The Sun.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1884.

Amusements To-day.

American Institute—Exhibition.
Bijou Opera House—Adonis. 8 P. M.
Casino—The Bagger Student. 8 P. M.
Comedy Theatre—The Secretary. 8 P. M.
Daly's Theatre—The Wooden Spoon. 8 P. M.
Eden Musee—Tableaux. 11 A. M. to 11 P. M.
Grand Opera House—Her Atonement. 8 P. M.
Hooley & Hall's—Concert. 7:30 P. M.
Madison Square Theatre—The Private Secretary. 8:30 P. M.
New York Museum—218 Bowery.
Niblo's Garden—The Seven Ravens. 8 P. M.
People's Theatre—7:30 A. M. 8 P. M.
Thalia Theatre—Die Hottentotten. 8 P. M.
Theatre Comique—Investigation. 2 and 8 P. M.
Tony Pastor's Theatre—Variation. 2 and 8 P. M.
Union Square Theatre—The Artist's Daughter. 8 P. M.
Wallack's Theatre—Nita's First. 8 P. M.
5th Avenue Theatre—Called Back. 8 P. M.
14th Street Theatre—My Sweetheart. 8 P. M.

Advertisers who prefer to make use of our Sunday issue will oblige us by sending in their orders early. THE SUN will afford space for all the news and all the advertising current, whether it requires four pages or forty, but its business will be facilitated and its advertising customers better served if orders are sent in on Saturday morning, or better still, if space is bespoken earlier in the week.

New Ideas in Politics?

Gen. BUTLER is the only statesman who brings any new ideas into the political discussions of the present canvass. He alone has struck out from the beaten track and the regulation routine. He alone has set forth a single proposition which looks toward the future.

Fifty years ago, in the days of Gen. JACKSON, there were among the Democratic masses who supported him several original thinkers of popular origin, who while they adhered to the doctrines of JEFFERSON, went beyond those of ADAM SMITH; but all their radicalism was presently extinguished in the more vital and formidable agitation of the slavery question, which took such hold upon the inmost rights of humanity.

But the slavery agitation ended long ago amid the flame and carnage of the civil war; and since then the efforts of politicians have been addressed on the Republican side toward keeping possession of the offices, and on the Democratic side toward getting possession of them. In all this time scarcely a single new thought has been advanced by any orthodox Democratic politician or writer except Mr. TILDEN. It is true that a number of able and enthusiastic gentlemen, launching out upon the dreary and doubtful waste of political economy, have brought up once more the doctrine of free trade; but there is no novelty in it, nor anything to rouse the jaded interest of the public mind. But now Gen. BUTLER comes forward with radical views of deep vitality, appealing to that vast majority of American citizens who earn their living with their own heads and hands, in toil about farms, mines, and workshops. He summons them to united action in behalf of their own interests and the future safety of their children; and if such action could be fully organized and realized, it would make them the masters of the country and the directors of its political destinies.

This is, indeed, a novelty in our politics, and it is greatly to the honor of BUTLER that he has taken the lead in a movement which covers so much ground and may be destined to so long a life. It is a movement fully in harmony with the philosophy of JEFFERSON and of JACKSON; and, whatever be the result of this election, or of the next election, it is probably destined to triumph some day, and to confer unequalled benefits upon the people of this country and of the world. This republic cannot go on forever with the rich men growing richer and richer, and the workers earning only enough to keep them from starvation.

The Meridian Conference.

In recommending by a large majority the adoption of the Greenwich meridian as a common prime, the International Conference at Washington worthily completed its main work. It has since resolved, also, that longitude ought to be counted, as now, in two directions up to 180°. This conservative action was perhaps not generally expected, many persons doubtless supposing that this body would follow the Roman Conference in declaring that longitude ought to be counted continuously throughout the 360 degrees. It seems, however, to have been considered that, after the adoption of a common zero, the remaining dangers of clerical or other errors in confusing east and west, or plus and minus, near the prime, would be much like those resulting from incorrect reckoning—a species of carelessness which may defy any rules. The retention of the present method of counting also preserves the full use of all existing charts and calculations based on the Greenwich meridian—a most important consideration, as these have cost much money. The Conference had further urged the adoption of a universal day for certain limited purposes, which need not interfere with local or other standard times; and at its next meeting on Monday it is to determine whether this day ought to begin at mean midnight of the initial meridian and be counted continuously through twenty-four hours.

As to the choice of a prime, absolute unanimity would of course have been gratifying and valuable; but when it once became manifest that this was unattainable, it became necessary, in order to avoid an utter failure, to record the judgment of the majority. It is encouraging to find the solitary vote cast against the Greenwich prime coming from San Domingo; for France and Brazil, whose votes were withheld, may yet yield, through their Governments, that conformity to the general judgment which their delegates at the Conference did not feel justified in according.

It should be remembered that this project of selecting a common prime did not originate exclusively with England, and that the formal invitation to the Conference came from the United States, which had a meridian of its own for topographical purposes. The objections, also, which were raised against selecting the Greenwich zero were mainly theoretical. It was said that an international prime should not pass through the territory of a leading power. But why not? There is no intrinsic quality in one meridian above another entitling it to respect or aversion. To associate ideas of dignity with one of the great circles of the globe recalls SYDNEY SMITH'S phrase of speaking disrespectfully of the equator. More of the meridian of Greenwich passes through France than through England; and if nationality really counts for much, France could erect a transit instrument on this meridian within her own dominions, calling the precinct Greenwich, just as we have a dozen or more American Parises, and thus reckon from a French Greenwich. Or it would be perfectly practicable for her to reckon from some existing French town now on the international prime, like St. Sauveur. For it is obvious that when once this prime is accepted the name Greenwich will steadily decrease in chart mention, since the words west and east will be a sufficient designation, just as our maps now usually speak of north and south latitude, without adding "from the equator."

Besides, it would be difficult to get a "neutral" meridian, as the French delegates phrased it, or one not traversing the possessions of a great power. Even had the suggested resort to Behring Straits for this purpose been made, still, as Prof. NEWCOMB pointed out, the selected prime should run through the centre of a transit instrument, which would have to be placed on land. The twentieth meridian west of Greenwich seemed much more convenient; it traverses Greenland and Iceland, to be sure, but it would cause less serious alterations of the figures on existing charts.

The Conference, however, determined to rest on the broad and safe ground that considerations of political neutrality were out of place in this matter of commercial convenience and safety. When the Governments of France and Brazil consider the enormous proportion of the world's maritime interests represented in the majority decision, they should hardly hesitate to conform to it.

The Latest Scheme.

The Independent manipulators of the Bureau of Defamation have outlined a new and original plan of assault upon the Republican candidate. This has been suggested to them by the fact that they have received letters from persons whose names had been placed on the list of Republicans who had signified their intention of voting for CLEVELAND, asking that their names might be stricken off, since after the proof of CLEVELAND'S degradation, they could not think of voting for him. In order to counteract this growing sentiment among the mortified and disgusted Independents who had cheerfully turned toward a candidate whom they knew to be ignorant, but imagined to be clean, the Boston branch of the Defamation Bureau have decided upon the attempt to make Mr. BLAINE out to be no better a man than CLEVELAND, for the same reasons for which the latter must be so justly condemned. At least that would appear from the following letter from the headquarters of the bureau in Boston:

Mr. F. ANDERSON, West Wareham, Mass.

MY DEAR SIR: Answering your letter of Sept. 15. Your name has been taken from our list, as you request. I am sorry that you accept the story about Gov. CLEVELAND, as published in the *Boston Journal*, as correct. We have investigated the charges against him carefully, and are satisfied that, although Gov. CLEVELAND is not faultless, he is very far from being a libertine or debauchee. If you object to voting for CLEVELAND on the grounds you state, and intend to vote for Mr. BLAINE, I would suggest that you inquire carefully into Mr. BLAINE'S private character. Our objection to Mr. BLAINE is based entirely upon his public record.

There are a great many facts known about Mr. BLAINE'S private character that I think would cause you to entertain a worse opinion of him than you do of CLEVELAND; but neither the Democrats nor the Independents intend to enter into the campaign of mud throwing which the Republicans have started. Should you be in Boston, I should be glad to tell you personally quite a number of things regarding Mr. BLAINE'S private character that I know about and give you my authority for the statements. Very truly yours, J. B. GARDNER, Cor. Sec'y.

Evidently the CLEVELAND following would prefer that there had been no mention at all of the degraded and disgusting offences of their candidate. He would have been much stronger in the public estimation if such had been the case. Probably they would have preferred not to have been smirched with his sin at all. But even that is left in doubt by the manner in which their shameless apologies have grown into brazen defences, and by the persistency with which they have unblushingly attempted to cover up the horrid and bestial picture of a disgraceful life by the novel protection of a vaunted confession that it was true. But at any rate, the intention seems to be to establish if possible for Mr. BLAINE the same sort of a reputation that has been fastened inseparably upon GROVER CLEVELAND. The originality about this latest Independent scheme, however, is that it is to be done in private, so that it will not be possible for anybody to prove that the new accusations are lies.

Was there ever a more extraordinary termination of a campaign that was begun under a sudden inspiration of moral elevation? However surprising, it cannot be said to be illogical. Where else could it end, when with a full understanding and thorough appreciation of the facts, its managers knowingly embarked upon the enterprise of supporting GROVER CLEVELAND as a candidate for the Presidency?

England's Egyptian Incubus.

The latest advices from Cairo announce the collapse of the attempt to relieve the Egyptian treasury by a suspension of payments to the sinking fund, and it follows that the deficit incurred by the large outlay for police and military purposes must, for the hour at all events, be borne by the British Government. Meanwhile such meagre information as leaks through a rigid censorship of press despatches from the Soudan, proves that Lord WOLSELEY'S advance to Khartoum, for which elaborate preparations have long been making, will be a much less facile and expeditious performance, and supply a more decisive test of that General's abilities, than his vaunted march to Cairo.

The revocation of the order affecting the sinking fund is the more unexpected because it is only the other day that the British Commissioner, Lord NORTHBROOK, made it patent that this measure was but an opening wedge by declaring that a reduction of the interest on the foreign debt was also inevitable. It appears, too, that very recently the Khedive tried to reassure his Ministers, who had been personally sued by the trustees of the mulcted fund, by pledging himself to indemnify them in case of the seizure of their property. But the Khedive's own position is not regarded as specially secure, and the sudden reversal of his fiscal policy is due in part, apparently, to the reluctance of NUBAR Pasha to bear the first brunt of litigation with the bondholders. Moreover, the British Foreign Office may have had private intimations from some of the Continental powers that no strenuous objections would ultimately be made to a suspension of the sinking fund, provided the British Government would guarantee Egypt's creditors equivalent security in some other form. Undoubtedly the true solution of the financial problem is that which Lord NORTHBROOK is now understood to favor, namely, that England shall agree to protect the Nile country for a long term of years, and shall also covenant with the bondholders that the interest on the debt, after being once cut down to a rate which the Egyptian revenues are adequate to meet, shall be curtailed no further during the period of occupation.

As yet but little progress has been made by the WOLSELEY expedition. A part of his force has reached Dongola, and Col. KITCHENER, with a small detachment, is at Ambukol—that is to say, at the Nile terminus of the caravan track from Dongola across the desert. But the bulk of the British forces remain at Wady Halfa, and their commander seems unable to determine when or how they are to be pushed forward. At one time we are told that the Nile steamers impressed in such numbers by the English authorities are to be supplemented with a hundred rowboats, and that the contingent of Canadian boatmen is on its way up the river. The next day there are indications that after all the outlay made for river transportation the Nile route will be discarded, for we hear that 1,200 camels are to be collected at Dongola. Our surmise that Gen. WOLSELEY'S movements would be impeded by the same causes that delayed his assault on Tel-el-Kebir seems to be confirmed by the report that in his despatches to the War Office he complains that his advance has been paralyzed by the blunders and dishonesty of the commissariat and transport service. But Gen. WOLSELEY'S own experience had given him full warning of the embarrassments to be expected from this quarter, and he may not find it easy to explain why, with his preponderant influence at the Horse Guards, due precautions were not taken to hinder their recurrence.

In the Soudan situation no material change has taken place since the recapture of Berber, although the air is thick with rumors of aggressive movements on the part of the False Prophet. According to intelligence received by way of Massowah, Gen. GORDON after his return to Khartoum proceeded to collect taxes in Sennaar and to free that peninsula from scattered bands of rebels. That his able lieutenant, Col. STEWART, is still living there seems to be some ground for hope in the latest telegrams denying that there were any Europeans of mark on board the steamer that grounded on the rocks not far from Merawe. As to the story that the MAHDI has despatched an army against Dongola, this was probably invented to shake the fidelity of the native officials and auxiliaries assembled at that place. More credible is the report brought by a caravan from Kordofan that a strong force of rebels is moving upon Khartoum, in the hope of mastering that town while it is weakened by a supposed dearth of provisions, and before the relieving column can come up. But of course Gen. GORDON will have replenished his supplies if he has had free access to the granaries of Sennaar, and the certainty of approaching rescue will cause the garrison of the Soudanese capital to defend itself with desperation.

Gen. Butler and the Money Question.

The subjoined communication from a distinguished citizen of this town merits the conspicuous place which we give to it:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You seem to be a so profound and enthusiastic admirer of Gen. BUTLER'S abilities as a public man that all his antecedent political career must be very familiar to you. Will you kindly inform me on the following points about which I have certain recollections, the accuracy of which I should like to test by your knowledge?

Did not Gen. BUTLER, some years after the close of the war, while gold was at a high premium, and when the payment of our enormous national debt was an anxious subject of discussion, publicly recommend the payment of it in greenbacks?

Has not Gen. BUTLER, more recently, while gold was still at a premium, publicly advocated the use of Government paper money as a circulating medium and legal tender, preferable to gold and silver, and a proper substitute for either? Has he not suggested that, for purposes of economy and greater durability, the promises aforesaid of the Government might be printed on leather or some material of similar greater durability than paper?

Are not the above, in substance, a part of his past record? L. B. R.

NEW YORK, Oct. 14.

We have no special knowledge regarding the points mentioned by our correspondent. There is no doubt that Gen. BUTLER has been an advocate of what is known as the greenback theory of money, and we presume that he still holds to such opinions, though they may have been modified by the different circumstances of the country. But as for his recommending the payment of the public debt in greenbacks at a time when gold was at a high premium, we do not remember; nor can we recollect the fact of his advocating the substitution of leather for paper as a vehicle for the printing of the Government money. About all these details our correspondent is evidently much better informed than we are.

We intend to vote for Gen. BUTLER without regard to his ideas concerning various minor questions that are matters of controversy, and without inquiring whether his views on these subjects are the same as ours.

The Republicans have nominated Mr. BLAINE, a most unfit candidate, whom we have opposed for years, and still oppose. The Democrats have nominated Mr. CLEVELAND, a candidate, in our judgment, very much more unfit than Mr. BLAINE. In truth, we hold that Mr. CLEVELAND'S disqualifications are so exceedingly grave and revolting that, as between the two men, Mr. BLAINE should be preferred on the principle of choosing the lesser evil of the two. But while we cannot support a representative of the Republican party, it is a duty to make against CLEVELAND'S nomination the most decided protest that is possible. For this reason we intend to vote for Gen. BUTLER, and we would fain hope that our correspondent may be led by reflection to come to the same conclusion.

Whether there should be more or fewer greenbacks, and how the public debt shall be paid, are not points that seem to us to be in any way involved in the present contest.

Mr. Healy Reinstated.

The professional civil service reformers let the light of their countenances shine upon GROVER CLEVELAND. They object to Mr. BLAINE. He has never shown that indifference to the fortunes of his own party which gives a man a standing as a professional civil service reformer. GROVER CLEVELAND has. Consequently the professional civil service reformers, most of whom are free trade Republicans, take a great interest in him. He is the kind of man they like.

But have the professional civil service reformers turned their holy eyes upon the Bureau of Labor Statistics at Albany? Have they noticed how a competent man was kicked out of that bureau for political reasons, and is just now temporarily reinstated in his place for the sake of avoiding scandal till after the election? Have they heard that any Democratic officeholders in the States now under Democratic control, have been assessed to help on the helpless cause of GROVER CLEVELAND? Have they heard that any Democratic officeholders whose services are due to the respective States or counties or towns which pay their salaries, are on the stump for CLEVELAND?

The professionals who are so much interested in observing Republican deviations from the correct idea ought to keep a part of their great minds upon the Democrats and the Democratic candidate. But it is one of the singularities of this most singular campaign that a candidate nominated by Democratic placemen should be the particular darling of the distinguished Republicans who devote themselves to civil service reform.

Neither Blaine Nor Cleveland.

We have received the following suggestive letter from a young gentleman of this city:

SIR: Will you please inform me through the columns of THE SUN which of the two candidates for President deserves my vote, as they seem to me to be sailing very much in the same boat? Shall I cast my ballot for BLAINE or CLEVELAND? As this is my first time of voting, I want the man who best deserves it to have it.

A YOUNG VOTER.

We advise our young friend not to cast his vote for either of the men he mentions, because in our judgment neither of them deserves it. Of the two, BLAINE is less objectionable, and his election would be a less misfortune for the country; but for our part we vote for BUTLER.

CITIZENSHIP—NATURALIZATION.

Citizens may be divided into two classes, natural born and alien born. Natural-born citizens are of two kinds—native born—those born of either American or alien parents within the jurisdiction of the United States, and foreign born—those born of American parents without the jurisdiction of the United States. Alien-born citizens are of three kinds—those who become citizens by their own voluntary act, upon personal petition; those who become citizens involuntarily, by the acts of others, such as minor children; and those who become citizens involuntarily, as a consequence of their own acts (alien wives).

The native-born citizen in his own country needs no certificate that he is a citizen. His oath that he is native born is all that is required of him until the contrary is proven.

All other citizens need, and the courts are authorized to grant, a certificate stating that they are citizens of the United States. By law, this certificate is made of the highest validity. It is a judgment of a court, and cannot be attacked in collateral proceedings. When presented in court or to an election officer, it must be accepted as final and conclusive proof that the person named in it is an American citizen.

As a rule, only one of the four kinds of citizens needing it take the trouble to obtain this certificate, and the result is endless confusion and annoyance to courts, litigants, election officers, and voters. This arises mainly from a misunderstanding of the phrase "naturalization papers." An alien does not take out "naturalization papers." He goes to a court, and there, upon his application and after having made the necessary declaration and having proved his residence by evidence other than his own, he is admitted to citizenship. The court then gives him a certificate that he is a citizen of the United States. He is a citizen without it. But it is very useful for him to have as handy documentary evidence, saving a search of the court records every time his rights are questioned.

This certificate of citizenship may often be as necessary to the foreign-born children of the American citizen, to the alien-born children of the American citizen, to the alien-born wife of the American citizen, as it is to the alien-born man. They are citizens without it. So is he. They have no legal record that they are. He has. If their citizenship is denied, they must go to trouble and expense to prove it by the testimony of witnesses. If his citizenship is questioned, he simply shows his certificate. If their witnesses die or cannot be found, their case may be lost. If his certificate is lost or mislaid, he can get another within a few days.

When Gen. George G. Meade applied for letters of administration he was asked where he was born. "In Vigo, Spain," he replied, "but I am a natural-born citizen, my father being at the time the United States Consul." The contestants objected, upon the ground that he was not a citizen. His own testimony was not sufficient to prove that his father was an American citizen, or the United States Consul at that port. The objection was sustained, although it was well known to all that he was a natural-born American, and he was compelled to go to trouble and expense to legally prove his citizenship. If he had previously gone before a court with proper evidence and secured a certificate of citizenship, its production might have obviated objection.

Not many years ago the alien-born widow of a distinguished General appeared in court to take out letters testamentary as executrix. Her marriage had made her an American citizen, but the Surrogate very properly refused to issue letters, although there was no contest and no other objection, on the ground that she admitted alien birth and produced no proof that she was a citizen. She must prove that her husband was a citizen and that she had been lawfully married to him. Her counsel took her to a Judge personally acquainted with her and her husband, who issued a certificate of citizenship. She returned within thirty minutes, and her counsel handed her certificate to the Surrogate, who immediately issued the letters. This saved months of delay; but it is not often that the alien widow has such counsel or friends.

When confronted at the polls with the admission of birth without the jurisdiction of the United States, the voter is not permitted to produce witnesses to swear that he is a citizen. His vote must be rejected unless he can produce documentary evidence that he is a citizen—his own certificate of citizenship or the certificate of his father showing that the son was a minor at the time the father was naturalized.

The natural-born citizen of foreign birth must lose his vote, if it is challenged and he can produce no certificate. So must the alien-born citizen. The latter, however, wiser than the other, usually has his certificate in his pocket. Election inspectors often accept the oath of natural-born Americans as to their parents' citizenship. This they have no right to do. The law recognizes no distinction of citizens. Take, for example, two men, brothers, both born abroad, one after and the other before the father's naturalization. Both are American citizens by virtue of their father being a citizen, but one is a natural-born citizen, the other an alien-born citizen. Can the election inspector take the testimony of one as to his father's citizenship and reject the testimony of the other? He must reject the testimony of the alien-born son, for the law permits him only to accept documentary evidence of his citizenship; and with equal justice he must reject the testimony of the other also, and decline to accept any but documentary evidence in both cases.

All persons, except Indians not taxed, born in the United States are citizens, but only three classes of persons are eligible to citizenship by naturalization. These are: 1. Free white aliens; 2. Aliens of African nativity, bond or free; 3. Persons of African descent, bond or free. This provision applies also to wives, to minor children, to mariners, to discharged soldiers and sailors, and to the foreign-born children of American citizens. Certificates of citizenship cannot issue to them unless they are embraced in one of these three classes.

By "white" is meant "Caucasian." This is silly, but it is the Circuit Court interpretation. "A Mongolian is not a Caucasian, and therefore not a white person." Neither is a Malay, a Hindoo, an Arab, an Egyptian. "Under the term white," says Judge Sawyer, "is included only the 'Caucasian' race"—whatever that may mean, and the court does not tell us.

By "African" is meant the woolly-haired "negro." The Semitic races of Africa are excluded. Any negro is of African descent.

The Caucasian petitioning for citizenship must be rejected if it appears that he has escaped from slavery among the Moors or Turks, or any other people where slavery is lawful, unless he can prove negro blood (African descent). Negroes and persons of negro descent are eligible, whether free or slave. The State court has no right to inquire whether a negro is an escaped slave from Cuba. The restriction of naturalization to free aliens applies only to white persons.

The law that throws the door wide open for the Hottentot and Bushman, and bolts it in the face of the educated Hindoo (our own blood), the civilized Japanese, the loyal Arab, the Georgian girl rescued from a Turkish harem, and the Saxon escaping from Moorish slavery may need amendment, but until it is amended the courts are bound to respect it.

The naturalization of alien men and women upon petition is governed by certain well defined principles, and nearly every case that arises can be very easily settled by referring it to them. Five years' continued residence, two years' probation, one year's residence within the State or Territory where the court is at the time held, and good moral character are the conditions.

To the requirement of five years' continuous residence there are two exceptions: 1. An honorably discharged soldier or sailor (but not a marine), from whom only one year's residence previous to naturalization is required; 2. A seaman, from whom three years' service on a merchant vessel of the United States, after a declaration of his intentions, is required. The question of what constitutes residence must be determined by the court. The act of 1813 required continuous residence, and the courts construed it strictly, rejecting the application of a man who had for a minute stepped across the Canadian boundary. In 1842 Congress struck out the clause requiring continuous residence, and anything that could be construed into residence was accepted. When the Revised Statutes were prepared the word was restored by the compilers, and the statute now reads, as in 1813, "for the continuous term of five years next preceding his admission." The courts have not, however, gone back to the strict construction formerly given, although they have greatly tightened the previous lax construction; and temporary absence, where there was a plain intention to return, is overlooked. "He may put his body where he likes," said one Judge recently, "so long as he keeps a place for it here."

An applicant must produce witnesses to prove residence and character. He cannot prove them by affidavit. His oath shall in no case be allowed to prove his residence.

If he was over 18 years old upon arrival, he must declare his intentions two years before he can be admitted to citizenship, besides residing in the United States five years. If a seaman, he must declare his intentions three years before. No prior declaration of intention is required from minors coming here under 18, if the five years' continuous residence include three years of minority, or from discharged soldiers; but both must prove intention.

The declaration of intention once filed, the death of the applicant does not prevent his widow and children from becoming citizens when the time of his probation expires, "upon taking the prescribed oaths," the statute says; but some courts have not required oaths, issuing the certificates as matters of right to the widow and children.

The naturalization of the alien father naturalizes the alien wife and minor children. The wife and children need not have been residents for the five years preceding. Where a child is illegitimate, one court has decided that it is not naturalized, another that it is, and a third cuts the knot by deciding that a court has no right to inquire whether the child is or is not born in wedlock. If the wife is Mongolian, she is not naturalized by her marriage to a citizen or by her husband's naturalization, but the children of the half blood are citizens. The Caucasian wife of a Chinaman may be naturalized, with or without her husband's consent, but their children born out of this country are not citizens. This followed the rule that an alien wife may be naturalized without her alien husband's consent.

A person claiming citizenship and the right of suffrage by reason of his parents' naturalization "must produce to the election officers his father's certificate; he is incompetent to prove it by his own oath." The person of foreign birth who was an infant when he came here, and does not know whether his father was naturalized or not, is an alien. Evidence that his father voted and that he had voted is not sufficient; he must produce his own or his father's certificate.

From this it will be seen that it is the duty of the alien when naturalized not only to take out his own certificate, but to apply for a certificate on behalf of each person naturalized by his act. If the father neglects this plain duty, the wife and children should take his certificate to a court of record and obtain their own certificates. If the father has more than one son, it may be impossible for each one to present the father's certificate to the inspectors. If each son votes on his own certificate there can be no annoyance. If the father's certificate is lost or mislaid, the father may use the son's. If the son's certificate is mislaid, he may use his father's or his brother's.

It is the duty, also, of every American marrying an alien wife to take her to a court and have a certificate of citizenship issued to her.

IT WAS NOT A LEAD-PENCIL CAP.

Five Persons Hurt by the Explosion of a Detonating Cartridge.

HAWLEY, Pa., Oct. 16.—A little son of Owen Reddy, living on the line of the new Wyoming extension of the Erie Railway, this side of Pittston, found a detonating cartridge on the railway track. It was of the kind used in exploding nitro-glycerine charges, being an inch and a half long, and resembling the metal cap of a lead pencil. One-half of the cartridge was empty, and the other half filled with the most powerful fulminating compound. The boy took the cartridge to his mother and asked her to clean the dirt out of it so he could slip it on his lead pencil. Mrs. Reddy had her baby in her arms. Placing it on a chair she knelt down by it, and with a darning needle began to take out what she supposed was dirt in the cartridge. The boy who had found it, his little sister, and an older brother grouped themselves about the chair to watch the progress. At the first scratch of the needle on the fulminating powder the cartridge exploded. Mrs. Reddy's thumb and forefinger on her right hand and all of the fingers on the left hand were torn off. A piece of the cartridge lodged in the baby's cheek just below the left eye, making a serious wound. Another piece went clear through one cheek of the oldest boy, and lodged in the opposite cheek. The little girl received a piece of the metal in the muscle of her right arm, and the boy who had found the cartridge was badly wounded in the neck by the explosion. Mrs. Reddy's hands were lacerated so that one had to be entirely amputated and half of the other taken off.

The Effect of Ohio upon Indiana.

From an Interview with Mr. McDonald in the Times.

Ex-Senator McDonald said, in answer to a question: "It's a defeat; that's all." Asked if the Democrats would have fared better if they had taken an unquestioned attitude on the tariff question at Chicago, Mr. McDonald said: "I rather think so. We got all the odium of free trade without any of its benefits. This always falls upon those whose conditions are uncertain. I think we lost the vote of the wool growers, but it is too early to determine how much free trade cost us in the manufacturing districts. The result in Ohio is not a surprise to me. The influence which operated to our advantage two years ago has not existed this campaign. Ohio is naturally a Republican State, and the superhuman efforts put forth by the Republicans, aided by their candidates in the field, have produced their legitimate results. While the result in Ohio does not insure Republican success in November in the national campaign, it is going to make the contest a very close one. We in Indiana will feel the influence of it perhaps more than in any other State. Still I feel very confident that we will be able to hold our State to the Democratic ticket."

Frightened by an Empty Tin Box.

QUEBEC, Oct. 16.—A fright was caused to-day among the population of St. Johns, a suburb of this city, by a rumor that an attempt was to be made to blow up the new church of St. Jean Baptiste. The excitement reached its height when it was noised abroad that a supposed infernal machine had been discovered in one of the pews of the church. The machine was simply a tin box, which the finder carried very tenderly to the presbytery adjoining. He was hurriedly sent away, and advised to take the box to Judge Chauveau. The Judge in turn ordered the man to get away and take the machine to the citadel. It was then handed to the authorities at the citadel, who, upon opening it, found it empty.

In a Strange Land.

Fashionable Wife—Anything of interest in the paper this morning, my dear?

Husband—You remember Lord Bigestate whom we met one evening in London?

Fashionable Wife—Perfectly well. He is a delightful person.

Husband—Well, the paper says that his son, who has just arrived from England, is quite seriously indisposed, and his doctors fear that he may be confined to his hotel apartments for several days.

Fashionable Wife (with much concern)—Poor fellow, how unpleasant it must be for him. You mist——

Husband—What's this! Collapse of a tenement house on the east side? Five people killed and many injur——

Fashionable Wife—Stop on your way down town and inquire if there is anything we can do for him. Poor fellow! and so far away from home, too.

Talent in Good Demand.

"I am very anxious to become an actress," said a young woman to a manager.

"Do you wish to adopt the profession as a means of support?"

"Oh, no, sir. I am worth half a million dollars in my own right. But I adore the stage and I am sure I have talent."

"Well, if you think you have talent I will give you the position of leading lady. We start on a Western trip next month, and shall need all the—the talent we can get."

An Unfeeling Father.

A bevy of girls were looking at a bridal trousseau.

"How exquisite!" "How lovely!" "How supremely sweet!" "Ac'dmusem, were the exclamations made.

"You ought to be very happy, Clara," said one of the girls to the bride-elect.

"I suppose I ought," said Clara disconsolately; "but papa won't bring a newspaper reporter to look at them."

Chorus—"What a shame!"

PRESIDENT JEWETT'S VALEDICTORY.

The Erie Board Decides Not to Nominate Directors to the Stockholders.

At a meeting of the directors of the New York, Lake Erie and Western Railroad held yesterday, Mr. Hugh J. Jewett resigned the Presidency, the resignation to take effect on Nov. 1, and Mr. John King, Jr., who has been acting as assistant to the President, was elected his successor. The following directors were elected to fill vacancies in the Board: James A. Raynor, John King, Jr., James G. McCullough, and Ogden Mills. They take the places of Theron R. Butler and Thomas Dickson, deceased; James D. Fish, retired, and Jacob H. Schiff, resigned.

The committee appointed to nominate a ticket to be voted for at the annual meeting of the stockholders next month was relieved of that duty. It is understood that, considering the number of interests now working to carry the election, it was thought unwise for the Board to make any recommendation.

This is the official statement of President Jewett's valedictory:

The President, after explaining to the Board the details of the operations of the company for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1884, to the extent justified by the present state of the accounts, remarked that he hoped to complete the annual report for the present year at an earlier date than heretofore, and that it would be developed that notwithstanding the almost entire stagnation of business for a portion of the year and the universally low rates of transportation for the entire year, the net earnings after charging up all the current expenses for maintaining and operating the road were equal to all the fixed charges of the company, including the interest on the second consolidated mortgage bonds, less about the sum of $700,000, which under the circumstances was, in his opinion, a very favorable result, and better than he had for some time anticipated.

He further remarked that as there had been some criticism of the wisdom of the lease of the New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad, he would state that in addition to the great advantage to the New York, Lake Erie and Western Company, in having the control of that property, he had no doubt that as a mere question of money a profit would be realized from the lease whenever business resumed anything like its ordinary and natural condition.

He said that even under the most adverse circumstances which had existed since the lease had been made, the loss to the New York, Lake Erie and Western Company for the entire period of the lease up to Aug. 31, 1884, was but $44,040.94.

A $200,000 DEFALCATION.

The Manager of a Hog-packing House Using the Firm's Money in Speculation.

CHICAGO, Oct. 16.—Yesterday the Continental National Bank began a suit for $25,000 against the large hog-packing and exporting firm of Davies, Atkinson & Co., which is the Chicago branch of the Liverpool pork house of John T. Davies & Co. The statement will be published to-day that this suit and one by Mrs. Atkinson, the widow of the junior member of the firm, for $60,000 grew out of an alleged serious defalcation by John A. Atkinson, aged 24, his son, who has managed the Chicago house since his father's death. On Oct. 3 Mr. Davies arrived from Liverpool on his annual trip of inspection into the condition of the branch house. After going to his hotel, one of the employees brought him an unsigned and unaddressed letter in what appeared to be young Atkinson's writing, confessing that he was a defaulter to the firm to the extent of $110,000; that he began speculating on the Board of Trade, and, having made money at first, went in deeper, getting on the wrong side of the market in both buying and selling; that at one time he was within a few thousands of being even, when a collapse in prices made him worse off than before.

On the following day Mr. Davies declared the dissolution of the branch firm and began an investigation, which thus far, it is stated, shows a shortage of $200,000 in young Atkinson's accounts, and Mr. Davies believes it will exceed that sum.

It is understood that Mr. Atkinson is at his house in the suburbs of Kenwood.

SISTERS WEDDED ON THE SAME DAY.

Daughters of Mr. Edward Schuberth, whose Silver Wedding Day It Was.

The celebration of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Schuberth, the music publisher, was made notable last evening by the marriage of their two daughters, Magdalena and Elizabeth. We first to Mr. Percy Neymann, of the Liederkranz Society, and the second to Mr. Albert Lion. A long procession of gayly dressed couples ascended the grand staircase of the new Liederkranz Hall in East Fifty-eighth street, at 6 o'clock, to witness the ceremonies, which were in the German fashion. The three little children of Mr. Schuberth led the procession. Four bridesmaids came next, clad in gowns of embroidered white silk, and carrying large bouquets of white roses. They were Miss Olga Neymann, sister of one of the grooms, Miss Hollbach, Miss Kolbogu, and Miss F. Herold. They were escorted by Dr. Wendt, Mr. Wendt, Mr. Julius Schuberth, brother of the brides, and Mr. Euler, who were in evening dress and wore wedding favors.

Mr. Lion, one of the bridegrooms, escorted Mrs. Schuberth. She was dressed in a gown of shaded satin, and had her headdress crowned with a spray of flowers carved in silver—the silver wedding gift of her husband. Mr. Schuberth, with a bride on either arm, came last. The brides are brunettes, and wore white satin gowns with sweeping trains, and long lace veils, held in place by wreaths of white roses.

As the wedding party stood grouped about an altar built entirely of natural flowers, Miss Jenny Hirsch, one of the guests, sang Gounod's "Ave Maria," and Miss Brichter thrummed a golden harp. Pastor Moldehnke made an address and then performed the marriage ceremony after the Lutheran ritual. A wedding dinner and festival followed, and after merry speechmaking the brides and grooms, all the invited guests, and Mr. and Mrs. Schuberth danced in the brilliantly lighted ballroom.

Forest Fires in New Jersey.

HAMMONTON, Oct. 16.—The forest fires which have been burning in the Big Egg Harbor swamp, a few miles from this place, for the past day or so, still continue their work of destruction. At New Brooklyn the fire was started on Saturday night by some young men. It got beyond their control, and up to this morning had destroyed seventy acres of valuable cedar timber belonging to Silas Russell, causing a loss of several thousand dollars. A lot of cut timber and Mr. Russell's large mill were only saved by strenuous efforts. The fire is not yet under control and may still do inestimable damage. At Weymouth the extensive cranberry bog of the Atlantic Company, the largest in the State, is on fire, and will be totally destroyed. Fortunately, the picking is over.

Why Does Mr. Carlisle Not Speak in the East?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Mr. Carlisle spoke at Decorah, Iowa, Saturday last. The main argument for free trade was that protection does not protect the laboring man; the operatives of protected manufactories are not protected by tariff. Now, the question is, Why doesn't Mr. Carlisle exert himself in the East; teach those men on the ground, instead of laboring out here to convince this agricultural community that protected laborers are paupers? Why is he not in the East to-day speaking for Cleveland and reform and free trade? F. S.

NEW HAMPTON, Iowa, Oct. 13.

For Butler—Not for Cleveland.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The course your paper is taking in this campaign is to be admired by all good Democrats. Your severe but just criticisms of Cleveland are worthy of attention. The idea of putting a man like McSweeney to speak for American liberty, when he is now a British subject. The Democrats would have done better to take the money they expended in bringing him over and send it to the starving in Ireland, if they are friends of the Irish.

Three cheers for bold, honest Ben Butler. He should be elected. Cleveland is no good.

NEW YORK, Oct. 16. HARVEY BALLOWAY.

The Best Factory is in Philadelphia.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Where may be found the best obituary poet?

A great political fungus is about to shrink, wither, dry up, and lay himself away in the dust of obscurity, labelled with his vetoes of the Five Cent Fare bill and Mechanics' Lien bill. The final collapse will occur at the end of his Gubernatorial term. Then an epitaph will be needed, and an adequate one is desired.

BROOKLYN, Oct. 15. S. R. G.

A Very Mournful Ballad.

A Cleveland man strode up and down,
His face disfigured by a frown;
On the floor about him lay
Cancelled checks in sad array.
Woe is me, Ohio!

Telegrams have quickly told
Tales that make his blood run cold;
Badly will the next boy fare,
Kicked and hustled down the stair.
Woe is me, Ohio!

Such a sickening throng of bores
Crowd his rooms and choke his doors,
And with one accord they say,
"How's Ohio's vote to-day?"
Woe is me, Ohio!

Wildly rushed he then afar,
Hushed until he found a bar,
Muttered, pointing at his throat,
"Drink, to drown Ohio's vote!"
Woe is me, Ohio!

Then up spoke Carl Schurz to him—
Schurz, of figure gaunt and slim—