THE BOER MASS MEETING.

COCKRAN SEIZES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR AN ATTACK ON ENGLAND.

HE FAVORS REPRISALS ON THE ALASKAN BOUNDARY IF THE WAR BEGINS—EX-JUSTICE VAN WYCK AND OTHER SPEAKERS.

The feature which overshadowed all other features at the meeting in Carnegie Hall last night to show American sympathy for the South African Republic was the speech of W. Bourke Cockran. It was Bourke Cockran's oratory which lifted the audience into a furor of enthusiasm; it was his withering sarcasm which silenced, for the instant at least, the interruptions of British sympathizers who made themselves heard at every opportunity, and it was Mr. Cockran's unequivocal advocacy of reprisal by the United States on England on account of the Alaskan boundary dispute while England has her hands full with the war in South Africa that removed the speaker from a sphere of sympathy for a struggling republic to a maker of national policies, which riveted attention to his every utterance from the time he made his first bow to the audience till he finished his peroration at the end of an hour's oratorical endeavor, not a half minute of which was dry or uninteresting.

Mr. Cockran was listened to by an audience that filled every seat on the lower floor and partly filled the galleries. His words were marked by an extreme bitterness toward England and what he called the English classes. He poured broadside after broadside into the British lion until the blood of English-born auditors fairly boiled with indignation. Mr. Cockran's greatest admirers, while proud of his oratorical triumph, were forced to confess afterward that the effect of his effort would have been more helpful for the cause he advocated if he had been less bitter, and if he had not tried to force a new National issue to the front the nature of which would end the good feeling between England and the United States.

During the whole course of his speech Mr. Cockran fought wordy duels with pro-British sympathizers in the audience. It was highly diverting to the audience, and the speaker never failed to leave his antagonist pierced with the shafts of his wit and sarcasm, but at the same time it encouraged the hot headed sons of Britannia to redouble their efforts. On account of this the meeting was a continual heavy bombarding by Mr. Cockran's 13-inch guns, with an occasional angry crack from a British 6-pounder which refused to be spiked, captured, silenced or masked.

For instance, Mr. Cockran had just finished the declaration that England was in the wrong, and asked the question if any one believed that there was any injustice being done the Outlanders in the Transvaal. He no sooner got the words out of his mouth than fifty men in different parts of the gallery fiercely yelled, "Yes! Yes! Yes!" following it up with lusty cheering. On the heels of this, after Mr. Cockran had scored the outbreak of enthusiasm manifested in the British metropolis, a man in the third gallery who wore a gray suit of clothes sprang to his feet and, unfurling a small British flag, waved it frantically and yelled at the top of his voice:

"Rule, Britannia! Rule, Britannia!"

His neighbor, presumably a Dutchman, made a grab for the flag, and there was a fight for the colors in full view of the audience. The Britisher won, and stuffed the flag inside his vest. Then the inevitable policeman appeared, and the man with the flag subsided. There were cries to throw him out, but he was not thrown out.

"How about dynamite?" shouted another man *from the gallery after Mr. Cockran had asserted* that the Boers were not overtaxing the Outlanders. The speaker with almost inimitable irony and in tones that all heard said:

"My friends, while I read to you about dynamite from this record you will regret with me that there is not a small portion of it available for immediate use in the gallery." This sally provoked roars of mirth, and made the meeting worth attending simply as a place of entertainment, if for nothing else. The speaker scored his greatest triumph when he pictured Oom Paul relying on the God of his fathers, singing the praises of the Almighty, relying on Divine Providence to help him and his twenty thousand soldiers as they went to war with a mighty empire, ready to die with honor if God so willed rather than submit to dishonorable slavery. The pen picture was vivid in its intensity, and worked the audience up to the highest pitch of enthusiasm.

When the speaker launched into the theme of what was the right thing for this country to do, he was listened to with deep attention. "The day England goes to war with the Dutch republic, our claims in Alaska will be pressed with all the force and power this Government can put behind them," said he.

"What are you talking about?" demanded a man in the audience, in a voice that cut the comparative stillness like the crack of a rifle in the depth of a forest. Then Mr. Cockran seemed to remember that an explanation was proper, and he said that he reasoned that the United States would take advantage of its opportunity only on general principles, as he had not been told it by any one having authority to say it.

EX-JUSTICE VAN WYCK'S ADDRESS.

The meeting was presided over by Augustus Van Wyck, of Brooklyn, after being called to order by George W. Van Siclen. The platform was filled with the vice-presidents whose names appeared in yesterday's Tribune, who in many cases were accompanied by their wives and daughters. Mr. Van Siclen introduced Mr. Van Wyck, who spoke in part as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen: I extend to you all a most cordial greeting in the name of the only King to whom the children of the republic can ever owe allegiance—the omnipotent Ruler of the Eternal Empire of Peace. Down in Africa there is a little Dutch republic born of that courage, sense of justice and love of freedom which create the noble and heroic in history. Her national life and the liberties of her people are threatened without just cause, for it would be a war inspired by those in control of the diamond and gold fields, and such avarice endangers civilization and meets with the disapproval of the masses of every land, and in none more than in England, Scotland and Ireland. The attention of the world is riveted upon her destiny, and the voice of civilization protests against her wrong.

I appreciate the great honor of presiding over this meeting, an audience composed of sincere believers in the brotherhood of man, who have the moral courage to indulge in the hope and engage in the mission of suppressing bloodthirsty passion, hideous son of Satan, and magnifying unselfish friendship, lovely daughter of Justice, to the end that the negotiations pending now between the strongest and the weakest nation of the old continents may result in an adjustment of their controversy with equal honor to both. Cannot our Republic extend sympathy to her little sister republic and urge the British Empire to treat her fairly and generously, as well as justly, without the slightest suspicion of ill will on her part toward England? The new doctrine of diplomacy promulgated by the Peace Commission held at The Hague last summer makes it America's duty to use her friendly offices to promote peace. Let America's voice be raised in solemn warning to both nations against shedding human blood unnecessarily.

Can such an interest manifested in the welfare of these two nations be adversely criticised by men of any color, creed or race? Can they resist the gentle influence of warm hearted and intellectually considerate people exerted in favor of humanity? Let these nations dethrone passion and crown reason, and the resumption of friendly cheer and good fellowship will follow, and the seeming irrepressible conflict will fade away. Let them think of the desolate homes and wrecked hopes of the past which accompany war. Let England remember her debt to Holland for her greatest of kings, William of Holland, husband of Mary.

BOURKE COCKRAN'S LOUD WELCOME.

When the applause for Mr. Van Wyck had subsided the ex-Judge stepped forward again and introduced Mr. Cockran as an orator whom every one already knew. The greeting which was accorded Mr. Cockran was deafening, and it was several minutes before he was able to speak. He began in an impressive manner, as follows:

It has been objected to this meeting that the United States has no concern with the affairs of South Africa, and that there is therefore no good reason for our assembling here to-night. He who says that forgets the fact that the interests of the members of the human family have by the ties of modern commerce and civilization been drawn so much closer together that they make peace important to every civilized country in the world. Material interests as well as moral law join strong nations in defence of the weak against aggression, and an empire extending all over the world cannot go to war without endangering all Christendom. This century will be capped with a fitting climax if the most powerful nation in the world engages in such an unjust war. It is now eighty years since an American President pronounced an undying doctrine—the Monroe Doctrine—which insured the peace of this hemisphere. May we hope that a doctrine known as the McKinley doctrine will soon be formulated which will be the greatest in the world? Now, we must understand the relations of the two countries engaged in this dispute. First, the Transvaal is by the admission of every one independent as to its internal affairs. It owes this to nobody, and it attained it by a flight to South Africa and subsequent determined fighting.

Mr. Cockran then explained that the word "suzerainty," which was used in the treaty of 1881 with reference to the Transvaal's relation to England, but which had been struck out by the treaty of 1884, was the one little loophole through which England now sought to force herself into war with the Transvaal. He showed how the independence of the Transvaal had been acknowledged by every English statesman from the Duke of Devonshire down, although this point was now disputed by Chamberlain. When this name was mentioned, Mr. Cockran encountered his first trouble. Immediately a storm of hisses arose from the Boer sympathizers in the audience.

"Ladies and gentlemen," said Mr. Cockran in a deprecating tone of voice, "we are here to reason, and not to shout and abuse. Do not hiss a man's name in public; do not"——

Then a man in the gallery began to shout excitedly, while others pointed at him and yelled, "Put him out, put him out!"

"I have noticed that there is some disturbance in the back of the hall," continued Mr. Cockran as though nothing had happened. "Do not hiss him or shout to put him out. Accept him rather as a fit representative of his sentiments."

AMERICA'S RIGHT TO STOP THE WAR.

There was loud laughter and applause, and Mr. Cockran went on to say that no Power had the right to interfere with the Transvaal, and to add in denunciation of England that the United States had as much right to interfere and stop this war of spoliation and aggression as England had to make it. This brought out more shouts and catcalls from the English sympathizers in the gallery.

"Ladies and gentlemen," said the orator quietly, "these interruptions are of great value. There are ruffians in finance, the ruffians who follow them, the ruffians who make millions, and those who interrupt proceedings. They are all at one in yelling 'Rule Brittania' here as they yelled it when Morley reasoned at Manchester."

Mr. Cockran had again scored and the audience began to cheer him and demand that the disturbers be put out.

"Oh, ladies and gentlemen," said Mr. Cockran in a tone of gentle reproof, "are you going to treat him so? He is performing the greatest service for humanity and civilization."

Mr. Cockran went on amid applause. When he stated that contrary to the general opinion the Transvaal contained two hundred thousand Outlanders to fifty thousand Boers, there were in fact thirty-five thousand Outlanders there and one hundred and fifty thousand Boers, there was another interruption.

"No! No!" came a voice from the gallery.

ENGLISH IN THE GALLERY REBUKED.

Mr. Cockran gave his authority for the statement, but remarked that the riotous person in the gallery was probably not amenable to authority.

"There stands my friend in the gallery," said the speaker, "his vociferousness as great as his ignorance is dense. What I say is for American citizens to consider, not for English rioters to muddle over."

Then Mr. Cockran spoke about the taxes in the Transvaal, and again the voice came from the gallery:

"How about the dynamite tax?" was the cry this time.

"My friend in the gallery asks about dynamite," said the speaker, pleasantly and slowly. "Friends, while I explain about the dynamite I beg that you will restrain your regret that some of it is not under the seat of the person in the gallery."

There was much laughing and clapping of hands, and then Mr. Cockran answered the question in a way that brought out a thunder of applause. There were a few more interruptions, but before Mr. Cockran was half way through his speech he had, by means of his stinging sarcasm and humorous rebukes, won a complete victory over such a hostile "nigger heaven" as has probably never before confronted a speaker in Carnegie Hall.

In continuing Mr. Cockran denounced Chamberlain in bitter terms as cruel and unjust, and defended the course of the Boers throughout. He said that the real reason for which England was going to war was so foul that he could not utter it, but would leave that to Englishmen. Then he told the story of Rhodesia, and described the great successive mining companies of that region as gigantic swindles perpetrated by the son-in-law of the Prince of Wales, a few dukes and other nobles, and now about to be hidden and concealed from the world by a wanton war. In conclusion he said that if President McKinley did his duty the claims of the United States in the Alaskan boundary dispute now going on with Canada would be so pressed and so significantly as to the ultimate purpose of the move that England would be forced to stop the war, and thus peace would be restored by the intervention of the United States. His peroration was a glowing one, and the audience rose and cheered him to the echo as he bowed and then left the stage.

Mr. Cockran's reply to the last interruption set his hearers wild with delight.

"My friends, my friends," he said in a soothing tone to those who were angrily shouting at the disturber, "let the ass bray. Can you not let us gaze on these agents of the civilization which Chamberlain is going to send to the Transvaal?"

RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE PEACE.

At the conclusion of Mr. Cockran's speech Mr. Van Siclen read the following resolution, drafted by Judge George M. Van Hoesen:

Resolved, That the moderation of the people of the South African Republic under the grievous provocation of the Jameson raid affords conclusive evidence that no appeal to reason will be unheeded by them, and that fair and even liberal terms can be obtained from them if the life of their nation be not endangered. In the hope that the horrors of war may be averted from the homes of a simple, pastoral people whose history appeals to the sympathies and commands the respect of a large part of the civilized world, we respectfully ask the Government of the United States to use its good offices with the Government of Great Britain and the Government of the South African Republic in the interest of peace, and within the lines prescribed by the late convention at The Hague to do its utmost to prevent a conflict between the two nations now arrayed against each other, and to bring about an adjustment conformable to justice and the law of nations.

"All in favor of its adoption, say 'Aye,'" said the chairman. A volume of "ayes" was followed by a scattering fire of "noes."

John V. L. Pruyn offered the following motion:

That the chairman of this meeting appoint a committee of three to obtain and disseminate among the people of the United States accurate information about the South African Republic, with authority to said committee to obtain subscriptions to defray the expenses of such publications.

TUNIS G. BERGEN CALLED.

This was received like the other, and ex-Judge Van Wyck declared both adopted. The audience at this point was breaking up, and Mr. Van Siclen said that Messrs. Fitch, of Nevada, and Bergen, of New-York, who had been asked to speak, had gracefully given their time to Mr. Cockran and would not be heard from. At this there were loud cries for Fitch and Bergen, and Tunis G. Bergen, president of the Holland Society of the State of New-York, responded with a speech, part of which was as follows:

Speaking for myself, with that liberty on this platform which you graciously allow me as an American, in spite of what some of you may think and in spite of what some others may eloquently say, I do not desire to disturb the friendliness which now exists between the United States and Great Britain. The good understanding which was exhibited between England and the United States during our recent war with Spain I would like to have continued. I would do much to avoid breaking that friendliness. It came late in our history, to be sure, but it came. And it was a refreshing surprise. The Venezuela quarrel only preceded it by a year or so, and the Alaska trouble was kept as quiet as possible under the circumstances, so far as the English Government was able to muzzle the indiscreet mouths of some of her Canadian statesmen. I would not, therefore, do anything which might be attributed as an insult to the English people. For myself, I am not here to pull the tail of the British lion. I would rather stroke his handsome mane and awaken his senses of justice and right which now seem to be asleep. An Anglo-American friendship can do much good for mankind. Still, we should not allow that friendship to blind our eyes to the sight of any attempt of tyranny over the rights and freedom of any civilized people, no matter how few in numbers. That friendship should not make us think that the bullets which are now being shipped by the hundred thousand from England to South Africa are only sugar coated pills. That friendship should not dull our comprehensions when we read the whole diplomatic correspondence, clumsy at times and stupidly brutal at other times, of the English Foreign Secretary for Colonial Affairs. You remember the old proverb, still good to-day as it was in the early ages of history: "Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful." I would rather that this meeting, abounding as it does in the indignation of American hearts, would sound an appeal to the better nature of the English people; to those qualities which as displayed by the people of the British Isles form the brightest pages of their history.

It is a devout man of intense religious faith who in his age leads a little South African republic. He kneels in prayer every morning and never fails to make one petition, "God bless the American republic." In your names, then, to-night I take up that prayer and send it back across the waters and over the veldt of South Africa until it reaches the little house where that old man, with the diplomacy of a Bismarck and the qualities of a Lincoln, is rising from his knees (for it is morning now in the Transvaal), and send that prayer to him as it goes to high heaven, a prayer which should come from every true American heart, "God save the little republic of South Africa!"

James Gustavus Whiteley presented the following resolutions, which, like the others, received instant approval:

Resolved, That this meeting, having considered the difficulty which has arisen between Great Britain and the South African Republic, and having examined the relation of those two States as defined by the Conventions of 1881 and 1884, is of the opinion that Great Britain does not possess any right of intervention in the internal affairs of the South African Republic either by treaty or by international law.

Resolved, That this meeting is also of the opinion that the South African Republic, although not bound to comply with any of the demands of Great Britain, has shown a proper and commendable willingness to consider the alleged grievances and to grant reasonable privileges, and that therefore it is the duty of Great Britain not to force a conflict in South Africa, but either to accept the offered reforms or to leave the whole matter to a court of arbitration.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the Government of the United States, to the Government of Great Britain and to the Government of the South African Republic.

SOME OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Among the vice-presidents invited to the platform were:

James R. O'Beirne.	Maurice J. Power.
T. St. John Gaffney.	John C. McGuire.
Smith E. Lane.	Mitchell L. Erlanger.
Frederick A. Ware.	I. M. Ottenheimer.
Eugene F. O'Connor.	Theodore W. Myers.
Colonel Edward Duffy.	Ernest H. Crosby.
Frank W. Sanger.	Frederick W. Hinrichs.
Theodore Sutro.	W. J. K. Kenny.
Homer Lee.	David McClure.
Ferdinand Levy.	Julius Harburger.

THINKS IT A DESPOTISM.

Mrs. Anna Brooks Snow, president general of the Daughters of the Revolution, sent the following letter to George W. Van Siclen in reply to his invitation to attend the mass meeting in the interest of the Boers:

I have this day received your note addressed to me as president of the Society of the Daughters of the Revolution, placing a box at our service for the Carnegie Hall meeting to express sympathy with the Transvaal Republic. I thank you sincerely for the courtesy, but I beg to return the tickets.

Speaking for myself, and not for my society, I do not agree with you that our "society of American women should be represented," or that to "display our banner or flag on the box front would be in keeping."

As I view it, the Boer Government in South Africa—republican only in name—is a despotism pure and simple, a government of bigotry, intolerance and injustice. The fact that it refuses the franchise and all participation in government to the Outlanders—who constitute a large majority of the white population, who conduct the chief part of the country's industries, who pay more than three-fourths of its revenues, and who represent its enterprise and intelligence—may not, perhaps, justify England's intervention, but surely does not commend it to the sympathy of Americans. That that Government taxes the Outlanders excessively, fetters the press, forbids Outlanders to carry arms, even for self-defence, while permitting it to Boer youth, should not, I think, command for it the support of a people who regard equality of taxation, representation in government, freedom of the press and the right to bear arms as fundamental.

Without entering on the merits of the controversy between Great Britain and the Transvaal, which, it seems to me, is not our affair, I yet recognize in English government and civil life, akin as it is to our own, the best that the world has yet reached in popular freedom, just government, equality of rights and the arts of civilization. For these reasons, rather than because of the kinship of race, my sympathy at this time is with, and not against, the English people.

POLICE STILL IN THE DARK.

UNABLE TO THROW ANY LIGHT ON THE MURDER MYSTERY.

The murder mystery goes on from day to day without much advance being made by the police.

A suspicious prisoner was confined in the West Twentieth-st. police station last night. It has been learned that his name is John Connors, twenty-one years old, and he was arrested, presumably, by Central Office detectives at Tenth-ave. and Nineteenth-st. late yesterday afternoon. Late last night a woman, who said she was a sister of the man, called at the station and asked the sergeant in charge if a man by that name had been arrested.

"Yes," replied the sergeant.

"What is the charge against him?" asked she.

"Suspicious person," replied the sergeant.

The woman then said that a policeman had a grudge against her brother and had arrested him.

"Oh, no," replied the sergeant, "he was not arrested by any of that gang."

Just before that the man was closeted with Detective Sergeant Samuel Price in a back room of the station for twenty minutes.

At the end of the conference Price said that he had called at the station house to see Captain Schmittberger. He refused all information concerning the mysterious prisoner.

Captain Schmittberger, of the West Twentieth-st. station, who has been working on the case, yesterday made three arrests of "suspicious characters," which gave rise to a report that they were made in connection with the mystery. It turned out that they had nothing to do with the case.

The police have begun distributing a large number of the photographs of Mrs. Gertrude Billings, who has been reported missing since September 20 by her husband, a saloonkeeper, of No. 861 Columbus-ave. When she disappeared she wore a number of diamonds, said to be valued at $700. There were five or six diamond rings and one made of diamonds, garnets and sapphires to represent the American flag.

Eric Larrson, of No. 112 East Ninety-eighth-st., a motorman in the employ of the New-York Electric Cab Company, at Fifty-third-st. and Broadway, told Captain Schmittberger that last Friday night at 10 o'clock he was in a restaurant on the south side of Fourteenth-st., between Sixth and Seventh aves. When he emerged from the restaurant he saw a young man standing beside his cab with two bundles. The man wore a black suit of clothes and a brown beard. He asked him to take him to Hoboken. Larrson said he told him that he did not have electricity enough. The young man then boarded a car in Fourteenth-st.

Larrson then stated that on Tuesday night he was at the East Twenty-third-st. ferry when the same man accosted him and asked to be taken to the Grand Union, and inquired the price. The man had shaved off his beard. Larrson said that he charged $1.50, but the man would not pay it and he boarded a car.

Late on Tuesday night at Homestead, N. J., Detective Weintnal, of Hoboken, and Detective O'Rourke, of New-York, found a bundle of woman's clothing saturated with blood. Chief of Police Devery, of New-York, received a letter written by some one on the Jersey side of the river and signed "A. D." In it the writer calls Chief Devery's attention to the fact that while walking along the road at Homestead on Monday he or she saw a bundle wrapped in a newspaper and tied with thread.

"When I went to look at it," the letter said, "it made me sick, and I left it alone. Thinking it might interest you I send you this letter."

The remainder of the communication was devoted to a description of the spot at which the bundle was to be found.

Exactly on the spot indicated by the letter they found the bundle, hidden under a rock. On opening it it was found to contain several articles of woman's clothing and underwear, all saturated with blood.

They carried the bundle to New-York.

John A. Hunt, in the employ of Coy, Hunt & Co., paper dealers, of No. 72 Duane-st., yesterday furnished the police a possible clew, to the following up of which they devoted considerable time. On Friday morning a stranger visited the store in Duane-st., and asked for some strong manila wrapping paper. He seemed to be particular about the size and quality. He looked at the samples as he held the sheets against the light, and finally selected three sheets, 48x64 inches. Mr. Hunt says that he thinks it would be impossible to identify the paper if it should be water soaked, but if it should be dry he could tell whether it was bought at his store.

Michael Krieg, the clerk who tied up the sheets for the stranger, said yesterday afternoon that the man was a little under medium height, dark, with a small black mustache, and wore a dark yellow overcoat. He did not appear to be nervous, and the transaction did not arouse his suspicion that anything was wrong.

The News of Brooklyn.

FUN IN THE IXTH DISTRICT.

THE FIGHT OVER GRAY ASSUMES A NEW PHASE.

DEMOCRATS RENOMINATE ASSEMBLYMAN CAIN AND ALDERMAN HENNESSEY, BUT DO NOT INDORSE THE COUNTY TICKET—COFFEY'S POWER DISTURBS THE LEADERS.

Lieutenant Governor Timothy L. Woodruff is in Albany acting as the Chief Executive of the State in the absence of Governor Roosevelt, and is not expected to return to Brooklyn until Saturday. Meanwhile Walter B. Atterbury is acting as the head of the Campaign Committee. The Republican leaders have learned with a great deal of satisfaction of the disaffection in the Democratic ranks over the nomination of J. Morrisey Gray for Register. They believe that it will result in a large number of Democrats casting their votes for the Republican candidates.

There was to have been a meeting of the Democratic Executive Committee last night, but owing to the trouble in the IXth Assembly District over the nomination of Gray, it was decided to wait for the outcome of the Assembly convention of that district, which on last Saturday night was postponed until last night, because some of the leaders declared they would openly oppose any attempt to ratify the Democratic county ticket containing Mr. Gray's name.

Although there was no formal meeting of the Executive Committee there was an informal conference of the leaders last night at the Constitution Club. McLaughlin and Shevlin and Police Commissioner York were among those present.

It was said that these leaders seriously discussed the necessity of asking Mr. Gray to resign from the ticket. It was learned that it was strongly urged by some of those present that Gray be removed from the ticket unless Senator Michael J. Coffey, the leader of the IXth Assembly District, should withdraw his opposition to Gray and allow a resolution to be passed at the convention last night indorsing the ticket.

The convention did not indorse the county ticket. But it did renominate Assemblyman J. J. Cain and Alderman Frank Hennessey. This at first mystified those who did not understand the inner meaning of this movement, as on Monday both Cain and Hennessey declared that they would not run on the ticket unless Gray was removed.

The following explanation was made by some one who was credited by those in the district with being in touch with the plans of Senator Coffey.

It was said that Coffey had quietly gone to the Republican campaign managers and assured them that if the Republicans would indorse Assemblyman Cain and Alderman Hennessey the Democrats would in turn support the Republican county ticket. In this way Senator Coffey would insure the overwhelming election of his friends, and at the same time have his revenge on the leaders who insisted upon Gray's candidacy. As the IXth Assembly District is overwhelmingly Democratic, and any candidates who might turn against Cain and Hennessey would have not the slightest chance of election, it would seem to be a most profitable move for the Republicans to accept the alleged proposition of Senator Coffey.

At any rate, it seems to be evident that the Democrats in the district are implacable in their opposition to Gray, and the county leaders will have to step lively in adjusting matters or else suffer defeat in the Democratic stronghold of Kings County.

INVINCIBLES' HOME OPENED.

CANDIDATES AND REPUBLICAN POLITICIANS ATTEND A HOUSE WARMING.

All the Republican candidates on the County, Aldermanic and Assembly tickets took part in the opening of the new home of the Invincible Club, of the Twenty-third Ward, at No. 98 Herkimer-st., last night. Besides the different candidates, the loyal Republicans of the VIIIth Senate District and their friends turned out in force, and took part in the house warming.

President Sylvester C. Brinley welcomed the guests of the club, and introduced them to the different candidates for local political honors, who held an impromptu reception in the club parlors. Upward of five hundred people were in the house at one time, thoroughly taxing its capacity. The different tickets were indorsed unanimously, and all of the candidates were called upon for speeches. After the reception and speeches, a luncheon was served.

The new home of the Invincibles was purchased from the Irving Club recently for $27,000. The Invincible Club was founded in the Blaine campaign, and since then, through many ups and downs, the club has been loyal to the ticket. At the present time there is a membership of nearly five hundred. Fifty new applications for membership were received last night. Lieutenant Governor Woodruff and most of the prominent Republicans of the borough are members.

FIREMEN ELECT OFFICERS.

THE CONVENTION IN FLUSHING EXTENDS ITS JURISDICTION.

The fourth annual convention of the Southern New-York Volunteer Firemen's Association came to an end in Flushing last night. The firemen, during the two days' session, transacted considerable business. The constitution and bylaws of the association were amended so as to include in the jurisdiction the companies of Suffolk and Westchester counties. A resolution offered by John Smith, of Brooklyn, that a bill be presented to the next Legislature requiring that 10 per cent of the entire 2 per cent insurance tax collected in the State of New-York be devoted to the interest of the State Volunteer Firemen's Home at Hudson was adopted.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Charles M. Schwalbe, Port Richmond, Staten Island; vice-presidents, F. W. Hancock, East New-York; Charles A. Brice, Manhattan; William B. Carpenter, Flushing; H. C. Seelhusen, Port Richmond, Staten Island; John Connors, Sea Cliff, Nassau County; George C. Hoyer, Blue Point, Suffolk County; Peter Swekert, Westchester County; secretary, Joseph Downing, Brooklyn; treasurer, Lawrence W. Clark, Brooklyn; directors, B. J. Mahoney, Adolph Leinhardt, George C. Hoyer, John A. Patterson, Joseph Steiner, William W. Penfield and John Dayton.

THREE PERSONS BADLY BURNED.

A GIRL USED KEROSENE TO KINDLE A FIRE AND CAUSED AN EXPLOSION.

Mary Heede, a thirteen-year-old girl, was badly burned about the face and arms last night as the result of the explosion of some kerosene with which she was building a fire in the kitchen range. The girl lived at No. 927 Second-ave., with her sister, Mrs. Olga Burnette. Mary told her sister that she would build the fire last night. She had some trouble in getting the wood to burn, and tried the old trick of soaking it with kerosene. Some sparks were in the range from the previous attempts, and they caused an explosion which almost knocked the girl from her feet. Her hair and clothing were in flames when Mrs. Burnette ran into the kitchen and wrapped her sister in a blanket. But the fire was not put out before Mrs. Burnette and Patrick Casey, a neighbor, who was assisting her, were painfully burned.

An ambulance was summoned from the Norwegian Hospital. The surgeon dressed the wounds of Mrs. Burnette and Patrick Casey, and took the little girl to the hospital.

The doctors there say they are afraid that the shock may kill the girl, and, even should she live, there is a strong probability that her sight will be badly injured.

A FAR REACHING BYLAW.

DIRECTORS OF THE NEW GERMAN HOSPITAL DISAGREE OVER THE QUESTION OF RELIGIOUS CONSOLATION.

The directors of the new German Hospital, which it is expected will open for patients about November 1, are divided over one of the clauses in the bylaws being framed for the administration of the hospital. The clause is that which provides that a patient in the hospital can only receive spiritual aid if the doctor in charge of the institution gives his consent. Many of the directors are opposed to this clause, and hold that patients should not be restricted in any way regarding their right to such spiritual comfort as they may desire.

The enactment of this bylaw would mean that a patient at the point of death could not have the services of a clergyman of any denomination unless the physician in charge agreed.

At the last meeting of the directors David Frickman and Dr. Schmeizer made vigorous protests against this bylaw, but the clause was not then corrected, and it is likely that a general meeting of the hospital society will be called to attend to the amendment next week.

MIDWOOD CLUB OFFICERS.

At the annual meeting of the Midwood Club, Flatbush, held on Tuesday evening, the following were elected officers: President, W. A. A. Brown; vice-president, Edward F. De Selding; secretary, Robert G. Newbegin; treasurer, W. Joel Moran. Directors—Alfred Matthews, H. Wood Sullivan, Franklin P. Gordon and Henry W. Sherrill.

WORK OF THE HOLLAND BOAT.

HER COURSE CHANGED WHILE RUNNING SUBMERGED.

LEAKING GAS OVERCOMES SOME OF HER CREW AFTER THE TRIP IS ENDED—SENATOR STEWART AND GENERAL BUTLER PRESENT.

Greenport, N. Y., Oct. 11.—The Holland submarine torpedo boat gave another exhibition of its powers in a trial to-day over the two mile course in Little Peconic Bay. Besides diving, running under water for two miles and coming to the surface for observation, an attack on an imaginary enemy was made, in which a Whitehead torpedo of the regulation type used on the vessels of the United States Navy was discharged. Another feature of the trials was the changing of the vessel's course after the torpedo was fired.

The boat was under command of Frank T. Cable, and a large number of persons witnessed the trial and attack from the deck of the steam yacht Josephine.

The first trial was that of running the boat submerged at a moderate rate of speed over the two-mile course. At the end of the first mile the vessel was brought to the surface, and an observation, lasting not more than five seconds, was made. The vessel then disappeared and kept on an even course until she had reached the second mile, when the attack was made and the torpedo discharged. The flight of the torpedo was in a direct line with the flags which represented the side of a battleship. The torpedo travelled the distance, about six hundred yards, and came to the surface directly inside the flags. Immediately after the torpedo left the expulsion tube the course of the vessel was changed, making almost a complete circle under the water. She then continued in the course submerged for a mile, and was run on the surface for nearly six miles.

After the trials were ended and while the vessel was on her way to her moorings at New-Suffolk, an accident occurred in the engine room which resulted in five members of the crew being overcome by gas. When the boat reached her moorings the men, still unconscious, were placed on the pier, where physicians revived them. Two of the men who went in to assist in carrying the unconscious men out were partially overcome by the fumes, but on reaching the air recovered.

The cause of the leak of gas from the engine is unknown, but it is supposed that one of the small drip cocks leading to the exhaust had been carelessly opened by some of the men working about the machinery. A thorough inspection of the vessel will be made to-morrow, when the real cause will be ascertained.

Among those who witnessed the trials were C. E. Creecy and C. S. McNeir, of Washington, United States Senator Stewart, of Nevada, and Major General M. C. Butler, of South Carolina. Senator Stewart and General Butler were highly pleased with the workings of the boat.

PHILIP WRITES TO ROSSITER.

THE REAR ADMIRAL DOES NOT GIVE UP THE IDEA OF AN ELEVATED RAILROAD STATION FOR THE NAVY YARD.

In spite of the fact that the engineers of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company have reported adversely on the construction of a new station on the Fulton Ferry branch of the Brooklyn Union Elevated Railroad at Sands-st. and Hudson-ave., Rear Admiral Philip, commandant of the yard, is still persisting in his efforts to secure a station for the accommodation of the men who work in the yard. He has taken such an interest in it that he has had one of his engineers work up a plan whereby the objections of the Rapid Transit's engineers could be obviated.

Rear Admiral Philip sent the following letter to President Rossiter yesterday:

My Dear Sir: Replying to yours of the 2d inst., I beg to call your attention to the fact that the grade at Sands-st. and Hudson-ave. on the Union Elevated Railroad is so high above the street that the station can be built directly underneath, and there need be only a slight enlargement of a covered corridor leading to a cross walk and stairs going up to a short platform on either side.

This, I think, meets your objection, since it gives a cheaper construction than shifting tracks for a central station at grade, and it permits a minimum of attendance.

I inclose a rough sketch of the plan I had in view for a station at Sands-st. and Hudson-ave. and trust you will give the same further attention.

I would also add that there are at present about twenty-five hundred men employed—often many more—in the yard, but of this number I am told by the heads of the different departments, after a number of consultations, that of the present force here upward of thirteen hundred, more than half, would use the elevated railroad coming to and going from the yard.

Respectfully submitted. JOHN W. PHILIP,
Rear Admiral, U. S. N., Commanding the New-York Navy Yard and Station.

OBITUARY.

GEORGE GOMER.

George Gomer, a well known clothing merchant of the Eastern District, and one of the directors of the new German Hospital, died on Tuesday in Sayville, Long Island. Mr. Gomer was born in Brooklyn, and was forty-six years old. He took an active interest in the raising of funds for the new hospital, and for a year or more had worked night and day helping the work along, and at the close of last winter he was completely run down. His shattered nervous system obliged him to take a much needed rest, and he went South. Later he went to his place in Sayville, where he died.

Mr. Gomer was a member of many German societies, among them the Arion Singing Society and the German Hospital Society. He was a director of the Bushwick Savings Bank and president of the Broadway Merchants' Association. He was also a member of the Bushwick Club. The body was brought to Brooklyn last night.

ISAAC U. WILLETS.

East Williston, Long Island, Oct. 11.—Isaac U. Willets, one of the old time farmers of North Hempstead, died suddenly from heart disease at the home of his son, Edwin C. Willets, yesterday morning. Mr. Willets was eighty years old, but was a man of considerable activity. On Monday he visited Manhattan and returned home in the best of spirits. The funeral will be held to-morrow afternoon at 3 o'clock, at the Friends' Meeting House, in Old Westbury.

A GIFT FOR SENATOR AHEARN.

TEACHERS PREPARING FOR A RECOGNITION OF HIS SERVICES.

The work done by State Senator John F. Ahearn to have the salaries of Brooklyn school teachers graded up to the standard salaries paid to the teachers in Manhattan is about to be rewarded by the teachers, who are to give the Senator a token of their appreciation.

The Class Teachers' Association has taken the matter up, and at its last meeting the question of a suitable gift for Senator Ahearn was discussed.

President Wamsley of the association said: "We owe considerable credit to Senator Ahearn. In recognition of his services I propose that on the payment of our October checks in November, each teacher subscribe something substantial toward a gift that will be fitting to such a man." The president then suggested that a silver service might be acceptable. As there are twenty-five hundred teachers in the borough who have been benefited by the passage of the Ahearn bill, it is likely that the proposed gift will be a valuable one.

A WEDDING.

Miss Adelaide Hulda Batterman, daughter of Henry Batterman, of No. 360 Clinton-ave., was married last night to Charles Walter Nichols, son of William H. Nichols, of No. 353 Clinton-ave., at the home of her parents. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. T. B. McLeod, pastor of the Clinton Avenue Congregational Church. The maid of honor was Miss Edith Whitney, and the best man was William H. Nichols, Jr., brother of the bridegroom. The wedding was followed by a reception, which was attended by a large number of friends. Mr. and Mrs. Nichols started early in the evening for their honeymoon.

BROOKLYN MEN IN BANKRUPTCY.

Samuel G. Richards, of No. 811 Jefferson-ave., formerly engaged in the stove business, has filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy with the clerk of the United States District Court. His indebtedness is scheduled at $31,252 17, divided among four secured creditors in $11,300 and forty-eight unsecured in $16,676 19, accommodation paper, $3,175 98. No assets are mentioned.

William McDonough, of No. 276 Putnam-ave., was a second petitioner. He has nineteen creditors in $11,113 57. His assets are valued at $50.

Charles F. Guyon, of No. 362 Carlton-ave., formerly in the bicycle business, has nine secured creditors, with claims amounting to $20,835 90, and six others for $9,424 87. The assets are given as $165.

NEW-JERSEY NEWS

A CHANCE IN HUNTERDON.

CONDITION OF THE DEMOCRACY AN OPPORTUNITY FOR REPUBLICANS.

TWO FACTIONS INDUSTRIOUSLY AUCTIONING OFF THEIR SUPPORT—UNSAVORY HISTORY OF DEMOCRATIC OFFICE SEEKING.

Flemington, Oct. 11 (Special).—The Democrats of Hunterdon County are in a snarl. There are two factions, one of which is known as the Pidcock-Bloom faction, and the other as the Lake-Closson contingent. For more than two years they have been reckoning with each other, and they are still reckoning. Face to face they are as smooth and sweet as a red cheeked pippin; behind each other's backs they are as unsympathetic as snarling cats and dogs. The accusations which they make against each other reveal a situation and a condition which challenge credulity and evoke contempt. The breach was made a year ago, and has grown wider ever since. The effort to heal it now depends for success upon a compromise and a dicker. Here is the story of the struggle for supremacy and the result to date:

The two Democratic candidates for County Clerk last year were Andrew Dilts and a man by the name of Closson. Dilts was indorsed by the Pidcock-Bloom faction, and Closson was supported by the Lake-Closson combine. Dilts is said to have spent his money—about $100 of it—freely, and it was thought that he would be nominated. The allegation is made that he would have been nominated had not Closson somehow managed so