

CONSTITUTION AND FLAG

GOVERNMENT'S SIDE PRESENTED BY MR. GRIGGS.

A POSSIBILITY THAT THE COURT'S DECISION MAY NOT TOUCH THE VITAL POINT—THE ARGUMENTS CONTINUED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Dec. 18.—It is possible that, after all the excitement over the cases now on trial in the Supreme Court of the United States to test the doctrine that "the Constitution follows the flag," the vital issue may not be touched at all by the Court in making its decision.

LATEST LONDON COMMENT.

LORD SALISBURY ON THE REHOUSING OF THE MASSES.

YERKES SYNDICATE MAY BE OFFERED MORE CONCESSIONS—ENGLAND WILL WANT A FULL EQUIVALENT FOR ANY RIGHTS GIVEN UP.

[Copyright, 1900, by The New-York Tribune.] [BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.] London, Dec. 19, 6 a. m.—Lord Salisbury rendered an indirect tribute to Earl Rosebery yesterday by bringing up the housing question at the Conservative conference at the Whitehall rooms.

Practical reformers not in politics make no concealment of the fact that philanthropy and municipal socialism have failed to relieve the congested centres of London's population, and that the underground electric transit offers the only practical solution of the housing problem by keeping the millions in the suburbs in touch with their work.

It has been wisely decided not to hold the Thanksgiving service at St. Paul's Cathedral on the return of Lord Roberts from South Africa unless both De Wet and Delarey should happen to be crushed in the mean while.

The British regular army has not enough troops to replace those temporarily lent to it by the auxiliary forces and the colonies, and the Queen has been obliged to ask the militia, yeomanry, volunteers and the Colonial troops to continue their efforts in South Africa.

The campaign on behalf of England's trade is being actively continued by "The Express" and "The Mail."

"The St. James's Gazette" does not conceal its amusement over the idea that it is the duty of the English press to get angry and excited over the process of wrecking the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty.

Lord Strathcona, as Lord Rector of Aberdeen University, has brought up the subject of a representative parliament for the Empire, with a series of local parliaments for England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales.

Mr. Cleveland again talks. COMMENTS EX-PRESIDENT HARRISON'S VIEWS ON EXPANSION.

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 18 (Special).—Ex-President Cleveland, when interviewed to-day by The Tribune correspondent relative to the questions of National interest which are now being agitated throughout the country, said he did not wish to say anything on them, but when asked if he had seen a address delivered by ex-President Harrison at Ann Arbor last Friday, and if he would comment on it, he said:

I saw a liberal synopsis of it in some of the papers, and regard it as the best deliverance yet made on the subject which he discusses. It seems to me that those who desire to acquaint themselves with the precise question involved and what territorial expansion means to our Republic and what it threatens our people with cannot possibly be afforded a better means of enlightenment than ex-President Harrison has furnished.

Replying to a question relating to the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty, Mr. Cleveland said: "I do not care to say anything on that question now. My views on it were given last spring."



THE NEW-YORK CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, TAKEN AT THE CITY HALL YESTERDAY.

TANGLE OVER CHINA NOTE.

CHOATE AND LANSLOWNE CONFER ABOUT CONFLICT OF INSTRUCTIONS.

THE BLAME LAID UPON A CABLE COMPANY, BUT THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE IS ANXIOUS.

London, Dec. 18.—Mr. Choate, the United States Ambassador, had a long conference this afternoon regarding the Chinese situation with the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and subsequently Mr. Henry White, secretary of the United States Embassy, paid a visit to the Foreign Office.

Some explanation, however, was gathered of the extraordinary tangle in which the Chinese negotiations have recently been involved, and some reconciliation of the contradictory telegrams that have emanated from Peking and various European capitals.

Once more the joint note seemed on the verge of signature, when a misunderstanding arose in Peking. This confused the Governments, and formed the subject of the dispatch from Secretary Hay which Mr. Choate transmitted to the Marquis of Lansdowne to-day.

Other officials admit that they gave in under protest and with a distinct reservation that although the demands are irrevocable, this in no way renders necessary an enforcement of the demands by European troops.

A Peking dispatch to "The Pall Mall Gazette," dated December 17, says: The situation has not improved by the representatives of the Powers having reached an agreement, as the scope of the negotiations is limited and the effect is neutralized.

DR. PARKER RAPS AT PRINCE OF WALES.

HE OBJECTS TO HEAR TO THE THRONE FAVORING THE RACECOURSE.

London, Dec. 18.—The Rev. Dr. Joseph Parker, pastor of the City Temple, who has assumed for a week the editorship of "The London Sun," in to-day's issue of the paper, under the heading "Betting and Gambling Forecasts," attacks the Prince of Wales and Lord Rosebery as follows:

Woe to any country in which the heirs to the throne and Prime Ministers favor the racecourse, as exists among us to-day! If princes are guilty if the Premier can blaspheme he has no right to rebuke ribaldry over the street.

TITLES FOR EX-CABINET MINISTERS. London, Dec. 18.—George J. Goschen, who was First Lord of the Admiralty in the late Cabinet, was gazetted to-day Viscount Goschen of Hawkhurst, and Sir Matthew White Ridley, who was Home Secretary in the late Ministry, was gazetted Viscount Ridley, who is also Baron Wensleydale.

THE "PITTSBURGH LIMITED" VIA BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD. Only \$15 first class and \$10 second class. New-York to Pittsburgh via this train. Leave New-York, South Ferry, 6:55 p. m., and Liberty Street 7 p. m., arrive Pittsburgh 8:25 a. m. Pullman Buffet Drawing Room Sleeping Cars. Adv.

MANDAMUS FOR ALDERMEN.

THEY PASS THE HALL OF RECORDS STOCK ISSUE FOR \$2,250,000.

The members of the Board of Aldermen received a letter from the law firm of Philbin, Beekman & Menken, of No. 11 Broadway, yesterday, informing them that a sufficient number would be served with mandamus proceedings to compel them to pass the resolution for the issuing of \$2,250,000 corporate stock of the city for the purpose of erecting the new Hall of Records.

Alderman Muh introduced a resolution providing for a joint committee of the Council and the Board of Aldermen properly to celebrate the advent of the twentieth century. It was adopted. The question of an appropriation of \$5,000 for the purpose was referred to the Finance Committee.

Alderman Downing offered a resolution compelling all street cars in Brooklyn to stop in the centre of all blocks more than three hundred feet in length, the idea being to prevent cars from running at too great a speed.

The resolution providing for a New Year's celebration was introduced by President Guggenheimer, and unanimously adopted. A second resolution by the President, asking the Board of Estimate to appropriate \$2,500 for covering the expenses of the celebration, was adopted.

The Council passed a resolution approving the authorization by the Board of Estimate of the issuance of \$302,540 in high school bonds to provide for the payment for the erection of a new High School of Commerce. The new school will be built in Sixty-fifth-st. and Sixty-sixth-st. between Amsterdam-ave. and Broadway.

COUPE UPSETS A VICTORIA.

VEHICLES CONTAINING SOCIETY WOMEN IN COLLISION IN FIFTH-AVE.

A coupé owned and occupied by Mrs. Billings, who lives in The Lorraine, No. 2 East Forty-fifth-st., and driven by William Sullivan, of No. 100 West Fifty-sixth-st., while being driven south in Fifth-ave., yesterday afternoon, at Fifty-fifth-st., struck a victoria owned and occupied by Mrs. Henry A. C. Taylor, of No. 3 East Seventy-first-st., and driven by her coachman, John Goodwin. Seated with Goodwin was a footman, William Pritchard.

The victoria was lifted on its side, and Mrs. Taylor, Goodwin and Pritchard were thrown to the pavement. The woman and Pritchard escaped injury, but Goodwin received contusions of the right shoulder. The vehicle was righted and refused medical treatment. Mrs. Billings' coupé was uninjured.

LIVES LOST OFF VANCOUVER.

THE STEAMER ALPHA WRECKED AND EIGHT OF THE THIRTY-THREE ON BOARD PERISH.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 18.—News of the worst marine disaster of the season in British Columbia waters was brought here by the steamer Czar from Union Bay, on the east side of Vancouver Island. The steamer Alpha, whose unauthorized trip to Cape Nome last May brought her into trouble with the Treasury Department at Washington, was wrecked on a reef near the entrance to Union Bay, and not a vestige of the steamer remains.

LIVID MELODY. received with favor everywhere—Evans' Ale.—Adv. In a proper temperature Ballantine's India Pale Ale is always brilliant. In any temperature it is the best ale than can be had.—Adv.

COMPLAINS OF VENEZUELA

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL ASPHALT COMPANY SEIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT—A REVOLUTION REPORTED.

A cable message was received yesterday at the office of the National Asphalt Company, No. 11 Broadway, from its agent in Venezuela, which announced that a revolution had broken out in that country. No details were contained in the message.

The revolution, it is said, is probably the outcome of an attempt on the part of the President and Cabinet of Venezuela to deprive American corporations of their property and rights.

The National Asphalt Company will be one of the principal sufferers from this. The company owns large concessions and mining titles in the State of Bermudez, Venezuela. The company has been in actual possession of the Bermudez asphalt lake for twelve years, and in this time it has founded the village of Guanaco, and erected buildings, shops and a railroad.

Several attempts have been made by the Government of Venezuela to cancel the company's concessions, but these attempts have always failed.

At 4 o'clock on December 13 President Castro personally told United States Minister Loomis at Caracas, that two Government commissions had proved the company's right to its property.

The financial interests represented in this matter are so great that we feel justified in asking prompt and positive action upon the part of the United States Government. Every legal remedy has been exhausted, and a failure to intervene will result in great loss to the company.

FIRE TRUCKS HIT BY CARS.

TILLERMEN BADLY HURT AND FIRE-MEN THROWN OFF—WERE GOING TO THE SAME FIRE.

Hook and Ladder Truck No. 21, with quarters at No. 432 West Thirty-sixth-st., was damaged late yesterday afternoon, when a southbound Broadway cable car ran into it at Forty-ninth-st. and Seventh-ave. The dashboard and several windows of the car were smashed, while the side of the truck was broken.

Michael J. Murphy, the tillerman, was knocked off the truck. He was picked up half-unconscious. He had a fractured right hip and a dislocated left shoulder. Dr. Hooker, of Roosevelt Hospital, took him away in an ambulance. Policeman Sinnen arrested James Killculen, twenty-six years old, of No. 416 East Eighty-fifth-st., the driver of the car.

An exactly similar collision between a car and a hook and ladder truck took place at almost the same time, at Madison-ave. and Fifty-third-st. Truck No. 2, with quarters at Fifty-third-st. and Lexington-ave., was responding to the same alarm of fire from No. 776 Seventh-ave., when it crossed Madison-ave. Eight firemen were clinging to the sides, with another at the tiller, and Joseph Arecaneau was driving. The truck was being drawn by three horses at as rapid speed as they could go.

Thomas Foley, motorman on a southbound electric car, did not see the truck till it was almost on the tracks. He tried to stop the car, but could not prevent the collision. The car hit the truck in the side and overturned it. The firemen jumped to save themselves, some of them rolling over as they fell. Arecaneau was thrown to the street and the horses tried to run away. The firemen prevented them. Fireman Edward Ryan had a severely bruised wrist, and Arecaneau was bruised. They were taken home after a surgeon had treated them.

BOY GARROTTED BY A CARTWHEEL.

IT PASSES OVER HIS NECK, AND CAUSES ALMOST INSTANT DEATH.

An unknown boy, who was later identified as Enrico Robal, six years old, of No. 224 East One-hundred-and-seventh-st., while crossing One-hundred-and-eighth-st., at Second-ave., yesterday afternoon ran into a dirt cart driven by William Toone, thirty-three years old, of No. 311 East One-hundred-and-third-st., and was knocked down.

Before Toone could stop his horses the rear wheel of the cart had passed over Robal's neck, breaking it. An ambulance was summoned from Harlem Hospital, but before the boy could be taken there he died. Toone was locked up in the East One-hundred-and-fourth-st. station.

MOROCCO PAYS ADEMNITY.

AMERICAN CLAIM ON ACCOUNT OF THE EZAQUIN MURDER SETTLED.

Washington, Dec. 18.—A message from Consul-General Guinnere at Tangier informs the State Department that the Moorish Government has settled the claim of the United States for \$5,000 indemnity on account of the murder of Marcus Ezaquin, a naturalized American citizen, in Morocco last spring.

THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE LIMIT REACHED. EVANS' ALE AND EVANS' STOUT.—Adv. "ALWAYS ALL WRITE."

BIG ENROLLED MEMBERSHIP.

ANTI-TAMMANY DEMOCRATS EXPECT TO HAVE FORTY THOUSAND ON THEIR LISTS—CALL FOR A MASS MEETING TO BE ISSUED SOON.

The work of organizing the anti-Tammany Democratic forces in New-York is moving quietly, but in a most satisfactory way. Ex-Senator Hill is advising the Democrats who are the leaders in this movement, although he intends to take no active part in the work of organization or in the municipal campaign.

"Within forty days after our mass meeting we expected to have an enrolled membership of 40,000," said one of the prominent leaders of the movement yesterday. "This enrollment will be our General Committee. That is the biggest General Committee any organization ever had. It will be made up not only of anti-Tammany Democrats, but also of men who have heretofore affiliated with Tammany. We expect to draw a good part of our strength from within Tammany. In the mean time there are a half dozen political organizations like the O'Brien Democrats, the Single Taxers and so on who are ready to come in with us at the right time. They are doing good work in organizing and keeping the people stirred up."

TO BOOM NO CANDIDATE.

INSTRUCTIONS FROM MESSRS. PLATT AND ODELL TO DISTRICT LEADERS

AND ODELL TO DISTRICT LEADERS

—"DOWN TAMMANY" THE CRY

—CONFERENCES TO-DAY.

Senator Platt and Governor-elect Odell recently have told the Assembly district leaders in this city to refrain from booming any particular candidate for the Mayoralty nomination, as the situation demanded a union candidate next fall, and that in no circumstances must there be a repetition of 1897. The disastrous consequences of that campaign have apparently made a lasting impression. The keynote at all of the dinners of the district associations, which are now being held so frequently, is "Down Tammany" and little is said about candidates.

On more than one occasion recently Senator Platt has assured his friends that the Republican organization would do all that could be asked in the way of uniting upon a strong candidate, and that he would personally be willing to support a Sound Money Democrat if it should seem to be necessary.

Governor-elect Odell and State Chairman George W. Dunn are expected at State headquarters to-day. Mr. Odell, if he comes to town from Newburg, will probably attend the XXXVth District dinner, under the direction of Edward Healy, at Martelli's, in One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st., to-night. He may also attend the Gruber dinner, in the XXIIst District, at Colonial Hall, One-hundred-and-first-st. and Columbus-ave.

Mr. Odell, Colonel Dunn and ex-Justice William N. Cohen will probably have a conference to-day to talk over the police bills drawn by Mr. Cohen. Mr. Odell's friends say that before the bill is introduced giving the Governor power to remove the Police Commissioner in this city without charges, he wants to satisfy himself that it is constitutional. There is no doubt in the minds of the leaders that Governor Odell will sign the "organization" police bill, whether its features exactly coincide with his views or not, because of his alleged conviction that something must be done toward reorganizing the Police Department in this city. At the same time, he wants a bill as nearly unobjectionable as possible.

THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTENTION.

Continuing, the Attorney-General said:

The Government contends, therefore, that in view of the fact that tariff laws are in rem, there is no principle of justice, much less of constitutional restriction, which forbids Congress from taxing in this way the merchandise of outlying possessions of the United States when brought into the ports of the Union; that the limitations of the Constitution as to customs, etc., were intended to secure equality between the States in the geographical sense, and not to forbid Congress from exercising the ordinary sovereign power of taxation as to the products of other sections of country not included within the geographical boundaries of the States; for which we rely upon the opinion of this court in Knowlton vs. Moore as decisive and conclusive.

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THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE LIMIT REACHED. EVANS' ALE AND EVANS' STOUT.—Adv.

"ALWAYS ALL WRITE."

The write thing in the right place is a Waterman Ideal Fountain Pen among your holiday selections. All dealers, or Waterman's, 137 E. 42nd-st., Adv.

SPEAKING OF BLOCK SIGNALS.

"The New York Central has, firstly, the interlocking system, superadded to this, secondly, the union of the lock and block system (Skye),—Extracted from an address of Mr. John P. O'Donnell, the English expert on block signals, before the American Society of Civil Engineers.—Adv.

A WELL EQUIPPED BREWERY. With an up-to-date clientele refers to C. H. Evans & Sons, Hudson, New York.—Adv.

The doctor's best prescription for Colds is JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT.—Adv.