The Sun.
It Shines for All.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1872.

Amusements To-Day.

Academy of Music—Faust. Matinee.
American Institute—Rail, Steamship Street and Third avenue.
Booth's Theatre—Arab as Pupil. Matinee.
Bowery Theatre—Broilers.
Central Park Menagerie—Foot of 74th st. and East River.
Dan Bryant's Minstrels—Twenty-third street.
Dry Dock Circus, &c.—Foot of Houston st., E. R.
Emerson's California Minstrels—Six Broadway.
Fifth Avenue Theatre—Diamonds. Matinee.
Grand Opera House—Bi Cocotte. Matinee.
Olympic Theatre—Genevieve de Brabant. Matinee.
Steinway Hall—Robinson Concert. Matinee.
St. James Theatre—San Francisco Minstrels.
Theatre Comique—Forgery. Matinee.
Tony Pastor's Opera House—Iron Diamonds. Matinee.
Union Square Theatre—Agnes. Matinee.
Wallack's—Pygmalion and Galatea.
Wood's Museum—Three Musketeers. Matinee.

Gen. Grant May Be President for Life.

We have repeatedly answered the question of the subjoined letter, but as the subject is one of great importance we will now answer it again:

To the Editor of The Sun.

"SIR: Is a candidate eligible for the office of President of the United States for three successive terms? For instance, if Mr. GRANT should be elected this time can he be again, according to the Constitution, President from 1877 to 1881, if chosen? Please answer, and oblige

"OCT. '72. MANY SUBSCRIBERS."

The only provision respecting this subject in the Constitution of the United States is contained in the fifth clause of the first section of the second article of that instrument, and is in the following language:

"No person except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained the age of thirty-five years and been fourteen years a resident within the United States."

As our correspondents will see, there is no restriction whatever upon the reelection of the President. The Constitution sets up no barrier whatever to the continuance of the same man in that office so long as he may live.

The only case in which a President becomes ineligible to reelection is when he has been impeached, tried, and convicted. "Judgment in cases of impeachment," says the seventh clause of the third section of the first article of the Constitution, "shall not extend further than to removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States." Thus our correspondents will see that there can be no obstacle to perpetual reelection unless the President should be impeached, convicted, and, by the sentence of the Senate sitting as a court of impeachment, disqualified to hold any office. President GRANT can not only be reelected in 1876, but in 1880 and 1884—in fact as long as he lives and as long as the enormous power of the officeholders may enable him to keep the control over the people.

While there is no limitation in the Constitution preventing the reelection of a President, there has, however, grown up a usage which has limited the enjoyment of that office to a single term. Since the time of Gen. JACKSON, who was reelected in 1836, there has been no instance of a President being chosen for a second time until the election of 1864 which occurred in the midst of the rebellion. Then the patriotic feeling of the people, stimulated by the successes of our arms just previous to the election, and powerfully pushed on by the immense patronage of the Government, together with the influence of innumerable officeholders, all directed with skill to bring about a reelection, combined to make Mr. LINCOLN President for a second term. This result was also much facilitated by the attitude of the Democratic party, which had allowed the Copperheads to place it in a position of avowed hostility to the war and its great measures. But for this extraordinary concatenation, it is not probable that Mr. LINCOLN would have been reelected.

The same causes are now measurably at work in behalf of Gen. GRANT. Though it is seven years since the war was concluded, its spirit and its passions are still kept up by the GRANT men on the one hand and by the ultra Copperheads on the other; and this contest of ideas and of hatred contributes to gain votes for GRANT. He is also supported by a vast army of officeholders, contractors, and parasites, whose bread and butter depend upon his reelection; and it is certainly not impossible that all these forces combined may make him President for a second time. In the same way and by the same means he may be reelected again in 1876, and in fact for life. If, however, he should be beaten now—if the one-term rule which is essential to the purity of the Presidential office and to the safety of Republican institutions should be enforced by the people in the present struggle, that rule will be substantially established, whether incorporated in the Constitution or not; and it will not be likely that any President will ever again endeavor to obtain for himself a life lease of power.

The Moral Influence of Grantism.

The Hon. L. D. SHOEMAKER of Pennsylvania is a gentleman who has hitherto been highly esteemed by his fellow citizens. He is a native of the State which he represents in Congress, graduated at Yale in 1840, became a successful lawyer in Wilkesbarre, and after serving several terms in the State Senate was elected to the Forty-second Congress as the Representative of the Twelfth District of Pennsylvania. In Congress he bore a fair reputation, and when it recently became known that he had been arrested on the charge of inciting election frauds, the natural impression was that there must be some mistake about the matter, and that he had been wrongfully accused.

The examination of Mr. SHOEMAKER on charges of attempted bribery and corruption began on Wednesday, and from the report of the first day's proceedings given in the Wilkesbarre *Liberal Republican* it seems that the evidence against him is of a very serious character. The first witness placed on the stand was PATRICK CORCORAN, who swore as follows:

"I live in the Twelfth Ward of the city of Scranton, Third District. I was judge of election at last election. I saw Mr. L. D. SHOEMAKER a few days before election in his office, in Wilkesbarre. MICHAEL JUDGE was an inspector of the same district, for Mr. SHOEMAKER. I was judge of elections, and that JUDGE was inspector of Twelfth Ward, Third District of Scranton. SHOEMAKER asked how many votes could be polled, and we said that there were no more than six or seven Republican votes in the district. He said that he had two agents appointed to settle up his election business. Mr. SHOEMAKER said that he was a candidate for Congress at that election. He said he was surprised that some of his agents had not seen us before. We had a talk with G. M. MILLER, Receiver of Taxes, and JOHN STEWART. They told us to go and see Mr. SHOEMAKER ourselves. We said about 250 votes would be polled in our district. He asked if we would not give him a majority then. I took him we could give no majority, perhaps could balance the vote. Mr. SHOEMAKER then at that time offered each of us $10, and said we would meet some more before election, for the purpose of defraying expenses. I saw the money in SHOEMAKER's hands. He took it out of his pocket-book. It was after he knew we were election officers. The next thing he said was that if we took any of the money not to change any of it in Wilkesbarre, or it would be known by his own bank. JOHN STEWART of Lackawanna township was at my house a few days before election, and agreed to give MICHAEL JUDGE and myself $10, if we would give SHOEMAKER a majority in the Third District of the Twelfth Ward. We said we could not give him a majority, but we would try to balance the vote. He said NAT. MILLER would be around the night before the election and pay some of the money. I did not see NAT. MILLER. JUDGE and I did sit on the election board.

This evidence was fully corroborated by MICHAEL JUDGE, the inspector of elections referred to in CORCORAN's testimony, after which seven or eight other witnesses were introduced to prove that bribery and corruption had been freely employed by the managers of the GRANT party in the recent election. CHRISTOPHER ECKHART, who is Vice-President of a Democratic Club in Scranton, testified that he was introduced by O. F. GAINES (who was arraigned at the same time with SHOEMAKER) to a man who said he was acting as SHOEMAKER's agent, and was authorized to offer three dollars for votes for SHOEMAKER for Congress, and three dollars and a half for votes for HARTRANFT. This witness testified that the club agreed that they would vote as desired for the sum of $2,000, which GAINES thought too much; but he finally said that nine dollars and fifty cents would be paid for each vote. There were sixty-eight members in the club. Other witnesses gave evidence to the same general effect, showing that money was freely offered for votes in Scranton by persons working for SHOEMAKER's election.

There are several curious points in the evidence brought out at this examination. One is that those engaged in these frauds must have had reason to think they would be protected from punishment in case of detection, or else they would never have dared to run the risk of having an even vote returned in a district where out of about two hundred and fifty voters only six or seven are Republicans. But it appears that in Pennsylvania the penalties of the law have no terrors for those engaged in promoting the interests of the GRANT party, though some slight regard is sometimes paid to public opinion, as will be seen from the following extract from CORCORAN's testimony:

"SHOEMAKER said, 'Couldn't you manage to balance the vote in counting the tickets?' STEWART said we could fix the votes in counting them; and give a majority for SHOEMAKER as large as we wanted to. *I told STEWART that it would look very badly to give SHOEMAKER a majority where there were but six or seven Republican votes.*"

Another interesting development is the matter-of-fact way in which the GRANT men went to work to buy up a Democratic club, and the business-like manner in which that patriotic organization responded to their proposals. This disclosure gives rise to the suspicion that the unaccountable falling off in the Democratic vote in certain districts of Pennsylvania may very probably have been the result of other causes than dissatisfaction with the liberal course of the great Democratic party in nominating Dr. GREELEY as its Presidential candidate.

But it is as a striking illustration of the degrading influence of Grantism that this wretched business is most interesting and instructive. Does any one suppose that a man like Congressman SHOEMAKER would ever have permitted himself to be mixed up in such disreputable transactions if he had not become demoralized by the political atmosphere of Washington under an Administration which encourages robbery of the public funds, promotes jobbery of every description, and relies upon flagrant outrages on the purity of elections as a means of retaining power? And if such results are the fruit of less than four years of Grantism, what limit to general demoralization could be expected after four years more of the same corrupting influences in the Capitol and the White House?

The Mayoralty—A Survey of the Field.

Who will be elected Mayor of this city? This is a puzzling problem which the shrewdest politicians find it very difficult to solve at this stage of the campaign, with three candidates in the field, backed by eager, powerful organizations.

At the election in November last this city cast for the two candidates for Secretary of State 137,463 votes, of which WILLERS, Democrat, received 83,326, and SCRIBNER, Republican, 54,137, giving to the former a majority of 29,189. This is the largest vote ever polled in this city, except that thrown at the Presidential election of 1868, when, as everybody knows, there was a good deal of fraudulent voting and ballot-box stuffing. We therefore believe that this 137,463 was the largest honest vote ever polled in the city, and that it is about as heavy as that which will be thrown this fall.

The vote of November, 1871, as divided between WILLERS and SCRIBNER, was not a fair test of the relative strength of the Democratic and Republican parties. For reasons known to all who were familiar with the politics of the city last fall, the vote for WILLERS and his associates on the Democratic State ticket was seriously diminished, while that for SCRIBNER and his associates was for like causes correspondingly increased. The then recent exposure of the Tammany frauds tended, indirectly at least, to depress the vote for the Democratic nominees, while the uprising for reform aided the Republican candidates. For these causes, and through the well-directed attacks of Apollo Hall upon the regular Democratic organization, and the then untarnished prestige of the Committee of Seventy, we think about 7,000 Democratic votes in this city were diverted from the Democratic State ticket and given to the Republican State ticket. This would put the Democratic vote of the city last year up to 90,000, and reduce the Republican vote to 47,000.

But these figures furnish only a part of the elements essential to intelligent calculations based on the vote of this city last November. At that time Tammany Hall was under the ban. It had been repudiated by the Democratic State Convention. A powerful array of Democratic leaders and an enthusiastic body of the rank and file of the party had opened upon it and its candidates a heavy reform cannonade from Apollo Hall. And yet, in spite of all these adverse influences, SHANDLEY, JONES, LEDWITH, and the other city candidates of the Tammany organization, got on the average nearly 55,000 votes, or in other words, a vote a little larger than that received by SCRIBNER, the Republican nominee for Secretary of State. At the same time a comparison of the returns for the various candidates shows pretty clearly that the vote thrown by Apollo Hall, and which may be regarded as wholly Democratic, was about 30,000.

In the light of all these figures, what, from present appearances, would seem to be the chances of the three candidates running for Mayor? On a superficial view it would look as if it were impossible for Mr. LAWRENCE not to obtain from the Democrats as many votes at least as they gave to Judge SHANDLEY and his associates on the Tammany ticket in November last. Why is he not sure of them all? The answer to this question which the Democratic opponents of Mr. LAWRENCE give is threefold. They say, in the first place, that last year WILLIAM M. TWEED threw his whole influence in favor of the Tammany candidates, and that the extent of his influence in this city at that time is shown in the fact that in the very face of the exposure of his participation in the Tammany frauds he received nearly 19,000 votes for Senator, and a majority of about 12,000 over his principal opponent, and that although his influence has since materially diminished in the city, he is still something of a power in the lower wards, and that whoever else he may dislike, his partisans will do their best to defeat the present Tammany candidates, including Mr. LAWRENCE. The Democratic opponents of Mr. LAWRENCE insist in the second place that Mr. O'BRIEN will draw pretty largely upon this Tammany vote of last fall; and we believe Mr. O'BRIEN himself thinks so. Beyond these stand another class of Democrats who say that a cloud covers the Presidential prospects of the party, which tends to dampen the ardor of the rank and file in this city, and that this will injure Mr. LAWRENCE.

But, it must be borne in mind that Mr. LAWRENCE will receive the support of the Liberal Republicans, whom some estimate as high as 10,000, while none put their numbers lower than 5,000; and these allies it is claimed will make up for all the votes Mr. TWEED may draw from him, but nevertheless will leave Mr. LAWRENCE subject to the contingency of a serious break into the ranks of the regular Democracy by Mr. O'BRIEN.

What are the prospects of Mr. HAVEMEYER? The main reliance of his supporters is upon the 54,000 votes given to SCRIBNER. They say that the same influences which sustained SCRIBNER last fall will rally around HAVEMEYER now. At the first view this point seems to be well taken. But it must be remembered that the Liberal Republicans are to be deducted from the SCRIBNER vote, and moreover, O'BRIEN insists that he will get a heavy Republican vote, which of course must come out of SCRIBNER's 54,000.

Mr. HAVEMEYER's sanguine backers boast that he will get a pretty large Democratic vote, and that this, added to the SCRIBNER vote, will elect him. But they overlook the important fact that about seven thousand of those who voted for SCRIBNER were Democrats, that they were drawn to him by the Committee of Seventy and other reform associations, and that these are the very kind of Democrats upon whom HAVEMEYER is relying for aid. May it not be that his present supporters gave them all to SCRIBNER last autumn, and that the very best they can now do is to transfer the same Democrats over to HAVEMEYER? This being so, he can only hope to get the balance of the 54,000 votes given to SCRIBNER after there shall have been deducted therefrom the Liberal Republicans who will go for LAWRENCE and the GRANT Republicans who will go for O'BRIEN.

Now, how stands Mr. O'BRIEN? He is a shrewd politician, and goes into the contest with the prestige of past triumphs. Five years ago he was elected Sheriff against the regular Democratic nominee under circumstances not unlike those now surrounding his struggle for the Mayoralty. Last November he was elected Senator over JOHN J. BRADLEY, City Chamberlain, and brother-in-law of PETER B. SWEENY, by more than 13,000 majority. Mr. O'BRIEN believes in himself, and his followers believe in him.

Mr. O'BRIEN claims that he will be elected. He puts the Democratic vote thrown in the city last fall at 90,000. His confidential friends think that HAVEMEYER may get possibly 10,000 of this vote, that LAWRENCE may get 40,000, and that O'BRIEN will certainly get 40,000. They also assert that he will receive 10,000 votes from GRANT Republicans, and under contemplated contingencies many more than that number, all of which will be a loss to HAVEMEYER. His backers seem to be confident that, though the arrangement entered into between Mr. O'BRIEN and Gen. GRANT last spring has not been faithfully kept by the latter, and therefore O'BRIEN is released from fulfilling it on his part, nevertheless a large body of Republicans will come to his aid, and thus make the race a very close one between LAWRENCE, HAVEMEYER, and O'BRIEN.

In these estimates we have given the views of the several candidates and their friends quite as much as our own. The aspect of the field changes with every turn of the wind. In the course of the coming week new data will furnish more trustworthy elements for predictions as to the result of one of the most complicated and curious political struggles that ever occurred in this metropolis.

Mr. Havemeyer a Bitter Partisan.

A great deal has been said about separating our municipal elections from State and national politics, and there is much force in the idea. The nomination of WILLIAM F. HAVEMEYER, however, contradicts this idea flatly, as is shown by the following partisan letter, written by him in relation to the pending contest:

"NEW YORK, Aug. 23, 1872.

"MY DEAR SIR: Although I know that your nomination by the Republican party as its candidate for Governor of this State is anything but agreeable to you, yet I hope the flattering manner in which it was made will induce you to accept the proffered honor.

"The effect of this act upon the people, outside of the Tammany Ring and GREELEY Junk Shop, is one of general satisfaction. At all events I can speak for myself, that my mind has been relieved of a load of anxiety which has been oppressing me for the last month, lest the Republican politicians should foist upon us a candidate who would ruin the cause of good government and honest reform, and this relief seems to be thankfully shared by that portion of the public with which I am in daily contact. I think it therefore of the highest importance that your name should be permitted to stand where it is, and although it may cause you sacrifices which you should not be called upon to make, it at the same time will crown your career with a glory which many will envy, but which is preeminently due to your life-long devotion to the best interests of our city, State, and nation.

"Yours truly, in haste, W. F. HAVEMEYER.

"To Gen. JOHN A. DIX."

The dishonesty of the above fling at Tammany Hall under its present constitution and management must be evident to all; and the malignity of the attack upon the party of national reform is equally clear.

No man who votes for HORACE GREELEY or FRANCIS KERNAN should under any circumstances be deluded into giving his suffrage to the author of the above letter.

The Emperor of Germany is reported to have decided the northwest boundary dispute in favor of the United States. Right was so clearly on the American side that it is difficult to see how any other decision could be arrived at. The boundary line between the United States and the British possessions in North America was fixed by the ASHBURTON Treaty of 1846 at the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude. It was found, however, that this line would divide Vancouver's Island, giving the lower part to the United States, and leaving three-fourths in the possession of the British. The treaty, therefore, provided that the dividing line should continue along the forty-ninth parallel to the middle of the channel which separates the continent from Vancouver's Island, and thence southerly through the middle of said channel and of Fuca Straits to the Pacific Ocean. The space between Vancouver's Island and the mainland is full of islands, and there are at least three separate channels. The British Government claimed that the Rosario Strait, the most easterly of the three, and therefore nearest the mainland, was the one meant by the treaty. The United States Government claimed that as the deflection from the forty-ninth parallel was to prevent a division of Vancouver's Island, the channel nearest the island, known as the Canal de Haro, was the proper boundary. The British Government offered to compromise on the middle channel, which would have given England the island of San Juan. The question in dispute was referred to the Emperor of Germany, who it appears has decided that the Canal de Haro is the channel which must divide the sovereignty of the Pacific coast.

In a recent speech delivered in Xenia, Ohio, the Hon. B. F. WADE undertook to speak disparagingly of the moral courage of CASSIUS M. CLAY, and related an incident which he said occurred in Washington while the CRITTENDEN compromise resolutions were under discussion, as an evidence of Mr. CLAY's weakness. Mr. WADE said that CLAY came to him at that time with a paper containing the names of fourteen Senators who had promised to vote for the resolutions if Mr. WADE would do so, and urged him to give his vote with the others. WADE indignantly refused to accede to this request, and characterized Mr. CLAY as "a man sneaking into his chamber in order to persuade him to become a traitor to his constituents." In regard to this story, Mr. CLAY raises an interesting question of veracity, declaring, in a letter addressed to the Richmond (Ky.) *Register*, that Mr. WADE's utterances about him are absolutely false in the sum and in detail. He further says that he was not in Washington in 1861, when CRITTENDEN's compromise was voted down, till after the adjournment of Congress, and was never for CRITTENDEN'S or any other compromise short of the abolition of slavery in his life; at the same time going into other details to show that Mr. WADE has been conspicuously inaccurate in his statements. Mr. CLAY then proceeds to print a letter from Mr. WADE, in which the latter manifests his astonishment at the apparent indifference of the Republican party to the fate of the people in Cuba, expressing his belief that one brave word from the Administration would be sufficient to end strife and give peace, justice, and liberty to the people of that island; and declaring that if that word should not be spoken we should be dishonored as a nation. Mr. CLAY very effectively turns the tables on his traducer by comparing WADE's brave utterances in this letter with his dumb acquiescence in GRANT's cowardly Cuban policy after receiving an appointment to promote the San Domingo job. On the whole, Mr. WADE makes a very poor showing in this spicy controversy.

By private letters from Puerto Principe we learn that the small expedition which left Puerto Plata with a few arms and a good supply of powder and lead for the Cuban patriots had been completely successful. Mr. CASTILLO, who had charge of it, delivered every package of arms, ammunition, medicines, and clothing to Gen. AGRAMONTE himself in Camaguey.

One of GRANT's most disreputable organs appears to be in difficulty. In the United States District Court in Chicago a firm of paper manufacturers have filed a creditor's petition against the *Post* Printing Company of that city, in connection with which an affidavit was presented setting forth that the company is insolvent; that for weeks its affairs have been growing worse, and that there is no prospect that it will be able to make payment of its indebtedness. The Chicago *Post* has had a brief but eventful history, having been in existence about six years, during which time numerous proprietors have paid dearly for whatever experience they gained from their connection with it. Being a specially mendacious and scurrilous sheet, it commended itself to the favorable consideration of President GRANT, who has bestowed upon its editor a lucrative Federal office.

A reported discovery of a rich silver vein near Ontonagon, on the north shore of Lake Superior, in Michigan, is causing considerable excitement in the Lake Superior region. The account given of the discovery and subsequent proceedings to perfect a claim is curious. A man named COURSER discovered the vein a short time ago, and took specimens of the mineral to Ontonagon, where copper mining has been carried on to some extent. The copper men rather turned up their noses at the ore, some calling it gray sulphuret of copper, and others iron pyrites. But COURSER at length found a man who had faith enough in the discovery to advance him the money to visit the Land Office at Marquette, on condition that half the claim should be his. On the way COURSER met ARCHY MCKELLAR, the north shore silver discoverer, and the result of this meeting was a new bargain by which MCKELLAR and COURSER became joint owners of the mine, the capitalist who advanced COURSER his stage fare apparently being left out in the cold. The superintendent of the Minnesota mine heard of the transaction, and purchased a large proportion of COURSER's half for $1,000 cash. Then some specimens of the ore came to the notice of the superintendent of Silver Island, and he purchased half of MCKELLAR's interest for $4,000. So the property, one hundred and sixty acres, is now in the hands of four men, only two of whom appear to have made any cash outlay to speak of in acquiring their shares. The vein is now said to be, in mining phrase, "the biggest thing on Lake Superior," and is expected to yield untold thousands of dollars in silver.

A correspondent writing from the western part of Kentucky says that large numbers of the colored electors in that region will vote for GREELEY. A few Blanton Duncanites are trying to influence the people there, travelling with other GRANT speakers, and finding their only audiences at GRANT meetings. But the O'CONOR movement has been as great a failure in Kentucky as it has proved elsewhere, and will not have any effect whatever on the vote of that State.

The report of a change in Japanese policy, notwithstanding its denial by those who are interested in sustaining the course of GRANT's Administration toward Japan, is verified by more recent advices. The authorities have notified foreigners residing outside of foreign settlements to return at once, and Japanese have been forbidden to lease premises to them. The Mikado's Government may be actuated in these measures by a desire to protect its subjects from the influence and example of some of the foreigners who have been sent out by GRANT's Administration to civilize the people of the East. Japan is also said to be in trouble with Corea and Formosa, and war with the first-mentioned country is imminent. The Formosans dined off several Japanese sailors, and will probably be chastised.

Among the many amendments to the answer of the Spanish Cortes to the speech of King AMADEUS, the following very pertinent one was presented by Don FERNANDO GARRIDO, editor of *La Revolucion Social* newspaper of Madrid:

"The nation desires and hopes that your Majesty will resign a crown which was presented to you by 191 Deputies, as the only method by which your Majesty can contribute to the happiness of the Spanish nation, and avoid greater calamities."

This was as wise and statesmanlike as it was frank.

We are informed that numbers of negroes are arriving in New Jersey from Pennsylvania, though there is no industrial demand for their services. The power which controlled the New Jersey Legislature last year aspires to own it this year, and money and mercenaries will be plentifully furnished to aid the cause of Grantism. New Jersey has a Democratic majority of several thousand on a general vote, and it behooves that majority to see that the State shall not be misrepresented either in the Legislature or Congress, and that New Jersey's electoral vote shall be cast for the Democracy's Presidential candidate.

Turn Out! Turn Out!!

There will be a grand ratification meeting of the Democratic and Liberal Republican city and county ticket in Tammany Hall this evening. The best speakers in the ranks of the Reformers are announced to deliver addresses. Let the people turn out!

A. R. LAWRENCE FOR MAYOR

THE PEOPLE'S ENTHUSIASM FOR THE NEW CANDIDATE.

The Democratic and Liberal Republican Nominee for the Mayoralty Showing the Stuff he is Made of—The Welcome he Meets Wherever he Goes—Eloquent and Stirring Address in the Nineteenth Ward.

Last night the Democrats and Liberal Republicans of the Twentieth Assembly District had a great meeting for the ratification of the national, State, and city tickets. Fifty-fourth street and Third avenue were ablaze with fireworks, Chinese lanterns, and calcium lights, and an immense throng filled the thoroughfares. Brevoort Hall, on Fifty-fourth street, was jammed shortly after 7 o'clock with the most reputable citizens of the Nineteenth Ward.

At half past 7 precisely the meeting was called to order, and Major Quincy was elected by acclamation to the chair. In a few appropriate words, the Major explained the object of the meeting, and introduced the Democratic and Liberal Republican candidate for Mayor, Mr. Abraham R. Lawrence.

MR. LAWRENCE'S RECEPTION.

As Mr. Lawrence arose a mighty shout of welcome shook the building. The cry was caught up by the crowd outside who were unable to gain admittance to the hall, and the words "Abraham Lawrence for Mayor" passed along the enthusiastic throng, followed by one deafening cheer after another.

Mr. Lawrence stepped to the front of the platform and bowed his thanks. After the sounds of welcome had died away, Mr. Lawrence spoke as follows:

MR. LAWRENCE'S SPEECH.

FELLOW CITIZENS: I thank you for the hearty reception you have given me. It assures me that, though I am a stranger to most of you, you are true Democrats and stand by the ticket which the heads of your organization have agreed upon. It has been said that I am an unknown man; that nobody ever heard of me before. I think that is a good sign. It is a sign that I have not graduated in the school of professional politicians; it is a sign that I have not been a ward bummer, the confederate of official thieves, or the corrupt hanger-on of a corrupt ring. If I had been any of these, then, ten to one, in these days of reform and ring exposures, my misdeeds would have secured me notoriety, and my name would have been "familiar in your mouths as household words."

Because I am not known to you, it has been suggested that I should go through the Assembly Districts of the city and speak at your meetings, so that you might see what sort of a man I am and hear me declare the platform on which I stand. This is why I am here to-night. [Cries of "We're glad to see you!" "We like your looks!" and cheers.]

MR. LAWRENCE'S RECORD.

Fellow citizens, I was born and bred, and have lived all my life in this city. Its interests are mine. When it prospers, I rejoice. When its prosperity decreases, I am sad. I have been all my life long a Democrat. I embraced these principles at an early age because I believed them to be sound and right, and I find them fast now because I have proved them to be so. [Cheers.] Knowing that I hold these principles, the Liberal Republicans and Democrats have selected me to stand on their joint ticket as their candidate for the highest municipal office. This nomination is of itself a disgrace to the metropolis of the Union which can only be removed by a crushing rejection of the candidate through an enormous majority.

O'Brien's election would bring about the rule of the lowest and roughest mob, which he could not hold in check even if he desired to. The honor of republican institutions requires an annihilating overthrow of O'Brien, and the whole world will regard this struggle in this light.

THE FILTHY HORSE CARS.

The Railroad Nabobs Who Dictate to the Board of Health What Shall be Done—The Old Abuses to be Continued.

Yesterday at 1 P. M. Messrs. George Law, of the Eighth Avenue Railroad, John T. Connover, of the Bleecker street road, James W. Foshay, of the Broadway and Seventh avenue road, and William Squires, of the Third avenue road, appeared before the Sanitary Committee of the Board of Health, to discuss the new ordinances doing away with cushions, straw, and dirty linen, and providing for cleanliness and proper ventilation in the horse cars. Mr. Squires offered to take out the seat cushions from November 1 to May 1, and said that cushioned backs had long since gone out of use. He thought cushions were better for health. He was willing to take out the straw and put in mats.

George Law stuck out for straw and cushions. He said:

The fact is, you can't do nothing with mats, you know. If you take out mats you'll have to use the bare boards, you know. Now, cushions are not unhealthy, but people likes them. As for our backs, we have them fastened to the cars, you know, and we had to take them out when repairing; then people made such a fuss about it that we had to put them in again, you know. People, and especially ladies, you know, complained that their clothes got soiled with the dust, and then they looked for backs, you know. Now, when I was twenty years old I did not want to sit on cushions. I could then ride on wood, you know. But as people gets older they want cushions. That's how it is, you know.

After more desultory conversation, the Committee said they would report to the board on Wednesday.

It is understood that they will report in favor of cushions on seats in winter, and straw, provided it is changed every morning. Cars need not be washed if they can be kept thoroughly clean without water, on the ground that they cannot be dried in winter. Dirty cloth will be allowed on the front platform as usual, but ventilators will be required.

THE NEXT DUEL.

An Agonizing Fight in the Stock Exchange—One of Stonewall Jackson's Staff Comes to Grief—Rifles or Pistols Called For.

Thursday was a very active day in the Stock Exchange. The rush and energy were immense, and a perfect Babel of tongues sent an echo through the building. Amid the uproar a shout suddenly arose, "A fight, a fight!" A strange lull fell upon the assembly, and men looked this way and that to see whence the cry came, and to ascertain its cause.

It was soon discovered that the scene of conflict was among what is known as the Northwestern crowd. There a mass of human heads surged like a stormy sea. Arms flew aloft in the air, excited men yelled "Fair play," "Make a ring," and so forth, and to that centre all the brokers at once made a rush. When they reached the spot the disturbance had ended, and all that could be heard was "A quick thing," and "No blood drawn."

From eye witnesses of the cause of this unwonted uproar and excitement, a SUN reporter yesterday learned the following particulars:

Mr. J. H. Colquitt, of the firm of Colquitt & Barton, 24 New street, and Mr. F. W. Savin, of O. M. Bogart & Co., 8 Assay street, were trading. A misunderstanding arose, and Mr. Colquitt questioned, in very strong terms, the veracity of Mr. Savin. Mr. Savin thereupon drew off and punched Mr. Colquitt in the head twice or thrice. Mr. Colquitt reeled and tried to defend himself, and in so doing revealed the fact that his right arm was disabled. Mr. Colquitt having been shot in the hand when on Stonewall Jackson's staff.

As soon as Mr. Savin discovered this he refrained from further punching, and expressed very great regret at having struck Mr. Colquitt. He was ready to apologize amply, but Mr. Colquitt said that no regrets or apologies were necessary; he didn't want them and wouldn't accept them.

"Keep your regrets to yourself," said Mr. Colquitt; "I'm willing to meet you with rifle or pistol whenever you please."

Friends then interfered, and the combatants separated. The greatest excitement prevailed in the Stock Exchange, and for a time all business operations were suspended. The matter was brought to the attention of Mr. Ed. King, the President of the Board, and he at once announced a special meeting of the Governing Committee for this afternoon to investigate the matter. The handsome Mitchell Moses and A. M. Judson have been notified to be present to testify.

THE PRISON PEN AGAIN.

The Death of Another Prisoner in the Jefferson Market Den.

On Thursday afternoon Officer H. Kane found August Bellinger in front of a lager beer saloon on Eighth avenue, between Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth streets, in a state of intoxication, and took him to the Twentieth street station. Here he was kept until 8 A. M. yesterday. Then Officer Kane escorted him to Jefferson Market Police Court. Here he was placed in the prisoners' pen, a long, low room, musty with filth, with an odor between that of a Water street barroom and a shamble house. The windows are poorly glazed, and the wind enters the filthy den with all its force. Soon after 8 A. M. Officer Bevernze, who was charge of the pen, reported to Sergeant Williams that a man was lying among the prisoners in a fit. Sergeant Williams hurried to the pen, and found Bellinger lying on the floor. His face was ghastly, his teeth set, and his limbs already stiffening. The poor man never spoke. Dr. Landley of 80 Jane street, the police surgeon for the Ninth Ward, was sent for, but before the messenger had been gone two minutes August Bellinger was dead. When the doctor arrived he said that the man had died of heart disease, superinduced by hard drinking.

Bellinger was a musician, and lived at 354 West Thirty-second street. For a long time past he had been given to intemperance. Some months ago his son had him confined in an inebriate asylum; but instantly on his discharge he resumed his cups. He was about 50 years of age.

Inundations in Italy.

ROME, Oct. 25.—The overflow of the river Po has caused serious disasters in the plains of Piedmont and Lombardy. Whole villages have been inundated and the inhabitants driven to the high ground for safety. Horses, farm stock, crops, &c., have been swept away, and traffic has ceased. The rivers Mincio and Ticino, affluents of the Po, have also overflowed their banks, causing considerable damage.

VIEWS OF LEADING JOURNALS.

The Contest is between Lawrence and O'Brien—Havemeyer only a Blind.

From the Sun.

The presentation of Havemeyer's name to the people is evidently a trick by means of which the Republicans hope to cover up the little arrangement made with O'Brien. The Republican candidate had no chance of being elected Mayor, and O'Brien conceded it hard to fight Tammany alone, so he agreed to support Grant on the condition that the Republicans should assist him to the Mayoralty. James O'Brien carried out his part of the bargain, and at a public meeting in the Bowery openly declared himself for Grant and practically pledged his party to support the Republican national ticket. It is not probable that a man brought up in the school in which Mr. O'Brien formed his political creed would have ventured to take such a step unless he had something to gain by so doing. He completed his part of the bargain, and now we see the Republicans are doing their share. Havemeyer is simply a dummy candidate, a gentleman to be admired, but not voted for, except by his own family and a few select friends. It will be noticed that Apollo Hall makes no complaint at the action of the Republicans in nominating Havemeyer. Would not O'Brien and his followers do so if they were not in the secret that Havemeyer is but a "dummy?" Of course they would, for their sympathies are for the man Grant, and they barter their political principles for a price.

O'Brien's prospects of election are good. He is popular, has many friends, and they work very hard. O'Brien banners decorate every thoroughfare, and his bonfires illuminate the city at night.

Reasons Why Every Honest Democrat Should Support Abraham R. Lawrence.

From the Utica Observer.

The nomination of Mr. Abraham R. Lawrence for Mayor of New York was made in the interest of reform. Mr. Lawrence was known as a citizen who had achieved an honorable fame in business circles, while fulfilling the whole measure of his duties as a patriotic citizen. He never affiliated with the pack whereof Mr. Henry Clews is a specimen card. That pack is quite too large in metropolitan society. Those who are shuffled in it are content to neglect all the responsibilities of citizenship till their feelings are touched through their pockets, or, worse yet, till they see the chance of trading their commercial reputations for the unclean but juicy drippings of Custom House rings or similar iniquities. Mr. Lawrence sought the overthrow of the Tammany conspirators, joined the Committee of Seventy, and labored zealously with Tilden, O'Conor, and the rest; not for the purpose of forming a thieves' coalition with Jimmy O'Brien, nor yet for the purpose of compromising with Tweed on condition that Tweed yielded generously of his plunder to swell Grant's coffers, but for the purpose of the fight against municipal robbery to clear the decks of robbers—not to raise another pirate flag over the robbers' head for their protection.

Well, Mr. Lawrence was nominated for Mayor a fortnight ago by the Democratic party under the leadership of Mr. Tilden, Mr. Schell, Mr. Belmont, and other men of equal standing, into whose control the organization of Tammany Hall passed through last year's bloodless revolution. The nomination was endorsed by the Liberal Republicans, and there seems no good reason why Mr. Lawrence should not be elected by an overwhelming majority.

The chief opposition to him comes from James O'Brien, who has a wild desire to be Mayor of New York—an office for which he is disqualified by reason of his dishonesty and unqualified by reason of his ignorance.

O'Brien and Tweed now in the same boat. Last fall, when O'Brien was playing the farcical role of a Reform candidate for the Senate, Tweed furnished him with $143,000 in cash to buy his way to power. We stand ready to prove this statement, if it should be contradicted under any show of authority.

O'Brien's supposed strength (which is vastly exaggerated) has been skilfully used by him for trading purposes with the Administration faction. In conclusion, with Tom Murphy he first attempted to run the Straight-out Democratic movement in New York city. Failing ignobly in this, he made an open bid for favor by declaring for Grant. He had received some promise from the Radical managers to the effect that his ambition should be gratified by a Republican nomination for the office of Mayor. He first placed himself in the field under the skeleton Apollo Hall organization, after a majority of its original members had repudiated him and his pretensions. Then he waited for events. The events came last Saturday evening. The "regular" Republicans met and nominated Mr. Havemeyer for Mayor. Mr. Havemeyer is a very worthy old gentleman, too venerable to be efficient and not popular enough to be elected. As early as Friday of last week he peremptorily refused the use of his name as a candidate. And right here we reach the milk in the cocoanut. Havemeyer's willingness to run strengthens the hands of O'Brien. He knows that no serious effort will be put forth to secure the triumph of the ancient Havemeyer, while he hopes that, through the "dummy" candidate, votes enough will be lost to Lawrence to enable him (O'Brien) to slip into the Mayor's office.

O'Brien has the cooperation of Murphy and Tweed, while Mr. O'Conor and Mr. Ottendorfer (who are practical in all things but politics) propose to support Havemeyer, and thus throw away their votes on the local as well as on the national election.

We have pictured the political situation in New York. How it will end time must determine. It would be a marvellous and a disgraceful thing if the whirlwind of reform which swept over the city last year should subside next month, leaving Jimmy O'Brien Mayor of the metropolis. Let us hope that the wisdom and good sense of the people will avert such a calamity.

What Ottendorfer Says of James O'Brien.

From the Staats-Zeitung.

In the campaign we shall not so much occupy ourselves with O'Brien's personal character—although there is enough in this that is revolting and repulsive—as with the fact that he is the representative of a system which forms the source of all our political misery. The significance of James O'Brien lies in this, that he is the leader of an enormous band of professional politicians who live by the plunder of the the community. In case of his election, O'Brien's chief purpose would be to take care of his friends; and even if these were of a far better character than they are, the necessity which would lie upon O'Brien as Mayor could not fail to be of the greatest danger to the community. Every branch of the city government would become a receptacle