The Sun.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1883.

Amusements To-day.

Academy of Design—Art Loan Exhibition.
Elton Opera House—Orphans and Bagpipes. 8 P. M.
Casino—The Beggar Student. 8 P. M.
Cremorne Opera House—The Two Orphans. 8 P. M.
Haverly's San Francisco Minstrels' Theatre. 8 P. M.
Madison Square Theatre—Belasco's Daughters. 8.30 P. M.
Metropolitan Opera House—Il Barbiere e Dorina. 8 P. M.
New Park Theatre—The Prisoner Crook. 8 P. M.
Niblo's Garden—Excelsior. 8 P. M.
People's Theatre—The Silver King. 8 P. M.
Standard Theatre—Estella. 8 P. M.
Star Theatre—King Lear. 8 P. M.
Steinway Hall—Lecture, &c. 8 P. M.
Theatre Comique—Cordelia's Aspirations. 2 and 8 P. M.
Thalia Theatre—Fledermaus. 8 P. M.
Tony Pastor's Theatre—Variety. 2 and 8 P. M.
Union Square Theatre—Shore Dearer. 8 P. M.
Wallack's Theatre—The Road to Ruin. 8 P. M.
8d Av. Theatre—A Parisian Romance. 8 P. M.
6th Av. Theatre—Manic Crime. 8 P. M.
14th St. Theatre—Pedro. 8 P. M.

THE SUN FOR 1884.

About sixty million copies of THE SUN have gone out of our establishment during the past twelve months.

If you were to paste end to end all the columns of all THE SUNS printed and sold last year you would get a continuous strip of interesting information, common sense wisdom, sound doctrine, and sane wit long enough to reach from Printing House square to the top of Mount Copernicus in the moon, then back to Printing House square, and then three-quarters of the way back to the moon again.

But THE SUN is written for the inhabitants of the earth; this same strip of intelligence would girdle the globe twenty-seven or twenty-eight times.

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It is only by little calculations like these that you can form any idea of the circulation of the most popular of American newspapers, or of its influence on the opinions and actions of American men and women.

THE SUN is, and will continue to be, a newspaper which tells the truth without fear of consequences, which gets at the facts no matter how much the process costs, which presents the news of all the world without waste of words and in the most readable shape, which is working with all its heart for the cause of honest government, and which therefore believes that the Republican party must go, and must go in this coming year of our Lord, 1884.

If you know THE SUN, you like it already, and you will read it with accustomed diligence and profit during what is sure to be the most interesting year in its history. If you do not yet know THE SUN, it is high time to get into the sunshine.

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New York Candidates.

It is about time to pay some attention to our New York candidates for President.

We have three gentlemen in this interesting situation. They are Gen. ARTHUR, Republican, and Messrs. HEWITT and FLOWER, Democrats. Let us consider the case of Gen. ARTHUR first. He is entitled to precedence, because he is by far the handsomest of the three, and is President already.

ARTHUR is a good man, weighing two hundred and fifty pounds or thereabouts. He came into the Presidency by a tragical accident, and he remains there to the satisfaction of people in general. Most of the faults of his administration are quite as much the faults of the Republican party as his own. It is not too much to say that he is the best President the country has had since the death of ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Mr. HEWITT and Mr. FLOWER are both Democrats, and both protectionists, Democrats of the old school. Mr. HEWITT is PETER COOPER'S son-in-law. He is a manufacturer, and knows from experience as well as by arithmetic the difference between a tariff for revenue only and a tariff with incidental protection. He has always been a Democrat. He is an effective speaker and a man of humane and philanthropic impulses. One difficulty in the way of his present ambition is that he has long been in delicate health—a sufferer from dyspepsia and insomnia, whereby he is not always possessed of that high, philosophic serenity of soul which is beyond the power of irritation. He is a statesman of ability, and might now receive the support of the great West, a quarrel which he fell into with the Hon. HENRY WATTERSON a few years ago having been happily composed at a friendly banquet.

Mr. FLOWER is a different kind of man. He is of dark complexion, a Presbyterian in religion, a banker by profession, about five feet eight inches in height, and perhaps thirty inches across the shoulders, active, vigorous, and prompt. If he were to strike a citizen of ordinary size a square blow, the citizen might imagine the celebrated Mr. SULLIVAN of Boston had hit him. He is much younger than Mr. HEWITT, being barely two score and eight years of age, and his digestion is excellent. Not so classical in his culture as HEWITT, nor so highly skilled in the refinements of the intellect, Mr. FLOWER possesses a fertile and a suggestive mind, and a sound and ready judgment, with peculiar discretion in practical politics. If HEWITT were elected, he would deliver a brilliant inaugural, full of striking passages, and he would make an historic President; but the administration of FLOWER would be remarkable for shrewd sense, well-considered judgment, and a solid American policy.

As yet, however, there has been no decisive manifestation in favor of either of these popular aspirants. Mr. HEWITT has been favorably spoken of by well-known gentlemen from other States, while Mr. FLOWER is the favorite of several valued Democratic journals in the rural districts, the *Albany Evening Times* and the *Rochester Union and Advertiser* being, perhaps, the most prominent. Indeed, Mr. FLOWER is the only man looking after the Presidency, who now seems to have any advocacy in the press of the State.

But there will not be any great delay in settling public opinion on this subject. The delegates from New York to the national Democratic Convention will be chosen before the first of next May, and then we shall see toward whom the preferences of the Empire State are to be displayed. The delegation of New York will be a weighty factor in that Convention. If the majority should be for HEWITT, he will stand a chance of being nominated; and if the majority are for FLOWER, his friends, and they are many, will take comfort and courage from the fact. Meanwhile THE SUN will ever stand ready to pour its benignant light upon them both.

There is another celebrated Democrat in this State who has hitherto been counted among those who would like the honor of a Presidential nomination; but we believe he is now to be considered as withdrawn from the canvass. We refer, of course, to Governor CLEVELAND, a much better Governor than politician. He has the great merit of an intuitive appreciation of Democratic principles and of a bold preference for the public advantage over the promotion of any private interest. A notable mixture of strength and weakness is the Governor; but the qualities in which he excels as a public servant, are among the most precious that heaven confers upon human character.

Silk Gowns for the Court of Appeals.

If the Judges of the Court of Appeals are ever to adopt an official garb, the time to do it is when they take possession of their new room in the State Capitol at Albany, at the beginning of the January term. This apartment is described as one of the handsomest court rooms in the world, and it is argued that the first session there might properly be distinguished by the introduction of a judicial costume which is becoming to most men, and almost always imparts additional dignity to the appearance of the wearer.

Of course, dignity of aspect is of very little importance without dignity of character. We assume, however, that the Judges of the Court of Appeals are all that can be desired in the latter respect. If they put on silk gowns, the appearance of the tribunal will be more imposing, and an air of greater formality will pervade the proceedings of the court. Beyond this we do not see that the change will have much direct effect.

There is no force in the objection that the proposed attire is anti-republican. A costume that has so long been worn by the Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, both on the bench at Washington and in holding circuit, is hardly liable to criticism on that ground. But the fact is that the business of the Court of Appeals is now conducted in so orderly and dignified a manner that the influence of greater formality is less needed there than in any other tribunal of the State, and, so far as that court alone is concerned, we should be quite content to have them continue on in their respectable black coats.

But indirectly, the adoption of silk gowns by the Court of Appeals might exert a very desirable influence over members of the bar and over other courts throughout the State. There can be no doubt that the administration of justice would really be promoted by a more dignified bearing on the part of many of the Judges in our courts of original jurisdiction. Even in the eyes of the least exacting litigants, a Judge who comes into court with a rush, claps a pot hat down on the bench, and begins to call the calendar with the voice of a fireman belonging to the old Volunteer Fire Department does not seem quite the sort of man who ought to be presiding over a trial, no matter how good he may be in fact. The plainest citizens and most Quaker-like prefer that some attention should be paid to manner in the conduct of judicial proceedings, and of late there has been a quiet but sincere and widespread reaction of sentiment among the members of the bar, in this part of the State at least, against the somewhat too rough-and-ready style of doing business in many of the courts.

Now, the Court of Appeals is and ought to be our model tribunal. Lawyers and Judges should be able to look up to it, not only to learn what the law is, but as an example of judicial deportment. An increase of formality there at this time might, it seems to us, effect considerable good in signifying to other courts the feeling we have mentioned in favor of a little more regard for ceremony by our Judges generally.

American Catholic Bishops at Rome.

A number of prelates representing the Catholic Church in the United States were some time ago summoned to the Vatican, where they are now deliberating, in conjunction with distinguished canonists belonging to the Propaganda Congregation, on certain propositions to be submitted to the national council which, in the course of the coming year, is to convene in this country. It is not, of course, contemplated to draw up beforehand any rigorous programme; but while on most matters the council will enjoy freedom of action, there are at least two reforms which, it is understood, will be pressed with firmness by the Papal authority. These reforms are of great moment to the whole body of the Catholic clergy and laity in the United States, and it is mainly for the purpose of securing their enforcement that recourse has been made to the expedient of a national council.

The fiscal administration of the Catholic Church in this country and the relation of Bishops to their subordinate clergy are, it seems, the subjects which call most urgently for investigation and readjustment. There have notoriously been abuses in both directions, and it is said that the Secretary of the Propaganda Congregation has received innumerable complaints from laymen and minor ecclesiastics regarding the lax financial management and arbitrary behavior of certain prelates. In a good many dioceses and parishes huge debts have been accumulated, and in some instances scandalous defalcations have occurred, while not a few of the minor clergy, suspended from their functions for an indefinite period, have been compelled to rest under a grave social stigma, and at times have been exposed to severe privations. It is these grievances in particular which have long been the object of private denunciation and loud outcry, and which, we are informed, the Vatican has determined to redress.

The national council will be called upon to fix for the future the limits of normal expenditure in dioceses and parishes, and to prescribe certain rules in conformity with which all extraordinary disbursements must be made. The intention is to compel pastors hereafter to obtain the formal sanction of their ecclesiastical superior before incurring any debts for parochial purposes. What is even more conducive to financial improvement, the Bishops themselves will be required to procure not only the tacit acquiescence, but the explicit approval of their subordinate clergy, before entering into pecuniary liabilities. The advantage of this prescription is obvious. The parish priests, being brought into direct contact with the laity, are much more accurately informed than a Bishop can be in reference to the financial resources of their several parishes, and the burdens which it would be prudent for the diocese, which is only an aggregation of parishes, to assume. We may also take for granted that the practice, not yet entirely abjured by Catholic ecclesiastics, of acting as custodians of the savings of the faithful, will be sternly reprobated by the national council. Experience has shown that neither a Bishop nor a priest ought to undertake the functions of a trust company or a savings bank.

Of course the council to be convoked in the United States will not be competent to abolish the power of suspending priests, which was conferred on Bishops by the Council of Trent. But it will be able to impose certain limitations on the exercise of the power, and it is clear that in this country some restrictions on the oppressive or arbitrary action of prelates is indispensable to the security and reasonable independence of the clergy. On the Continent ecclesiastics have a prompt and easy remedy for impulsive or unfair treatment on the part of their superiors; they can appeal to Rome. But the efficacy of such appeals has always been observed to vary in the inverse ratio of the distance from the Vatican, and the delays which an American appellant would necessarily encounter might materially aggravate the original wrong. It is proposed, accordingly, to fix a maximum of time during which a priest can be suspended without trial, and to provide, moreover, that the judicial investigation of the conduct of ecclesiastics by their diocesan superiors shall be no longer secret and informal, but conducted in strict conformity with regulations calculated to assure justice to the accused.

It is, in brief, already manifest from the nature of the questions known to have been submitted for preliminary deliberation to the American prelates at Rome, that the approaching national council has been called in the interest, not of the Vatican or of the episcopate, but of the laymen and the minor clergy, who, collectively, make up the Catholic community in the United States.

Frank Hurd Is The Man.

The *New Haven Morning News* is a journal interested in politics. It wisely looks out for the future.

"Whom would THE SUN suggest as a candidate for the Democracy," asks our New Haven contemporary, "in the probable event of its adopting an out and out free trade platform?"

There is one statesman who would meet the requirements of the case. We mean FRANK HURD of Toledo. He is a man that you can be sure of every time.

A Very Important Lawsuit.

In 1867 JOSHUA J. GILBERT, a starch manufacturer at Little Falls in this State, patented a new process by which good laundry starch was produced in twenty-four hours, instead of eight or ten days, as required by any previous process. The main thing in the manufacture of starch from grain is the separating of the starch from the gluten, and the great idea in GILBERT'S process was the separation of the combined starch and gluten in an agitating vat without the repeated washings which had been necessary in the former processes. By the new invention time and money were saved.

Mr. GILBERT used about a hundred bushels of corn a day in his starch mill at Little Falls from the date of his patent in 1867 until his death in 1881. During that period his patents were infringed by various parties, notably the Buffalo Grape Sugar Company, and later by the American Grape Sugar Company, formed in 1877, both of which corporations were principally engaged in the manufacture of glucose. But Mr. GILBERT did not seem to care about the infringement of his patents, as he thought the manufacture of glucose did not interfere with his manufacture of starch.

In 1880 he sold out his patents to THOMAS and WILLIAM JEBB, who some nineteen months earlier had been the principal stockholders in the American Grape Sugar Company, and in October, 1881, the JEBBS assigned the patents to a company formed in August of that year. This new company immediately sued the Buffalo Grape Sugar Company and the American Grape Sugar Company for infringing the GILBERT patents, and in this litigation an important decision has just been rendered by Judge SHIPMAN in the United States Circuit Court for the Northern District of New York. The defendants claimed that Mr. GILBERT had abandoned his invention to the public by his failure to sue the infringers of his patents; but the Court holds that, as Mr. GILBERT deemed he was not being injured by the glucose business, and as there was no evidence that he knew of the use by the defendants of his entire process, there was no abandonment of his patents.

Another defence strenuously urged was based on the fact that the assignors of the plaintiff company, the JEBBS, were the principal managers of the American Grape Sugar Company shortly before they purchased the GILBERT patents. Judge SHIPMAN overrules this defence, and says that the purchase by the JEBBS of the patents eighteen months after the sale of their stock in the American Company does not make them trustees for their old company. The Court grants an injunction against the infringement of the patents, and directs an accounting in respect to the unlawful use of the patents since Oct. 13, 1881, the date of the assignment executed by the JEBBS to the plaintiff, the New York Grape Sugar Company.

But one of the most important questions practically, and one involving millions of dollars, that is, the right to an account of the profits or an assessment of the damages which accrued prior to the plaintiff's ownership of the patents, cannot be determined in this suit, because, as Judge SHIPMAN says:

"Such claims do not pass by a mere assignment of the patent. The bills neither show title in the plaintiff to the rights of recovery for past infringement nor pray for an accounting to ascertain the amount which was due upon them, and no foundation was laid for a decree in regard to this class of claims. Had there been the necessary averments, I should have considered with care the question whether under the circumstances of the case a writ of equity ought to decree an account for the profits or an assessment of the damages which accrued prior to the plaintiff's purchase of the patents."

The interests affected by this case are so large that it will probably be carried to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Interesting to Mr. Blaine and Others.

The Republican National Convention meets in Chicago in less than six months. It will consist of 828 delegates. The number of votes required to nominate the candidate for President is 415.

More than one-third of the Convention will consist of delegates from States and Territories which can contribute no votes toward the election of the Republican candidate. The Southern States, probably Democratic with the possible exception of Virginia, will send 316 delegates to Chicago. The Republican party in those States is a good enough party until after the Convention; it can do nothing to help elect a Republican President.

The seven Territories and the District of Columbia will send sixteen delegates to Chicago. They count for their full numerical value in the nomination of the candidate; they can contribute no votes on election day.

Here is a short and easy sum in addition:

Delegates from the Southern States	316
Delegates from the Territories	16
Delegates from New York, Colorado, and Nebraska	88
	420
Number needed to nominate	415

Now, to Brother BLAINE, once a plumed knight and still believed to preserve a philosophical, purified, and disinterested interest in Convention arithmetic, and to Brother LOGAN, who has caught up the white plume that the other threw away, and who is stronger in mathematics than he is in syntax, these figures tell a simple but very interesting story.

The candidate who controls the shadowy Republican organizations in the South and in the Territories, and who sends to Chicago from the three States of New York, Colorado, and Nebraska delegations solid in his behalf, will need no other votes. He will get the nomination on the first ballot.

The *Kingston Daily Leader*, a vigorous Democratic organ of Ulster county, avers that THE SUN "fiercely claims to be thoroughly independent in politics."

We grieve to say that this is not accurate. THE SUN makes no claims, and does nothing fiercely. On the contrary, it is all sweetness and light. As for independence, it has the true kind, namely, independence of action. In principle it holds, with THOMAS JEFFERSON, ANDREW JACKSON, and SAMUEL J. TILDEN, that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.

Between WHITELAW REID and NOAH DAVIS, as ambitious of the place now occupied by the venerable LAPHAM in the Senate of the United States, we are for REID every time; and that is not praising him much either.

The *Louisville Times*, a weekly journal published in the commercial metropolis of Kentucky, is in favor of Gen. HANCOCK as the Democratic candidate for President. A great deal worse nomination might be made.

THE SUN wants the two parties to go before the country, in the Presidential election, upon the issue formulated by CARLISLE'S election.—*Louisville Post.*

We want the two parties to go before the country, as regards the tariff, upon an issue clearly and unequivocally formulated, so that there may be no misunderstanding as to the policy and position of each party. That is all. The issue involved in CARLISLE'S election does not seem at present to have been so distinctly formulated as was supposed; but we hope it will become perfectly distinct before the discussion goes much further.

The Khedive would seem to be meditating a policy of masterly inactivity, if it be true that he told a correspondent the other day that it would be easier for Egypt to strike a decisive blow at the MAHDI when he should reach the first or second cataract. The second, or great cataract, at Wady Halfa, is nearly 500 miles in an air line below Khartoum, and about 800 by the windings of the Nile. The first cataract, at Assouan, on the northern boundary of Nubia, is 180 miles further in a direct line. Should the Khedive make his first resolute stand at Assouan, he would be practically abandoning both Upper and Lower Nubia, except the Red Sea coast, and putting himself strictly on the defensive. But the movement of BAKER Pasha's force to Suakim indicates that an effort may be made, if it be not already too late, to check EL MAHDI at Khartoum.

The late Chairman of the Republican National Committee was only a handsome figurehead. The new Chairman is another. But who will be SARN'S DORSEY?

A few days ago some convicts who took great interest in the religious meetings held for them, and especially the service of song, which they participated in with much fervor, were discovered to be trying to drown in this way the noise of the filing of their cell bars by fellow convicts. Now the prisoners in the Joliet jail are found to have been struck with a musical fever, for a like purpose, singing and dancing every morning in the corridor with great vigor, while one of their number sawed at an iron window grating. Doubtless for them the poet's saying was true, that heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard—namely, the muffled music of the saw—are sweeter. It must also be conceded hereafter that the shouting singer, as well as the man that has no music in himself, may be fit for treason, stratagem, and spoils.

"We are for ARTHUR because ARTHUR is for us," is the comprehensive platform of the *Spirit of the Valley*, a Democratic paper of Harrisonburg, Va., which announces that it is going over to the Republicans. Is the *Spirit of the Valley* sure that it has struck solid ground after its summersault? Reports of the National Committee meeting indicate that the regular Republicans from Virginia were BLAINE men and that Mr. MAHONE knocked at the door in vain. The *Spirit of the Valley* should imitate our esteemed Republican contemporaries in this city and be solemn and non-committal.

Mr. MAHONE was crushed again yesterday by the election of Mr. ANSON G. MCCOOK, an Ohio man from New York, as Secretary of the Senate, instead of GORHAM. Oversanguine people who felt certain that KEIFER was the last of the Ohio men now see their mistake.

The course of the Police Commissioners in dismissing a number of policemen for drunkenness may have a tendency to check the ravages of that peculiar form of disease known as malaria, to which the police force of this city has long been subject. This disease is only to be cured by that form of quinine which is sold behind public bars or handed out in pails or flasks at family entrances. When a policeman staggers, smells strongly of alcoholic spirits, which the roundsmen seem unable to distinguish from quinine, clubs an inoffensive person, or is found helpless in a vacant lot or a barroom, he generally attributes the result to malaria. Malaria of this kind will perhaps be less general now that the Police Commissioners have become a little skeptical in regard to it.

The Dessalines, the steamer which Hayti bought at Philadelphia to aid her in putting down her rebellion, has had a combat, it is said, with the insurgent vessel La Patrie, in which both were somewhat damaged, and hauled off for repairs. Built as a fruiterer, the Dessalines, formerly known as the Ethel, cannot be a very formidable war vessel; but she carries a few guns of good calibre, and ought to be able to checkmate La Patrie, if not to fully blockade Jérémie or Jacmel. The vessel called La Patrie is presumably the Elder, an English iron steamer belonging to a West India line, which the insurgents bought and then fitted up as a war vessel for the protection of the harbor of Jacmel. This craft has been practically keeping that port open for the forces of BAZELAIS, and hence the story of a duel between the two vessels is not at all improbable.

Certain of the South Carolina railroads are employing a new method for escaping State regulation of fares. They compel whites and blacks to ride in the same cars, much to the distaste of the proud South Carolina Caucasians. They cannot do otherwise, they say, under the existing rates as fixed by law. If the act regulating rates is repealed, they promise to provide separate cars for the races. It will be interesting to see how far the Legislature will regard social pressure and race prejudice.

The Readjuster Family.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Mahone boasts of being a millionaire, but he never forgets himself, nor his family, in his public career. His habit is to make Uncle Sam pay for all the Mahone entertainments. The Republicans elected him Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, which has the overseeing of many jobs, last Monday. Bright and early the next morning, before the needy Repudiators, who were deluded by him in Virginia, could put in their claims, he appointed his hopeful son clerk of this committee at $6 a day during the session. By this sort of "readjustment" the Senator makes the Treasury furnish his heir apparent with pocket money, while Mahone himself enjoys the honor and the profit of a Chairmanship.

Halloo! Halloo!

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

THE SUN is gradually unmasking its candidate for the Presidency, and the bald head and cock eye of the individual are now visible. We need not add that his name is Butler.

The Society for Instruction in First Aid to the Injured will give four courses of lectures for ladies during this winter, at the society rooms, 6 East Fourteenth street. The first course will begin on Jan. 7, at 3 P. M.; the second on Jan. 8, at 11 A. M.; the third on Jan. 10, at 2:30 P. M., and the fourth on Jan. 11, at 11 A. M. Each course will consist of five lectures. In the first season of the society, 1881-82, there were 96 pupils, and last year there were 265. The greater number of classes, such as those devoted to policemen, railway employees, and workingmen of various kinds, were free. The society relies mainly for its necessary expenses on the sums received from the pay classes.

BAD FOR ARTHUR.

New York Cannot be Solid for Him Under the Congress Method of Choosing Delegates—The Democratic Convention of 1852.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Many shrewd politicians think that the new way of electing delegates to the Republican National Convention, by Congress districts instead of by State Conventions, will prevent the nomination of Gen. Arthur to the Presidency, because it will deprive him of the solid vote of the New York delegation under any circumstances. There is to be a State Convention next spring, but only for the purpose of electing the delegates at large.

It may be said that the change will amount to nothing, because it had come to be the custom in New York for the delegates to the State Convention from each Congress district to select their delegates to the National Convention, and that their choice was usually ratified by the State Convention. On the other hand, it is claimed that the new plan will work out great changes when the delegates are appointed by thirty-four conventions, held in the several districts, each acting independently of the others, and whose free choice cannot be hampered by instructions from a State Convention, though every delegate may be controlled by instructions from the local convention which appoints him.

Harmony between the Stalwarts and Half Breeds in this State will not be attained by this change. But it will enable them to secure delegates of iron will to carry out the purposes of each faction in the National Convention. This State, in 1852, afforded an illustration of the results which the new rule may be expected to accomplish in 1884.

The New York Democrats elected delegates to the National Convention of 1852 by Congress districts. The thirty-three thus chosen elected the two at large. The party was divided into two powerful and bitter factions, known as the Softs and Hards. The Presidential candidate of the Softs was William L. Marcy. The Hards favored Lewis Cass. There was a severe struggle over the choice of delegates. Blood was drawn in some cases. The Softs captured twenty or twenty-one districts (their hold on one delegate was feeble), and the Hards carried eleven or twelve. The Softs got the two delegates at large. Now, how did the district plan work?

The National Convention met at Baltimore in June. It adopted a rule that the delegates from each State should vote as a majority of their members directed. Erastus Corning was Chairman of the New York delegation. Horatio Seymour led the Softs, and Daniel S. Dickinson the Hards. Buchanan, Cass, Marcy, and Douglas were the foremost aspirants for the nomination. The balloting went on for many hours amid great excitement, nobody receiving the necessary two-thirds majority. The New York delegation cast twenty-two or twenty-three votes for Marcy, and twelve or thirteen for Cass, varying on some ballots.

There had been a slow gain for Marcy from the start. At length he obtained 98 votes. When New York was reached at the next call of the roll the delegation asked leave to retire for consultation. Leave was granted, and the call was suspended to await their return. The object of the Softs was to get a united vote of the delegation for Marcy, because in that event a large accession of votes for him from other States was promised. It was subsequently reported that they had a stormy time in the conference, and that when Seymour proposed to apply the rule that would have compelled the delegation to cast its vote for Marcy, one of the Hards threatened to throw Seymour out of the window if he persisted.

The delegation returned to the Convention. The hall was as silent as a tomb. The Secretary called New York. Mr. Corning responded, as he had so many times before, "Twenty-three votes for William L. Marcy and twelve for Lewis Cass."

The Convention drew a long breath. The roll call was started on its weary round. Marcy's vote steadily declined. He was one by ballot because he could not get the solid vote of his State in an emergency when it would probably have turned the scale in his favor. The break finally came. The leading candidates were dropped, and Franklin Pierce was unanimously nominated.

This well-remembered outcome of the election of delegates in New York by Congress districts, where hostile factions had full play, raises the question whether a candidate from this State will fare any better in 1884 than Marcy did in 1852.

INVESTED WITH THE PALLIUM.

Imposing Ceremonies at the Consecration of Archbishop Elder.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 13.—Great crowds collected early this morning at the cathedral to witness the ceremony of consecrating Archbishop-elect William H. Elder and the conferring of the pallium on him. The cathedral was soon filled with people, many of whom were Protestants. The scene in the sanctuary was very impressive. The light of the consecrated candles, the decorations of evergreens, the Archbishop-elect seated on his throne in the centre, and more than 200 priests and bishops on his right and left made the spectacle an imposing one. The mass was unusually impressive. Bishop McCloskey devoted his sermon to explaining the pallium as a sacred symbol. After his sermon he conferred the pallium and announced that Archbishop Elder had granted forty days' indulgence to Catholics in his diocese. This ended the ceremony.

In 1880 the Pope appointed the present Archbishop-elect coadjutor to the late Archbishop Purcell, with the right of succession. The pallium, which is the distinguishing badge of the office, was brought from Rome by a special messenger sent by the Pope. It cannot be transferred. It is emblem is a fillet made of the wool of two lambs which have formed the annual sacrifice of the Sisters of St. Agnes at Rome. The sacrifice is made during the chanting of Agnus Dei in mass. It is worn around the neck, and is crossed in front.

Archbishop Elder is now 65 years old. He was born in Baltimore. He graduated at Mount St. Mary's College, in Maryland, and completed his studies in Rome. He was Director of Mount St. Mary's College for ten years, and was Bishop of Natchez from 1857 to 1880.

Have they an Excuse for Whistling?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* There are two young men boarding where I do, who make a practice of singing and whistling as soon as they enter the front door of the house, and continue it through the halls and on the several stairways leading to their room, and the same when leaving their room, and often in their room with their door open so as to annoy several of the other boarders. As they in some respects give evidence of having been accustomed to polite society, I write this to learn whether this singing and whistling manner of theirs is polite or not.

When I was a small boy and came bounding into the house whistling, my mother used to check me saying mildly, "My son, it is not polite to whistle in the house." Now, I wish to know whether she was right, then, and is the matter of whistling, if she was right, then, has etiquette since then changed? READER.

There is no question in regard to the impropriety of indiscriminate singing or whistling where other people can hear. As a general principle you can sing only when people pay to hear you, or when the hostess at some social gathering asks you to. The rules for whistling are even more rigid, because many people who wouldn't pay anything for the privilege would still much rather hear you sing than whistle. On this point etiquette can never change.

But in the case of these young men there may be extenuating circumstances. Perhaps in that house there may be some young maiden boarder to whose ear their music is specially addressed, and to catch whose attention they are willing to break the ordinary rules of propriety. If that is the case, silence can only be expected when one of them succeeds in his suit, after which they will probably both stop whistling, though for different reasons.

Those Big Driving Wheels.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The two engines referred to were not built by Norris, but by Baldwin, Philadelphia, for the Reading Railroad. On account of the many grades on that road, they did not give satisfaction, and were sold. The Camden and Amboy Railroad bought both, one of which was used for a long time on Andy Quantin's train from Trenton to Tacony.

The engineers were "nine foot drivers," single. Each wheel, between spokes, was filled in with oak. With light train and dry track these engines did well, but with heavy train and wet track they were almost useless. A.

MONTHAVEN, Dec. 13.

The Bleecker Family.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* IN THE SUN of Dec. 11 you give an account of an interview of your reporter with a Mrs. Bache, concerning the Bache-Tyng affair, and credit her with saying "I am a grandaughter of Dr. Bleecker, after whom Bleecker street was named." Dr. Bleecker was only a distant connection of the Bleecker family, and Bleecker street received its name from the writer's great-grandfather, Anthony Lispenard Bleecker. GEORGE PRESCOTT SEABARY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.

Sexton Maker Says the Doors were Open.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In an article in THE SUN it is insinuated that the doors of the Catholic church in Montclair were locked on the first Sunday of September while a collection was being taken up. Being the sexton of the church, I deem it my duty to say that the doors were open, and that I was in my house with the keys in my pocket. I made the same statement to the court in Newark. McCarthy could not open the door because some boys, who had previously left the church, held it closed from the outside. PATRICK MAHER, Sexton.

GOSSIP FROM WASHINGTON.

The Approaching Marriage of Mr. Frelinghuysen's Son—H. W. Howgate's Taxes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Decidedly the most amusing place in Washington, now that there is nothing of consequence going on at the Capitol, is the State Department. The delicious airs of importance of the functionaries of that department, the manner in which they imply that they are all members of one family, and that the Frelinghuysen family, are highly diverting for a time.

The approaching marriage of Secretary Frelinghuysen's son to Miss Coats recalled to an enterprising woman here an adventure she had with the elder Coats in England many years ago. She met Peter Coats in travelling, but did not catch his name when he was introduced to her. About the second remark he made was to ask her what spool thread she used. "I used Coats's thread for a long time," she responded; "but it has got so worthless now that I am looking around for another manufacture for my household sewing."

Honest old Peter's face turned crimson, and he shouted indignantly, "You're mistaken, ma'am. Ain't I Peter Coats that makes Coats's thread? I tell yer it's as good as it ever was."

Marriage in the Frelinghuysen family flutters the official dove cote over which Frelinghuysen senior presides. There is an additional air of mysterious silence over the department; the tones are lower, the clerks look more and more grievously burdened with the cares of state, and misspell more words in their despatches than ever. In the other departments hurry and bustle take the place of the mysterious calm and seclusion of the State Department. Secretary Chandler is always too busy to speak a word, and so are all the other Secretaries except the hardest worked and most harassed of them all, Mr. Folger, who, struggling with a heart affection which, though dangerous, is not troublesome, tries his best to see everybody and do everything. He is a man of tireless industry.

In the list of the largest taxpayers in the District appears the name of Henry W. Howgate, who pays taxes upon $77,000 worth of property in Washington. The War Department can't find him, but the tax collector can.

Speaker Carlisle, with a cold, a cough, and a catarrh that render him utterly voiceless, still struggles with 316 sons of Belial now in their seats in Congress, each and every one of whom wants an important committee chairmanship. There may be doubts as to the extent of horizon which Mr. Carlisle fills, but there is none at all as to the important position of Mrs. Carlisle. The President and the acting Vice-President being widowers, Mrs. Carlisle now outranks every other woman. Contrary to the prevailing fashion of the members and Senators keeping house, the Speaker and his family will remain at the Riggs House this winter.

On Monday Mr. Belmont Robinson got a good grip on the coat of the British lion, and nearly yanked it off. While Mr. Robinson was worrying the lion Mr. Finerty of Chicago tackled the unicorn. The fur flew.

THE SUN of Sunday contained an interesting sketch of the Sailors' Snug Harbor at West Brighton, to which the following is added: The estate left by Capt. Randall was in litigation for thirty years, and at the end of that time the property had increased greatly in value, and the endowment now is greater than the beneficiaries call for. For some years the surplus income was expended in building, but there are now accommodations for over 1,000 pensioners, when there are only between 700 and 800 of them. The suggestion of a sailors' refuge came from Alexander Hamilton, who was called to the death bed of the doughty old sea Captain, who had a fortune to leave, but knew not to whom to leave it. Mr. Hamilton asked him how he made all this money. "By honest privateering!" thundered the old man.

HORRORS OF COUNTY POORHOUSES.

Insane Paupers Still Chained and Boxed Up as in the Days of Old.

At the annual meeting of the State Charities Aid Association yesterday the chief subject embraced in the report of Secretary Ellen M. Terry was the condition of the insane in county poorhouses. She said that in her visits to county asylums and poorhouses she had found very unsatisfactory conditions. Lunatics were found in strong, close cells, like ox stalls, as in Chenango county, or chained to strong iron rings in the wall of the yard, like wild animals, in Genesee, the lack of suitable care takers obliging this recourse to restraint.

In Broome county the only night attendant in the male insane wards was the watchman, whose real business was to patrol the poorhouse grounds. In this asylum also the bathing was done in the coal cellar—six patients in the same water, which was then saved to wash the dirty clothes. As a general custom the insane in county poorhouses were kept in attics and basements and outbuildings. They were filthy and squalid, they lounged about in idleness in shadeless courtyards, and little effort was made to keep the sexes separate.

In Chemung county cells still existed long used for insane quarters, and in one of them a man lay seventeen years unclothed, except for a ragged quilt, in a dry goods box on a bed of straw. Similar cells existed in the Niagara county poorhouse. In Tioga county the Secretary found the insane shoeless and bareheaded, compelled to sit on the floor, and all—both men and women patients—under charge of a male pauper. Removal of such patients to Willard Asylum proves that they can be humanized and made happy.

Miss Terry recommended that poorhouse insane wards and county asylums should be abolished, and that all classes of the insane should be cared for by the State in cottages of moderate cost on the vacant lands of the six present State institutions. She also urged the opening of training schools for nurses in insane hospitals.

The officers of the association were unanimously reelected. Miss Terry's resignation was accepted. She is about to be married.

Death of Andrew Dickinson.

Andrew Dickinson, for more than thirty years connected with the mercantile agency of R. G. Dun & Co., died yesterday at Ridgewood, N. J., aged 62 years. For the last seven or eight years Mr. Dickinson had been unable to work, but in recognition of his useful services the firm presented him with an annual pension. Mr. Dickinson was known to a great many of the older merchants in the city as a careful observer and a painstaking reporter, and was devoted to the interests of his employers. Among the chief incidents of his life was a voyage to Hull, England, in a sailing vessel, before the days of ocean steamers, and a journey through England on foot. He visited the chief centres, and returned in about a year to Brooklyn. Having learned the trade of a printer early in life, and having no occupation at the moment, he bought a small font of type, and, without reducing his narrative to manuscript beyond the brief notes which he had made, he set up in book form a description of his trip, getting the pages stereotyped. In a few weeks he produced a volume, which afterward became very highly prized for its vivacity and purity of its style. The only member of Mr. Dickinson's family who survives him is a son, who is an Episcopal clergyman.

Gen. Cesnola Asked About his Title.

In the suit of Feuerdent against Cesnola the cross-examination of the defendant was continued yesterday by Mr. Bangs.

Mr. Bangs—Are you a General?

Gen. Cesnola (excitedly)—Yes, sir.

Mr. Bangs—Who appointed you a General?

Gen. Cesnola—President Lincoln.

Mr. Bangs—Is there anybody else a General besides