TO REDUCE THE SURPLUS.

SECRETARY MANNING AGAIN ENFORCING HIS VIEWS ON CONGRESS.

He Urges the Payment of the Greenback Debt in Coin Certificates, thus Utilizing the Superfluous Coin in the Treasury, the Stoppage of Silver Coinage, and the Abolition of the Duty on Raw Wool.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The Secretary of the Treasury to-day transmitted to the House of Representatives a reply to the resolution calling for information on the following points:

First—Whether any portion of the money appropriated by the Sundry Civil act approved Aug. 24, 1886, has been expended in issuing Treasury notes of large denomination in lieu of small denominations cancelled or retired.

Second—How many $1 and $2 notes have been cancelled and destroyed since the passage of that act.

Third—How many of said notes cancelled and destroyed were mutilated notes, and whether notes of like denominations were issued in their stead.

In response to the first of these questions the Secretary cites the acts under which Treasury notes were issued and outstanding on Aug. 4, 1886, and says that Congress in each of these enactments imposed upon the Secretary of the Treasury the duty of fixing, according to his discretion, sometimes the sums, often the reissue, always the denominations, as well as regulations for custody, redemption, payment, and destruction of the same. Nevertheless the Secretary is not aware that he has had the authority under any of these enactments or otherwise, since Aug. 4, 1886, either to issue Treasury notes of any denomination, large or small, or to reissue any, whether in denominations changed or unchanged, nor has "any portion of the money appropriated by the act approved Aug. 4, 1886;" nor "any other money belonging to the Government of the United States" been expended for such purpose. The Secretary says:

In the administration of solvent Governments by capable officers Treasury notes have been reissued only when expenditures were in excess of income, or were thought about to be in excess of income. But I believe respectfully to recall the attention of the House of Representatives to the facts which I had the honor to lay before them in my last annual report, showing that such is not the case of this Government; but, on the contrary, that for the last seven years, besides expending $24,000,000 per annum in the purchase of a metal at present lacking international currency and superfluous for local currency, the annual excess of ordinary revenue over ordinary expenditures has been about $100,000,000, which excess is gradually enlarging. So that the measure of our present annual surplus taxation, being thus high to $125,000,000, is the measure also of the clear distance which separates the department and this Government from a present need or excuse to reissue Treasury notes; that another species of our outstanding indebtedness, namely, the legal tenders or greenbacks known in law as United States notes, are, equally with what the law recognizes as Treasury notes, beyond any need or excuse for reissue; that temporary money which is not a debt of principal only, like notes which are a debt of principal and interest, should at once be cashed and cancelled from abundant and superfluous coin in hand not now capable of being applied to any other use. This is an obvious principle of sound finance, such as a prudent citizen would apply to his private affairs, that any Secretary of the Treasury would be subject to just reproach for departure therefrom by reissues, were it not that the act of May 31, 1878, seems to require of him that fiscal mistake. And I beg leave to submit to the House this question, whether among many other reasons for its repeal, the contraction of the currency sought to be averted by that act can now in any other and better way be prevented than by its repeal.

The fact that the $346,681,016 of greenback debt is a greenback currency, is so far from being a reason against its payment that it is the reason which makes its payment and destruction necessary—not without a better currency to take its place; but such a currency is at hand. Of our outstanding debt which should be paid, I take the payment in coin or its equivalent of all the obligations of the United States not bearing interest, known as United States notes, the faith of the United States is solemnly pledged" by the act of Congress, March 18, 1869, but also a contraction of the currency should be avoided. The substitution of a better currency for the greenbacks runs no hazard of contraction. But the consequences of not using our coin surplus thus are serious, for in currency of some sort will the yearly taxes yield, and the excess of receipts over the authorized disbursements of the Treasury would be the measure of the contraction of the currency. This contraction can be avoided by appropriations for an extravagant and reckless outpour and expense like that of war. It can also be avoided by the payment of debt. The first remedy need not be discussed, it is of course, a remedy the fear of unworthy of the people's representatives. The second remedy is all that remains.

What, then, shall we pay? Beyond the 3 per cents, which are already provided for and will mature shortly, not another dollar of the principal of our funded debt is due for four years to come, and except by a reduction of the interest on the 4½ per cents and of the 4s, which as I suggested to the House of Representatives nearly a year ago, in my letter of March 2, 1886, no part of the same can now be cancelled or diminished by anticipatory purchase without a premium, the bondholder a premium on pretty much his own terms. The premium on the 4½ per cents of 1891 is now 11 per cent.; the premium on the 4 per cents of 1907 is now 26 per cent. Payment of the funded debt at these premiums to the bondholder is thriftless extravagance. But it is an inexcusable extravagance, for the reason shown in my last annual report and in that of 1885, that the present sinking Fund law and the annual appropriation of one per cent of the debt to that fund which it requires, and which gives us no trouble, will cancel every dollar of the public indebtedness, greenbacks and all, within one twelvemonth of the day that our last great funded loan becomes payable, namely, Sept. 1, 1907. We may almost say that our funded debt will thus pay itself, so little excuse have we for hastening its payment. But anticipatory payment of funded debt at a high premium, is as successfully getting out of the Treasury our currency tax surplus, and so preventing contraction in that run, is that method, nevertheless, which would contract the currency and produce the sudden and wholly diminishing national bank circulation based on the funded debt.

This therefore necessary now, not only to reduce taxation in order to prevent surplus tax collecting from being currency-contracting again and again, but is necessary also to employ our present and unavoidable tax receipts in the payment of debt not yet funded, but of the unfunded debt. Great extravagance of needless expense or serious monetary trouble can both be so avoided. The simple instrument, effective, by action before adjournment, can relieve the Secretary of the Treasury from the bad choice between these now present alternatives.

The surplus coin and bullion which will remain in the Treasury after all the bonds subject to call have been paid and before the Fiftieth Congress will assemble, improved with the proceeds of surplus taxation which will flow into the Treasury before any possible reduction of taxes by the present Congress can take effect, constitute a sum which can well be got out of the Treasury and put into the hands of the people where it belongs, by the payment of the greenback debt. Coin certificates are a ready and superior paper money to the greenbacks. The substitution can be effected as a mere matter of Treasury administration whenever two indispensable conditions are first fulfilled by Congress. Of these, the first is the repeal of silver purchases should be stopped. Our embarrassing difficulties of twelve discernible two years ago, and I recommended both these conditions of safety respectfully to the consideration of Congress in my first annual report, in my reply to the resolutions of the House of Representatives last spring, and again in my second annual report. Congress has but to remove the cause of two past errors of our predecessors in order effectually to avert monetary difficulties, which are now imminent, and to renew a commercial prosperity which will dispel the unpublic atmosphere of our so-called labor troubles. The repeal of the compulsory silver purchases (act of Feb. 28, 1878) is the first and indispensable condition of safety. The repeal of the compulsory post-redemption reissues of United States notes (act of May 31, 1878) is the next and only other condition.

These two repeals are together necessary to prevent either on the one hand an extravagant expense, or on the other hand a considerable contraction of the currency. I can see no other alternatives. As the evil is at our doors, I cannot conceive that the case admits of further delay.

The Secretary renews the expression of his hope that Congress, before its near adjournment, will enter upon the residue of work which demands attention from the people's representatives, and that it will at once begin to untax the clothing of sixty millions of people by a repeal of the duty on raw wool, and he submits an interesting table covering the whole field of Federal taxation, which, he says, he was not strong enough to perfect in time to go in his annual report.

In response to the second and third inquiries, the Secretary says that from Aug. 4, 1886, one and two dollar notes to the amount of $7,798,939 were destroyed, but that no ones or twos have been issued in their stead, nor instead of any other ones or twos, or $10,000, or $5,000, or $1,000 dollar likewise cancelled and destroyed, for no ones and twos have been issued since July, 1885. He then calls attention to the fact that the $1 and $2 notes destroyed have been more than replaced by the $1 and $2 certificates issued between Aug. 4 and Dec. 31, 1886, which amounted to $8,717,939. With a desire to inform the House as to the workings of the Treasury in the most ample detail, the Secretary submits tables giving details of the kind of money received and paid out at each of the Sub-Treasuries and the Treasury at Washington. He says:

Treasury withdrawal began in the summer of 1885 of the $1 and $2 United States notes, and their conversion into $5 notes, both being known to the Treasury and the public under the denomination of small notes, which title extends to the $10 and $20 notes, was due to the belief that the Government had in the Treasury vaults large masses of silver dollars for which no fitting use could be found. To this statement it may be objected that these coins could be paid out in the ordinary transactions of the Government. This is not true, for one among many reasons, because of the physical impossibility of the movement of the mass of silver required to make the payments of the Government; and secondly, to the fact that all payments of public character might be said to be in excess of the drafts of the Treasury in order to be again paid into the Treasury vaults, as the cost of handling and the bulk of the metal make it an impossible vehicle for the transactions of the Treasury or private business. The Treasury would require thirty-three tons per day to make its daily payments. Its receipts would be strictly confined to the same metal, which would involve the handling of thirty-three more tons. A thousand dollars begged weighs sixty pounds. The physical force does not exist in the Treasury to handle the mass required to effect its daily settlements under such conditions.

In conclusion the Secretary says: "The act of August, 1886, which made the issue of the silver certificate ones and twos compulsory, and the act of May 31, 1878, which made the issue of the greenback total compulsory, have been jointly executed by the abridgement of the smallest and the largest denominations of the greenbacks, and the enlargement of the smallest silver certificates."

Mrs. Jotham Tompkins Sues for Divorce.

Jotham Tompkins, son of the late J. Warren Tompkins, at one time a leading member of the Westchester bar, married Catharine Smith, a servant in his father's house in White Plains, about twelve years ago. Since then, it is alleged, he has turned his back on his former associates and has led a dissolute and shameless life. He appeared in the Supreme Court at White Plains yesterday as defendant in his wife's suit for a limited divorce. She charges that his personal habits are such that she cannot live with him longer, and that he has treated her cruelly. Tompkins is about 40 years old. He looked like a tramp in court, but it is said that he has hoarded a comfortable fortune.

Don't wait until you are sick before trying Carter's Little Liver Pills, but get a vial at once. You can't take them without benefit. 25 cents a dose.

A LITTLE LIGHT AT TRENTON.

Republicans Members Back Down, and the Senate is Organized—The Outlook.

TRENTON, Feb. 1.—The Republican Senators have poked a hole through the legislative muddle and let in a little daylight. With a considerable amount of grace and dignity, considering the circumstances, they did the back-down act at noon to-day, and organized, the Senate that was never going to organize until the Assembly righted alleged wrongs in connection with two contested seats. Frederick S. Fish of Essex was made President. Richard B. Lending of Hunterdon was reelected Secretary, and most of the other officers of last year were continued in their places. After doing a little routine business, the Senate adjourned until Monday night. The Assembly held two little sessions, and then followed the example of the Senate. Messrs. Matthews, McLaughlin, Carroll, Condit, and Underhill were appointed to investigate the coal handlers' strike.

The regular daily Democratic joint meeting was held to-day while the Senate was organizing. There were thirty-one Assemblymen present and one Senator, who slipped over long enough to answer to his name at roll call. The Republicans, Labor men, and Speaker Baird all withdrew from the chamber while the meeting was going on. Thirty of the Democrats voted for Abbett, and Mr. Throckmorton for Bedell.

The Senatorial situation now is that the straight-out Democrats, claiming that the Legislature was legally organized when the Assembly organized, and that the time for the election of a Senator began last Tuesday, have been and are holding a joint meeting every day to effect such an election, but are not able to secure a quorum. The Republicans hold that the Legislature has not been organized until the Senate organized to-day, and that the legal time for the balloting for United States Senator begins on Tuesday, Feb. 22. They will not recognize any joint meeting held before that time, and they will have one held then, whether or no. If the two joint meetings can be dovetailed it will be smooth sailing. If each side claims to have the only genuine and unadulterated brand of joint meeting, and will take no other, then there will be a row, which may result in the Republicans, Labor men, and kicking Democrats going off by themselves and electing a Senator, just as they organized the Assembly at the opening of the session. If the two Labor men and Speaker Baird will go with the Republicans into such a meeting they will make a quorum, and can vote for whom they please without interfering with the success of the Republican candidates, as 21 votes, a majority of a quorum, will elect a Senator whenever the quorum can be got together. Assemblyman Throckmorton, the Bedle man at the first Democratic joint meeting, plainly stated that he did not believe the meeting was a legal one nor that its action would be of any legal effect. Senator Chase voted with him. If these two should also go into the meeting on the 23d, there would be, with Speaker Baird, a quorum present, even if the Labor men stayed out. In such a meeting Wm. J. Sewell would undoubtedly be elected Senator. If the Democrats can coax a quorum into their meeting at any time Abbett will get a majority of the votes. It is not impossible that both Sewell and Abbett may be elected Senator, one by each meeting, in which case the contest would be removed to the floor of the United States Senate.

If the two joint meetings are amicably consolidated the chances are in favor of neither Sewell nor Abbett, but of some new Democratic candidate, such as A. W. Cutter, John P. Stockton, or Theodore Runyon, or of Republican William Walter Phelps. The vote would be: Straight Democratic, 40; straight Labor, 2; Speaker Baird, 1. Democrats Throckmorton and Chattle are also not yet bound by any caucus, but will certainly vote for a Democrat, though probably not for Abbett.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

A Pension for Walt Whitman—The Freedman's Bank.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Nine Senators were present this morning when the gavel fell. Two more entered the chamber during prayers.

Among the bills reported favorably and placed on the calendar was one to reimburse the depositors of the Freedmen's Savings Bank, and appropriating $1,000,000 for that purpose; also a bill directing the payment of $32,979 to the State of New York as a reimbursement for duties paid on arms imported in 1863, and used in the suppression of the rebellion.

IN THE HOUSE.

A bill granting a pension to Walt Whitman was reported favorably, and the Senate bills granting pensions to the widows of Gen. Logan and Gen. Blair were reported adversely.

Death of Francis S. Smith.

Francis S. Smith, proprietor of the New York *Weekly*, died of apoplexy at the Windsor Hotel at 3 o'clock yesterday morning. He was born in this city on Dec. 29, 1819. His father was Moses Rogers Smith, who was a sailing master in the navy in the war of 1812, and now honorable mention for gallantry. Mr. Smith was only 13 years of age when he entered the office of the *Albion*, where he learned his trade. He was a repo ter when he met Francis S. Street, who was employed as a bookkeeper in the office. Amos J. Williamson, the proprietor of the *Sunday Despatch*, was publishing a paper called the New York *Weekly Despatch*. It was not a financial success and he offered it to Mr. Street and Mr. Smith for $40,000, which was to be paid only if they made a success of it. Mr. Street assumed the business management of the paper, which was christened the New York *Weekly*, and Mr. Smith was editor. The latter suggested the idea of advertising by big display sizes and by giving away sample copies containing the first chapters of serial stories. At the end of the first year (1859) they had paid the $40,000. Mr. Smith wrote a serial story called "Evelyn Wilson," which was widely read. It was afterward dramatized by Maggie Mitchell. He also published two books of poems. Mr. Smith was a shrewd judge of catchy stories, and when he engaged a favorite author he would keep him busy for years, frequently buying all his manuscript without publishing it, much to the wonder of the author. Long afterward, when the author's powers had waned, he would print the stories. Mr. Street died several years ago, leaving Mr. Smith the sole proprietor of the paper. Ten years ago Mr. Smith retired from active life, although retaining his interest in the paper. Of late years his son, Ormond G. Smith, has conducted it. Mr. Smith was a widower. He leaves three sons and one daughter. The funeral will take place to-morrow.

Arrangements for Young Belmont's Funeral.

The friends of young Raymond Rodgers Belmont, the young son of Banker August Belmont, who shot himself dead while at pistol practice in his home at 109 Fifth avenue, sent many additional messages of condolence to the Belmont family yesterday. None of the messages was made public, however. The body remained yesterday in the ice chest in the upper parlor of the mansion hidden by flowers. It will not be disturbed until early Thursday morning, when it will be placed in a solid rosewood coffin. Last night the list of pall bearers was completed by Mr. Belmont and his sons, and personal notes were sent to the gentlemen selected, asking them to perform the last office for their dead friend. The pallbearers will be Charles Carroll, Amos F. French, Robert McCook, Crawford Clark, O. H. Ward, Royal Carroll, Egerton Winthrop, Jr., and E. M. Appleton.

The funeral will take place to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock from the Church of the Ascension. The Rev. Dr. E. Winchester Donald, the pastor, will officiate. A special train will take the remains to Woodlawn Cemetery, where they will be placed in a temporary receiving vault.

Coroner Nugent has not yet fixed any date for the inquest, and has not spoken to the Belmont family in reference to it.

Seeking a Murderer and Finding Two.

ATHENS, Ga., Feb. 1.—The murder of a negro boy in Madison County several weeks ago by Edward Seagroves has resulted in the recapture of a murderer whose whereabouts had been forgotten. Eight years ago W. L. Seagroves was a respected citizen of Athens. In a quarrel with Edward Royal he struck him across the head with a tobacco box and killed him. Seagroves was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to 12 years in the penitentiary. In a few weeks his family left the city, and soon the whole affair was forgotten. It was supposed that Seagroves was serving out his term, but it happened that he had escaped a few days after he was taken to the prison camp. When the prison authorities heard of the recent murder by Ed. Seagroves they concluded that he was their man. Arriving at the spot they found that he was the son of W. L. Seagroves, but that the father was there also. The refugee had rejoined his family, and in a quiet neighborhood was building up a competence. He was arrested, and to-night was lodged in jail in this city. The Governor will by asked to pardon him.

Racing at New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 1.—The track was in good condition. First Race.—Five furlongs. *Hindoo Rose* won by half a length, Miss Daly second, St. Valentine third. Time, 1:05.

Second Race.—Seven furlongs; selling. *Revoke* won by a length, Handy Andy second, Our Friend third. Time, 1:29½.

Third Race.—One mile. *Lizen* won by a scant length, Wedding Day second, Ascosia third. Time, 1:47½.

Sporting Notes.

Ike Weir, the Belfast Spider, who recently whipped Jack Farrell, has matched to fight Tommy Warren with kid gloves to a finish for a purse of $1,500.

The drivers G. A. Hiscock and W. H. Crawford have purchased Frank Vanness's interest in the bay gelding Harry Wilkes, paying the sum of $2,500.

Pat Killen and Bill Bradbury have signed articles to fight six rounds at Lake, in the suburbs of Chicago, on Feb. 16, for a private purse and the gate receipts. Killen must stop Bradbury to win.

The trotting stallion Artillery, record 2:21¼, by Rysdyk's Hambletonian dam Well's Star by Seely's American Star, was bought last week by R. T. Metcalf & Co. of Lexington, Ky., for $10,000.

A gang of men have been at work on the Brown Farm, near Kearney, N. J., laying out a track. It is said that the farm has been purchased by Pierre Lorillard, and was to be used as a private track.

Tim Donoghue, Jr., the amateur champion, skated a mile on the Hudson River at Riverbrigh yesterday afternoon in 2 minutes 33¾ seconds, which beats the record. He was timed by New York sporting men.

Jack Dempsey fought an exhibition four rounds with Mike Boden at the Theatre Comique, Philadelphia, on Monday night. Boden gave him a hard fight, but Sparrow Golden, the referee, awarded the fight to Dempsey.

The Glenmere Rod and Gun Club held their postponed shoot yesterday at Dexter Park, Long Island. P. Sutter, President of the club, won the diamond badge, killing 6 birds out of 7 from the 27 yards mark. The leather badge for the worst shot was won by G. Furbell.

TO BOYCOTT ARMOUR & CO.

The Knights of Chicago to Officially Promulgate the Boycott To-day.

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.—There is no question whatever of the intention of the Knights of Labor of Chicago and vicinity to organize an extensive boycott against the meats of Armour & Co. This design has been under discussion for several weeks past—indeed, ever since the failure of the great strike of the packing house workmen for eight hours. The correspondent of THE SUN is to-night informed that notice of the Armour boycott will be officially promulgated to-morrow by District Assembly 24 in the form of the following appeal, which is supplementary to a secret circular issued lately:

To the Organized Workers of Chicago.

BROTHERS: We wish respectfully draw your attention to the following firms in and about Chicago who are handling the products of P. D. Armour. It is not necessary to reiterate the causes which have led to the objections of all loyal workingmen in the cause of labor to having to patronize his goods. With them you are all familiar. It remains for you to do your duty and lend your efforts to aid in showing the King of Porkocracy that you are not in sympathy with his methods and practices. We would therefore request you to appoint committees in your locality to carry out the object of the original circular.

Here follows a list containing names of 265 firms, wholesale and retail, who are handling the meats of Armour & Co.

The movement is one of the most important ever attempted by the Knights. They recognize in P. D. Armour the power that crushed them in the stock yards strike, and upon him they will bring to bear this measure of retaliation. Having a ready boycotted him to the extent of refusing to buy his meats for their own consumption, they now propose to extend the ban to the mercantile houses which buy and sell the Armour goods. Charles F. Seib, Secretary of District Assembly No. 24, has received reports, giving the names and addresses of those who deal in Armour meats, and in some instances details are given as to the precise time Armour's delivery wagons call at certain stores. The circular will be sent to all the local assemblies in District Assembly 24, and they are expected to coöperate with District Assemblies 57 and 136, which issued the original circular referred to. This latter document contained an appeal to the workmen to show that the instincts of liberty were not dead within them, by coöperating in the effort to "let this domineering autocrat know that while he may be enabled to employ such labor American society will refuse to eat his meats, when to do so is at the expense of human liberty and common justice." It added:

"We do not believe his meat is as good as it used to be. We find it distasteful and indigestible. Put up under such circumstances, and we are satisfied that every loyal worker will share that opinion. Phil Armour, at whose instigation these cutthroats (meaning Pinkertons men) were employed, is morally responsible for Terence Begley's death. Phil Armour, who gambles in pots and calls, contrary to the law of God and man, who 'cards' his partner at a disadvantage when he buys and "calls" for extortionate bull prices when he sells—Phil Armour, who organizes pools and rings for the purpose of fleecing the public on all the necessaries of life, crowds out his competitors to the wall, spreading ruin and disorder everywhere—now demands that the organized workers shall renounce their allegiance to the Knights of Labor and kindred associations and become his willing slaves.

This circular also urged all local assemblies to boycott Armour, and it has been adhered to.

The Sixth Avenue Road Looking Out for Knights.

The employees of the Sixth avenue horse car road sent yesterday to the Executive Board of the Empire Protective Association a circular application blank which the company requires applicants for work to swear to. This circular, besides the questions as to the true name, age, birth, height, and physical condition of the applicant, asks:

"Do you belong to any labor organization?

"Do you agree not to join any organization which would control your action as an employee?"

The Executive Board said last night that they were too busy to call upon President Curtis of the Sixth avenue road, but would endeavor to do so to-day or to-morrow.

Works of Art at the Cooks' Ball.

The French colony danced and the French colony ate at the Metropolitan Opera House last night. It was the twenty-first annual ball of the Philantropic Culinary Society that drew the crowd of dancers and eaters together. The company was by no means wholly French, however, for nearly all New Yorkers who know what's good make a point of going to the cooks' ball. The wonderful creations of the most famous chefs of the city were on exhibition in the supper room in the afternoon. Many of the hotels had sent their chefs, and Cornelius Vanderbilt was the only private person whose chef's contribution was conspicuous. Mr. Frederic Heimmer, the pastry artist in question, was represented by bottles of champagne, surrounded by fruit arranged in fantastic figures. Among Delmonico's dreams of fancy was a tableau representing the kitchen that turns out so many good things. In it little putties chefs in caps and aprons were hard at work cooking over miniature ranges. Another Delmonico contribution was a miniature representation of the projected club house of the Cooks' Club. Among the other contributions was an ornamented salmon from the Grand Union Hotel, with live alligators and fishes swimming around it.

Olive Collins's Death.

Coroner Messemer began an inquest yesterday in the case of Olive Collins, the variety actress, who died of malpractice. Louisa Filkins of 351 Bowery, the girl's landlady, testified that the girl had confessed to her that Redfield Clarke, an actor, was the man who had wronged her. The Coroner has received a letter from Clarke, dated "Sing Sing," where Clarke is performing. It said he was innocent of complicity in the girl's death, and he would come to New York to testify if his presence was needed. Dr. John A. Sherman of 64 east Third street testified that he attended Miss Collins in her illness. Coroner Messemer reprimanded Dr. Sherman for having delayed the case to the Coroner's office before the girl's death.

The inquest was adjourned until next Tuesday, when Clarke will be called as a witness.

Happy End to an Elopement.

GRIFFIN, Ga., Feb. 1.—Young Mr. Lewis fell desperately in love with the sixteen-year-old daughter of Andrew Floyd. Mr. Floyd refused his consent to marriage, but the old wife was willing and gave encouragement to the young folks. Lewis, believing that it would be impossible for him to live without his loved one, determined to elope with her, which he accordingly did, taking the girl's mother along, too. The old man at once had a warrant issued for Lewis's arrest on the charge of abduction. When the runaways reached Justice Bostwick and Mr. Floyd stepped up and said tearfully, "Judge, if they'll give up the old woman I'll be satisfied." The old woman was accordingly given up, and each couple went its way.

A Well Poisoned.

Two persistent tramps were driven off the farm of Moses Richie, near Jamaica, L. I., with a club about two weeks ago. It was discovered a few days ago that a well from which the stock is watered had been poisoned with Paris green. It is supposed that the traps took this means of revenge.

Mrs. Emmons Sane.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Justice Merrick, sitting in the Equity Court, to-day confirmed the findings of the jury declaring Mrs. Emmons of sound mind. The total expenses of the trial are estimated at from $2,000 to $3,000, all of which will devolve on Mr. Emmons.

BROOKLYN.

The bridge receipts in January were $68,965.40.

Thomas R. Devereil has been elected President of the Protective Musical Union.

Greenpoint Democrats who are dissatisfied with the Administration are organizing a David B. Hill club.

Judge Osborne has granted Maria C. Norton a limited divorce from John E. Norton, a Smith street saloon keeper.

The forty-ninth annual ball of the Emerald Association for the benefit of the Roman Catholic orphans takes place to-night, at the Academy of Music.

R. Burnham Moffat has been elected President of the Aleyone Boat Club. The rule of the club forbidding boats to run on Sundays on Gravesend Bay is rescinded.

Public school No. 36 in Stagg street has been closed to undergo a thorough fumigation and disinfection by the the health authorities. Five children had attended the school last week with a small-pox was in the family.

A rowing association of Indian has been formed to further Mrs. Thurber's plans for a popular subscription for the National Conservatory and National Opera. One of the plans is to ask children to contribute a penny each for the fund. Mrs. Laura C. Holloway is the leader in the movement.

Boiler Inspector Thomas F. Powers of the Police Department has resigned after twenty-four years' faithful service, and Lieut. Wm. Williams of the Navy, who served as assistant engineer in the navy during the war and is secretary of the Seventh Ward Democratic Association, has been appointed to his place.

A committee of the Knights of Labor waited on Manager Bixby of the Grand Opera House last night and demanded that he reinstate Harry Walker and his orchestra, and pay them $225 a week. He refused, and the committee notified him that his theatre would be placed under a boycott. Mr. Bixby was willing to employ Walker at $200.

Liebmann Brothers & Owings yesterday took charge of the dry goods store at Fulton and Tillary streets, which has hitherto been known as E. S. Jaffray & Co. They will also begin business in March in the new mammoth establishment in Washington street adjoining the Arcade Building. Mr. Losser moves to Fulton street, opposite the Kalb avenue.

At the second annual meeting of the Crescent Athletic Club of Brooklyn last evening the new officers were elected: President, G. Vernon; Vice-President, W. H. Ford; Secretary, O. V. Dougherty; Treasurer, E. H. Strobel; Governing Committee, G. S. Wallace, W. T. Gilbert, H. Lamarche, M. J. Lamarche, Henry Williams, R. C. Moffatt, D. Edwards, Alex Smith.

A cab containing eighteen-year-old Maggie Walsh of 155 Hudson avenue and a male friend was almost upset at the bridge entrance on Monday night by the drunken driver of the cab. The girl was assisted from cab by James Kenealty, and the driver whipped up the horses and started off with her friend. The girl became very violent, and, drawing a revolver, threat ned to shoot the man who assisted her from the cab. A police officer was arrested, and was yesterday fined $20 by Justice Welsh for her frolic.

The Broadway Rail road Company, acting under a permit from the Board of City Works, has commenced to break ground in Court Avenue, on which it proposes to extend its track. The privilege of so extending its road was granted to the company by an act of the Legislature in 1885. Some months ago Mr. Richardson of the Atlantic Avenue Railroad obtained permission from the Aldermen to lay a cable road on the same avenue, and the Board of Aldermen gave a franchise for 25 year. The action of the Broadway Company will, it is thought, upset the Deacon's plans.

Justice Cullen of the Supreme Court has denied the application of Mr. Lewis Cullen for a mandamus to compel the Board of Education to furnish accommodation for their children in Ward Public School No. 24. He holds that the inability of the Board to furnish the required accommodations is a sufficient answer, and if the Board is inefficient in the use of public moneys the remedy is with the appointing power. It is not a question of whether too much money is used for a higher education, there being no general law prescribing the object or character of school education.

LOVE LAUGHS AT SHERIFFS.

AUGUST SPIES AND HIS SWEETHEART ARE MARRIED BY PROXY.

Spies Signs a Paper Naming a Brother as his Proxy—The Man Who Marries the Couple Says the Ceremony is Legal and Binding.

CHICAGO, Feb. 1.—The announcement is made this evening that August Spies and Miss Nina Van Zandt have been married by proxy, the groom being represented by his brother. When Sheriff Mattson, about two weeks ago, issued the order to the keeper of the county jail not to admit Miss Van Zandt to see Spies, it was thought that the matter was settled, but it now appears that neither of the couple abandoned their purpose. A marriage by proxy was decided upon, and Justice Englehardt, in the town of Jefferson, who has figured in the newspapers recently as denouncing the verdict of the Anarchist trial, was consulted. He gave it as his opinion that a marriage by proxy would be binding in law if the proxy was made out in due legal form. He was commissioned to draw up a form of a proxy, and spent considerable time in making it conform to what he thought the law required. The document was not ready until last Friday.

Early on Saturday Miss Van Zandt and Gretchen Spies, the sister of August, went out to Jefferson and called on Justice Englehardt to get the proxy. Having secured the document, they went directly to the county jail with it. They met the wife of Spies's brother, Ferdinand, and a Mrs. Wendland. Miss Van Zandt's three companions witnessed the signature of Spies to the document, by which he gave full authority to his brother, Henry W. Spies, to represent him at the ceremony. Mrs. Ferdinand Spies and Miss Gretchen Spies signed the paper to witness August Spies's signature. Then the party went with Ferdinand Spies to Justice Englehardt's office, on Milwaukee avenue, in the town of Jefferson. They were reinforced on the way by Miss Van Zandt's parents and Henry and Chris Spies, brothers of August.

The journey to Justice Englehardt's office was made on foot. It was after 8 o'clock on Saturday night by this time. The Justice again examined his law books, and then the ceremony was performed. Henry Spies answered to the name of August Vincent Theodore Spies, and under this name was married to Miss Van Zandt. The bride and her parents went from the office of the Justice to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Spies, not far distant, and remained there over night. The license has not yet been returned to the County Clerk, as required by law. It was issued only three weeks ago, however, and the thirty days allowed for its return have not yet expired. Justice Englehardt is authority for the statement that the marriage was performed.

ITALY'S TROOPS DEFEATED.

The Soudanese Rebels Inflict a Great Reverse upon them near Massowah.

ROME, Feb. 1.—Premier Depretis informed the Italian Chamber of Deputies to-day that there had recently been severe fighting in that part of the Soudan occupied by Italy. He said this fighting had resulted in almost complete disaster to the Italian forces engaged in conjunction with the Abyssinian troops in the work of attempting to release Massala, which has been besieged by hostile Arabs ever since the beginning of the Soudan war.

The Premier said that Rasalula, the General commanding the Abyssinian troops, accompanied by a small number of Italian soldiers, attacked Saati on Jan. 25 last. A hotly fought battle ensued. It lasted three hours, and the army of Rasalula was repulsed. The Italian loss was trifling, and that of the Abyssinians was unknown. Next day three companies of Italian troops left Monkullo to carry provisions to Saati. With the Abyssinians they again made an attack, and a desperate battle was waged. The Abyssinians were defeated, and the Italian troops were simply annihilated. Only ninety wounded reached Massawah after the battle.

This statement made a profound sensation in the Chamber. Premier Depretis then added that the Italian commander recalled the troops and concentrated them at Massowah. The Radicals laughed ironically at this. The Government now proposed a bill for an appropriation of $1,000,000 with which to send Italian reinforcements to Massowah. The Chamber at once approved the bill by an almost unanimous vote. The Radicals cried out, "We must leave!" The majority rejoiced with the cry, "Never!" "Cowards!" &c. The city to-night is in a high state of excitement, bordering on frenzy, over the news from the Soudan.

The ironclads Formidable and Umberto are preparing to sail for Massowah.

GETTING READY FOR WAR.

Germany Will Take Steps to Keep French Troops Out of Alsace-Lorraine.

BERLIN, Feb. 1.—The Cologne *Gazette*, in an article headed, "Are the War Apprehensions Justified?" points out that France is preparing to form in the shortest time possible, in the event of a war in the spring, the strategical line which she delayed forming in 1870. Germany must therefore either take needful counter measures or summon France to reduce her frontier garrisons. The *Gazette* further announces that the Government will take the necessary steps to prevent Alsace-Lorraine from being overrun by French troops immediately after a declaration of war.

The Berlin *Tagblatt* confirms the announcement of the calling out of the reserves, and says that the drilling of the men will be begun in the western provinces.

Frenchmen traveling into German Lorraine are stopped and searched, and seem to be more less they can prove that they are not liable to military service. The Government's motive in doing this is to prevent possible future soldiers from gaining a knowledge of the topography of the annexed provinces.

A despatch from Paris to the *Pesther Lloyd* says: "President Grévy and Premier Goblet are making superhuman efforts to prevent the outbreak of war."

The Berlin *Post's* article yesterday on the situation in France has produced a profound sensation throughout Europe.

ARMED TRANSPORTS.

Great Britain Grants a Subsidy to the White Star Line—New Ships to be Built.

LONDON, Feb. 2.—The Government has granted a subsidy to the White Star Steamship Company for the use of the steamers of that line as armed transports in the event of war. The agreement includes a stipulation that the White Star Company shall build several fast vessels in accordance with designs furnished by the Admiralty. Harland and Wolff of Belfast have contracted to build the vessels. Negotiations are on foot for similar arrangements with the Cunard and Inman Companies.

PANIC IN EUROPEAN MARKETS.

A Big Tumble in Prices in the Leading Stock Exchanges—Great Excitement.

PARIS, Feb. 1.—A panic prevailed on the Bourse to-day. It was caused by the article in the Berlin *Post* describing Gen. Boulanger as being unable to lead the French people back to the path of peace, &c. Stocks were eagerly pressed for sale. A better feeling set in toward the close, and 3 per cent. rentes recovered 80 centimes from the lowest point of the day.

London, Feb. 1.—A panic prevailed on the Stock Exchange to-day, slightly abating toward the close. Throughout the day orders to sell poured in from the Continent, and only buying by English operators prevented an extreme fall in rates. Business after the official close was active. The street was excited over reports of impending failures of many Paris dealers, which would have reached the Exchange.

BERLIN, Feb. 1.—On the Bourse to-day there was a total collapse of prices. Advices from Paris and Vienna caused intense excitement. Prussian consols fell 1 per cent.; Italian, 1¼ per cent.; Russian, 1¼ per cent., and Hungarian gold rentes, 2 per cent.

Mayor Gleason Wants to Know About It.

Mayor Gleason and Treasurer Blackwenn of Long Island City are at sword's points over the warrants drawn by the latter for his own salary and the pay of his clerks, which the Mayor refuses to approve until they are explained to him. He says that they appear to be in excess of the sums allowed by law, and Treasurer Blackwenn says he knows nothing about it, and will not reply to the Mayor's request for light on the subject. He threatens that he will issue no more warrants for the pay of the police or the city officials until the Mayor has signed the warrants for the expenses of the City Treasurer's office.

DOWN-TOWN GOSSIP.

Mr. Cyrus W. Field said yesterday that the time for the men in Wall street to fear any further effect from the strikes had passed. "There is a very large 'short' interest in the stock market," added Mr. Field, "and somebody is liable to lose a large amount of money. Only the bears continue to harp on the strikes."

Mr. Harvey Fisk, Sr., has just returned from Europe, and says in his travels he hasn't heard of anything better than our Government bonds. "The Government has just called in another lot of 'threes' to be paid March 1," he said yesterday, "after which there will be only $64,000,000 uncalled. These will all be called soon. What then? The sinking fund requires nearly $50,000,000 a year to fulfil its requirements. The Government has no more bonds it can 'sell' until Sept. 1, 1891, when $250,000,000 4½s fall into its control. During four years it will have to purchase its bonds for sinking fund purposes, as savings banks, trust companies, trust funds, and other investors have to—at the lowest price it can. The requirements of the Government sinking fund for the next four fiscal years will be upward of $200,000,000. Every 4½ per cent. bond outstanding, if it runs to maturity, will be worth 121½, and every 4 per cent. 126. The United States Treasury is not a bank. It cannot loan its surplus. Therefore I do not think the national banks need have any alarm about their Government bond holdings."

Mr. Spencer Trask of the Stock Exchange said yesterday that there would be only one result to the strikes. "The strikers will be beaten sure," Mr. Trask added, "just as they were in St. Louis, Chicago, and on the Third avenue road in this city. People down here have made up their minds to that, but of course the strikes exert temporarily a depressing influence—not on me, I assure you, but on others. I am not at all discouraged, and prices of stocks before next fall will be very much higher. As the case now stands we have got pretty near all the stocks recently held in England and on the Continent. If there is war abroad, the increased demand for our products will eventually boom our stocks, and if there isn't a fight, the foreigners will have to buy back the stocks they sold. Stocks may go off a little more, but that will only hurt small margin men and room traders. The situation