The Sun.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1885.

Amusements To-day.

American Institute—Industrial Exhibition.
Fifth Opera House—Adonis. 8 P. M.
Casino—Nanon. 8 P. M.
Comedy Theatre—Keller. 8 P. M.
Daly's Theatre—The Magistrate. 8:15 P. M.
Eden Musee—Tableaux in Wax, &c. 11 A. M. to 11 P. M.
Grand Opera House—Kilp. 8 P. M.
Harrigan's Park Theatre—Old Lavender. 8 P. M.
Koster & Bial's—Burlesque on Nanon. 8 and 8 P. M.
Lyceum Theatre—In Spite of All. 8 P. M.
Madison Square Th atre—Sealed Instructions. 8:30 P. M.
Mount Morris Theatre—The Strangers of Paris. 8 P. M.
Metropolitan Opera House—The Gladiator. 8 P. M.
Niblo's Garden—Vacation. 8 P. M.
People's Theatre—Crimes of Paris. 8 P. M.
Standard Theatre—Mikado. 8 P. M.
Star Theatre—Pygmalion and Galatea. 8 P. M.
Thalia Theatre—Raub der Sabinerinnen. 8 P. M.
Tony Pastor's—Variety. 2 and 8 P. M.
Union Square Theatre—Romeo and Juliet. 8 P. M.
Wallack's Theatre—In his Power. 8 P. M.
3d Avenue Theatre—For a Brother's Life. 8 P. M.
5th Avenue Theatre—Mikado. 8 P. M.
14th Street Theatre—Evangeline. 8 P. M.

The Case of Riel.

The existence of the Canadian Dominion may hang upon so small a thing as the decision of its Government with regard to one man's life.

The execution of RIEL will inevitably stimulate the disruptive tendencies which already make the maintenance of union between the French and English sections of Canada extremely difficult. The French element of the population will look on RIEL as a martyr, and so in one sense he would be, for there would have been no second rebellion for him to head but for the administrative maltreatment of the French-speaking half breeds in the Northwest.

That from this point of view RIEL may be fairly regarded as a victim of the Government's own wrongdoing, will be clear by and by even to the Orangemen of Ontario, who just now are clamoring for his death. It will be clear, for they will see the present Ministry virtually admit responsibility for the late outbreak by proposing legislative remedies for the grievances of which the half breeds complained and which RIEL strove to redress. When the hour comes for confessing the provocation given to the revolt, the present Premier will be lucky if he does not find himself at once deserted by the English and detested by the French.

We believe that Sir JOHN MACDONALD will be lucky in this instance, because we believe he will be wise, and that his wisdom will be proved by the commutation of RIEL's death sentence into imprisonment for life.

The Death of Gen. McClellan.

The sudden death of Gen. GEORGE BRINTON MCCLELLAN of heart disease at his home in Orange, N. J., yesterday, removes one of the most conspicuous, accomplished, and interesting public men of the country.

He was a native of Philadelphia, and had nearly completed his fifty-ninth year. From his youth he was marked with distinction, and when he graduated from the Military Academy at West Point in 1846 he was made an officer in the *élite* corps, the engineers. In the Mexican war he won two brevets, and in 1856 he was sent to the Crimea to observe the operations of the allied war against Russia. A year later he left the army, and became chief engineer of the Illinois Central Railroad. Thence, until the rebellion opened, he was a railroad man.

Immediately after President LINCOLN's first call for troops, the Governor of Ohio made MCCLELLAN a Major-General in the volunteer force of that State; but so great was his military reputation that he was almost immediately appointed by the President a Major-General in the regular army. He achieved such success in some comparatively unimportant engagements in western Virginia that he received the thanks of Congress, and directly after the battle of Bull Run he was ordered to Washington and put in command of the Army of the Potomac. Three months later, on Nov. 1, 1861, when Gen. SCOTT retired, he was appointed the commander of all the armies of the United States. This office, however, he did not long exercise. Being relieved of it with his own consent, he devoted himself to reörganizing and disciplining the Army of the Potomac, and to preparing it for a decisive movement against the enemy.

He took command of this army in the beginning of August, and in March, seven months afterward, he began his active campaign in the peninsula of Virginia. We shall not here undertake to narrate the history of that tremendous and disastrous struggle, beginning with the siege of Yorktown and ending with the retreat to Harrison's Landing. It is enough to say that, while it resulted in failure and involved an immense calamity to the Union cause, it was yet relieved by incidents of brilliant valor and fortunate combination; and while MCCLELLAN must doubtless be held to a severe responsibility, he enjoyed at the end of it to an extraordinary degree the confidence of his soldiers and the devoted friendship of the officers who had shared with him the horrors, the misfortunes, and the glories of the campaign.

The confidence of President LINCOLN in MCCLELLAN was not broken by the great collapse upon the peninsula. In the beginning of September, when POPE was relieved from command of the troops around Washington, MCCLELLAN was called to take his place; and the memorable battle of Antietam was fought and won under his orders. But, whether from his own fault, or from the fault of others, or from the force of circumstances, he failed to follow up his victory, and the popular discontent, represented in Congress by such men as Vice-President HAMLIN, Senator WADE of Ohio, Senator CHANDLER of Michigan, Senator SUMNER of Massachusetts, and HENRY WINTER DAVIS and THADDEUS STEVENS of the House, finally became so urgent that at the end of the first week in November he was removed, that BURNSIDE, most incompetent of all, might be made his successor; and here his career as a military commander was closed.

Next came his nomination for the Presidency by the Democratic Convention of 1864, in opposition to ABRAHAM LINCOLN, and with a most unfortunate platform; and in the election he got exactly 21 electoral votes. Since then he has travelled in Europe, and has been employed as a consulting engineer in New Jersey, and as superintendent of docks and piers in the city of New York. He has also been Governor of New Jersey, and in every station he has enjoyed the respect of the public, and has increased and not diminished the numbers of his friends. The news of his death will be received with sorrow by all and with intenser feeling by many.

Gen. MCCLELLAN was a man of lofty and noble character. There was no meanness in his composition, no double dealing in his habitual intercourse. His purposes and aims were large and patriotic. His intellect was broad, subtle, and deliberative, rather than executive. He possessed an extraordinary faculty of intellectual acquisition. His knowledge was extensive and it was thorough. He was an excellent writer, commanding a graceful and agreeable style, saying always just what he meant to say, and never failing to lay hold of the reader's attention. As a soldier one of his chief characteristics was his care for the comfort and health of his men. While he never compromised the dignity of his position, they always knew that he was their friend, and they adhered to him accordingly.

Yet at the end it is impossible, even for those who loved him most, to aver that he was born with all those gifts that go to the making of a successful man. He had great opportunities. The means put at his command were all that the nation could supply. Had the needful powers of mind and character been his, his laurel would have been of the greatest and the most enduring; but such was not his fortune. Of course it is said that he was the victim of hidden opposition and of bad faith in Mr. LINCOLN's Cabinet; but this charge seems to us unsubstantial. No doubt he met with opposition toward the last, or else how could he have been removed to make room for BURNSIDE? And was not this opposition justified by the facts?

But we shall not discuss these questions beside the coffin of a gallant and patriotic soldier, who in his death is more endeared to thousands of Americans than some others whose renown is not disturbed by criticism or question.

Betting on the Election.

According to the *Times*, DAVENPORT is the favorite with the professional betting men of this city, and they are not hesitating to offer odds on him.

So far as we can learn, it is just the other way where the bookmakers are disposed to pay any attention at all to the election, though there is no doubt that professional politicians have ostentatiously offered odds on DAVENPORT when they knew they would not be taken.

For instance, a loud-voiced fellow will cry out in a public place that he is ready to bet ten thousand dollars to five thousand that DAVENPORT is the next Governor, and he may flourish about a bundle of greenbacks that have been furnished him for the purpose. But that is a very stale trick. Actual bets of large sums are not made in that way. If the man was taken at his word, he would get out of the bet by demanding to see his opponent's money, and, of course, people are not accustomed to go about the streets with thousands of dollars in their pockets.

The truth is that there is very little betting on this election, and even the prophesying is much less than usual, though the indications are certainly favorable to HILL. The workingmen are with him, the efforts to alienate from him German Democratic votes have been brought to naught by the bigoted and bloody shirt Republican canvass, and there is no longer fear that he will be sacrificed in the interest of rival county candidates. Nor can it be doubted that many of the old Stalwart followers of ROSCOE CONKLING will refuse to help IRA DAVENPORT, even if they do not actually vote against him. They do not want that sort of a man for a leader, and will not assist in lifting him into prominence.

How, too, will it be with the Republican managers of this city, who have been persistently insulted by the Mugwump newspapers? Will they meekly labor, in a spirit of Christian forbearance, for the success of a candidate who was nominated as a rebuke to them and to conciliate the *Times* and *Evening Post*?

But the chances are not such as betting men are willing to take. They cannot estimate the comparative strength of parties as they could before the political confusion of last year, and they are waiting for the figures of next Tuesday's vote without caring to risk any money on them. Therein they are sensible, and so are those wise who refrain from prophecy as to the result, which will be reported in THE SUN of next Wednesday morning with a fulness and accuracy unapproached elsewhere.

Candidates for Coroners.

Three Coroners are to be elected in this county on Tuesday next. There are six Democratic candidates.

The County Democracy is running Dr. PHILIP E. DONLIN, HENRY G. AUTENRIETH, and Dr. WILLIAM J. WELCH. The two physicians have had experience, and are well qualified. Dr. DONLIN has been an assistant Coroner for years, and Dr. WELCH is not behind him in character and ability. Mr. AUTENRIETH has seen service in the Board of Aldermen, and, unlike many Aldermen, could probably pass a civil service examination, if necessary.

The Tammany and Irving Hall candidates are JOHN H. DEMAREST, JOHN W. RAPPENHAGEN, and FERDINAND LEVY. Dr. DEMAREST is a well-known Madison avenue physician, who ran for Coroner against the Tammany ticket three years ago, and was defeated. He is placed on the ticket this year in deference to the wishes of Irving Hall. Mr. RAPPENHAGEN is the keeper of a Chrystie street livery stable, and is untried in public office. Mr. LEVY is a lawyer, and the only one of the outgoing Coroners who has been renominated. He has been an efficient officer, and he will undoubtedly be reëlected.

An Honest Man for Sheriff.

Police Justice ANDREW J. WHITE's explanation of his offal contracts is hardly satisfactory. It is in evidence that he assigned the contract for one dollar after he was appointed Police Justice. It was further charged, however, that the contract was afterward renewed in his own name, and that he reassigned it for a similar consideration. In view of these facts, it will be hard work to convince taxpayers that Mr. WHITE has not been pecuniarily interested in these contracts since he has been a Police Justice.

He is now seeking the office of Sheriff. The real Democratic nominee, however, is HUGH J. GRANT, whose private and official character is without a stain, and he ought to poll every honest Democratic vote.

Gorman Wins.

We congratulate the Hon. ARTHUR P. GORMAN on the brilliant political victory which he won in Baltimore on Wednesday.

The municipal election was the first battle in Mr. GORMAN's campaign for reëlection to the United States Senate. A desperate attempt was made by the Senator's enemies, Republicans and Democrats, to beat him in Baltimore, to discredit him personally, and to destroy his commanding influence in the politics of the State. The local canvass was exceedingly bitter. No effort was spared to break GORMAN.

The Senator won and his enemies were beaten. It is proper to add that the defeat of the latter is largely due to the sagacious generalship, political fidelity, and varied intellectual resources of that distinguished Maryland Democrat, the Hon. EUGENE HIGGINS, Chief of the Division of Appointments in the Treasury Department.

The news from all over the State indicates that a great many Republican voters have made up their minds to follow the example of the astute bear in the old weather fable, who pokes his nose out of his winter quarters on Candlemas day, and if he finds the weather still cold and stormy retires for another long nap. These Republicans have evidently taken a shrewd look around, and, seeing the Mugwump and Half Breed iceberg floating coldly by, with Judge FORAKER and the bloody shirt frozen stiff on its bleak summit, have shiveringly turned in to their comfortable quarters, where they will remain until after election.

The Hon. DORMAN B. EATON has written a letter to the *Tribune* defending himself; but he condemns himself at the same time. "Nearly or quite every material statement concerning myself or my doings," writes this unhappy victim of the gin and ale habit, "*are* based on erroneous information." And in the *Times* we find the same moody old chap saying this: "Neither Mr. HEPBURN nor Mr. BEATTIE *have* had the least to do with them."

The swan song of this reformer passing away is singularly sweet.

JONES, he pays the freight.
CARR, he pays the fiddler.

According to our esteemed contemporary, the *Boston Advertiser*, the Hon. WILLIAM MAHONE is very wroth with the Hon. JOHN A. LOGAN. "He [Sweet BILL MAHONE] asked LOGAN merely to come to Petersburg and stay over one train only, but the answer was so ungracious that he has ended their pleasant relations."

Black JACK's head bulges, as usual. He doesn't want to help in making any Southern State Republican. That would interfere with the outrage business and hamper the wild Jackson county warrior in his pleasing job of painting politics blood red.

Our readers this morning can scarcely fail to give due attention to the letter relating to Postmaster-General VILAS and the ocean mail steamships which we publish in another column. The writer puts the case upon the highest legal grounds, and, while the views he propounds are not those which THE SUN has taken in this controversy, they certainly merit the most careful study and attention.

If our correspondent is right, this subject will figure very prominently in the debates in Congress soon after the opening of the next session. It is a very interesting prospect.

The attempt of DAVENPORT's defenders to make it appear that he is friendly to the mutual insurance companies is simply ridiculous in view of the fact that he was a stanch supporter of JOHN F. SMYTH, one of the worst and most dangerous enemies the mutual insurance companies ever had.

The less IRA DAVENPORT's friends have to say about his record in this respect the better it will be for him. Some of the very organs that are now trying to blind people's eyes on this subject denounced DAVENPORT with just indignation and unsparing and well-deserved severity when his disgraceful conduct in the SMYTH matter was yet fresh in the public mind. If they choose now, in order to promote cranky notions in politics, or through partisan zeal, to swallow their own words, we wish them joy of their feast. But they will deceive nobody.

IRA DAVENPORT was the unblushing defender of JOHN F. SMYTH, and his present organs can't hide that fact under a multitude of words. And that is all any honest voter cares to know about DAVENPORT's insurance record.

One man comes out of the WARD trial in an improved condition, and that man is JAMES D. FISH.

The Hon. JOHN ALEXANDER LOGAN insists on shaking the shirt sanguinolent in New York. The Mugwumps shiver and squirm, but he will pour out his soul in profuse strains of premeditated art.

LOGAN is coming, and Iceberg IRA is going, going—fair warning—gone! His minority will be much swelled now that the Great Western orator has given himself *carte blanche*.

JAMES MCGARRY, Democratic candidate for Alderman in the First district of Brooklyn, is the sort of man who ought to be elected. And we are glad to be sure that he will be.

THE CANDIDATES TO THE VETERANS.

Hill's Square and Explicit Declarations on the Question of Preferences.

The Veterans' Rights Union of Brooklyn a few weeks ago appointed a committee to obtain the views of the Gubernatorial candidates in reference to the preference to be given to veterans in the matter of appointments under the Civil Service law. This is Gov. Hill's response:

STATE OF NEW YORK, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, ALBANY, Oct. 17, 1885.

Ira M. Hodges, Esq., Chairman, Haverstraw, N. Y.

DEAR SIR: I have received from your committee (through the hands of Col. B. F. Gott) a communication containing a series of questions, to which an answer is desired. I cheerfully comply with your request, and will endeavor frankly to state my sentiments. Pardon me for stating that some of the questions would seem to be more properly addressed to candidates for the Legislature than to a Gubernatorial candidate, but appreciating your worthy motives and the good objects sought to be obtained, I shall not hesitate to gratify your wishes. Without answering categorically each separate question, I may say that in the main I answer your questions affirmatively. Possibly I ought to state that I am not very familiar with the details of the system of civil service examinations, "marking" and "certification" referred to in one of your questions, and hence am unable to express very accurately my opinion upon these points. Nevertheless I can state generally that if the present laws of the State on the civil service rules are not sufficiently explicit to give honorably discharged soldiers or sailors a preference over civilians, I think they should be amended so as to clearly declare such preferences. In plain words, I believe in the spirit which dictated the enactment of the laws giving preference to soldiers and sailors over civilians in the civil service of the State, and I believe that such laws should be honestly and in good faith enforced, and that no evasion of the laws on the part of public officials should be tolerated. I think when such veterans are shown to possess the qualifications essential to a satisfactory and creditable discharge of the duties of a position they should be entitled to and receive a substantial preference, even though there may be civilians who possess superior qualifications; and if the present laws, or the laws of any department of the State, do not permit such preference to be clearly given, or are so defective that it cannot be enforced, they should be amended accordingly. I believe I may safely refer you to my recent official utterances upon this same subject as fully expressing my views. Very respectfully, DAVID B. HILL.

This is Mr. Davenport's reply:

GRAND HOTEL, NEW YORK CITY, Oct. 26.

Thomas Bell, Secretary, Brooklyn.

DEAR SIR: In reply to your questions, asking my position in regard to the veterans, I beg leave to say that appreciation of the veterans' service to the State and the nation has never been absent from my mind. The men who saved the Union have, in my opinion, a first claim to positions of honor and emolument which they may be competent to fill. Our platform declares that in civil service examinations the veteran who proves his competency should have the preference over all comers. He went to the front during the war, and I for one am honestly in favor of giving him the position now when he seeks honorable preferment in civil service. I am yours very respectfully, IRA DAVENPORT.

Why We Vote Against Ira Davenport.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* By the vote of Ira Davenport in the State Senate on the bill to make all mutual aid insurance societies furnish $100,000 deposit, it was seen that he favored the old line life monopoly companies, worth millions, and he practically aided to wipe these benefit associations out of existence. If he had succeeded in his purpose many thousands of poor widows and orphans would be left penniless. All members of these associations should vote against Davenport on election day. MUTUAL AID.

BATH, Oct. 28.

A Republican Joke from Ohio.

From the Cleveland Argus.

Representative McKinley has gone to Virginia with John Sherman to wave the bloody shirt. He has not fully recovered from the telescoping he got at the great meeting here during the recent campaign. He has got a voice like a fog horn and a most earnest manner. He was seen at his best on the night in question.

"What has this Democratic Administration done, fellow citizens?" he asked; "this much vaunted Democratic Administration; what has it done?" After every fourth word there was a solemn pause, but when the whole sentence was ended a little old man in the gallery piped out in a thin voice:

"Its sister wrote a book."

No Doubt of It.

From the Boston Journal.

Mr. Conkling has denied the authenticity of the interview published in THE SUN, but the writer, Mr. Amos Learned, asserts that it is a truthful report of what Mr. Conkling said. We have no doubt of it.

Where Are the Glorious Old Saddles?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* What became of the saddles used by the cavalry during the late war? If the government has them in store, can they be bought? W. W. S.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL VILAS AND CONGRESS.

Congress Must Deal Emphatically With a Disobedient Official.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Of all law-breaking, official law-breaking is the most mischievous and the most reprehensible; for, besides its bad example, it in a measure disjoints Government. It is, moreover, the most difficult to punish, for station while it lasts—even in this country—is to a certain extent privilege, and privilege is protection. Sometimes, however, retribution is prompt and adequate, as in the case of Chief Justice Vincent, removed by President Cleveland, so far as the public knows, for a mere impropriety.

The motives which incite to official misfeasance and malfeasance are many, but that least to be tolerated is the one which swells the incumbent beyond the measure of his office. It may be vanity, it may be ambition, but whatever the cause, such an official is a constant menace to order and regularity. He is sure to "do those things which he ought not to do, and leave undone those things which he ought to do."

Postmaster-General Vilas has placed himself within the censure of both these charges. Something, perhaps his sudden rise, has turned his head, or else he never understood official obligations, or, understanding, does not practise them. He appears to administer law as if, like Falstaff, he thought there was "no virtue extant," and little wisdom except in himself.

"Public office is public trust," so says President Cleveland, and the maxim is accepted. Postmaster-General Vilas, as a Cabinet Minister, is trustee for Congress, and those who come within the purview of the laws intrusted by it to him for execution. This trust he has betrayed. Not only has he refused to carry out a law confided to his execution by Congress, but he has thwarted its design and contravened its policy. He is therefore in contempt of the law-making power. A brief statement will show that this is true.

The Constitution gives Congress the power to regulate commerce. Commerce is here understood as a unit, and this grant embraces all the instruments by which it may be carried on. Correspondence is one of them. To provide for the transportation of foreign mails is therefore a duty. This duty Congress has performed from the beginning. In dealing with commerce, Congress has by its laws frequently declared a policy. It has secured the coasting trade to our own people, the building of American ships to Americans, and done many other things to favor them. In pursuance of this policy, on the 3d of March last it appropriated by law "for the transportation of foreign mails, including railway transit across the Isthmus of Panama, $800,000."

As a fit instrument to expend the money thus appropriated, it authorized the Postmaster-General "to enter into contracts for the transportation of any part of said foreign mails, after legal advertisement, with the lowest responsible bidder, at a rate not exceeding fifty cents a nautical mile on the trip each way actually travelled between the terminal points," limiting him with the proviso "that the mails so contracted shall be carried on American steamships, and that the aggregate of such contracts shall not exceed one-half of the sum hereby appropriated."

Here, then, is a trust for the Postmaster-General to execute. Those interested are Congress for the people whom it represents, and the steamships which may be benefited by its execution. Postmaster-General Vilas has no interest, and if he had, it would confer on him no discretion. It is a practical law with a plain purpose, and not an abstraction for Mr. Vilas to sharpen his wits upon.

Whenever the supreme power in a State, acting with unquestioned jurisdiction, enacts a policy for the benefit of its own people, in respect to a business of current necessity like that of transporting the mails, and provides the means, supervises the terms, and declares the instruments by which alone it shall be conducted, its authorization to carry out that policy is a command to any subordinate who may accept the office; or government is a sham.

This is the orderly jurisprudence of every Government that professes to uphold the supremacy of law.

Instead of doing the will of Congress by carrying out this law, the Postmaster-General ignores all obligations upon himself, and directly contravenes the law and the policy of Congress by engaging foreign instead of American ships to do the service. He has assumed to regulate commerce, a power which Congress cannot consign to his discretion.

Mr. Vilas is therefore at war with the law-making power. To it, in effect, he says: "You have been bamboozled; you have been made the tool of lobbyists and subsidy grabbers; your head has been turned by false appeals; you do not know what you want, nor mean what you say, and if you do I cannot understand you. You have not provided sufficient means to carry out the scheme you indicate. In short, there is no end of reasons for not obeying you. In your 'fearfully dissolute state' you need a guardian, or at least the benefit of my discretion. Feeling this, you appear to me to have invoked it, but if you have not, I propose to use it for you. I will, therefore, do nothing with your appropriation, nor will I pay the slightest attention to your authorization as to how to spend it. I will refer your whole work back to you, hoping that you may regain your wits and act rationally. In the mean time I will transport the mails on my own hook."

If this does not put him in contempt of the law-making power, what does, what can?

What mine of special wisdom the Postmaster-General has ready to explode to extricate himself from this dilemma of course no one but himself knows, but the nation may feel reasonably safe that he will not be able to blow away the Constitution, the laws founded upon it, or the main and equally well grounded methods of American jurisprudence. If these should be so fortunate as to withstand the shock, he will at the end of the disturbance still be found in contempt of the law-making power.

In this attitude of hostility he gives out that he expects the enthusiastic support of the members of Congress of his own party. If he has this wild dream, he will be rudely awakened from it. Mr. Randall, Mr. Hewitt, Mr. Carlisle, Mr. Morrison, and statesmen like them, with accurate and comprehensive views of administration, will hardly enlist under the banner of an overwise and contumacious minister of the law. They may not like the law, but nullification is to them intolerable. They know well that the Congress he defies must teach Mr. Vilas the lesson of obedience, or forfeit all claim to respect. Of that Congress they are a part. C. J.

Protection from Accident Wanted.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I notice I. K. S. and I. L. B. on railway signals. The latter admits what he seeks to controvert, namely, that the Pennsylvania signal system is automatic, when he says that the presence of an operator is the cause of the late accident. Any system that requires a hand on a lever to operate is not automatic. The system they have is not automatic, but English. If the D. L. and W. Company has the thing on its road that watches while man sleeps, it ought to be tested, and if it is what it is described to be it should be adopted by all roads.

We want to be protected from thieves when we sleep in a sleeping car, and we would like to feel reasonably certain that we won't be smashed or roasted in a smash up because some poor devil of a signal man or brakeman has had a lapse of his wakefulness for a minute. Yours for the public, TRAVELLER.

The Conkling Interview.

From James D. Warren's Buffalo Commercial.

As it is, though the ex-Senator repudiates the "interview," he is very careful not to deny that the sentiments expressed in THE SUN's report coincide with his own.

Inclement Weather Ahead.

Mr. Davenport—What are the weather probabilities for next week, Mr. Carr?

Mr. Carr (consulting the papers)—Thunder and lightning, followed by cyclones, blizzards, tornadoes, killing frosts, and general frigidity.

Mr. Davenport—Oh that this too, too solid flesh would melt!

An Uncompromising Enemy.

From the Albany Argus.

Ira Davenport was the uncompromising enemy of Roscoe Conkling in the Senatorial fight of 1881.

FITZ LEE STILL ON HORSEBACK.

Democratic Oyster Roasts in the Eastern Counties—Mahone's Forlorn Hope.

RICHMOND, Oct. 29.—The up-hill job Mahone has before him is apparent when the fact is understood that in order for him to even tie the Legislature it will be necessary for him to win from the Democrats twelve of the counties and three of the Senatorial districts which were carried by Cleveland. If the Democrats do no more than carry the same counties they carried for Cleveland, they will have 59 members of the House, with 6 in the Senate, a majority of 15 on joint ballot. Mahone's continued activity among the negroes in the white as well as the black districts leads to the suspicion that he will attempt to divert the Democratic white vote from the ballot box by means of a row. The Democrats have begun to suspect some such game, and are prepared for it. They will have determined men at the polls.

Fitz Lee is now riding through the water counties. His presence has aroused the Democrats there, and the county parades which Mr. John S. Wise, his opponent, has attempted to ridicule, continue to be very effective in gaining Democratic votes. Fitz Lee's columns are always headed by the United States flag. He has ridden through this canvass of three months more than he did during any one year of the war. Aged farmers in the tidewater region who have not been on horseback for several years have mounted to escort him. The style of entertainment in these counties differs from that of the mountain region. The days' rides are ended by big gatherings around immense oyster roasts, to which the negroes as well as the whites are invited. Under the enthusiasm of the moment the negroes repeatedly volunteered the information that they will vote the Democratic ticket, but the next day some elder of their churches pounces on them and threatens them with expulsion from the congregation and social ostracism.

Exactly what the negroes will do is one of the most interesting questions of this canvass. That many of them desire to vote with the respectable white men of their communities, with the men with whom they have been raised and who give them their daily bread, there is no doubt, but how they will brave the storm of obloquy which will result is not apparent. Certain it is if the negro vote is split in this canvass it is gone from the Republican party forever. A number of colored men have asserted their desire to vote with the Democrats, but have said that they could not, because not only themselves but their wives and children will be ostracized.

Mahone is now beginning to realize his blunder in importing Sherman and Foraker into Virginia. Mr. J. L. Powell, a former prominent Mahonite and a member of the Legislature, publicly announced to-day that the presence of Sherman and Foraker in Virginia was too much for him, and that he from this time quit Mahone and would vote the Democratic ticket. He said:

Sherman, Foraker, Logan, and Blaine have been and are proclaiming to our fellow citizens of the North and to the civilized world that the people of Virginia are election swindlers and murderers. The leaders of the so-called Republican party of Virginia look to these men as their apostles, and they volunteer as witnesses to prove that strangers coming to Virginia for homes will be in the power of lawbreakers and assassins. Therefore as an individual looking to my personal interest, as a Virginian having pride in the good name, growth, and wealth of my State, as a citizen of the United States earnestly desiring the strength of union, I shall vote the Democratic ticket. As Sherman did in Ohio, so is his party in Virginia, making a canvass on a falsehood, well known to be a falsehood by all of the people of Virginia. The people of Virginia are incapable of organized ballot-box swindling and political assassination. Not a man in Pittsylvania, Louisa, and Stafford counties can testify to such lawlessness, and we are as good, perhaps, but no better than other parts of the State. This persistent slander of the State will turn away from our borders the immigration, enterprise and capital that would speedily make us a prosperous people, and our State great and rich. Very lately one of the Republican party's candidates said to me: "We will carry Virginia by making the — fools believe that Cleveland and the Democrats have made the hard times." I don't suppose any of the — fools ever asked the question How? For not a law has been passed nor one changed since Cleveland became President. He has only been enforcing Republican laws as his oath of office required him to do.

These sentiments of Mr. Powell are applauded to the echo, and his words have caused no little consternation in the Mahone ranks. A man in the Mahone ring said to-day that Sherman's object in visiting Virginia was to help himself in the Ohio Senatorship combat. He said: "Sherman wants somebody in Virginia to rotten-egg him, because he can thus pose as a martyr." Democrats are still offering, with no takers, to bet that they will carry the Legislature and State tickets.

LETTER FROM AN INDIAN GIRL.

She Compares Herself with her White Sisters and is Satisfied.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* THE SUN of Oct. 18 contains an article, copied from the *Milwaukee Sentinel*, in which one ignorant of the Indian Territory would be led to believe that we are a race of people inferior to the whites. It seems as though we are to be a target as long as this country remains as it is. Some one ought to come down to see how we live and how the Indians "reverence" the whites who are flooding the country. I think he would find it nearly as it was in days of slavery, for the class of whites who till the soil here are nothing more than the Indians' servants. The *Sentinel* says:

By marrying an Indian maiden a white man secures all the rights of citizenship.

That is so. But it does not stop at that.

The head right of the girl helps the matrimonial contract.

I have lived in the Indian Territory most of my life, and can say I never heard of that before. It further says:

The encouragement given to whites on the part of the marriageable Indian females is quite observable.

This is untrue. Show me the Indian girl who will, like their pale sisters, answer an advertisement of some unknown man. How many times do the Indians do this? Not once that I ever heard of or read about. Where is the Indian girl that will leave her home to hunt and marry some unknown white man? You may look the Indian Territory over and not find her. But conversely, quite often do white women come to this country, and know not who they are coming to see only by name and address, in hopes of marrying an Indian. And quite frequently they are served as they deserve. They think they are coming to a grand place, where they will be rulers of fashion and social life. They are mistaken.

The Indians as a rule respect their own girls much more than they do the whites, and not so much drudgery as the *Sentinel* would like to heap on us falls on the Indian girl.

AN INDIAN GIRL.

WEBBER'S FALLS, Oct. 24, 1885.

Criticisms on the Battle of Shiloh.

From Gen. W. B. Hazen's Narrative of Military Service.

The battle of Shiloh will be a fruitful theme for criticism as long as the events of our civil war remain of interest to mankind. There are a few facts connected with it that will form the leading topics of this criticism. The first and chief will be that a cooperating army arrived at the point of concentration in front of an enterprising enemy with which it was expected to fight, and remained there awaiting the arrival of the other army for some days, with a broad and deep river running parallel to the line. The questions will naturally arise, why that army did not take advantage of the river as an obstacle, instead of going into camp on the enemy's side; why the different divisions of this isolated force were not posted with some relation to mutual defence; why there were no works erected on its front; why there were no roads cut in rear of and parallel to the line, through the thick undergrowth, for easy intercommunication and support, and especially why the front of that army was not thoroughly reconnoitred.

Important Action of the Wine and Liquor Dealers' Association.

The Thirteenth Ward Wine and Liquor Dealers' Association met in Anti Monopoly Hall yesterday afternoon. Mr. William Eisenmann presided, and Mr. Antonio Wieras was Secretary. The entire Democratic State ticket and the Tammany Hall county ticket were endorsed. The voters of the Sixth Assembly district were asked to heartily support Timothy J. Campbell for Congress, Edward F. Reilly for Senator, William Hall for Assembly, and Patrick Farley for Alderman, and to endeavor to secure their elections. A committee was appointed to notify the candidates of the action of the association, and to send William Geoghegan, Abraham Neufeld, and Robert Schwand as a committee to escort them to the hall. The committee presented the candidates who were in turn introduced by the chairman. Mr. Campbell pledged himself to do everything in his power to protect the interests of the people and to further home rule if elected. The meeting was also addressed by the Hon. Edward F. Reilly, William Hall, and the Hon. Patrick Farley.

A Combination Cyclone from the West Indies and the Northwest.

The heaviest storm known in years along the Atlantic coast was raging from North Carolina to Long Island yesterday. It was originally a West Indies cyclone that was sent whirling up the Mississippi valley from the Gulf of Mexico. On the 26th it met a great storm from the northwest on the mountains of Tennessee, and with it plunged down the eastern slope to the sea, where it arrived early yesterday morning. It was central at Norfolk yesterday afternoon. Assistant Observer H. S. Hinman said yesterday that danger signals had been ordered up as far east as Eastport, and vessels had been notified from Washington not to leave this port. The wind was blowing from 80 to 90 miles an hour from the northeast and the barometer was nine-tenths of an inch below normal, and falling rapidly. The temperature will fall suddenly within twenty-four hours.

A Noble Victory.

Judge Foraker (making a speech)—Yes, fellow citizens, the Ohio victory was a great—a glorious one. We met the enemy, and they are ours (drinking a glass of water). Er—where did I leave off?

Voice from the Gallery—You left off at the Dutch taking Holland.

JUSTICE DISPENSED WITH.

Brutality and Insolence of the President of the Signal Service Court Martial.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—The *Star* to-night says, regarding the trial by court martial of the signal service class men at Fort Myer, that the men who are being tried emphatically deny that they held a meeting and combined for the purpose of obtaining redress. They say they individually signed the petition, for they knew of no other method of securing relief. The treatment of counsel by the court is a general subject of criticism. When Mr. Garnett, one of the counsel for the class, objected to certain testimony, he was told to shut up or he would be put out.

Major Butterworth, the other counsel, says that he and Mr. Garnett were treated with rude insolence by Lieut. Walsh, the President of the court. He says he attended the session of the court last evening, but was not allowed to speak. When the prosecution had closed its testimony in one of the cases he rose to ask permission to submit a statement, but before he could do so the President said:

"The case is closed; clear the room."

"I then," he says, "arose to propound a question, and had pronounced the words, 'May it please the Court,' when the President flew into a violent passion, and told me to shut up and leave the room. When I undertook to ask the Court to hear my question, the President angrily exclaimed: 'Don't you know the case? Get out of here, and if you don't I'll have you put out by force.'

"I replied: 'You had better put me out by force.'

"The President retorted: 'Well, I'll call force enough to put you out, pretty quick, too.'

"Meantime I gathered up my papers and started to leave the room. As I neared the door the President screamed out:

"'You've no business here at all, except as a spectator. We don't recognize you as counsel.'

"I was then near the door and stopped to say: 'The President will certainly remember we appeared for these young gentlemen the other evening and conferred with him in regard to the case.'

"He replied that he wouldn't hear a 'wurred out o' me.' He said the Court had acted and would not hear me more. Again in an insolent and brutal manner he ordered me out.

"I told him I had practised law for a good many years and understood what courtesy was due to Court and counsel, and I would see if there was no redress against treatment of that kind.

"To which he said: 'Yer'll hev a good time a doin' of it.'"

Mr. Butterworth says that he has never, in any court, high or low, witnessed anything so at war with all decency and propriety, and pronounces the whole proceedings from first to last as coarse and brutal, and a mockery of justice.

The enlisted men in the signal corps have the sympathy of most of the army officers, as well as of the public generally, in their trouble with the officers at Fort Myer. Technically they may be at fault for combining or seeming to combine to resist discipline, but they are admitted to have right on their side; and if Gen. Hazen had a grain of common sense, he would have upheld the men in their complaint and sent the young officers West to their regiments. The Inspector-General of the army is going to investigate the case, and the upshot will be probably that the brutal and profane officers will be dealt with severely. Major Butterworth is very mad at the uncivil treatment he received, and has promised to make it hot for the officers of the court. He has already filed charges at the War Department, and when Congress meets he will take up the quarrel from that end of the avenue.

NATURAL GAS AS FUEL.

Eastern Manufacturers Inquiring into Its Merits.

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 29.—Messrs. George S. Potter of New York city, Theodore W. Robinson of Boston, and C. Snelling Robinson and Edgar Robinson of Wareham, Mass., have been here for five days, investigating the advantages of natural gas as fuel. They are largely interested in iron manufactures, and particularly in a nail plant at Wareham. They visited many gas wells, and investigated the system used to transport gas to the manufactories, and then went to many mills in which natural gas is used as fuel. They noted the effect of the fuel on the iron, as compared with the results obtained by using coal. In the manufacture of tubes it is said that when coal was used one day each week was set apart for reweldling pipes which had, because of the inequality of heat, been imperfectly welded. Since natural gas has been introduced defective welds occur rarely, and only a part of a day in each month is required to work up the defective pipes into smaller sizes. This results from the uniform heat created by natural gas.

It is said that the visitors were much pleased with what they saw, and that they are making inquiries with regard to favorable sites for manufacturing, and may buy a pipe mill plant.

JAMESTOWN, Oct. 28.—At 2 P. M. to-day natural gas was turned into the eight-inch main at Ludlow, Pa., and in half an hour it had made its way thirty miles to this city. To-night the streets are filled with crowds watching the illumination by the gas burning from several stand pipes. The roar of the flames can be heard for a long distance. The Pennsylvania Gas Company owns the line, and has forty miles of pipe in Jamestown's streets, the gas, territory, pipe line, and fixtures representing over $800,000. Members of the Standard Oil Company are heavily interested. It is expected the vapor fuel will drive wood and coal from the local market, and that Jamestown's manufacturing interests will profit largely.

Apportioning the City's Money.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment hacked off a big slice yesterday from the proposed budget of the Health