UNITE TO FIGHT TAMMANY.

BUT G. N. Y. D., THE INDEPENDENT DEMOCRACY AND BRYAN LEAGUE WILL SUPPORT REGULAR STATE TICKET.

Conference committees representing the Greater New-York Democracy, the Independent Democracy and the Bryan Democratic League met yesterday in the Mills Building and formed a working union for the primaries in September. It was agreed that all these factions should support the regular Democratic ticket next fall, and that they should not take part in the Liberal Democratic State Convention to be held in this city. The parties to the conference were:

Independent Democracy—Wheeler H. Peckham, Robert L. Harrison, John P. Kelly, Chalmers Wood, Adam Frank and Simon C. Noot.

Greater New-York Democracy—John C. Sheehan, William Hepburn Russell, A. L. F. Seligsburg, Rastus S. Ransom, Matthew P. Breen, E. Ellery Anderson and L. J. B. Lincoln.

Bryan Democratic League—A. C. MacNulty, M. G. Palliser, P. H. Maher, A. R. Rea, J. J. Kelly, Robert H. Miller and George A. Hunter.

Wheeler H. Peckham was elected chairman of the conference. After an extended discussion the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this conference that the Independent Democracy and the Bryan Democratic League unite with the Greater New-York Democracy for the purpose of defeating the present management of Tammany Hall; that seven members from each of the organizations be added to the executive committee of the Greater New-York Democracy; that the chairmanship of the general committee of the Greater New-York Democracy, to be organized on Tuesday evening next, be conceded to the Independent Democracy; that the vice-chairmanship be conceded to the Bryan Democratic League, and that the question of platform be referred to a committee of two from each organization, to be appointed by the chairman at this meeting.

Chairman Peckham appointed the following committee on organization and platform: William Hepburn Russell, Matthew P. Breen, Chalmers Wood, Adam Frank, Melvin G. Palliser and P. H. Maher. The platform committee will meet Saturday night at the Broadway Democratic Club and issue a statement.

The Bryan Democratic League will meet tonight at the Hotel Roland, in East Fifty-ninth-st.

After the conference John C. Sheehan, leader of the Greater New-York Democracy, said:

I am sure that the rank and file of the Greater New-York Democracy are not in favor of a separate State convention. We believe in organization. We shall support the ticket nominated by the Democratic State Convention. On the other hand, we expect to give Tammany battle at the primaries, as we believe there is need of retiring from power the organization that is at present masquerading under the name of Democracy in this city.

TO FIGHT SHARKEY AS LEADER

JOHN D. POST WILL CONTEST FOR THE XVITH DISTRICT OF BROOKLYN.

John D. Post has announced his intention of opposing Naval Officer Robert A. Sharkey for the leadership of the XVIth Assembly District of Brooklyn at the primaries next fall. Mr. Post and ex-Assistant Postmaster Taylor combined last fall to beat Mr. Sharkey, and gathered about them a strong following that threatened the overthrow of the naval officer. Just before the primaries, however, there was a split between Mr. Post and Mr. Taylor, as a result of which no opposition ticket was placed in the field.

Mr. Taylor was then a candidate for reappointment as assistant postmaster. He was not retained in the postal service, and is now as full of fight as ever. Mr. Post will make no further combinations with him, and figures that Mr. Taylor will either put a third ticket in the field or throw his support to Mr. Sharkey. The Naval Officer is a resourceful politician, as was demonstrated by his unopposed victory last fall, and will no doubt encourage the third ticket idea, in which case the opposition would be divided, and an easy victory for the regular ticket assured.

Mr. Post is the State committeeman from the district, and is not a novice at the game of politics. He has been at work throughout the Assembly district for some time, and has established an organization in every election district.

NATIONAL CITY BANK PLANS.

IT IS SAID IT MAY INCREASE ITS CAPITAL STOCK BY $10,000,000 OR $15,000,000.

The committee appointed to consider the advisability of increasing the National City Bank's capital will hold a meeting to-day, and will probably report to the full board next Tuesday. A member of the committee says the amount of the proposed increase and the price at which the stock will be sold to shareholders of record have not yet been determined. It is commonly believed that the increase will amount to $10,000,000, doubling the present capital stock, and it is said to be not unlikely that $15,000,000 may be decided upon. If the new stock is issued at more than par, it is reported, the additional sum realized may be added to the surplus. It is said that the new capital to be raised will to a large extent be devoted to the extension of the rapidly growing foreign business of the bank.

National City Bank stock rose from 680 to 675 in the "curb" market yesterday morning. There were sales of several lots at 670.

FOUR NEW SUITS AGAINST THE CENTRAL.

THEY ARISE FROM THE TUNNEL ACCIDENT AND AGGREGATE $275,000.

Four new suits for damages for injuries received in the Park-ave. tunnel accident were begun yesterday in the Supreme Court at White Plains against the New-York Central Railroad Company. The plaintiffs, who are all residents of New-Rochelle, are Miss Mabel Newman, Miss Sarah Scott, Richard Mollineux and Miss Minnie Rice. Miss Newman sues for $25,000; Miss Scott, who had her leg broken, demands $50,000; Richard Mollineux wants $100,000, and Miss Rice also asks for $100,000. It is expected that all the cases will be tried during the June term of the Supreme Court.

PROCEEDS OF DAY'S SALE $10,560.

At the fifteenth day's sale of the Frank Bowles collection, at No. 124 Fifth-ave., the proceeds of the day were $10,560. The sales included an Empire twin bedstead, $670; Adams satinwood cabinet, $230; Louis XV cabinet, $770; Louis XIII commode, $560; Empire console, $155; table cover from La Malmaison, $150; Louis XV mirror, $270, and Italian bronze andirons, $60. The last mentioned were said to have cost $350. To-morrow will be offered an Adams satinwood sewing table, Elliot Hall clock, a replica of the Colonna mantel in the museum at Naples, a fifteenth century wood carving in the form of altar front, and a Louis XV drawing room suite in Aubusson tapestry.

FIRE AT NORTH TONAWANDA.

Buffalo, April 23.—A dispatch to "The Times" from North Tonawanda says fire which started in the Lumber City Steam Laundry in Oliver-st. early to-day destroyed that building and the residences of Mrs. John Mye, Louis Wilke, Charles Diffine, Charles Dobler, C. H. Tulley and James Gillespie. A house owned by Miss Winifred Tulley, and occupied by James Slattery, was badly damaged. A high wind prevailed. The loss is about $70,000, and is partly covered by insurance. Four firemen were injured.

A CHANGE IN MASONS' PAY.

Buffalo, April 23.—An agreement has been reached between the Mason Contractors' Association and the Bricklayers' Union, whereby the bricklayers are to receive 50 cents an hour. The bricklayers have been getting 45 cents an hour under a contract which expires on July 1. Stone masons have been receiving 40 cents an hour, and their demand for 45 cents has been granted. They have signed an agreement to work for a year at that figure.

COURTED BY MAIL, MARRIED BY 'PHONE.

Cincinnati, April 23.—A Dayton, Ky., widow and a Hopkinsville man met to-day for the first time, after having been married over the long distance telephone, in the drug store of A. G. Goetz, Dayton, Ky. They had never seen each other before. The telephone charges were $22. The courtship was by correspondence.

"FRENCHY" SEES CITY AGAIN.

PARDONED LIFE PRISONER ADJUDGED SANE—SAILS FOR HAVRE TO-DAY.

Amer Ben Ali, better known as "Frenchy," who was convicted eleven years ago of the murder of Caroline Brown, alias "Old Shakespeare," in the East River Hotel, at Cherry and Water sts., arrived here at 6 a. m. yesterday on the steamer Adirondack, of the People's Line, from Albany. He was in charge of Amos T. Baker, an attendant of the State Hospital for insane convicts at Dannemora, where he received his release on last Wednesday by a pardon from Governor Odell.

Still maintaining his innocence of the crime for which he was sentenced to life imprisonment, "Frenchy" retold the story of his arrest, his trial and conviction, and of the eleven years he has spent in prison.

When "Frenchy" and Baker left Albany at 8 o'clock on Tuesday night the former was in high spirits and jubilant over his release. As the steamer entered the harbor he paced up and down the deck, remarking, "Me know it would be; me now back." Ovide Robillard, a lawyer, of No. 25 Pine-st., who had been retained by the French Consul to look after "Frenchy's" case, met the Algerian at the pier, and "Frenchy," Baker and Mr. Robillard were driven to the French Hospital, in West Thirty-fourth-st., where the pardoned man was examined by physicians to determine whether or not he is in a condition physically and mentally to go to France alone.

In telling the story of his arrest "Frenchy" said the police, in removing his socks, pricked his foot with a knife, making the blood flow. A new trial was promised him, he said, by Governor Flower, but it would cost $1,000, and as he had no money nor friends he rested in the hope that some day he would be pardoned.

The physicians at the hospital adjudged the man sane, and in a condition to be sent to France to-day. He is to sail on the La Touraine, and the French Government is paying for his passage. After reaching Havre he will be sent to Algiers.

AGREES ON ARBITRATION.

FOUNDERS' AND MOULDERS' JOINT COMMITTEE REFERS NINE HOUR DAY TO LOCAL BODIES.

The joint committee, composed of representatives of the National Founders' Association and the Iron Moulders' Union of North America, which began a conference at the headquarters of the National Civic Federation on Tuesday, completed its work yesterday and adjourned sine die. The nine hour work day demand was discussed in all its aspects, but it was decided that as the condition of work differed in the various districts, the joint committee could not handle it. Both sides agreed that the shorter workday question could better be handled locally than by a committee representing the national organizations of employers and employes. The following statement was made by David Black for the joint committee:

Our joint committee has completed its work for the present. We came to the conclusion that the executive committees of both bodies will take under advisement certain propositions looking probably among other things to the establishment of the shorter workday in the general field. No definite time could be set, but meanwhile all local issues will come under the provisions of what is known as the New-York agreement. This agreement, which was made three years ago in this city and is still in force, provides that all disputes be referred to arbitration. We chose the present time for meeting because just now everything is tranquil in the trade. No big strikes are in progress or pending, and the proceedings at the conference further add to the general feeling of confidence.

Mr. Black further said that a cordial and friendly feeling prevailed throughout the conference.

PLANS FOR THE AIRSHIP RACES.

BALLOONS IN MIDAIR TO MARK FIGURE EIGHT COURSE.

St. Louis, April 23.—The conference of airship experts yesterday decided upon a figure eight course as the aerial speedway over which all flights in competition for the World's Fair capital prize of $100,000 shall be winged.

The course has been laid out by the experts, with its focus marked by a huge captive balloon above the Washington University tract of the exposition site, and its elliptical orbits sweep outward over the open country to the southeast and the northwest. Captive balloons will indicate the measurement of ten miles in the air, over which distance the airships must fly in the shortest average time of a series of trials to capture the fortune that has been hung up in the mid heavens by the World's Fair management.

A second conference consisted in the allotment of the $50,000 set apart for the subsidiary prizes. The amount has been divided into a dozen parts, each contingent on the performance of some accomplishment on the part of an air vehicle.

M. Santos-Dumont and party started last night for New-York. The eminent aeronaut expects that at least one hundred and fifty airships will be entered when the rules and conditions of the contest shall have been made known.

SCION OF WEALTH IN DIFFICULTY.

SON OF "RICHEST MAN IN MICHIGAN" FILES MORTGAGES ON ALL HE OWNS.

Detroit, Mich., April 23.—Henry C. Ward, son of the late David Ward, of this city, who was said to be the richest man in Michigan, has filed trust mortgages covering all his real and personal property and also his interest in his father's estate. The total liabilities are $382,302. Unfortunate business ventures are believed to have caused Ward's financial trouble.

BANKERS HERE FROM MANY STATES.

THEY ARE THE GUESTS AT A DINNER GIVEN BY JAMES M. DONALD.

A complimentary dinner for the executive council of the American Bankers' Association was given last evening at the Metropolitan Club by James M. Donald. The decorations were three centrepieces of American Beauty roses and palms. Informal speeches followed the dinner. The guests were:

William L. Moyer,	S. G. Nelson,
J. R. McAllister,	John Johnston,
G. S. Whitson,	William B. T. Keyser,
John T. Dismukes,	Daniel Annan,
Bradford Rhodes,	A. B. Hepburn,
G. W. Bolton,	Kenneth Clark,
Edwin S. Schenck,	Charles H. Fancher,
J. P. Huston,	J. J. Sullivan,
G. P. Hall,	Joseph C. Hendrix,
C. T. Lindsey,	F. J. Wade,
Walter E. Frew,	James T. Woodward,
W. G. Fitzwilson,	Lyman J. Gage,
John L. Hamilton,	Myron T. Herrick,
W. M. Woods,	Caldwell Hardy,
James R. Branch,	F. G. Bigelow,
John Skelton Williams,	V. P. Snyder,
William H. Porter,	E. A. Potter,
T. E. Stevens,	Albert H. Wiggin,
H. Chapin, jr.,	E. F. Swinney,
William G. Mather,	A. G. Loomis,
Breckinridge Jones,	J. W. Whiting,
Henry P. Davison,	Charles H. Stout,
F. H. Fries,	James H. Willock,
Ralph van Vechten,	J. D. Powers,
Lewis E. Pierson,	R. W. Jones, jr.,
William M. Hill,	P. C. Kauffman.

Bankers from many States, among them the members of the council of administration of the American Bankers' Association, attended yesterday a meeting at the Lawyers' Club. The session was a private one, but it is understood that among the subjects brought up for discussion were the Fowler Currency bill, uniform laws governing negotiable instruments, bank note circulation and internal revenue taxes.

FRENCH LINE RUMOR NOT CONFIRMED.

MR. GRISCOM WILL NOT ADMIT THAT HE IS TO BE THE AMERICAN MANAGER OF THE TRUST.

James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway Company, and Clement A. Griscom, president of the International Navigation Company, were among the men interested in the projected Atlantic steamship combination who were in conference yesterday with members of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co. It was said at the Morgan offices at the close of business that nothing had developed in the course of the day concerning which any public announcement could be made. A member of the underwriting syndicate is authority for the statement that Baltimore advices giving the stock allotments of the Atlanic Transport Company are incorrect. The syndicate still has this subject in hand, and accurate details will not be obtainable for some time.

President Griscom's attention was called to a dispatch from Southampton that he would be made the American manager of the new combination.

"I know nothing about it," was Mr. Griscom's only comment.

It was rumored here that Mr. Morgan's visit to Paris was for the purpose of paving the way for the absorption of the French Line. Nothing could be learned as to the truth of the report at the French Line offices. Mr. Bocande said he had no news, could not tell what was being done in Paris and had no theories on the subject. It is believed that the relations of the line and the French Government are such that it would be wellnigh impossible to obtain control of it.

HILL WAS NOT PRESENT.

HE AND BRYAN SEND LETTERS TO JEFFERSON MEETING.

THE FORMER NAMES ISSUES AND THE LATTER CALLS FOR DEVOTION TO KANSAS CITY PLATFORM.

The Democrats of the XXXVth Assembly District, under the leadership of President Louis F. Haffen of the Borough of The Bronx, held a Jefferson celebration last night in Zeltner's Hall, Third-ave. and One-hundred-and-seventieth-st. John J. Brady presided, and the speakers were E. F. Danforth, Lewis Nixon and Bird S. Coler. Letters of regret were read from ex-Senator David B. Hill, Edward M. Shepard, John B. Stanchfield and William J. Bryan. Mr. Danforth, the first speaker, didn't have a great deal to say regarding Thomas Jefferson, the subject of his speech, talking mainly about the national administration, whose attitude he criticised, and against imperialism.

Mr. Coler, when introduced, devoted much of his speech to the question of trusts. He said:

Perhaps the greatest question of all that confronts us to-day is the trust problem. This is a serious question, and the people are commencing to suffer more and more under the exactions of these combinations, especially is this true in the matter of food products of the entire country. Yet the exactions under which the people are now struggling are only in their infancy, and are not to be compared with the exactions that will be enforced by these combinations in the not far distant future. Many of the men in control of the combinations or trusts of to-day manage them and operate them in a comparatively harmless manner, and in a manner not to be compared with what may perhaps be expected when these men have passed from control and the institutions they now represent are in control of younger men, who have never done any work and who, from having enjoyed the great wealth of their forefathers, will believe that the people are only to be oppressed for their special benefit. The greatest danger of these industrial combinations, I believe, if not disturbed, will come not from their founders but from their successors.

I believe the Democrats should decaler only for taxes sufficient to support the government, and that all protection should be removed from the trusts, for never before in the history of the State or the government have the rights of the people been violated more than of late.

Mr. Nixon said it was his earnest wish that the Democratic party be brought to such a state of harmony as existed during the Jeffersonian days, and asserted that the party should and must be rehabilitated, put upon a new footing, with a loftier object and a view broad enough to prevent any Democrats from having a valid excuse for not enjoying its privileges.

Mr. Hill in his letter of regret said, among other things:

Now is the time to prepare for the next campaign. The Democracy are united for personal liberty, for home rule, for equal taxation, for the abolition of war taxes in times of peace, for revenue reform, for constitutional freedom wherever the American flag floats, and for liberal laws everywhere. We must organize to rescue the State from Republican misrule. It is no time for division, for personal politics or factional revenges. What we need is the exhibition of the highest patriotism and the most earnest loyalty for the grand old party of Jefferson, Jackson and Tilden.

Mr. Bryan's letter was a rather long one. He drew lessons from the life of Jefferson, and added:

No student of Jefferson's words can doubt that he would, if living, oppose the imperial policy of the Republican party, which seeks to establish our government upon a basis of force rather than upon the consent of the governed; no one can doubt that he would, if living, oppose the private monopolies which are being fostered by the Republican administration. No one can doubt that he would, if living, oppose banks of issue, branch banks, the degradation of silver and the control of the Treasury Department by New-York financiers. . . . I appreciate the splendid showing made by your Assembly district in the campaign of 1900, and trust that it will not tire in its devotion to the principles of the Kansas City platform.

BEAT TRUST ONCE, HOPE TO AGAIN.

THE RETAIL BUTCHERS' MUTUAL PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION PROPOSES TO SPECIALLY IMPORT MEAT FROM OMAHA.

The Retail Butchers' Mutual Protective Association met at No. 401 Bridge-st., Brooklyn, last night. N. Loughran presided. The butchers talked about obtaining meat regardless of the trust. It was stated that two years ago a similar state of affairs existed, and the retailers arranged to import their meat in four car lots daily from Roehr Brothers, Omaha. This continued for three weeks, when the trust brought prices down to correspond to those paid to Roehr Brothers, and the combination was broken. The retailers propose now to have a similar combination and to beat the trust.

It was stated that seventy-five retail butchers in Brooklyn had closed their shops because of the excessive prices of the trust, some only temporarily, paying rent up to September 1. They expect prices will be adjusted by this combination. They said that they were not able to conduct their business with the prevailing prices for meat.

WILMINGTON TROLLEYS MERGED.

THREE ROADS ARE INCLUDED AND IMPROVEMENTS ARE TO BE MADE AT ONCE.

Wilmington, N. C., April 23.—At meetings here today of the stockholders of the Wilmington Seacoast Railroad, the Wilmington Street Railway and the Wilmington Gaslight companies, a plan of consolidation was adopted by which the three are merged into the Consolidated Railway, Light and Power Company.

The consolidated company proposes at once to convert the Seacoast Railroad, leading from Wilmington to Wrightsville Beach, into a trolley system.

WOMAN SUES A. J. CAMMEYER.

SHE DECLARES HE REFUSES TO CARRY OUT THE WISHES OF HIS WIFE, HER SISTER.

The suit of Mrs. Ida M. Lawrence against her brother-in-law, Alfred J. Cammeyer, the shoe man, came up yesterday in the Supreme Court before Justice Stover, and on application of A. H. Hummel, counsel for Mrs. Lawrence, was adjourned for twenty days.

Mrs. Lawrence is suing Mr. Cammeyer for $90,000, some jewelry and other personal effects, which she says that her sister, Catharine M., the wife of Mr. Cammeyer, promised to her. She states that in 1887 she gave birth to a girl, and that Mrs. Cammeyer became very fond of the child and promised to take care of her and the child, but that she died without altering her will, which was made in 1887, prior to the birth of the daughter. Mrs. Lawrence now sues to compel her brother-in-law to carry out the alleged expressed wishes of his wife.

ANOTHER DIVIDEND FOR SYNDICATE.

Reports that another dividend would soon be declared in favor of the United States Steel Corporation underwriting syndicate were practically confirmed yesterday by a representative of J. P. Morgan & Co., the syndicate managers. The amount of the dividend was not stated.

COLONEL W. L. OGDEN GOES ABROAD.

Among the passengers who sailed on the steamship Teutonic, of the White Star Line, yesterday was Colonel Willis L. Ogden, president of the Municipal Civil Service Commission, who is going to Europe for a two months' vacation. Colonel Ogden refused to express his views on the recent occurrences in the police force, except to say that he thought the department was better and cleaner than it had been for some time.

BENJAMIN DE FOREST NORRIS DEAD.

Benjamin De Forest Norris, who died at his home, near Danbury, Conn., on April 22, at the age of ninety-two years, was one of the oldest and best known residents of that part of the State. He was born in 1810 on the farm where he died. His earlier years after leaving school were passed as a clerk in the importing house of his uncle and namesake, Benjamin De Forest, in New-York City. Later he taught school in Danbury, and afterward engaged in the business of carriage making in Avon Springs, in Western New-York. In 1835 he took charge of the home farm.

He was married twice, and leaves four children, Benjamin C. and Sophie E. Norris, Mrs. Henrietta K. Reynolds and Mrs. Charlotte E. Shotwell, the latter a resident of New-Jersey.

Mr. Norris was a practical and successful farmer, and his large dairy farm of over two hundred acres was known far and near as a model one. In politics he became at the birth of the Republican party one of its stanch supporters. He was a subscriber to The Tribune from its first issue to his death. In 1847 he represented his native town in the Connecticut Legislature. He was chiefly instrumental in the formation of the Danbury Agricultural Society, and became its first president.

WILL NOT BE A BISHOP.

Philadelphia, April 23.—The Rev. Nathaniel S. Thomas, rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Holy Apostles, here, who was elected Bishop of the missionary district of Salina, Kan., said today that he would not accept the honor.

CITY CLUB ELECTS TRUSTEES

REPORTS ON VARIOUS PHASES OF MUNICIPAL REFORM HEARD.

The annual election of trustees of the City Club was held last night at the clubhouse, No. 19 West Thirty-fourth-st. The following were elected as members of the board of trustees for one and two terms:

To serve until the fourth Wednesday in April, 1903: James R. Burnet, Henry P. Davison, Horace E. Deming, F. Norton Goddard, Frank J. Goodnow, Charles Howard Strong, Oswald Garrison Villard.

To serve until the fourth Wednesday in April, 1904: William H. Baldwin, jr., R. R. Bowker, Joseph G. Deane, Charles C. Nadal, Adolph Openhym, John E. Parsons, Wheeler H. Peckham and Isaac N. Seligman.

A number of reports were presented and read. On the question of police administration the report stated that there was now being prepared a report on the relative merits of the two and three platoon system, and it was hoped that when this report was ready it would be of considerable use in directing public opinion. Inquiry, the report stated, so far had shown a complete demoralization of the force, "a demoralization which is part of a continuance of the vicious practice in force under Tammany rule."

As to bridge terminals, the report says that "no immediate relief can be procured so long as a successful resistance is maintained by the corporations at the Manhattan end of the bridge who seek to prevent an increased number of loops, which it was proposed to have placed there."

Some time ago the club appointed a committee to inquire into the advisability and wisdom of organizing a company to conduct model saloons or refreshment houses, with a view to providing a comparatively unobjectionable substitute for the saloon. The report showed that Miss Lillian Wald, who is prominent in East Side and University Settlement work, had organized the Social Halls Association, patterned along the lines of the English Central Public House Trust Association, which would in the near future start a few of these model saloons, and if they proved a success others would be opened. These saloons would sell only light wines, beer, tea and coffee and would prohibit the sale of any beverage to minors.

To make more effective the work of various reform organizations the committee on co-operation recommended the formation of a council or federation to bring together the more important and active of such organizations. Those who conceived this plan were representatives of the Charity Organization, Consumers' League, the Society for Political Education, City History Club, Sanitary Protective League and the City Club, and the name they propose to call the new body is Council for Civic Co-operation. Invitations to send delegates to a future meeting of the new body will be sent to over forty different local organizations through T. J. Hallowell, of No. 41 Exchange Place.

DR. LEDERLE TESTIFIES.

HE HASN'T BEEN PAID FOR HIS PHOTOGRAPHS IN RICE WILL CONTEST.

Albert S. Osborn, the Rochester handwriting expert, who was on the witness stand when court adjourned on last Thursday, continued his testimony when the Rice will case was resumed yesterday. He gave in detail his reasons for believing the signatures to the will of 1900, which leaves the bulk of the estate of $6,000,000 to Albert T. Patrick, the convicted murderer of Mr. Rice, forgeries. He said that no man writes his name twice exactly alike, and yet in the four signatures to the 1900 will measurements showed the greatest differences between any two to be less than one sixty-fourth of an inch. From these measurements he deduced that the foundations for the signatures were traced from a genuine signature.

Mr. Tomlinson attacked the accuracy of the photographs of the signatures from which the expert had testified. Mr. Osborn admitted that photographs are not always exact reproductions of writings or things, and said that an expert photographer could make a camera mendacious to an almost incredible degree.

"Supposing," Mr. Tomlinson asked, "that an expert should take the stand here and testify that the signatures of the 1900 will are genuine, would you doubt his honesty or his intelligence?"

"I should have grave suspicion in both directions," was the reply.

Health Commissioner Lederle before he was Commissioner made all the photographs of the exhibits in the will and of the murder case. He performed like services for the prosecution in the Dr. Kennedy and Molineux cases. He identified three big books full of his photographs.

"Who paid you for your work?" asked Mr. Tomlinson.

"Nobody yet," replied the witness.

Dr. Lederle corroborated Mr. Osborn's statement that an expert with the camera could change the appearance of the shading of the writing and the relative sizes of the several letters. He said that he had been careful not to produce inaccuracies.

Court adjourned until to-day.

RIVES RAPS WHALEN HARD.

SAYS THAT THE LATTER LEFT HIM A LEGACY OF $60,000 IN OUTSTANDING DEBTS.

Corporation Counsel Rives replied yesterday to some criticism of him from ex-Corporation Counsel Whalen. He said:

Mr. Whalen says that he is gratified to see that I find it will cost me a little more than he spent to run this office. I am sure I could run this office on $300,000 if I did not pay the debts incurred. When Mr. Whalen went out of office he left some $40,000 in counsel fees outstanding against the city, and in addition about $20,000 in miscellaneous bills against the municipality. No wonder Mr. Whalen could run his office so cheaply. Now, I am paying all my debts, besides the legacy of outstanding debts Mr. Whalen left for me to pay, aggregating about $60,000. I am going to go ahead and clear up all the cases possible, and try to cut down the number, instead of going out of office with a much larger number of untried cases on hand than when I took office. There are different ways of running the department, and mine is not Mr. Whalen's. I thank him for his compliments.

BOSTWICK A HOSPITAL PATIENT.

THE WELL KNOWN SPORTSMAN UNDERWENT A NASAL OPERATION A WEEK AGO.

Albert C. Bostwick, one of the best known horsemen in the country, an enthusiastic driver and a governor of the Automobile Club, has for the last week been a patient at the private hospital No. 33 East Thirty-third-st., where he underwent an operation on his nose. It is said that the operation became necessary on account of his rapid riding in his automobile against the wind.

Jefferson Seligman, at his home, No. 11 East Sixty-ninth-st., told a Tribune reporter last evening that the operation was not considered at all serious, and that since it had been performed, Mr. Bostwick had been out on several days enjoying a ride in his automobile. Mr. Seligman remarked, incidentally, that Mr. Bostwick was one of the best all around sportsmen in the country.

At the Automobile Club, Fifty-eighth-st. and Fifth-ave., J. M. Hill, chairman of the house committee, declared that Mr. Bostwick's trouble was not serious. He had been suffering from a little catarrh, and the operation performed was of a minor character. Mr. Hill did not think the operation had been necessary by reason of Mr. Bostwick's rapid riding against the wind. Anyway, Mr. Bostwick's condition caused no apprehension to his friends, and, in fact, he had paid a visit yesterday in his automobile to the Autumobile Club.

At the hospital in East Thirty-third-st., in the absence of Dr. William T. Bull and Dr. John B. Walker, it was said by an attendant that Mr. Bostwick had simply undergone a minor operation, was in no danger whatever, and was then asleep.

Mr. Bostwick is a member of the Metropolitan and Union League clubs. He was one of the pioneer enthusiasts in automobiling in New-York, and is said to have been the first man in New-York to import a machine.

STATE CONVENTION ON JUNE 25.

Harrisburg, Penn., April 23.—The annual meeting of the Democratic State Committee was held this afternoon to arrange for the State convention for the nomination of candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of Internal Affairs. Representative William T. Creasy was re-elected State Chairman by acclamation. It was decided to hold the State convention at Erie, June 25.

JOSEPH JEFFERSON BUYS A HOUSE.

Joseph Jefferson bought at auction yesterday No. 102 Riverside Drive for $40,000. It is a five story dwelling house south of Eighty-third-st. The house was sold at foreclosure sale, and Mr. Jefferson was the plaintiff. Clarence F. True and others were the defendants. There was due on the judgment, etc., about $42,777.

ANOTHER RISE IN BEEF.

THE WHOLESALE PRICE GOES UP HALF A CENT—SMALL RETAILERS SUFFER—SAID TO BE LOSING 25 PER CENT.

According to Washington Market retailers, the wholesale price of beef yesterday again demonstrated its restlessness by advancing half a cent a pound, or to 11 cents for the best grades. Other meats remained stationary. A. L. Ruppert, of that market, speaking of the rise and its probable results, said:

Beef is at 11 cents wholesale, and there is no telling when the limit of high prices will be reached. I look for no decline until July, when the grass fed cattle are due. The warm weather, by reducing the demand, may affect prices favorably for the consumer.

Small retailers in this market are losing from $25 to $50 a week. They do not want to charge their customers higher rates, and have raised prices only on certain grades. Most dealers are not trimming meats so closely as hitherto—that is, they are not throwing away as much as they did before the rise. Other dealers are supplying their customers with a second grade of meat. Where these men made 15 per cent profits hey are now losing 10 per cent, or a total loss of 25 per cent. Running behind $500 a week on $2,000 worth of business is not pleasant. This market has suffered a decided lapse of trade since the trust began its work. Fish is high, too. Many people have stopped eating meat and substitute in its place fish. Dealers in the latter commodity readily took advantage of the situation and raised prices. Everything is high, all along the line—poultry, eggs and butter.

PROFITS A MILLION A YEAR, HE SAYS.

STOCKHOLDER OF SCHWARZSCHILD & SULZBERGER DOES NOT WANT ITS CAPITAL INCREASED.

The arrangement made by the majority of the stockholders in the firm of Schwarzschild & Sulzberger, owners of the packing house between Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth sts. and the East River, to raise an additional capital of $5,000,000, was strongly opposed by Philip G. Carpenter, in the Supreme Court, before Justice MacLean yesterday, on behalf of Sylvester B. Hinckley, of Newton, Mass., a holder of 425 shares of the common stock of the corporation, who applied for an injunction restraining the company and Ferdinand Sulzberger and Samuel Weil, individually, and as president and treasurer and secretary of the corporation, from issuing $5,000,000 of preferred stock in addition to the present authorized capital of $5,000,000, which consists entirely of common stock.

Mr. Hinckley declares that under the new scheme the preferred shareholders will be entitled to a cumulative dividend of 7 per cent, to be paid before the common stockholders receive anything. The company has, according to the plaintiff, unencumbered assets amounting to over $7,000,000, and is earning an annual profit of more than $1,000,000. The last statement of the corporation, up to December 28 last, showed a floating indebtedness of $2,600,000, with assets quickly realizable aggregating nearly $6,000,000. These assets do not include the plant in Kansas City; that in Chicago, erected lately at a cost of over $1,250,000; the plant in this city nor real estate in many cities in the United States; hundreds of refrigerators and cattle cars, valued at $500,000, and other unencumbered property, valued at over $5,000,000. The company has no bonded or secured indebtedness of any kind. The company is now one of the largest in the country.

William D. Guthrie, with Wheeler H. Peckham, opposed the application for an injunction, said the great indebtedness of the company and the magnitude of its operations made a larger capital necessary, and preferred stock was deemed preferable to the issuance of bonds or mortgages. The indebtedness of the corporation was over $5,500,000, and more than 90 per cent of the shareholders approved of the scheme which the plaintiff sought to upset. Justice MacLean reserved decision.

NAMED TO FIGHT THE TRUST.

SENATOR SLATER SAYS THE COMMITTEE IS TO CO-OPERATE WITH OTHERS OF A SIMILAR NATURE.

The Republican Club, of this city, which on Monday voted to designate a committee of lawyers to fight the meat combination and to co-operate with the federal and other authorities, has named the following: Alfred L. M. Bullowa, of the committee on national affairs, No. 31 Nassau-st.; James W. Hawes, of the committee on State affairs, No. 25 Nassau-st., and Senator Samuel S. Slater, of No. 76 William-st.

Senator Slater said to a Tribune reporter last evening at the Central Republican Club:

"The committee is one of co-operation, not initiative. We are in communication with other similar committees, all looking to a general movement against the beef trust. The movement may take expression in several directions. It may become political or it may become civic on an industrial basis. On its legal side, it will naturally come within the province of the Attorney General. An investigation would in its nature resemble the Ice Trust examination, where evidence was presented by various citizens.

"Our committee is in existence to express opposition. Public opinion is the only corrective means in a matter of this sort. Committees must respond to that, or there is danger of socialism."

WANTS CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY MADE.

At the Jefferson celebration held by the Democrats of the XXXVth Assembly District, in Zeltner's Hall, Third-ave. and One-hundred-and-seventieth-st., last night, a resolution was offered by the Tammany Hall General Committee of the district, and unanimously adopted, which declared "that the power of this most rapacious of trusts to create a monopoly in meat and meat products and thereby rob the people and add to the cost of living, should be destroyed by the enactment by Congress of a law abolishing the duties on live beef, dressed meat, canned meat and hides." It was ordered that a copy of the resolution be forwarded to C. A. Pugsley, who represents the XVith Congress District, with a letter urging him to use all his efforts to force a Congressional inquiry "into the illegal and arbitrary methods of the said trust."

WOULD SUBSTITUTE BANANAS FOR MEAT.

The Vegetarian Society met last night in its rooms, No. 128 East Twenty-eighth-st., to discuss the value of bananas and banana flour as a substitute for meat. A. F. Spawn, who has spent a number of years in tropical countries, was the chief speaker. He said that bananas were cheaper to produce than wheat even, and that one acre of banana plants would yield forty times the amount of food that an acre of wheat would produce. He himself had lived for years principally on bread made from banana flour.

TAMMANY AND THE BEEF TRUST.

ATTORNEY GENERAL WILL GIVE AUDIENCE TO COMMITTEE TO-MORROW.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Albany, April 23.—Attorney General Davies received to-day a memorial from Charles H. Knox, Charles W. Dayton and W. Warley Platzek, the Tammany Hall committee appointed to investigate the Beef Trust, saying that they have evidence against that trust that they would like to submit to him. Nothing was said about the Ice Trust by this Tammany Hall committee or its relations to the Beef Trust, but the Attorney General will nevertheless examine carefully whatever evidence may be submitted to him about the latter trust on Friday in New-York. In a letter addressed to Messrs. Knox, Dayton and Platzek the Attorney General says:

I beg to acknowledge yours of the 22d inst., wherein you state that you are in possession of evidence which clearly shows violation of the act against monopolies, being Chapter 690 of the Laws of 1899.

In brief, your statement recites that you have proof that a combination exists which has produced a price for beef wholly artificial, and that such combination is in restraint of trade.

I have been engaged for some time in investigating the subject and examining evidence relative thereto. I assume from your statement that you have in your possession substantial proofs bearing upon the subject, and, appreciating that the matter is one of great public importance, I shall be pleased to have you meet me, either singly or collectively as a committee, at the Manhattan Hotel, in the city of New-York, on Friday, the 25th inst., at 11 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of examining the evidence in your possession.

RESOLUTION AIMED AT MEAT TRUST.

Washington, April 23.—Representative Richardson, of Tennessee, to-day introduced the following resolution in the House:

Whereas, There has been recently an unusual increase in the price of beef, mutton, veal and pork, which is abnormal, and due largely, if not altogether, to trusts and other combinations alleged to be unlawful in their organization; therefore,

Resolved, That the Ways and Means Committee be instructed to investigate the question of the recent increase in the price of those articles and determine the cause thereof, and, if practicable, offer some measure of legislation that will afford relief against the evil complained of.

Representative McDermott, of New-Jersey, today introduced a bill abolishing all duties on meat and poultry imported from foreign countries.

ANGRY AT THE CAPTAIN.

TOURISTS SAY MEDITERRANEAN TRIP WAS MARRED BY BEHAVIOR OF CELTIC'S COMMANDER.

Members of the huge Mediterranean excursion party which left here on the steamer Celtic on February 8 are beginning to arrive here on their way home. Twenty-five or thirty of them came yesterday on the steamer Oceanic. From the stories told by some of the returning ones the cruise was not all that they had expected. Their chief complaint seemed to be against Captain Lindsey, who commanded the steamer. It was said that he was responsible for the fact that the vessel was behind the schedule until she started for Liverpool, when she got ahead of time. On top of this, the vessel was sometimes anchored off shore so far that it was difficult for the passengers to go ashore to see the sights, they say.

The Rev. Dr. Josiah Strong, one of the tourists who arrived here on the Oceanic, said when asked about the trip:

While the excursion was well managed, many did not derive the pleasure from it that they had anticipated. The captain did not take pains to make it agreeable. He was always behind the schedule. The cruise