The Sun.

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ROBESON SELF-CONVICTED.

HIS USE OF THE PUBLIC FUNDS TO PROP A BANKRUPT FIRM.

The Illegal Advances to Pay Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co.—Robeson's Reckless Misrepresentations Refuted by his Own Telegrams—A Clear Case for Impeachment.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—The attempt of Secretary Robeson to defend his conduct in using the money and credit of the Government to sustain the sinking fortunes of the London branch of the house of Jay Cooke & Co. will only make his guilt the more apparent when all the facts in the case are exposed. His answer to the interrogatories of the Real Estate Pool Committee is carefully prepared, and was meant to deceive Congress and the country. Important facts are withheld, and others wilfully misrepresented.

In the first place he pretends to give "the amounts and dates of the various deposits" made with Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., but he stops short on the 2d day of July, 1873. Why did he do this? Was that the last deposit he made with the firm before the panic of 1873? This is undoubtedly what he would have the committee infer. Indeed, he does not say one word in his answer about the deposits made by cable on Sept. 24, six days after the failure of Jay Cooke & Co. This answer, it must be borne in mind, was written on the 23d of March, six days before his telegrams concerning these deposits were made public by the committee. After mentioning in his letter that "the amounts and dates of various deposits" were shown in an accompanying statement, he proceeds to say:

After the failure of the firm of Jay Cooke & Co., the correspondents of Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. in this country, although said last mentioned firm continued to pay, as usual, the navy drafts drawn upon them in regular course, the department was not willing, in the unsettled condition of financial matters, to continue the same account without additional security, which was accordingly demanded and given before the department would agree to continue the same."

The fact is, as shown by Robeson's telegrams, that one million and a half of dollars were given to Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. six days after the failure of the principal house in this country, and without any security whatever being put up by either the house here or its branch in London. This is conclusively shown by the following cable despatch from Bradford, the Paymaster-General of the navy, who was in London along with Cattell trying to bolster the credit of the bankrupt firm. Under date of Sept. 22 Bradford telegraphs:

With Cattell have had long interview with house. They show themselves solvent if their New York securities good. *In this exceptional moment think they cannot* [illegible] *without assistance. They earnestly* [illegible] *protect* [illegible] *with security here in New York.* See McCulloch; have positive assurance communicating to-day that navy draft, in regular course, will be paid. Feel sure any action crushing house most unwise for Government interest.

It is perfectly clear from that portion of the despatch which I have italicised that Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. were unable to give any tangible security even to protect the deposits already in their hands, and everybody knows that Jay Cooke & Co. could give no security, for they had become insolvent, and all their assets must, under the Bankrupt law, be held for the benefit of all their creditors. It was too late, in other words, for the principal house here to make the Government a preferred creditor in order to protect its deposits with the branch house in London. If it could not secure the Government against loss on money already in the hands of the London firm, how could it, after it was bankrupt, make the Government good on deposits to be made in the future?

That nothing was done to secure the Government is further shown by another despatch cabled by Bradford on the same day, Sept. 22, which is as follows:

Yours received and fully understood. Earn stly at work to carry out views expressed. By request of house, am there constantly. All the books and daily transactions open to me. *They are preparing* [illegible] *been, so as to enable them to be in* [illegible] *your terms.* If assets are as reported—and I believe they are—will show surplus outside of private estate of resident partners. Bush are continues as usual and publication shows confidence in house. Hope to-morrow to cable you something definite and satisfactory. The house will cable to-morrow through their bankers to all parts that navy drafts will be promptly met.

The very next day Robeson took definite action in the matter, as the following telegram shows:

LONG BRANCH, N. J., Sept. 23, 1873.
Commodore Reynolds, Acting Secretary Navy, Washington, D. C.:
Telegraphed you to-day to give Cutler requisition for $500,000. Give him another for $1,000,000 in addition. Make up civil. Go in person to secretary of Treasury and submit to not through telegraph, at midnight. Answer to 29 Broadway. GEO. M. ROBESON, Secretary.

On the following day Reynolds telegraphed as follows:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Sept. 24, '73.
Geo. M. Robeson, care Pay Director G. F. Cutler, 29 Broadway, New York:
Requisitions through, and amount to credit of Cutler as Assistant Treasurer's books, New York.
WILLIAM REYNOLDS, Acting Secretary.

Thus it appears that Robeson gave Bradford, the Paymaster-General of the Navy, $1,500,000 in gold of the money of the United States, to be used to sustain the credit of the falling firm of Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., without their giving one dollar of security to protect the Government. The two telegrams from Bradford, above quoted, prove this beyond a shadow of a doubt. In the first he says that it would be impossible for them in the then condition of things to give tangible security in London, but in a day or two they may "possibly" be able to arrange to protect the account with securities in New York. There is not one word here about hypothecating securities to protect a further advance. If they have good luck, however, they may be able to make the Government good on what it has already in their hands. In the second telegram Bradford says that the firm is figuring up its assets—making a balance sheet—to enable them to meet the views of the Secretary, and if they make as good a showing as he expects there will be a surplus outside the private estates of the English members of the house. It is still all hypothesis. There is nothing definite—no tangible security. And yet in the face of these facts Robeson risks $1,500,000 in gold additional of the Government money with a house that is unable to give "tangible security" for nearly a million already in its hands! This is the fact he deliberately suppresses in his answer of March 23 to the committee. He never once referred to this million and a half that he had advanced on Sept. 24, but he deliberately states that the Government would not suffer the account to remain until additional security had been given, which is, as I have shown, a double falsehood.

But this is not all. He goes on in his answer—after the above untrue statement about requiring Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. to give additional security before allowing them to retain the account—to say:

The regular time for a new remittance to the said foreign account in usual course came about the 1st of September, 1873, and the department was then applied to by the firm to allow it to make such a remittance, but declined to do so at the time, though our navy drafts were still paid in due course by said firm as agents as before. About the middle of the month of October, 1873, however, the same necessity existed to make new remittances to said account or to allow it to stop the payment of our drafts. Consultation was had with the Secretary of the Treasury and the President upon the subject, and in consideration not only of the fact that any difficulty in the payment of our navy drafts, which had been drawn, and were being drawn by our paymasters abroad upon said account for our regular agents, and which were out in all parts of the world, would locally inconvenience and embarrass the service of our naval service abroad, but also the fact that any discredit of the said firm of Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., which would result from the failure of our drafts, would react to our account at the disadvantage of the Government, which was then carrying on a large financial agency, which was then carrying on the business of the Government. Should I transgress with my judgment, I have said to the Secretary of the Treasury that Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. were in advance to the new Government loan, it was determined to be best to let the firm have said account, provided the Navy Department could receive additional security to insure the Government against possible loss.

This is what he said to the committee in his answer of March 23, six days before his telegrams were made public. On the 30th of March, the day after the publication of the tell-tale despatches, he told the following story to the correspondent of the *New York Herald* in explanation of the telegrams:

Mr. Robeson remarked this evening in conversation with a friend concerning the despatches recently published that they do not give an entirely accurate account of his action in the matter thus concerned. He said that it should be understood that on the 16th of September, two days before Jay Cooke & Co. failed, and when he, of course, had no idea that they were going to fail, the time had come for a usual remittance to Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., London, who were the agents of the navy, and he accordingly ordered this remittance, $1 million; that in a despatch, not yet published, of the 18th, he ordered the Acting Secretary to stop this remittance, Jay Cooke & Co. having then failed, and that the second despatch given in the *Herald* was Commodore Reynolds's answer to this order, reporting that the remittance had been stopped in time.

Having deliberately falsified in his answer to the committee, and been caught therein by his own telegrams, he found it necessary to explain by making another statement, which I will also prove to be false. In his statement of "the amounts and dates of the various deposits made in maintenance of the account" with Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., which he sent to the committee with his answer, I find that on July 2 1873, he remitted to said firm the sum of $1,000,000. This was after the commencement of the fiscal year 1873-4, and this money came out of the appropriation for that year. The remittances for the previous fiscal year had all been made, as the following dates and amounts show: July 13, 1872, $1,000,000; Sept. 19, 1872, $800,000; March 12, 1873, $600,000; June 4, 1873, $250,000. Thus it will be seen that $3,350,000 had been transmitted during the fiscal year of 1872-3, and of course it will not be claimed by Robeson that any part of the remittance of $1,000,000 on July 2, 1873, could be used to meet the navy drafts drawn during the latter part of the previous fiscal year. There had not been a single instance, moreover, during six years when any remittance was made to the fiscal agents in September. They were usually made by Robeson to the Baring Brothers four times a year—at the beginning or close of each quarter—and with this solitary exception in 1872, the same order was followed in remitting to Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. It therefore was not the time, about Sept. 16, for "a usual remittance." The "regular time," as Robeson says in his answer to the committee, "in usual course came about the first of October." But on August 30, 1873, he increased the deposit with Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. nearly $500,000, as the following despatch shows:

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30, 1873.
Bradford, care Stevens, 17 Henrietta street, London:
Edwards's despatch correct. Amount one hundred thousand sterling. ROBESON.

This fact Robeson withheld from the committee. He stopped short on July 2, and gave none of the subsequent remittances to Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. If the time for "a usual remittance" had arrived on Sept. 16, 1873, and if the deposits had not been increased by $500,000 sixteen days previously, then the balance with the fiscal agents would have been running low, because the close of the first quarter was drawing near. Now, observe the dilemma Mr. Robeson has got himself into. If he increased the deposit by $500,000 on Aug. 30, 1873, then during the first quarter of that fiscal year he had given Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. $1,500,000, and there could have been no possible necessity for "a usual remittance," sixteen days later, of $1,000,000. But in his conversation with the correspondent of the *Herald* on the 30th ult., he said that after he had stopped on the 18th of September the draft of $1,000,000 given on his orders of the 16th, "he telegraphed to Paymaster Bradford, then in London in conjunction with Mr. Cattell, to stay and look into the affairs of Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., the question being whether the house was safe and whether the Government's balance with them, at that time about $900,000, was secure."

This statement is doubly important, for it proves first, that between July 2 and Sept. 16 he had increased the deposits with Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. nearly $500,000; and second, that the balance being on Sept. 16 about $900,000, there was no occasion at that time to send "a usual remittance" of $1,000,000. There could have been no public reason for keeping a balance of $1,000,000 with the London branch of Jay Cooke & Co., as Robeson virtually admits he was doing, but there doubtless was a private reason therefor.

It is well known now that the Cooke concern had been laboring in deep water for more than a year previous to the panic of 1873. They had resorted to all sorts of expedients to obtain possession of other people's money, with which to buoy up their sinking fortunes, in the vain hope of some lucky windfall happening to save them from impending bankruptcy. The First National Bank of this city, which was owned by the Cookes, had established a redemption agency for national banks throughout the country, and special privileges were accorded this agency by the Treasury Department, whereby they were enabled to hold out inducements to banks to transact their business of exchanging their mutilated currency for new notes through it, instead of with the Government itself. This gave the Cookes the control, on an average, of nearly $1,000,000 of the money of the various banks for whom they acted as agents, and this money went into the maw of Jay Cooke & Co. Of course somebody profited by this loaning of the public money and the public credit to a private banking firm. It is true that the Cookes were connected in various ways with the many Rings which have exerted so much influence at Washington during the last eight years. They were deep in all the jobbery of the District Ring, along with Shepherd, and put $25,000 of other people's money into the Real Estate Pool. They were largely instrumental in robbing the poor negroes by using the Freedman's Bank as a tender to their own institutions, taking care always to have the paper of shaky Ring friends discounted with the unfortunate colored people's money. They were the bankers of the President and his Cabinet ministers, and had it in their power to enrich them all by using the official information which they had in advance of everybody in financial circles. They put Grant into the Seneca stone job and Belknap into the Real Estate Pool, and they carried the paper of Robeson & Cattell, but there was a reason outside of all this for handing over to their London branch the navy fund, and especially for keeping there constantly a balance of nearly a million dollars.

The country has not forgotten the scandal caused by the removal of the fiscal agency from the Baring Brothers, in whose hands it had been for nearly three-quarters of a century, and placing it with the newly-fledged London bank of Jay Cooke & Co. It was freely charged at the time that Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. had received the navy deposits and Henry Clews & Co. the diplomatic fund through corrupt means. And only a few months ago one Cheever, a notorious Washington lobbyist, brought suit in the New York courts to recover a portion of the profits which Henry Clews bargained to pay him, in consideration of the influence he exerted in obtaining for the London house of Clews & Co. the diplomatic deposits. In this suit Cheever swore that he was to divide his share of the profits with a person named Van Buren—an individual unknown by that name to anybody in Washington. Is it not altogether probable that somebody under the alias of Van Buren, or Van Something Else, was to share through a Cheever or some other lobbyist a portion of the profits on the large balances kept with Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co.? But there is another point in Robeson's statement to the committee above quoted to which I wish to call attention, to prove by his own telegrams its falsity. He has deliberately suppressed the fact that a million and a half had been remitted in September, and attempted to deceive the committee with the statement that he had required the fiscal agents to give him security in addition to the regular bond before he would allow them to retain the account; when the fact is, as I have already shown, that they were not only allowed to retain the agency, but $1,500,000 was added to the balance of $900,000 in their hands on Sept. 24, without a dollar of security being put up to secure the Government. He represents again that "*about the middle of October*" it was necessary for the Government to decide whether it would be best to withdraw its account from Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., or to make them new advances to meet navy drafts coming in. This it was determined to do, he says, taking additional security from the firm to secure the Government against possible loss. Now, the fact is that before the middle of October he had authorized Bradford, who was ordered to remain in London, solely to use the money of the Government to help sustain the credit of the bankrupt fiscal agents, to apply money under his control outside of Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., to protect that concern from a run on its house by a suspicious public. That is shown conclusively by the following cable despatch to Bradford:

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11, 1873.
Bradford, B. F. Stevens, 17 Henrietta street, London:
Letter received. Action entirely approved. *When balances down to one hundred and twenty (120) you may, if you think for best interests,* PROTECT INCONVENIENCING DRAFTS DURING HEAVY PAYMENTS PRESENT MONTH; but your supervision should be constant and your information full; and understanding mentioned in letter should be confirmed, and if necessary acted on promptly. Answer. ROBESON.

The portion of this despatch which I have italicised shows that Robeson, before the middle of October, had authorized Bradford to use Government money to protect drafts of other parties than our naval paymasters, which might give Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. inconvenience during the heavy payments they would have to make in that month. This is the only reasonable interpretation which can be given to the language of the despatch. There was one hundred and twenty thousand pounds sterling with the firm, or $600,000 of our money, which was, of course, ample to meet any navy drafts which would come in, and Robeson's instructions to Bradford can mean nothing else but that he should use other funds under his control to pay drafts that were not drawn by naval paymasters if they were inconvenienced by the tottering house.

Again Robeson telegraphs as follows:

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10, 1873.
Bradford, B. F. Stevens, 17 Henrietta street, London:
This is to confirm cypher despatch of to-day. You are authorized to increase to one million on account, as needed. Am further assured here. If any reverse against action known, telegraph. Answer. ROBESON.

These despatches, according to Robeson's own admissions to the committee in his answer of March 23, prove: First, that before the "consultation was had with the Secretary of the Treasury and the President upon the subject," about the middle of October, he had authorized Bradford to advance the money of the Government to help Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. tide over any trouble they might have "during heavy payments" of that month; and, second, that in addition to such advances he was authorized on the 18th of October to add $1,000,000 to the balance already in the hands of the firm. Even accepting his own statements as true, which I have clearly shown cannot always be done, there was an additional security for the advances authorized in the cable despatch of Oct. 11. What these advances amount to I am unable to say, but Robeson admits that during October and November he remitted to Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., in all, $1,666,734.83. Thus I am able to figure up his total remittances during that fiscal year from the data furnished by his despatches and his letter to the committee. They are as follows: July 2, $1,000,000; Aug. 30, $500,000; Sept. 24, $1,500,000; Oct. 18, $1,000,000; at various times during October and November, dates not given, but evidently including the advances authorized by despatch of Oct. 11, $666,734.83, making a total of $4,666,734.83. Now, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, the deposits with Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. amounted to $3,500,000, and during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873, they were $3,350,000. Thus it will be seen that up to Dec. 1, 1873, less than one-half of the fiscal year 1873-4, Robeson gave the bankrupt concern $1,166,734.83 more than he had previously deposited with them in the whole of any one fiscal year. And his statement of the remittances to Baring Brothers show that the highest amount ever deposited with them in one year was $2,500,000.

These facts clearly demonstrate that Robeson has not only been guilty of recklessly gambling with the public money—for his course in depositing the Government funds with Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co. after Sept. 18, 1873, was simply betting that much money against a lot of risky securities that the house would not fail—but he must have largely exceeded, in so doing, the appropriations for the Pay Department, and thereby violated the law. If a case of impeachment cannot be made out against him for such misconduct, then our public officers have little to fear from any violation of the laws of their country.

But there is another point which I wish to call attention to. The sworn statements which Robeson presented to the Circuit Court of the United States in Philadelphia are not borne out by the facts, as they are shown in his despatches and his answer to the committee. His telegrams to Bradford and the answers thereto prove beyond question that at the time he made the deposit of $1,500,000 to the London branch of Jay Cooke & Co. he had not obtained any security from either the firm here or in London, and that the firm here having become insolvent six days previous, the Government could not be held to be a preferred creditor on account of the money advanced on Sept. 24. Hence the private creditors to Jay Cooke & Co. present these facts to the court it must reverse its decree making the United States a preferred creditor.

THE NATION'S BIRTHDAY.

Arranging for a Monster Centennial Celebration in New Jersey.

A convention of the New Jersey Central Sangerbunde in Germania Hall, Hoboken, yesterday, completed arrangements for the monster Centennial celebration. There were delegates from Newark, Jersey City, Paterson, Elizabeth, Trenton, New Brunswick, Hackensack, Hoboken, and other cities. The programme adopted includes a four days' festival. On the 3d of July a grand concert is to be had in the Newark Rink, with 500 voices, and an orchestra of 250 instruments. On the Fourth of July the different organizations will celebrate the day in their own cities. On the following day the societies will meet in Schützen Park, Union Hill, in a State festival. The programme is to include vocal and instrumental music, choruses, and dancing. The festival will end on the 6th of July with a grand banquet in Castle Hall, in the park.

Honest Push.

In our January number we alluded to the genuine enterprise of Dr. Dundas Dick, the gentleman who coats fluid medicines with a film of gelatine so that they shall not offend the palate. Our remarks were merely by way of comment upon an article in the *N. Y. Reporter*. A Christian friend of ours, a druggist by profession, calls attention to our article and reminds us that in our well-intentioned comments on Dr. Dick's business tactics we omitted one very essential point—his sterling honesty. Our friend thinks that, originally, too much credit is given to energy and business activity, and too little to those whose efforts which go to make up the substantial character—integrity and scrupulous fair dealing. He says that the example to be placed before men is not the mere fact of success achieved by dishonest means, or by notoriety; but that of wealth accumulated or influence gained by righteousness—that is, by right-doing.

Our friend is correct, and we never held to any other view. When we said that Dr. Dick's success, like the success of Mr. A. T. Stewart, resulted largely from his ability to do better than any of his many employees one only of the multifarious duties of his factory, we did not mean to indicate that his intimate practical acquaintance with the details of his vast business could be construed as taking the place of integrity. Knowledge cannot compensate for lack of honesty. The two must go sand in hand, or failure will come sooner or later. A good lady, who knew Mr. Stewart when he was only one clerk, told us a few days ago that he never allowed that clerk, or any of the many thousands since and now in his employ, to recommend goods offered for sale. His plan has always been to exhibit the articles and let them do their own talking. So with Dr. Dick. Physicians know that they can prescribe his pure, protected remedies with the certainty that the result anticipated will follow their use. They are just what they purport to be, nothing more, nothing less. It is a pleasure to see such pure drugs and bulbs and ere[illegible] in transparent glass, so far as purity is concerned. The only difference is that the glass is soluble and nutritious, being made of transparent gelatine.

Dr. Dick is not a manufacturer of "patent medicines." His tasteless remedies are not secret or proprietary nostrums, but are strictly "official;" that is, authorized medicines of the United States Dispensatory. It is only in selecting pure, fresh drugs, and protecting them well, rapidly and elegantly, that Dr. Dick's great skill is shown. The drugs thus enclosed are potent, active powerful, and are usually ordered by physicians. Druggists of our acquaintance testify that more than three-fourths of all Dr. Dick's goods sold are called for by written prescriptions. When thus ordered the drug at removes the outer wrapper and only the magic letters "D. D. & Co." denote the maker's name.

The products of no chemist's laboratory stand higher than his. He has earned his popularity by fair dealing, and by the integrity of his methods and the purity of his medicines placed himself on the plane occupied by Dr. Bigelow of Brooklyn, whose manufactured drugs stand at the head. If sound age, energy and good taste have done much of this, an grity has done even more. Druggists and doctors know that Dick's fluid medicines can be relied upon. In the one word—faithfulness—we have the causes of his great success. Early summed up.—*Hall's Journal of Health, March, 1876.*—*Ads.*

THE NEW YORK CLUB HOUSE.

A Fire that at one Time Threatened to be very Disastrous.

At about nine o'clock last evening, while the members were in the New York Club House, in Twenty-fifth street, at dinner, an alarm of fire was given, and a tongue of flame was discovered running through the elevator from the kitchen to the roof. Soon afterward Police Commissioner Voorhis rushed into the house and told the inmates that a woman was on the roof shouting for help. He had given the alarm to the police, and a large force were quickly on the spot. The shrieks of the woman on the roof, a chambermaid named Lizzie Sullivan, attracted the earnest attention of the thousands of people who had gathered on the three sides of the building. Commissioner Voorhis and Detective Thompson had reached her over the roof of the adjoining house in Broadway, and were quickly joined by Chief of Battalion Jicquel, who held in his hand a coil of rope ready to throw to her. The woman, who had crawled along the edge of the roof from her bedroom in the attic on the Broadway side, nearly around to the Fifth avenue side, seemed to have lost her self-possession; but as a gust of wind blew away the smoke, she was seen moving toward the adjoining roof, under the safe escort of her protectors.

William Perry, a waiter of the Club, says that he was standing by the "dumb waiter" on the third floor when he heard a loud report, as if from an explosion. He opened the door and was nearly suffocated from the smoke that escaped.

He ran down stairs and gave the alarm. Opinion is divided as to where the fire originated.

The fire was confined to the upper story, occupied by the servants of the club. The building is owned by Mr. W. W. Stevens, and is fully insured. The furniture, the property of the club, was somewhat damaged by water. The books and papers of the Treasurer, Mr. Robert M. McJimsey, were deposited with the St. Nicholas Society, with the exception of the club's insurance policies, which the President of the club, Mr. Fred. E. Gibert put in his coat pockets, when the fire broke out. The total amount of damage will not exceed $20,000, although the house was nearly deluged.

A SUNDAY EVENING SHOW.

The Hackneyed Story of Shadowy Faces, Sailors' Knots and Handcuffs.

Some spiritualistic showmen permit committees of auditors to work their wicked wills with ropes and things upon the mediums, and so to seriously interfere with the success of the spirits; but Prof. Wayland, "the renowned lecturer," is not one of that kind. In the Brooklyn Athenæum last night, he said:

"We have not come here to answer any impertinent questions, or try any experiments that any person in the audience may choose to offer, and we do not propose to have too many persons on the stage at any one time, as that might interfere with the control of the medium. Sometimes persons coming on the stage exercise such a strong will power as to interfere with the influence which produces the manifestations. There are people with such strong will power that they can stop others walking on this aisle, or on the street. Our conditions must be right."

While he was saying this and much more, Mr. Edward Livingston, the medium, had been seated in a large, black-curtained cabinet on the stage, and upon the curtain being withdrawn it was found that he was tied, with much rope, after the fashion most in favor with the spirits, hands together behind his back and attached under the seat of his chair to his knees in front.

Mr. Olcott of Brooklyn examined the tyings and reported to the audience that he believed them secure. While the medium was thus tied a guitar and bells, which were handed in to the interior of the cabinet, were strummed and rung. There was not any time, however, any sound of more being done at once, so far as the ground floor audience could have been done by one hand of the medium, had one hand been at liberty. The curtain was withdrawn from time to time, and on each occasion the medium seemed fast. After each manifestation and before withdrawing the curtain the "renowned lecturer" made some remarks, merely in explanation, not to gain time. The medium's coat was taken off and another put on him, and this again exchanged for his own. Then "the spirits" untied the mediums.

Wire netting bags were placed over the medium's hands, arms, and head, and securely tied together by Mr. Olcott and another gentleman, and ropes fastened about him with square sailor knots. Then handkerchiefs held at an aperture in the curtain were tied on inside and knotted. The aperture was about as high from the floor as a person's arm thrust up through a trap in the floor could have reached. The guitar and bell business was repeated, and then the ropes and wires were taken off from the medium by the gentleman who plaued them on him. Then the medium was manacled, and what the lecturer described as materialized faces were shown at an aperture in the cabinet, and other pranks were played.

The curtain was dropped for a change of set, and, upon being raised, disclosed a large square piano occupying the space where the cabinet had stood, which may be defined to persons familiar with stage construction as just about where the "center trap" is ordinarily cut in well-ordered stages.

[Mr. Olcott says that the janitor says the Athenæum stage is not trapped.]

Mrs. Young, sturdy and jolly-looking, was the next performer. She played upon the piano and bobbed up and down, on the side next her, in time with her playing. Then eight men of the spectators sat on the piano, but still it bobbed up and down. One of the men took Mrs. Young's seat at the instrument, put his knees under the edge of it, and the bobbing manifestations were repeated with even more vigor than before.

A SHAKER'S SERMON.

Elder Evans on Moody and Sankey's Revival —"That is all Moonshine."

Elder Evans, the Shaker, spoke last evening in Cooper Institute on the "Key to the Revelations." Preceding his sermon, a choir of six Shakeresses, dressed in drab, with snow white mantles and lace caps, and three shakers, with long hair cut close over their foreheads, sang:

"Open wide ye gates of glory."

Elder Knapp said that the Revelations were thoroughly trustworthy, because John was one of the purest characters in history. Communication with the other world nowadays was a matter of science, but John was a religious medium. The angel that sat on the great white throne held a book sealed with seven seals, but none was able to break the seals or to look upon the pages. "Wouldn't it do an immense amount of good," exclaimed the Elder, "if these seals could be opened in one of Moody and Sankey's meetings. Are we sure that these meetings are not a divine source of good, to gather the people together and awaken religious feeling. When we see a great body of people ready to hear even as much as they do hear at these meetings (laughter), ought we not to have hopes? Moody and Sankey are simple, earnest men. They believe surely that they will find streets paved with precious stones in heaven—pure materialism—in fidelity. But are they to blame? Their theology is the theology of children. You wouldn't want to go to the Moody and Sankey heaven (singing his eyes with his hand and peering up at the edge of the ceiling), away up in the third tier somewhere. That is all moonshine. Deathbed repentance is all nonsense. We can't make men or women fit to be Shakers in an instant, and it ought to be harder to fit a man for heaven than for the Shaker society. Young Shakers have to go through purgatory. I had to do so. I find instead of a sudden conversion, that I had to change my character little by little. I have to set a check here and a guard there."

The Failure of a Theatrical Project.

Benson Sherwood, formerly head machinist of Niblo's and Booth's Theatres, has been endeavoring to lease the Grand Opera House for one or more years. The Erie Railway Company ask $25,000 a year, $500 a week, or $200 a night; but, in case of renting for the former period, desire to reserve the right of obtaining possession at forty-five days' notice in case of sale. To this Mr. Benson and his backers would not accede, and the matter has fallen through.

The "Black Swan" Dead.

Miss Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield, the "Black Swan," died of paralysis on Friday at her home in Philadelphia. She was born a slave in Natchez, Miss., sixty-eight years ago. When she was only one year old, her mistress, Mrs. Elizabeth Greenfield, removed to Philadelphia, joined the Society of Friends, and manumitted the few slaves she then owned, most of them having previously been settled in Liberia.

A High-Toned Murder in Havana.

HAVANA, April 2.—In one of the courts yesterday, after an angry controversy over a claim, the Marquis of Argudin, as he was leaving the court room, struck Señor Sanchez Iznaga. The latter pulled out a revolver and shot the Marquis, who died this morning. The parties are wealthy and well known.

FIGHTING FOR A PASTOR.

BROOKLYN'S POLICE SUPPRESSING A FUSS IN A CHURCH.

A Split Among the Fleet Street Colored Worshippers—What Followed the Attempt to Keep a Preacher Out of his Pulpit.

A quarrel that threatens to destroy the peace and stability of the Fleet street A. M. E. Church, Brooklyn, culminated yesterday in an attempt to forcibly prevent the pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah B. Murray, from performing his pastoral duties. Mr. Murray was confirmed as pastor of the church about two years ago, and conforming, as he says, to the discipline of the society, he asserted his right to take part, as ex-officio officer, in the consultations of the church trustees. One of the trustees, Simon King, disputed the right of the preacher to participate in their councils, and for his opposition he was at once expelled. Mr. King sued for a mandamus to compel his reinstatement in office, but in the Special Term of the Supreme Court Judge Pratt decided against him. Mr. King carried the case to the General Term, and the decision of the Special Term was affirmed. Mr. King influenced three other trustees to side with him, and a committee was called by the pastor to decide the dispute. The four unruly trustees were discharged at a meeting last Tuesday night. Mr. Murray, fearing the wiles of the opposing faction, removed from his home and intrenched himself in the apartment in the basement of the church, and had his meals brought to him.

The discontented trustees and their friends went to the church at an early hour yesterday morning, and tried to padlock the doors. They also tried to lock Mr. Murray in his room, but the stalwart clergyman put his boot through the panels and scattered his foes. In the mean time the congregation was gathering at the church doors, and these the trustees met there and pitched them down the steps as fast as they arrived. Several sisters were roughly handled. The trouble became serious, but the friends of Mr. Murray, including the entire female part of the congregation, went to the aid of the pastor, and the trustees were ejected.

The battle was renewed in the church aisles, and a platoon of police was called. The roundsman of the Washington street police mounted the pulpit, and his voice restored order. The pastor was allowed to preach, though the dismissed members assert that they will carry the case to the courts. A squad of police guarded the doors and aisles of the church at the afternoon and evening services.

THE HARBOR FORTS INSPECTED.

A Sunday Excursion by Secretary Taft, Gen. Sherman, and Gen. Hancock.

Judge Taft, the new Secretary of War, and Gen. Sherman, with his Aids, Gen. O. M. Poe and Col. J. E. Tourtellotte, visited the fortifications in the harbor yesterday. They arrived in Jersey City at 6 o'clock yesterday morning. Their early coming was a surprise to Gen. Hancock, Commander of the Atlantic Division, who, with his Aids, Gens. Frye, Mitchell, Church, and Sawtelle, were hastily aroused from their quarters in Taylor's Hotel, to which they had gone the evening before so as to be in readiness. At 6:30 the party went on board the Government steamer Henry Smith, and shortly were riding down the bay. About 7:30 the steamer touched at Fort Hamilton, and the visitors were met by the officers of the fort. The Secretary was introduced to Gen. G. W. Getty, the commanding officer, and his associates, and a breakfast was eaten.

The troops were inspected. The Secretary and Gen. Sherman passed along the lines. The men saluted, and the Secretary raised his silk hat in acknowledgment. General Sherman, wore a slouched hat that had known hard usage and plain civilian clothes. He asked Gen. Getty why the men whom he recognized as having been with him in his "march to the sea" did not speak to him. Gen. Getty replied that it was not in accordance with discipline, and Sherman asked him to relax for this occasion. The invitation was then given for the soldiers to greet their old commander. Sergt. King stepped from the ranks and raised his cap. Then Sherman grasped his hand, saying, "I'm pleased to meet you again."

After an inspection of the quarters, the party strolled around the parapet, and discussed the advantages of the position for a harbor fortification.

The party was increased by the officers of the forts. They reembarked, and after passing around old Fort Lafayette, a short visit was made to Fort Wadsworth, on Staten Island. The secretary was introduced to Colonel Gibson, the commanding officer, and an informal inspection of the two companies of infantry was made. At the Hook they were greeted by Col. Crispin and Maj. McKee, chiefs of the Experimental Board, that has been practising with heavy ordnance.

The officials from Washington were at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last evening. Gen. Sherman entertained his friends, and his aids assembled in the corridor. Secretary Taft went to bed early, being fatigued.

COAL DIRT BURNED.

Utilizing What has Been Waste—Mr. P. Hayden's Experiments.

Two years or more ago P. Hayden, Esq., of this city demonstrated that coal dirt could be used. He made many experiments, and so conclusive were they that for some time he bought all the waste that could be obtained at Port Johnson and at Hoboken. In one of the factories in which he is largely interested (Samuel E. Tompkins & Co., Newark, N. J.) can be seen in use to-day the furnace bottom made of gray iron plates, cast with holes in, and the steam blast for introducing steam under the furnace, so as to produce the necessary draught to penetrate the body of dust. Like plates and steam blast are in use in the silver rolling mills in Bloomfield, N. J. In attaining power to run his machinery in Sing Sing prison he is using this waste, with the steam blast. His purpose was to put this coal dirt on the coal market. But he met with one obstacle, namely, the cost of freight and handling from the mines to tide water.

Mr. Hayden has patented a coal screen that is capable of screening many tons of coal a day. It is formed that while being run by machinery it sorts the coal into its various sizes, allowing each size to run into the one especially prepared for it. This screen is in use in Sing Sing prison, and at his mines in Hocking Valley, Ohio.

YOUR MONEY OR YOUR HEAD.

Grant's Placeholders Invited to Shell Out—A Significant Warning.

Grant's officeholders in Harlem were served with notices on Saturday as follows:

NEW YORK, March 30, 1876.

SIR: You are respectfully invited to attend a meeting to be held at Lincoln Hall, 125th street, corner of Third avenue, Monday evening, April 3, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of adopting some plan of raising funds for the coming Presidential campaign, in place of assessments, collections, &c. Do not fail to come, as it will be to your interest to be present. Respectfully,

J. E. WATSON, P. C. BENSEL,
A. ANDERSON, J. B. DALE,
J. D. TERRY.

Three of the signers are Custom House officers and another is a Post Office clerk. The closing part of the notices is regarded as a threat. Similar notices are to be issued in the other districts.

A $125,000 Fire in West Virginia.

FAIRMOUNT, West Va., April 2.—Twenty-two buildings were destroyed and a number damaged by a fire that originated between Swisher & Carpenter's store and Undergrad's saloon. The business block from Bridge street to Jefferson, on the south side of Main street, and all the buildings but two on the north side, were burned; also, a number of buildings in Bridge street. Loss, $125,000.

Victoria's Title.

LONDON, April 2.—It is reported in political circles that the Government intend to announce to-morrow the abandonment of the title of Empress, but will persevere with the Royal Titles bill. "Whips" have been issued urging the Liberal peers to be in their seats on Monday to support the Earl of Shaftesbury's motion for an address to the Queen praying her not to assume the title of Empress.

England and Germany Bargaining.

BERLIN, April 2.—The *Vossische Zeitung* publishes a rumor that the forthcoming interview between Queen Victoria and the Emperor William is for the purpose of concluding a treaty for the cession to the German Empire of the right of the Duke of Edinburgh as heir presumptive to the Duchy of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha.

A Woman Murdered.

WILKESBARRE, April 2.—Bridget O'Donnell, thirty-five years of age, was found dead this morning in a field on the northern outskirts of this city. Her person bore marks of violence, and it was evident from the surroundings that she had had a desperate struggle.

SPARKS FROM THE TELEGRAPH.

Navigation on the Delaware and Hudson Canal will begin on the 15th of April.

Hall's block, Springfield, Mass., was partially burned yesterday. Loss, $25,000.

Gen. Meigs will be summoned before the House Committee on Military Affairs to testify relative to tombstone contracts.

William Nicholson Hodgson, member of Parliament for East Cumberland, and the Hon. Frederick Walpole, M. P. for North Norfolk, are dead.

CONNECTICUT'S ELECTION.

How Things Look to the Residents of the Nutmeg State who Vote To-Day.

HARTFORD, April 2.—Everything is done and both political parties are awaiting the contest that begins with the rising of to-morrow's sun. The canvass has been quiet. Republicans have not exhibited much enthusiasm, seemingly contenting themselves with the hope that somehow they may be able to overcome the majority of forty against them in last winter's Legislature, and thus elect a Republican United States Senator. They have evidently had no hope of electing the State ticket, and have therefore imported few speakers and held few rallies. Republicans and Democrats both assert that no money has been used illegally, or will be used. The probable result of to-morrow's voting, as near as is possible to estimate, is the election of the Democratic State ticket by a majority about a thousand less than last year. This decrease will be due, more than anything else, to the increase of the rural Republican vote, on account of its being Presidential election year. The Greenback men will not, in spite their boasting, poll more than 2,500 votes, of which two thirds are in New Haven, and drawn equally from Republicans and Democrats. The Prohibition vote will be greatly reduced, and probably not more than 1,500.

CRUELTIES TO THE INSANE.

The Lamentable Condition of Affairs in the Government Asylum.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The testimony