prisoner until Ryan could pull the call-box for a patrol-wagon, in which the plucky officer was sent to the hospital.

Two policeman were sent to Harrison, as the burglar had run toward the Passaic Bridge, and they arrested John Riley, of No. 50 Morris and Essex-ave., and John Mulvaney, of No. 162 Eighth-ave., Newark. The first man arrested gave the name of Gabriel Thompson, of No. 3 Wallace Place. They were held for investigation.

Ryan is thirty-seven years old, and has been in the Police Department nine years. When his coat was removed at the hospital two bullets dropped to the floor. One bullet remained imbedded in his left shoulder.

"KING" KELLY DETHRONED.

HE IS NO LONGER THE MONARCH OF WEEHAWKEN.

"King" Simon Kelly, of Weehawken, is a monarch no more. He was dethroned on Monday night, when the Board of Council for the years 1899-1900 was organized by Republicans, and John H. Dubois was elected chairman.

The following appointments were made: Claus Basse, Town Treasurer; Augustus A. Rich, Town Attorney; Michael Ryer, Recorder; Dr. T. C. Rhoades, Town Physician; James Campbell, Sluicegate Keeper; Adolph Hessner, Police Captain; George H. Dubois, promoted from roundsman to sergeant, and Charles Willmott and John W. Bowers, patrolmen.

A GIRL RUN OVER BY A TROLLEY-CAR.

BOTH LEGS CUT OFF—THE CHILD DIES AT THE HOSPITAL.

Orange, April 18 (Special).—Mary Gannon, the ten-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gannon, of Condit's Lane, West Orange, was run over by a car of the Orange and Passaic Valley line, in Washington-st., this afternoon, and both legs were cut off above the knees. The little girl, who was romping with companions, ran across the track in front of the car laughing and waving her hand to the motorman, who put on the brakes and shouted to her. She cleared the track safely and then started to run alongside the car, touching it with her hand. Suddenly she slipped and fell, and before the car could be stopped the rear wheels ran over her legs, cutting both off above the knees. The child was taken to the Orange Memorial Hospital, where she died to-night.

ORANGE TO ISSUE MORE BONDS.

Orange, April 18 (Special).—At the adjourned meeting of the Orange Common Council last night it was decided to issue $110,000 worth of 4 per cent bonds, $60,000 of them to retire temporary notes outstanding on account of sewer construction and $50,000 to take up temporary notes issued to make up sewerage assessment deficiencies. The Lincoln-ave. assessment reports were ratified and confirmed, despite notice given by interested property-owners that they would contest their legality in the courts, on the ground that 80 per cent of the property affected was opposed to the extension of the avenue unless it ran in a straight line through to South Orange. The present extension is only one block long, primarily to relieve some "shut-in" property-holders.

DEMAND REORGANIZATION.

STANCH REPUBLICANS SEEK TO SAVE THE PARTY IN HUDSON.

THEY INSIST THAT NEW LEADERS MUST BE CHOSEN WHO CAN RALLY THE REPUBLICAN VOTERS—SIGNIFICANT FEATURES OF THE HOBOKEN ELECTION.

The repetition in the charter elections on April 11 of the poor showing made by the Republicans in Hudson County last fall has caused many Republicans who are loyal to their party and who have its future welfare at heart to seek means to take the control of its affairs out of the hands of Colonel Dickinson, E. W. Woolley, J. J. Guisto and others who are now in control.

An effort will probably be made within a few days to effect an entire reorganization. The scheme is still in its infancy, but sufficient information has been obtained from the Republicans who are dissatisfied with the present management to warrant the prediction that such an effort will be made before many more days pass.

The opening gun has been fired by John P. Landrine, of Jersey City, a member of the Republican State and County committees, who has long been dissatisfied with the present machine. He says the time has come when all factions in the party must unite and effect an entire reorganization. He also says that the movement will not identify itself with the McEwan faction, neither will any effort be made to organize or set up an independent organization in opposition to the present County Committee. It is proposed to unite all the factions if the present County Committee will submit, and to rally to the support of the party the many Republicans who will work only under able and trustworthy leaders.

MEN OF INFLUENCE IN THE MOVEMENT.

Colonel John J. Toffey, the last Republican Sheriff in Hudson County and at one time State Treasurer, is also at the head of the movement to reorganize the Republican party in Hudson County. He has a large following in Hudson County which cannot be ignored by the leaders, notwithstanding that he has not taken any active interest in politics since he vacated the Sheriff's office.

It has been known that Colonel Toffey and Colonel Dickinson have not been on amicable terms for many months owing to Colonel Dickinson's refusal to accept Colonel Toffey's advice as to matters vitally affecting the party's interests. Colonel Toffey's friends feel that the party has suffered from the rejection of the counsel of such men as the ex-Sheriff.

Ex-Freeholder John Halliday, of Jersey City; Aaron S. Baldwin, a member of the Republican County Committee; ex-Assemblyman Henry M. Nutzhorn and other well-known Republicans are strongly in favor of the movement to reorganize the party in Hudson County.

REORGANIZATION THE ONLY REMEDY.

Mr. Baldwin is outspoken in favor of such a movement. "I have been a Republican ever since I have been able to vote," said Mr. Baldwin yesterday, "and I am positive that no man who knows me will ever question my partisanship. I am a dyed-in-the-wool Republican, and always believe in advancing the interest of my party wherever possible. I am not blind to the present state of affairs, and am fully convinced that we must unite and reorganize the party in Hudson County if we intend to be recognized as Republicans any longer. We can only advance the interests of our party by a reorganization."

Many other well-known Republicans in Hudson County have expressed similar opinions. They believe that the party must be reorganized, and that the men who control its affairs must be superseded by men who can unite all factions and bring into line the whole voting force of the party.

THE PRINCIPLE INVOLVED.

The keynote of the situation was first struck by The Tribune on last Saturday, when it said:

"It is a correct principle in politics that those who are intrusted with leadership are accountable for the results of elections in their districts. An organization that fails to command the support of the party and allows the opposition to roll up unprecedented pluralities is thereby discredited."

This was pursuant to The Tribune's expressed dissatisfaction with the result of last fall's election in Hudson County, to its attitude in the last campaign, when it regarded the Republican organization of Hudson County as on trial, and to the result of the charter elections, when the Republican vote in Jersey City was only 8,877 and in Hoboken only 275.

Chief of Police Murphy, of Jersey City, was the first Republican official who had the courage to speak publicly in favor of a reorganization. The day after the charter election he said: "There must be a change, and men who have the respect and confidence of the people must be placed at the head of the Republican County Committee."

APPROACHING ANNIHILATION.

The seriousness of the situation is more apparent in Hoboken, where the Republican organization came within a few votes of losing its status as a party by polling barely the 2 per cent of the total vote which is required by law to entitle a party to nominate by convention instead of by petition. The total vote polled was 8,133. The Republican candidate polled 267 votes, and was the fourth man in the race, being beaten by the Socialistic-Labor candidate. It was the lowest Republican vote ever cast in Hoboken for the head of a ticket.

Thus the Republican party in Hoboken came dangerously near the vanishing point. George R. Swain, the Republican candidate for Water Commissioner, polled 529 votes, and was defeated by Henry Eggert, Democrat, by 6,712 plurality.

That Mr. Schell was merely nominated to keep Republican votes from Stuhr and thus insure Mayor Fagan's re-election neither Democrats nor Republicans deny, although Mr. Schell accepted the nomination in good faith. Nearly nine-tenths of the delegates to the city convention and at least twenty out of the twenty-four members of the Republican City Committee, who sought to release Hoboken from the Democratic yoke, wanted to indorse ex-Senator William S. Stuhr, an Independent Democratic candidate, who was nominated by the German-American Verein, an organization composed of citizens irrespective of their political affiliations.

WHY STUHR WAS NOT INDORSED.

Such Republicans as ex-Assemblyman William H. Dod, ex-Freeholder Aaron S. Baldwin and ex-Assemblyman Henry M. Nutzhorn and other well-known Republicans appealed to Colonel Dickinson, the county leader, to allow the delegates to indorse Mr. Stuhr's candidacy in the interest of good government. Colonel Dickinson was nonplussed when these well-known Republicans suggested such a proposition. He told them that he could not countenance such a proposition, in view of the rule of the County Committee which makes it mandatory to nominate a Republican for an elective office whenever such a candidate can be found. He advised that Mr. Stuhr's candidacy should be ignored and that a straight out-and-out Republican be nominated. This was done by the same convention that indorsed a Democrat for Collector of Revenue.

Instead of nominating