The Sun.

VOL. XLV.—NO. 217. NEW YORK, FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 1878. PRICE TWO CENTS.

TALMAGE'S MUSICAL FIGHT.

A CONCISE REPORT OF THE TROUBLES IN THE BROOKLYN TABERNACLE.

Superintendent Corwin's History of the Unpleasantness—What he Says of Mr. Morgan—Mr. Sillecoks Calls Mr. Corwin's Statement a Barefaced Lie—Corwin's Threat.

"I don't know," said Mr. B. R. Corwin, Superintendent of Talmage's Tabernacle Sunday school, as he meditatively stroked his long, tawny beard, and spoke with marked deliberation, "that there is anything more to say about this trouble in our church. The trustees have exercised their inalienable right of resigning, and that's all about it. Why have they done so? Well, I don't like to criticise other men's motives, and if you insist upon my talking about this thing at all I shall simply give you the skeleton facts of the proceedings in the premises, and leave you to clothe them with whatever deductions you please. Primarily, I may say that there was a determination among them to oust Mr. Morgan, and get some other organist in his place. They charged irregularities of habit against him. Well, I have known him closely for over eight years, and in that time had at least two thousand appointments with him, and have never yet known him to be five minutes late. He never was two minutes late for any duty in the church. He is a great artist, simple minded as a child, never unkind, never discourteous, scrupulously exact in his performance of every duty, honorable, and reliable. In short, I believe Mr. Morgan to be as correct a man as I am, and I think that is correct enough for anybody."

Taking his pencil in hand, Mr. Corwin jotted down the record of the progress of the Tabernacle unpleasantness in the following concise form:

March 4.—Our pastor left for New Orleans, without any knowledge on the part of anybody outside the Board of Trustees that they contemplated ousting Mr. Morgan. I know they claim now that the pastor was spoken to about it before he left, and that he did not demur; but I do not think it would be respectful for me to debate the question of his veracity. He has denied their statement for himself, and that is enough for me.

March 5.—The trustees wrote to Mr. Morgan, asking him to accept $1,200 instead of $1,800 per annum.

March 6.—Mr. Morgan replied that he wished to consult Dr. Talmage before giving any answer. He wrote a letter to the pastor (which he supposed was received before his departure) on the subject. As he subsequently discovered, Dr. Talmage did not get it until his return.

March 8.—Mr. Morgan wrote again to the trustees, saying that he had concluded to accept the amount offered by them.

March 14.—The trustees replied to Mr. Morgan that he would not be engaged again after the expiration of his present contract on May 1, and made an appropriation of only $600 to pay an organist.

March 20.—Dr. Talmage returned.

March 21.—Dr. Talmage called a meeting of the Session and also a meeting of the trustees at his house to discuss the situation, and at his suggestion they had a joint meeting. Twelve of the thirteen members of the Session were present, and four of the nine trustees—constituting the Board to be full—Messrs. Pearsall, Pearson, Elmore, and Sillecoks. I offered a resolution requesting the Session to engage Mr. Morgan at the salary he asked, which was debated earnestly by Dr. Talmage and others present, but carried. Its object was not to procure the discharge of Mr. Morgan, but to definitely put the matter in the hands of the Session, and to relieve the Session of the pressure that it was a matter entirely within their jurisdiction. It was, you observe, simply a request. No final action could be taken in a joint meeting.

March 25.—The Session met and held a formal meeting, and considered the request. Then, for the first time, the correspondence between Mr. Morgan and the trustees was laid before them, and the Session, after discussing the facts. The result was their appointment of a committee, consisting of Messrs. S. F. Freeman, C. C. Shelley, and myself, to wait upon the trustees and request them to reconsider and rescind their action.

March 25.—We met Messrs. Sillecoks, Elmore, and Cogswell of the Board of Trustees, and carried out our instructions.

March 27.—The trustees met and resolved to adhere to their previous action, ignoring the request of the Session.

March 29.—The Session met and instructed their Music Committee to reengage Mr. Morgan at $1,200.

March 31.—It was announced from the pulpit that Mr. Morgan was to be retained, and straightway thereupon the trustees resigned.

"A few words now about that circular they have got out. It avows plainly the reason for their action, antagonism to Mr. Morgan; it claims a state of facts which has not existed, for it avers that the Board of Trustees have had entire control of the music for ten years, whereas Mr. Morgan was engaged on June 16, 1870, at a salary of $2,200, by contract with Dr. Talmage—who is President of the session—himself; and finally it is signed by persons who were not trustees, and whose names were used to give a false appearance of bolstering up and unanimity to the action of the five members of the board inimical to Mr. Morgan. Mr. H. L. Foote, one of the signers, left here on Dec. 4, 1877, and removed to West Virginia, his trusteeship legally ending upon his removal from the State. Mr. R. S. Hobbs resigned from the board on Dec. 29, 1877, on account of feeble health. Mr. John F. Talmage resigned Jan. 1, 1878, on account of sickness. Here, then, are three of the nine accounted for, and only to-day Mr. B. F. Cogswell, another trustee, whose name is appended to that resignation and statement, has told me that he has not yet resigned, and that he did not sign that paper. The congregation will meet on the 13th inst. to elect a new Board of Trustees. I do not think this affair will have any ill effect on the prosperity of the church. It springs from a personal animus and a desire to get another organist, named Earle, from Yonkers, into Mr. Morgan's place. Mr. Morgan is a man who has served us faithfully and well for eight years should be treated with consideration, not turned off in a manner which must be injurious to him both as a man and an artist. Already one concert engagement Mr. Morgan had has been cancelled in consequence of the unjust aspersions thrown upon him in this matter. It has been said that a few $5,000 subscriptions would soon bring weight enough to settle Mr. Morgan's expulsion. Such is not the case. I would stake my future that not to clear the church from all debt and endow it with a quarter of a million would Dr. Talmage consent to the doing of an act of injustice and injury to Mr. Morgan."

Mr. John F. Talmage said: "Mr. Corwin misconstrues with a deliberate intention of falsifying the record. His only reason for mixing in this thing at all is for notoriety. He is an insurance agent, and wants to keep himself before the public at the time to help his business. That is the way he always has done. The statement that any signatures were unauthorizedly appended to that document is false. Even Mr. Foote, though at a distance, was informed of all the facts and authorized the association of his name with ours. It is true that he left the State in December last, but he expected to return home and resume his place, and we kept his place in the board open for him to do so. As for H. F. Cogswell, he was present at the meeting at which that unanimous resignation was determined upon. He did not at first like to take part in our action. He is a very gentle, spiritual man, and dislikes to do anything harsh, but when our statement was prepared, he said he guessed it was mild enough for him to sign, and authorized its being attached. If Mr. Corwin says he denies it, I don't believe Mr. Corwin—that's all. Mr. Elmore and Pastor Talmage have a different remembrance of the interview between them prior to the latter's going South. About that I have only to say that when it comes to a question of memory between them I prefer to put faith in Mr. Elmore. The dominie is the best forgetter of the two. About those alleged lapses from the board by resignation, Mr. Corwin knowingly seeks to falsify the record, for he has in his possession the minutes of the board, which show that those resignations of Mr. Hobbs and myself were not accepted until Sunday night last (30th ult.), nor was Mr. Foote's absence noted upon the minutes of the 29th ult. the Rev. Dr. Talmage wrote to Mr. Sillcocks, President of the Board of Trustees, requesting that the board meet and accept those resignations in order that others might be appointed, as the affairs of the church required a full board. He did as requested on the succeeding night, and then and not after that we all resigned. Although we have done so, we have not yet dissolved as a board. We cannot lay down our duties until our successors are chosen. Not even the members whose resignations were accepted on Saturday night are by our laws absolved from their responsibilities until their success is are chosen. Of course we will all leave the church, I expect. Dr. Talmage has cut off the possibility of either of us remaining with any degree of self-respect. Yet we have been placed in this position by our desire to serve the interests of the church and comply with his wishes. We wanted to get a cheaper man in Mr. Morgan's place, and he, at Dr. Talmage's personal request, refused him the Tabernacle to give a concert in, and so brought him and his friends into an offensive antagonism to us. If Dr. Talmage does not take up the fight of nine prominent men—prominent at least by the work they have done and the money they have paid into the church—against the man who has put himself in the position of Mr. Morgan, it is high time for the nine prominent men to get out. Mr. Corwin was President of the Board of Trustees, but resigned about two years ago, it was claimed on account of ill health, but really because he could not rule and could not expend money as recklessly and as the church into debt as precipitately as he had before done. Since then he has been in antagonism to the board, and has opposed them in various underhanded ways."

Mr. W. S. Sillcocks, President of the Board of Trustees, said: "Mr. Corwin's statement is a barefaced lie. I fully endorse all that Mr. J. F. Talmage has said. We wanted to get rid of Mr. Morgan as a measure of economy. Mr. Earle was not the only good organist we could have got for $600 per annum; but as the Session have now arranged it, they are to pay Mr. Morgan $1,800 to play on Sundays only and his assistant, Mr. Powell, $600 more for playing on Friday evenings and for the Sunday school. I don't know whether they will keep the precentor, Mr. Horace Gulick—who was reengaged in February last at $1,200 per annum—or not. We wanted to get the church out of debt. In the past two years we paid off $14,000 of the debt, and we hoped to go on clearing it off by a course of rigid economy. At present the mortgage on the Tabernacle is $61,000 and on the Lay College $20,000, which, with the accumulated interest mounts up to a total of about $90,000. While Mr. Corwin was President of the board the debt was steadily increasing, and we thought it was about time that we, as business men, set ourselves to work to run the church on business principles. The fact about Dr. Talmage wanting the Tabernacle refused to Mr. Morgan, was that he was afraid the concert would take from the success of his lecture on the 22d ult.; and Corwin advocated Morgan's being bounced. When he caught a man putting up a bill near the church to the effect that the trustees had refused the house to Morgan for his concert, he declared, as a threat, 'That will cost Mr. Morgan his seat on that organ stool.' His defence of Morgan now is solely prompted by his inimical feelings toward the trustees. 'He used to be a friend of mine—yes, for twenty-five years—but don't put him down as any friend of mine now.'"

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John Jacob Astor sat patiently among the jurors, who, for two days, heard the case of Hirschfield & Stern agt. ex-Collector Hiram Varney, which has been pending in the United States Circuit Court for fifteen years. It was alleged that excessive duties, amounting to about $2,000, had been levied. Hirschfield & Stern claimed that the goods were silk velvet, on which the duty was thirty per cent, and the Government claimed that they were silk plush, liable to a duty of forty per cent. The verdict was in favor of the Government.

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At factory prices. C. W. Duncan, wholesale dealer, 210 Washington st.—*Adv.*

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A scene in her mansion at 5th av. and 52d st. Viewing the remains during the Coroner's inquest. See the New York *Illustrated Times*. Out to-day.—*Adv.*

MAKING READY FOR WAR.

RUSSIA ORDERING YET MORE OF HER TROOPS UNDER ARMS.

Two English Troop Ships to be Prepared for Service in 48 Hours—The Budget in the House of Commons—Gladstone's Notice.

LONDON, April 4.—Additional Eastern correspondence is published: Lord Odo Russell, the British Ambassador at Berlin, telegraphs on March 13 that Prince Bismarck has requested him to say that Germany would not participate in a Conference without England, and that he (Bismarck) cannot understand how a Congress for the revision of European rights could be held when England, one of the chief contractors, was absent.

M. Cogalniceanes, the Roumanian Minister of Foreign Affairs, writes to the Roumanian agent at Vienna, March 16, that Prince Gortchakoff had declared to Prince Ghiki, the Roumanian agent at St. Petersburg, that notwithstanding our clamoring Russia's decision in regard to Bessarabia was irrevocable. Russia would not bring the question before the Congress, nor consent to another power doing so, as it would be an offence to the Emperor. If she could not make us give in she would take Bessarabia by force, and armed resistance would be fatal for Roumania. The despatch concludes: "Notwithstanding these threats, we persist in our refusal to yield."

The Roumanian agent at Vienna communicates to Sir H. G. Elliot, April 3, a despatch from the agent at St. Petersburg, recounting a conversation with Prince Gortchakoff, who said: "Is it true that your Government intends to protest against the article of the treaty which provides for the communication of the army in Bulgaria with Russia through Roumania? The Emperor has ordered me to inform you that if you have such an intention he will order the occupation of Roumania and the disarmament of the Roumanian army."

The agent replied that Russia should have treated with Roumania, not with Turkey, concerning the passage of the army.

Prince Gortchakoff rejoined: "We did not choose to have anything more to do with you, on account of your conduct. It is important that you should know that we insist upon a free passage through your country, and that you should inform your Government of the Emperor's declaration. Your Government must plainly state their decision."

Sir Stafford Northcote, Chancellor of the Exchequer, presented the budget in the House of Commons this afternoon. The ordinary expenditure is £81,020,000, and the estimated revenue £79,146,000. Sir Stafford Northcote, in explaining the budget, said that the revenue for 1877-1878 had been £79,763,298, and expenditure £78,903,495. The surplus for the past two years was paid off $14,000 of the debt, and we hoped to go on clearing it off by a course of rigid economy. At present the mortgage on the Tabernacle is $61,000 and on the Lay College $20,000, which, with the accumulated interest mounts up to a total of about $90,000. While Mr. Corwin was President of the board the debt was steadily increasing, and we thought it was about time that we, as business men, set ourselves to work to run the church on business principles. The fact about Dr. Talmage wanting the Tabernacle refused to Mr. Morgan, was that he was afraid the concert would take from the success of his lecture on the 22d ult.; and Corwin advocated Morgan's being bounced. When he caught a man putting up a bill near the church to the effect that the trustees had refused the house to Morgan for his concert, he declared, as a threat, "That will cost Mr. Morgan his seat on that organ stool." His defence of Morgan now is solely prompted by his inimical feelings toward the trustees. "He used to be a friend of mine—yes, for twenty-five years—but don't put him down as any friend of mine now."

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Salisbury's circular shows an absence of conciliatory views by gratuitously attributing ambitious motives to the Russian proposals.

Reuter's telegram from St. Petersburg denies that the Landwehr has been called out.

A special to the *Political Correspondence* from Constantinople says the conversion of the Sultan to pro-Russian ideas is imminent.

The English troop ships Crocodile and Euphrates were yesterday ordered to be ready for sea in forty-eight hours.

A special to the *Standard* from Berlin reports that mobilization has been ordered in the four remaining Russian military districts.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says Prince Gortchakoff is expected shortly to inform the powers that after Lord Salisbury's circular the Congress, were it to meet immediately, would no longer be likely to solve the questions at issue.

The *Times'* despatch from Bucharest says it is becoming extremely improbable that a protest of the Roumanian Chambers against the treaty will be sent to St. Petersburg.

THE GOULD LOBBY ROUTED.

Time Wanted to Form Another Combination on the Pacific Railway Bill.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—The Jay Gould lobby has been completely demoralized by the tremendous attacks made by the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee during the past three days. Men on whom Gould had confidently relied have been driven off by the plain words of Thurman and Edmunds. The intimation plainly given by both these Senators that an investigation might find out something, frightened the lobby and scared the men with whom the agents of the railroads had been conspicuously intimate all winter. The threat of an investigation was not an idle one. Both Thurman and Edmunds are in earnest, and they have information which warrants the belief that improper influences have been brought to bear to control the course of Senators. They do not say anybody has been actually corrupted, but their assertions, while guarded, would warrant such an inference. At any rate, it was very clear to the railroad lobby this morning that the bill reported from the Railroad Committee by Matthews would be badly beaten. Their count of noses showed less than a score of votes for it. It was necessary that they should have time to make another combination, and so Matthews was set up to speak against time. The game is to prevent a vote this week, and give them time to recover if possible their lost ground. Accordingly Matthews withdrew the bill he had reported, with the understanding that then the discussion would turn on Chaffee's amendment, which provides that the Union Pacific shall pro rate with the Kansas Pacific. It also requires the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific to accept a funding scheme which differs materially from that provided for in the Judiciary Committee's bill.

Senator Thurman explained to Chaffee yesterday that he favored the pro rate part of his bill, and would support his measure as an independent proposition, but not consent to have certain of its objectionable features engrafted upon the bill matured by the Judiciary Committee. The discussion which ensued upon Chaffee's amendment after the withdrawal of Matthews's bill was very sharp and somewhat acrimonious. Blaine and Conkling rather came to Chaffee's support against Thurman, who was bearing down very heavily. It is believed that either will finally support Chaffee's bill. Blaine, it is understood, has an amendment of his own to propose, and Conkling has tacitly given his approval to the Judiciary Committee's measure, inasmuch as he did not object to it in the committee. The Union Pacific jobbers do not want the Chaffee bill unless they can make an arrangement with the Kansas Pacific which will virtually give them control of that road. For such negotiations they wish delay, and they will do their best to prevent a vote to-morrow and to secure an adjournment of the Senate until Monday. Thurman will press for a vote to-morrow, but it is doubtful whether he can hold the Senate to an all-night session to secure it.

FINANCIAL FALLACIES.

What John Sherman Proposes to do About Paying Out the Shining Metal.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—At the conference between John Sherman and the Committee on Banking and Currency, Sherman said that the Government was in better condition to resume and maintain specie payments than was the Bank of England.

Mr. Ewing—Do you expect to pay out the silver dollar coined by you for current expenses, or only for coin liabilities, or to hoard it for resumption.

Secretary Sherman—I expect to pay it out now only in exchange for gold coin or for silver bullion. I am perfectly free to answer the question fully, because on that point, after consulting with many members of both Houses, I have made up my mind what the law requires me to do. I propose to issue all the silver dollars that are demanded in exchange for gold coin. That has been going on to some extent; now far I cannot tell. Then I propose to use the silver dollar in payment for silver bullion, which I can do at par in gold without any loss after the first five millions are purchased for which an appropriation was made in the Silver bill. I then propose to buy all the rest of the Silver bullion which I need under the law with silver coin. As a matter of course, in the current course of business, some of that silver coin will come back in payment, how much I do not know. The more the better for us, but most of it I take it will be transferred to the Treasury for silver certificates (that seems to be the idea of the bill), and those silver certificates will come into the Treasury in payment of duties, and in that way practically the silver will belong to the Government again.

HAYES'S CIVIL SERVICE.

Putting Out a Good Officer to Put in His Fraudulency's Biographer.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—The Senate Committee on Commerce to-day appointed a subcommittee to look into the removal of William Day in the Appraiser's office in New York, and the appointment of James C. Howard. So far as known to the committee Howard's principal qualifications for the office are that he is Hayes's biographer, a native of Ohio, and carries strong recommendations from Secretary Sherman. When a commission was at work reducing the force of the New York Custom House, Howard presented himself before Collector Arthur, with letters from Hayes and Sherman recommending him to a $3,500 place. Arthur had none then, has none now, but Hayes has found one by removing the removal of an officer whose record is excellent, so excellent that he has been asked to take another position in the same office in order to retain his services. Considerable fault is found in the Senate in regard to this and other recommendations made by Hayes, because he constantly disregards the resolution of the Senate requiring a statement with each nomination, whether it is made to fill a vacancy caused by resignation, removal, or the end of a term.

Warden Shevlin's Beautiful Prisoner.

Much influence has been exerted in behalf of Mrs. Mary D. Hooper, the beautiful woman who is serving out a term of imprisonment in the Kings County Penitentiary, for stealing $300 worth of diamonds from Mrs. W. F. Delaney, of 212 High street, Brooklyn, and although the petition for her release was signed by many Brooklyn officials, and a favorable report was made to the Governor by Keeper Shevlin as to her behavior, no intimation that a pardon is to be granted has yet been received. Ex-Lieutenant-Governor William H. Hooper, in Boston, has sought the assistance of Senators and others, in Albany, to procure a speedy pardon, promising to take Mrs. Hooper out of the Boston jail on her release from prison. Mrs. Hooper has been taken from the shoe shop, where she was operating a machine and set to sewing shirts in the women's hall. She feels the disgrace of imprisonment keenly. Years ago she said to have been entrusted a fortune of several hundred thousand dollars, which her husband, the son of a rich Boston winder, possessed. Her husband is now in California, working as a common scaman.

New Jersey Legislature.

TRENTON, April 4.—A gold-headed cane was presented to Senator Hendrickson of Monmouth by his fellow Senators to-day, in honor of his long services in the Senate of this State. The bill to establish a Board of Excise in cities of 40,000 inhabitants was killed by being postponed until Monday next. The Legislature is to adjourn sine die to-morrow. The bill to allow Trenton and Camden to renew existing contracts, notwithstanding the new charter of Camden, was ordered to a third reading. In the House the bill to establish a Board of Excise Commissioners in Jersey City was passed. The bill allowing cities to issue not exceeding $100,000 in water bonds was passed.

Rhode Island Elections.

PROVIDENCE, April 4.—The complete returns of yesterday's State election give: For Governor—Van Zandt (Rep.), 11,433; Laurence (Dem.), 7,631; Foster (Greenback), 583; scattering, 31. The Senate stands—26 Republicans, 8 Democrats, 2 no choice; and the House, 56 Republicans, 16 Democrats, 2 no choice.

The Tragic End of Madam Restell.

Double-page picture of the discovery of the body in the bath in her 5th av. mansion. From a sketch by our special artist, Mr. F. Opper. See the New York *Illustrated Times*. Out to-day.—*Adv.*

American Soft Capsules. Tin boxes. Best and cheapest. All druggists. Circulars from Mauger & Petrie, 110 Reade st., N. Y. Avoid fancy names and prices.—*Adv.*

A TALK WITH MR. MORRISSEY

WHAT THE SICK SENATOR HAD TO SAY ABOUT MATTERS AND PERSONS.

His Own Health, Diet, Plans, and Hopes—A Despatch from George Francis Train that Made him Laugh—Messrs. Kelly and Fish.

TROY, April 4.—A correspondent of THE SUN had a few minutes' talk last evening with Senator John Morrissey, who is now at the residence of his wife's mother in this city. The Senator was fully dressed, and as he reclined in an easy chair in the pleasant parlor, looked healthier and stronger than he did at the end of his campaign last fall. When the correspondent spoke of this, the Senator replied that it was a mystery to him how he had retained his flesh through all his sickness. "I weigh now 226 pounds," he said, "and that is nearly as much as I ever weighed."

"And yet," he continued, "I have had a hard time of it in the last few months. Three times I have been at the very door of death. But I have pulled through so far, and with the kind care and nursing of my wife, who has done more for me than all the doctors, and with a little rest, I hope soon to be all right again."

When he began to talk, his weakness became apparent. Though his voice was quite strong, there was a painful lack of breath, and great beads of sweat stood out upon his brow and face.

"You seem to be troubled for breath, Senator?"

"Yes, the trouble is with my heart mostly now, and there is a little water here," laying his hand upon his stomach. "But that will be all right in a few days I hope."

"Then you feel better than you did when you arrived here?"

"Oh, yes, very much better. That was an unfortunate trip coming up the river. You see there was no heater in my room, as I supposed there would be, and, being delayed so long on the river, I caught a slight cold, and any little thing like that sets me back now very quick. But I'm coming around all right again. I haven't eaten any flesh food for three weeks until to-day—been living on oat meal and such light things. But to-day I have eaten a couple of mutton chops, and they tasted good."

"Speaking of his eating," said Mrs. Morrissey, "reminds me of a very funny despatch that he received yesterday. I could not understand it at all at first; but when I did I took it to him and told him I had got something that would make him laugh. He had been feeling a little low spirited, but when I read the despatch to him he did laugh heartily, and I think it did him good. He has been growing better ever since. Here is the despatch, if you would like to read it." With the Senator's permission I made a copy of it, and here it is:

NEW YORK, April 2.

To John Morrissey, Troy, N. Y.

Stop food! Have faith. Live! Turkish baths! GEO. FRANCIS TRAIN.

"I have pretty nearly complied with that, so far as the food is concerned, for some time," said Mr. Morrissey with a smile, "but I don't think a peanut diet is just the thing for me now, whatever psychology and the Turkish baths might accomplish."

"What kind of weather did you have during your stay in the South?"

"Miserable, most miserable. During all the time we were there I do not remember as pleasant a day as this has been. I made a great mistake in going there at all. In my judgment