# New-York Tribune.

VOL. LXI....No. 20,142. NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1902.—FOURTEEN PAGES.— Copyright, 1902, by The Tribune Association. PRICE THREE CENTS.


## CANAL FIGHT BEGINS.

### *NICARAGUA BILL TAKEN UP IN THE HOUSE.*

MR. HEPBURN ATTACKS THE PANAMA PROJECT—GREAT INTEREST IN THE FRENCH COMPANY'S OFFER.

Washington, Jan. 7.—The debate on the Nicaragua Canal bill in the House was opened in a lively fashion to-day by Mr. Hepburn, of Iowa, chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, which reported the bill. For two hours he held the floor, replying to a volley of questions concerning the recent offer of the Panama Canal Company to sell its property and franchises to the United States for $40,000,000. The interest in the debate centred almost entirely in this new phase of the subject. Mr. Hepburn maintained that the new offer of the Panama company was part of the plan of delay. All his utterances along that line were liberally applauded. He pointed out what he thought was the suspicious circumstance that the Panama company held out for $109,000,000 until it was decided, before the holiday recess, to consider the Nicaragua bill, and then suddenly dropped the price to $40,000,000.

Mr. Morris, of Minnesota, gave notice that at the proper time he would offer an amendment to authorize the President, if he could procure the property and rights of the Panama Company for $40,000,000, if concessions could be procured from Colombia, and if the Walker commission so recommended, to purchase and proceed to complete the Panama Canal. The other speakers to-day were Messrs. Davis, of Florida; Richardson, of Alabama; Mann, of Illinois, and Adams, of Pennsylvania.

RAILROADS AND PANAMA.

The first notes of the contest between the Nicaragua and Panama routes for the isthmian canal were heard in the Senate to-day. Mr. Morgan offered and secured the adoption of a resolution which indicated his purpose to have the Committee on Interoceanic Canals inquire into the relations alleged to exist between the transcontinental railroad companies of the United States and Canada and the Panama Canal Company. In explanation of the resolution Mr. Morgan declared that the alleged relations were a "wicked monopoly," which already had cost the people of the Pacific Coast millions of dollars. The relations involve the control by the Panama Canal Company of the Panama Railroad Company and the agreement existing between certain railroads of the United States and the Pacific Mail Steamship Company.

The Senate Committee on Interoceanic Canals has decided to defer all effort to secure action by the Senate on the question of a canal across the isthmus of Panama until after the House has disposed of the bill now under consideration there.

### *CANAL DEBATE IN DETAIL.*

MR. HEPBURN EXPLAINS HIS BILL AND ARGUES FOR NICARAGUA ROUTE.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Without preliminary business the House went into Committee of the Whole, with Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio, in the chair, to-day for consideration of the Nicaragua Canal bill, and Mr. Hepburn, of Iowa, chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, which reported the bill, took the floor to open the debate. He said that the subject of a waterway across the isthmus connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans had been in the minds of the people of the world for more than four hundred years. Thirty-seven States had instructed their delegations in Congress to support a bill for an interoceanic waterway; all political parties had aligned themselves in favor of it; the subject had been discussed in Congress, scientific societies, the newspapers, and on the hustings until there was now a volume of literature on the subject never before devoted to a single project.

Mr. Hepburn said that the report of the Walker Commission gave careful consideration to every feature of the work. The bill submitted by his committee proposed to concentrate all authority in the hands of the President. It opened no opportunity for defunct statesmen or the pensioning of persons who had been passed in the race of life. It gave the United States authority to protect, defend and operate the canal. In view of all the reports submitted, there could now be no question in the mind of any well informed man of the feasibility and practicability of an interoceanic canal.

THE PANAMA COMPANY'S OPERATIONS.

Referring to the efforts of the Panama Canal Company to build a canal by private enterprise, he summed them up as follows:

The company raised $256,000,000 by the sale of $65,000,000 of bonds, and after eight years the managers of the company found themselves with the work less than one-fourth completed, penniless and bankrupt in money and character.

The disaster to this company, he said, proved conclusively that the work should be undertaken by governmental agency. There was not an atom of work in general engineering yet to be done. In regard to feasibility and practicability, no enterprise that had ever received the attention of man had been so conclusively proved. If the pending bill became a law the work could begin at once and should be completed in eight years. Mr. Hepburn said that as a commercial venture the commission's figures of 7,000,000 tons could be safely taken. At the latter figure the total revenue at the Suez rate would be $14,000,000, enough to meet the cost of maintenance ($3,500,000) and leave over $10,000,000 to meet interest charges.

NICARAGUA ROUTE'S ADVANTAGES.

Mr. Hepburn pointed out the advantages of the Nicaragua route for sailing vessels on account of the better winds prevailing there, contending that it was a mistake to suppose that the sailing ship was destined to disappear from the ocean. Where the Panama route was located sailing ships sometimes lay for five months in the doldrums.

When Mr. Hepburn said he had hoped that the proposed waterway would be free of charge to American ships there was an outburst of applause on the Republican side. If that might be done, he said, it would give a great impetus to American shipping. In closing Mr. Hepburn said there might be some interests in the United States which believed they would be harmed by the rivalry of this canal, and there were men of honest purpose who thought the time was not ripe for the building of the canal or that an enterprise of such magnitude should not be undertaken. They were perhaps terrified by the spectre of scandal. "But," he said, "I insist that the American people have made their decree that the caanl shall be built and that now is the time to build it." (Applause.)

UNDER A FIRE OF QUESTIONS.

After Mr. Hepburn had finished his set speech he was besieged with questions.

Mr. Shafroth, of Colorado—I should like to know what is the gentleman's construction upon this bill and upon the late treaty that has been ratified as to the power of the United States to fortify the canal?

Mr. Hepburn—I have not any doubt about the right of the United States to defend that canal and

(Continued on Third Page.)


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SCENES CONNECTED WITH YESTERDAY'S CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION.

MONTAGUE LESSLER.
The successful candidate.

IN FRONT OF THE POLLING PLACE AT NO. 20 FULTON ST.

THE VOTING PLACE AT NO. 10 WASHINGTON-ST., IN THE BATTERY ELECTION DISTRICT.

## CHINESE RULERS RETURN

### *EMPEROR AND EMPRESS DOWAGER AGAIN IN PEKING.*

SCENES OF SPLENDOR IN THE FORBIDDEN CITY—FOREIGNERS VIEW PROCESSION.

Peking, Jan. 7.—The re-entrance of the Chinese Emperor into Peking to-day was the most remarkable episode in the annals of the dynasty, save the flight of the Chinese court when Peking was bombarded by the allied forces.

The spectacular phases of the return of the court exceeded expectations. The procession was a sort of glorified Lord Mayor's show, and was a bewildering and barbaric exhibition of Oriental tinselled splendor.

The chief significance was the complete effacement of the traditional deification of Chinese royalty. Foreigners received greater facilities to witness the ceremonial than would have been afforded to them at most European courts.

A CHANGE IN POLICY.

The scene at the Chien Gate when the Emperor and Empress Dowager entered the temple to offer thanks for their safe journey was nothing less than revolutionary, when viewed in the light of all Chinese customs. The horseshoe wall forming the ancient gate was crowded with Europeans, diplomats, army officers, missionaries, photographers and correspondents. When the Emperor and the Empress Dowager arrived at the temple the procession halted and their majesties alighted from their chairs, which were covered with imperial yellow silk and lined with sables.

The Emperor proceeded to the Temple of the God of War, on the west side of the plaza, with hundreds of foreigners peering down forty feet above him, and dozens of cameras were focused upon the "Son of Heaven." When he returned his chair was borne through the gate.

SALUTATIONS TO FOREIGNERS.

Then the chair of the Empress Dowager was brought to the doorway of the Temple of the Goddess of Mercy, on the east side of the plaza, and the Empress Dowager appeared. Amid a great scuffling of attendants she entered the temple on the arms of two officials, followed by a company of Buddhist priests bearing offerings. The spectators then heard the tolling of the temple bell. After an interval of five minutes the Empress Dowager reappeared. Standing in the doorway of the temple, she looked upward. Directly overhead were the German Minister, Dr. Mumm von Schwartzenstein, the secretaries of the German Legation and the officers and women from the American garrison.

The Empress Dowager saw the foreigners and bowed low. She advanced a few steps and bowed again in acknowledgment of the salutations of the foreigners. She returned to her chair, looking upward to the semi-circle of foreign faces and bowing repeatedly.

COOLIES GAZE ON ROYALTY.

In the mean time the Chinese soldiers, Manchu bannermen and minor officials who had crowded the Plaza were reverently kneeling. The two arches at the sides of the ancient gateway framed hundreds of faces of Chinese coolies who, emboldened by the presence of foreigners, ventured to gaze upon their rulers. This incident made a sharp contrast with the old regime, when neither diplomats nor natives were permitted to view the passage of royal personages along the streets.

The expression of the Empress Dowager seemed almost appealing as she faced those who had humbled her from her former arrogance, and confirmed the impression that she is returning to Peking with anxiety for her safety.

The streets, from the Machiapo Station to the gateway of the Forbidden City, a distance of four miles, were swept and garnished early this morning. The great plaza between the Temples of Heaven and Agriculture was sprinkled with yellow sand. Residents were compelled to remain indoors. The soldiers and the police formed a close cordon along both sides of this entire distance. A sharp wind, bringing sand from the Mongolian Desert, blinded the spectators.

AN IMPOSING PROCESSION.

The special train bearing the Emperor and the Empress Dowager, composed of twenty-two cars, was preceded by a pilot engine, and arrived here shortly after noon. The engine and the Emperor's cars had been decorated with yellow silk dragons by the British railroad officers. Two companies of Chinese cavalry, mounted on white horses, and two companies astride horses from Australia, were drawn up at the sides of the station. Two thousand officials, princes, viceroys and Taotais, in a kaleidoscopic field of silks and furs, in which gleamed an occasional yellow jacket, were massed upon the platform. When the Emperor appeared the entire assemblage prostrated itself, and remained kneeling until his majesty had taken his place in his chair. At the station the Empress Dowager summoned the traffic manager, Mr. Foley, and the superintendent, Mr. Moffat, of the railroad, the latter man having driven the engine which drew the special train, and presented them to the Emperor, who thanked them for their services.

## THE KING IN GOOD HEALTH

BRITISH RULER'S INTEREST IN BUSINESS OF STATE.

FOREIGN TRADE—SOUTH AFRICAN INTERESTS—KIPLING CRITICISED.

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[BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

London, Jan. 8, 1 a. m.—The King's health is all that can be desired, if the court officials speak without reserve. He refers constantly to the subject himself, and seems bent upon preventing a revival of the sinister rumors which cost the tradesmen heavily when they were insuring the coronation stocks. What was once known as "the Prince of Wales's set" has been restored to favor, if it were ever in danger of being excluded from the court, and the Queen welcomes at Sandringham all the King's old time friends.

The King is described by officials as following closely his mother's manner in dealing with public business. He makes it a matter of conscience to read every document carefully, and to ask for information if he does not fully understand it. He takes every detail of the business of reigning as seriously and methodically as she was in the habit of doing, and uses many of her characteristic expressions.

The first rehearsal of the royal procession for the opening of Parliament in full state was conducted yesterday with painstaking care. A heavy brake was used in place of the pompous state coach, but otherwise it was an undress replica of the approaching function, with cream ponies, postillions, outriders, walking men and the Yeomen of the Guard in line.

Political gossips are talking about the possibility of a break up of the Ministry on the educational question after the coronation, but these rumors hardly deserve serious discussion. There can be no riding for a fall during the year reserved for royal functions and pageants. The Prime Minister is a weary Titan, with failing sight and impaired memory, whose heart is no longer in his work, and the ministers are jaded and stale, but they must plod on until the coronation is over and the war ended.

Lord Rosebery will entertain Cecil Rhodes at Mentmore for a few days, and will be brought into closer touch with the situation in South Africa. Speculators in mining shares are anxious to impress foreigners with the fact that there is a boom in the Kaffir market. Prices have advanced intermittently during the last few weeks, but the movement is artificial, with speculative purchase with borrowed money rather than solid investments. Operators eager to work up excitement in the Kaffir market refer to the increased demand for shares from Paris and New-York, but the evidence of foreign investment is tainted with suspicion. The market is always strengthened when Mr. Rhodes is in London, for his optimism is infectious. Money is now cheap in the city, and speculative purchases of shares are easily financed.

Sir Edward Grey, speaking at Newcastle last night, eulogized Lord Rosebery's Chesterfield pronouncement. He advocated a large measure of amnesty for the rebels of Cape Colony, and this view is also taken by "The Morning Post," which is usually a thick and thin supporter of the government's consideration of precedents adopted during the American Civil War suggests to "The Post" that when the operations in South Africa come to an end the theory of treason should not be pressed.

Official statistics of the foreign trade of the United Kingdom for 1901 are published. These figures show a decrease both in imports and exports. The year's imports were valued at £522,238,986, a decrease of £836,177; and the exports at £280,498,889, a decrease of £10,693,107. The falling off in exports is mainly accounted for by the lower value of coal. In 1900, 46,000,000 tons of coal, valued at £38,500,000, were exported, and in 1901 43,750,000 tons, valued at £30,250,000, were exported.

Mr. Kipling's sneer in "The Islanders" at the national games of Great Britain has raised a storm of protest. One of those whom he describes as "flanneled fools at the wickets," retaliates by calling him "a spectacled fool with an inkpot and a muddy brained oaf with the pen."

Great interest is taken here in the arrival of Mr. Whitney's Derby candidate, which has been mentioned in the betting at 10 to 1. Nasturtium and his companion, the Peg Woffington colt, have arrived in the Thames in good condition. They will be landed this morning, and will be immediately conveyed to Huggins's stable at Newmarket.

George Alexander revived last night, at St. James's Theatre, the witty play, "The Importance of Being Earnest," and the audience was evidently pleased with the brightness of the lines and the lightness of touch of the actors. The next opening night of real importance will be at the Avenue Theatre, where Martin Harvey will impersonate Eugene Aram in a new play by Wills and Langbridge, entitled "After All." Mr. Harvey will produce this play in America next autumn.

I. N. F.


ICE BRIDGE AT NIAGARA FALLS.

Nothing like it anywhere. The New York Central is the direct route. Frost effects are beautiful.—Advt.


## HYNES TO KNOW WHY.

### *INVESTIGATING DELAY IN BUILDING CITY PRISON.*

HORGAN & SLATTERY THE SUPERVISING ARCHITECTS—COST OF THE BUILDING LIKELY TO BE MORE THAN $1,300,000.

An investigation of the delay in the construction of the new City Prison, in Centre-st., on the site of the old Tombs, was begun yesterday by Thomas W. Hynes, the new Commissioner of Correction. There are many observing people in the city who would not be astonished if he unearthed more than one scandal of the recent Tammany administration in finding out why it takes more than five years to construct a new prison for the city. The work has been dragged along in a way to cause both amazement and disgust among competent architects and builders. The delay has been accompanied by increased expense of construction, not counting the interest on the city's money that has been lost.

The late Tammany administration found the building well under way. It might have completed it and had it occupied two years ago, at a cost not exceeding $800,000. It took the work of supervision out of the hands of competent architects and turned it over to Horgan & Slattery. The firm favored by the Van Wyck administration proceeded to change plans, undo and do over work already performed, and delay construction and increase its cost. The result is that the building is in an unfinished state at the end of Mayor Van Wyck's term, and cannot be completed for some months, and the cost of the building probably will much exceed $1,300,000. The building was planned in the administration of Mayor Strong as one urgently needed on account of the overcrowded condition of the Tombs.

The plans of Withers & Dickson, the original architects of the new building, were accepted in 1896, and in the spring of 1897 the work of tearing down that part of the Tombs fronting in Centre-st. was begun. The work of clearing the site, digging the excavations and rearing the walls of the new prison went on rapidly under Withers & Dickson's supervision, until Tammany officials appointed Horgan & Slattery to supervise the construction. Then began the changes of plans, which involved increased cost and delays. Eighteen months ago Mr. Dickson complained of the work of the Tammany architects. They had ordered much extra and unnecessary weight in the interior of the building, with a large amount of ornamental work entirely out of place in a prison, he said, in order to get the supervising architect of the Department of Buildings to order an increase of strength of the supporting iron work. As Horgan & Slattery were to receive 5 per cent on all work done in the building, he added, it was profitable for them to make costly changes in the building. The architects made no reply to the criticism at the time.

To the original appropriation of $460,000 for the building was added a second appropriation of a round half million, and later there was a demand for a third appropriation of $350,000. Then Horgan & Slattery decided that the foundations of the rear wall of the building must be taken out, to make more space for a boiler room. Mr. Dickson refused to approve the construction of the rear wall, but Mr. Lantry, the Tammany Commissioner of Correction, accepted it for the city, and enabled the builder to get $30,000.

Armstrong & Bolton, who had a contract for installing an electric light and heating plant in the building at $93,000, failed in business, and abandoned the contract. The lowest bid which Mr. Lantry could get for completing the contract was $172,780, or almost double the figure at which Mayor Strong's Commissioner of Correction had let the contract.

For more than a year operations in the building have been apparently nearly at a standstill. Workmen have been employed there all the time, but what they have accomplished is regarded by some observers of the snaillike progress of the work as something of a mystery. Commissioner Hynes said yesterday that he intended to find out why the work had been allowed to lag so long, and to push it to completion with as much speed as possible.

The city needs the new prison badly. For some years before the late Tammany administration, and all through that administration, the overcrowding of prisoners awaiting trial and compelled to stay in the Tombs has been regarded as a disgrace to the city. At some times trials of prisoners in the Tombs were delayed until the wardens were obliged to lock two, three or four persons in a single cell. There are 290 cells in the old prison. There were 418 prisoners in them yesterday, although District Attorney Philbin kept the courts in the Criminal Courts Building going in the recent holiday week and District Attorney Jerome has kept them busy since New Year's Day trying prison cases. Some important cases have been kept out of the criminal courts recently, in order that more of the less important prison cases could be disposed of and the number of prisoners in the Tombs reduced.

Mention of Horgan & Slattery was made several times yesterday at a meeting of the Armory Board in the Mayor's office, and Mayor Low asked, "Are Horgan & Slattery the architects of this board?"

He was informed that the board had no regular architects, but it had given some jobs to the Tammany firm.

"I wish," said the Mayor to the secretary, significantly, "that you would give me a list of all the work these architects are engaged in for the city just at present."

# LESSLER BEATS BELMONT.

### *REPUBLICAN ELECTED IN STRONGLY DEMOCRATIC VIITH DISTRICT BY TAMMANY DEFECTION.*

EX-ALDERMAN WELLING AND OTHERS ARRESTED.

THE RESULT IN DETAIL.

| ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS. | LESSLER (Rep.). | BELMONT (Dem.). | WARD (S. D.). | LINDINGER (I. D.). | BENNET (G.N.Y.D.) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| First | 1,217 | 1,843 | 7 | 30 | 15 |
| Second | 117 | 489 | 3 | 40 | 1 |
| Third | 784 | 1,594 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| Richmond | 5,559 | 3,357 | 94 | 62 | 164 |
| Totals | 7,677 | 7,283 | 107 | 135 | 182 |

HOW IT STOOD IN 1900.

The vote for Congressman in the VIIth District in 1900 was as follows: James R. O'Beirne (Rep.), 3,205; Nicholas Muller (Dem.), 6,933; Bert Clark (Socialist Labor), 48; William H. Depuy (Prohibition), 17; Muller's plurality, 3,728.

## FRAUD AT POLLS ALLEGED.

TWO REPEATERS ARRESTED AND MAKE CONFESSIONS.

Tammany captains in the Manhatan end of the VIIth Congress District made desperate efforts yesterday to secure the election of Perry Belmont by purchasing illegal votes, with the result that deputies of John McCullagh, State Superintendent of Elections, nabbed about a dozen men who were trying to vote illegally early in the day and arrested ex-Alderman Joseph Welling and John E. Pye on the charge of paying for fraudulent votes. The arrests created consternation among the repeaters and their leaders, and probably stopped enough unlawful voting to permit the election of Mr. Lessler. Mr. McCullagh had information yesterday that the Tammany captains expected to gain as many as 800 illegal votes for Belmont by repeating, and Mr. Lessler won with a margin of less than half that number of votes.

The arrests of Welling and Pye followed the arrests of James Murphy and William Hartrick, two hired repeaters, who made confessions as soon as they were caught trying to vote in the names of other presons registered in the IIId Assembly Distorict. Hartrick, who is a hard character and an ex-convict, made an interesting confession when he was taken to Superintendent McCullagh's office. He said he had been hired for repeating purposes by Welling at the Astor House on Monday, and was told to be at Welling's saloon, in West Houston-st., "with the bunch" early yesterday morning. He went there at 6 a. m. and found other men there. Welling, according to Hartrick, said to him: "I'll give you the first jump out of the box." He took him to an election booth, says Hartrick, and handed to him a slip of paper with the name Coleman and an address in Houston-st. written on it. Welling is alleged to have given him a two-dollar bill.

"Is this all I'm to make out of it?" Hartrick asked. "Mr. Belmont has lots of money, and you seem to be pretty cheap sports over here."

Then, Hartrick said, Welling replied: "Well, you go over and see Jack Pye and you can do more business with him. Maybe you can do eight or ten over there. I gave him two hundred and fifty. Ain't he spending it?"

Hartrick said he saw Pye, who promptly hired him for more repeating, but just as "the bunch was lined up" at an election booth Hartrick was arrested by a deputy, and "Pye got cold feet and run around the block."

Murphy confessed that he had been hired by Pye for repeating purposes. When Welling was arrested he had $151 in small bills and several Belmont watcher's certificates in his pockets. Pye had $22 in small bills and several watcher's certificates in his pockets. At the Jefferson Market court Welling and Pye were held in $2,000 bail each for examination on Thursday on the charge of aiding and abetting illegal voting. Several alleged fraudulent voters were held at the same court by Magistrate Olmsted for examination on Thursday. Murphy and Hartrick were held for examination, too, but they may be used as witnesses, as they appeared to be willing to tell all they knew after they were caught. Welling and Pye gave bail. They refused to talk about their arrest and got out of court as quickly as possible.

Perry Belmont declined to talk about the arrests yesterday afternoon, but his manager, John Trainor, said: "Mr. Belmont is not responsible for everything that happens in the district. He does not know these men, and he did not control their actions."

"Did Welling or Pye visit Mr. Belmont yesterday?"

"I don't think Welling was in Mr. Belmont's room more than four times during the whole campaign."

Mr. Belmont's campaign managers issued a statement last night saying that there was nothing unusual in the fact that ex-Alderman Welling had a number of watchers' certificates signed by Mr. Belmont in his pocket at the time of his arrest, as watchers were required by law to have such certificates signed by the candidate.

### *MANY LOST IN MINE CAVE-IN.*

FROM THIRTEEN TO SEVENTEEN MEN BELIEVED TO BE DEAD.

Negaunee, Mich., Jan. 7.—From thirteen to seventeen miners are thought to have lost their lives as the result of a cave-in at the bottom of the old shaft at the Negaunee mine to-day. One body has been recovered.

Hundreds of men are at the mine eager to help in the work of rescue, but it is thought the other bodies cannot be found within twenty-four hours.

The Negaunee is considered one of the most unlucky properties in the Lake Superior district. It was at this mine that $1,000,000 was recently expended to sink a shaft to the ledge.

### *CARINA'S TRIAL BEGINS.*

AUSTRIAN CAPTAIN PLEADS NOT GUILTY TO CHARGE OF SELLING STATE SECRETS.

Vienna, Jan. 7.—The trial began here to-day behind closed doors of Captain Carina, of the Austrian Cavalry, who has been dubbed the "Austrian Dreyfus," on the charge of divulging military secrets to the French Government, from which he is alleged to have received £2,000. The captain pleaded not guilty, and declared he had never possessed or had access to the information which he was charged with selling to France.

### *TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.*

Huntington, W. Va., Jan. 7.—It is announced that this city will erect an $80,000 free library building. Andrew Carnegie telegraphed to-day that he would give $25,000 toward the institution.

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 7.—Cole and James Younger have applied to the State Board of Pardons for commutation of their life sentences for murder to thirty-five years. Allowing "good time" they have already served thirty-six years for their share in the Northfield raid. They say that friends are ready to set them up in business in Missouri, their old home. They are now out on parole, and cannot leave Minnesota.

Cleveland, Jan. 7.—The three-cent street railroad fare ordinance recently introduced in the City Council at the instigation of Mayor Johnson was passed by that body last night. The next step will be to bid for the new lines, which, if the programe is carried through, will add a number of new street car routes to the city's system.


The best Cough medicine is PIKE'S EXPECTORANT.—Advt.


## CRUSHING FOR BELMONT.

HE AND HIS FRIENDS OVERWHELMED—LIVELY CELEBRATION FOR LESSLER.

Montague Lessler, the Republican and anti-Tammany candidate for Congress in the VIIth Congress District, was triumphantly elected yesterday by a plurality of 394, pulling down a normal plurality of 4,000 in what is generally considered to be one of the safest Democratic Congress districts in New-York City. No Republican ever carried the district before as at present constituted. It was the first time that Mr. Lessler ever ran for office, and last night he was the political hero of the hour.

His victory over Perry Belmont, who at the last had the technically united support of Tammany Hall and the Greater New-York Democracy, was celebrated all through the lower part of Manhattan and on Staten Island last night with parades, fireworks and speeches. Mr. Belmont's defeat was a terrific surprise to him and his friends. The police returns at 10 o'clock last night gave the vote in the various Assembly districts making up the VIIth Congress District as shown in the table at the head of this article.

BEATEN BY TAMMANY DEFECTIONS.

Mr. Belmont was defeated by defections from the Tammany ranks all along the line. The knifing was particularly noticeable in the Ist Assembly District, which he carried by only six hundred, while it usually gives three thousand. Richmond County, which is generally considered a "standoff" between the big parties, under the skilful management of Borough President George Cromwell gave a rousing Republican plurality of 2,202. Tammany men deserted the regular organization in the Ist Assembly District, where ex-Police Commissioner Michael C. Murphy is the leader, in shoals to support Lessler. So fearful were Mr. Croker's friends in the Ist District that "Battery Dan" Finn would accomplish the overthrow of Murphy that some of the Tammany election district captains worked shoulder to shoulder with Republicans in order to defeat Belmont.

This was not the case, however, in Colonel Murphy's own election district, the XIIIth. In order to show his stanch regularity he carried the district by the usual plurality of nearly one hundred and fifty.

Mr. Lessler received election returns last night in company with Secretary George R. Manchester, Phillip Doblin and other members of the County Committee at No. 1 Madison-ave. The early returns were a little bit discouraging, as they were all from the Tammany strongholds. As soon as the Richmond County election districts were heard from, however, it was seen that the result would be close. By 8:30 o'clock enough districts had reported to make Lessler's friends sure of the result. Scores of Republicans visited the new Congressman and congratulated him.

The welcome of the night, however, was down in the Ist Assembly District, where the Republicans have a headquarters at No. 41 North Moore-st. Here is where the Belmont men had spent money with a lavish hand. The sum of $135 was distributed in each election district to man the polls. The distribution was as follows: Finn Democrats, $50; Greater New-York Democrats, $50; Murphy Democrats, $25; Citizens' Union, $10. As against this, the Republicans had $30 to a district.

LIFTED OFF HIS FEET.

The elected Congressman started from the Republican County Committee rooms at 8 o'clock, stopping at the IIId Assembly District headquarters, in St. Luke's Place, where he was welcomed by Frederick Haldy and hundreds of enthusiastic Republicans. At 9 o'clock his automobile whirled into the dimly lighted North Moore-st., where the population is largely made up of stalwart laboring men, employed around the docks and at trucking. His feet no sooner touched the pavement than he was lifted bodily above the heads of the crowd and shoved into the doorway of the club. He wore a blue flannel shirt, his derby hat was half covered with mud and was jammed in at the top from too much handling, but his boyish face was wreathed with smiles as he faced the throng, and made the following speech:

Fellow citizens of the Ist Assembly District: I am grateful and very proud of the opportunity to talk to the people of the VIIth Congress District to-night. Whether Republicans or Democrats, you are all my people, and I want to pledge you this—every one of you may come to me at any time, and if I can help any man among you you may command my services. I owe my election to you, and my course as a Congressman will demonstrate that I am your friend.

I don't feel that my election was any personal victory of my own. The victory was due to the spirit of manhood possessed by the stalwart voters of this Congress district. The verdict at the polls to-day meant that you are the kind of men who will wipe out of politics any man, whatever his name, who seeks election at your hands by unworthy methods. The election to-day means that the voters of this district resent the imputation that they can be herded or rounded up like cattle. Now, I'm very tired, but very happy and grateful, and I shall try to make you proud of the honor that you have conferred upon me to-day. I bid you goodnight and Godspeed.

Inside the club brief speeches were made by Frederick Haldy, Martin Healy, leader of the district; Philip Doblin, Joseph Murphy, and others. Mr. Lessler was not willing to go away from the club until he had personally greeted Antonio Dalessandro, the Republican captain of the Fifteenth Election District, which rolled up a Lessler majority of ninety yesterday.

Mr. Lessler and his party stopped at Pearl-st. and Park Row, in the IId Assembly District, to greet constituents, after which he went to Tompkinsville, where the scenes which were enacted in North Moore-st. were repeated at a rousing rally of Staten Islanders.

A VICTORY FOR PRINCIPLE.

When asked how it seemed to be a Congressman, Mr. Lessler said:

"I can only say the greatest honor of my life has come to me, and I am profoundly stirred with gratitude. I realize that my personality was a minor factor in the contest. The result is a splendid victory for principle. The Republican party of New-York owes now a greater debt of gratitude to the citizens of the VIIth Congress District and to the newspapers of