The Sun.

FOR

1888.

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1887.

Comfort for Texas.

We copy this morning certain original views of the great Democratic organ of Texas, the *Galveston News*, upon the prospects of Mr. CLEVELAND'S second term as affected by the recent elections in New York.

Our distinguished Galveston contemporary treats the subject in a deep philosophic spirit, considering the changing breezes and veering currents of personal popularity as rather a matter of vanity than the opportunity for the formulation of a specific political prognosis; and it finally concludes that the possibility of a clean Democratic sweep next year in the Empire State, with CLEVELAND at the head of the ticket, will depend largely on the temper of the Mugwump contingent. "Any conspicuous concession to a New York political machine on a spoils basis," says our Texan monitor, "would excite a degree of distrust among the party's Mugwump allies which even the name of Mr. CLEVELAND might not prevent from running into loud, active, and bitter opposition."

This is very well expressed after a manner which no intelligent rhetorician can fail to admire in the columns of our Galveston colleague; yet we think the inference it draws cannot safely be relied on. In writing the famous FELLOWS letter, declaring himself distinctly in favor of the election of the celebrated Democratic candidate for District Attorney of this city, Mr. CLEVELAND undoubtedly made a conspicuous concession to the Democratic political machine on the spoils basis—that is to say, to the United Democracy of New York. This at once excited a remarkable degree of disgust and distrust among the Mugwumps; and they have condemned and criticised and even reviled Brother CLEVELAND in a loud, active, and bitter fashion. Yet it must not be imagined that in the election of next year they would refuse him their votes should the Democratic National Convention select him as its candidate. In fact, they have no choice but to vote for him; for although they may love CLEVELAND less, they hate BLAINE more; and accordingly we advise our Galveston friend not to worry on this subject, but to cheer up and take that encouraging view of the future which the optimistic theory of life always suggests and justifies.

The Presidential Feature of the French Constitution.

Whatever may be the fate of M. GRÉVY, it is evident that the expediency of changing the method of choosing a President, if not the nature of his powers and the conditions of his tenure of office, is to become a subject of discussion throughout France. Hardly any question could be mooted in connection with Continental politics in which Americans would take a keener interest; but in order to avoid the misconceptions growing out of the use of the one-term President to describe executive functions of various sorts, it may be well to keep in view just how the Chief Magistrate of the French republic differs from the ostensibly analogous officer in the United States.

The fact is continually lost sight of that we do not possess in this country a parliamentary government, although the framers of the Constitution imagined that they gave us one. What they really gave us was a limited monarchy, under which the tenant of the regal office, although chosen by the people and only for a fixed term of years, really possesses far larger substantial powers than can now be exercised by the Queen of England. This feature of our Constitution has not been looked upon with favor by European republics, because, where standing armies are maintained, it would be the height of madness to intrust one man with the engines of coercion and seduction that may lawfully be wielded by a President of the United States. It has been, accordingly, the aim of European and especially of French republicans to so combine the principle of Presidential with that of parliamentary government as to confer sufficient structural firmness on the State, while providing at the same time guarantees of Ministerial accountability and safeguards against usurpation on the part of the Chief Magistrate.

If our President remained elective by the people, while the heads of departments or Ministers were not directly accountable to him, but to the popular branch of the Federal Congress—that is to say, if all the Ministers had to resign when subjected to defeat in the House of Representatives on a Cabinet question—we should have in this country a state of things almost identical with that which Frenchmen supposed they had established, when, after the revolution of 1848, they proceeded to form a constitution. But, as they had been warned by LEDRU ROLLIN (who would have had the legislative head designated by the legislature), the prestige and influence acquired by LOUIS NAPOLEON through his election to the Presidency by the people proved stronger than any constitutional curbs, and fatal to the republic. Mindful of this unpleasant experience, the Orleanists and Republicans, when in 1875 the mode of choosing the President of the republic was debated in the Versailles Assembly, combined to enact the organic law, that the Chief Magistrate should be elected for seven years, and not by the people, but by a majority of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies in joint session. By this provision the sphere of for the Presidential principle in the French Government was expected to be greatly narrowed, since not only were the Ministers to be in practice removable by an adverse vote in the Chamber of Deputies, but the President himself, instead of being independent, would inevitably feel and show his sense of dependence on the legislature to which he was indebted for his office. Such calculations have been justified by events. Not only his Ministers, but the Marshal-President MACMAHON himself, resigned when the voice of the Chambers seemed irrevocably hostile. And so, from the outset of the recent conflict of opinion, it has seemed probable that M. GRÉVY must eventually do.

In the Versailles Assembly the Bonapartists and Legitimists desired to give the people the right of designating the Chief Magistrate, and it will be noticed that on Monday the reactionists took advantage of the present crisis to propose that the constitution should be amended in accordance with their original purpose. It is fortunate for the Republicans that they were able to vote down this proposition, as well as another for the complete abolition of the Presidency. The time would not be well chosen for inviting the electors to name a Chief Magistrate by plebiscite, while on the other hand a headless republic would be denounced by Monarchists and Imperialists alike as lacking the essential elements of stability and strength.

Railroads and Indian Reservations.

The present year has witnessed much enterprise in constructing railroads through Indian lands. This has been done under the authority of Congress and with the sanction of the Indian Office.

The records of these grants and of the proceedings under them, as set forth by the Indian Commissioner, are interesting and suggestive. The Fort Berthold reserve in Dakota, and the Blackfeet reserve in Montana, have been traversed by the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway, which, under the act approved last February, has extended its road from Minot along the Missouri to the valley of the Milk River, and thence to Fort Assiniboine and the Great Falls of the Missouri. The compensation for the tribes and individual Indians for lands taken has already been fixed and paid. The Rocky Fork and Cooke City Railway has in like manner obtained the consent of the Crow Indians to build across their reservation in Montana, beginning at Laurel and running up Rock Creek. The right of way, subject to the approval of the tribe, was granted by an act last March.

The rights of way in Dakota through the Lake Traverse reserve accorded by the Sisseton and Wahpeton Indians to the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Company, and by the Sioux through their reserve to the same company and to the Dakota Central, have not yet been acted on by Congress. The money for the lands required and ceded is lying in the Treasury, and the Sioux, not understanding why it is withheld, have become suspicious. When the Ordway, Bismarck, and Northwestern Railway recently asked leave to make a survey through the Sioux reserve for a road to the Black Hills, the Indians, through their agents, refused it. They had already sold routes to two companies and had not been paid. This stirring up of opposition to railroads was, according to Commissioner ATKINS, needless as well as unfortunate, and he asks the Fiftieth Congress to take the required action on the neglected grants.

The Idaho reservations are to be further opened to railways. Last May Secretary LAMAR directed two officers of the Indian Bureau to examine the Fort Hall reserve, with a view to procuring additional lands and rights for the Utah and Northern road, running north and south, and the Oregon Short Line, running east and west. The Shoshones and Bannocks agreed to relinquish a tract near Pocatello station for a town site, the lots to be sold at auction or otherwise by the Government, and the interest at 5 per cent. on the net proceeds paid annually to the Indians. The Utah and Northern Company can also have a strip 200 feet wide through the reserve for $8 an acre. Congress will be called upon to act upon this offer.

In Wisconsin the Duluth, Superior and Michigan Railway has applied for a route through the Bad River reserve, and negotiations with the Chippewas on this subject are pending. In Minnesota the Rainy Lake River and Southwestern Company is contemplating a line through the Red Lake reserve toward Bismarck, and has been referred to Congress for legislation.

The Indian Territory is the scene of many new railroad projects. Last winter rights of way through it were granted to the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska and the Fort Worth and Denver City companies. For the line of the Kansas and Arkansas Valley road, through the same territory, appraisers have been appointed by all parties interested except the Cherokees, and the road is under construction. Awards have already been made to the Ponca and the Otoe and Missouria tribes for the right of way on the Southern Kansas road, whose main line has already been built to Oklahoma station; but the Cherokees are applying to the courts for a larger compensation. The Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fé Company is rapidly settling with the Choctaws and Chickasaws.

Last January the Maricopa and Phœnix Company received from Congress a right of way through the Gila River reserve in Arizona, and now their road is building or already built. Congress also granted a right of way to the Utah Midland Company through the Uintah and Uncompahgre reserves. Besides these completed measures, the Senate in the last Congress granted rights of way to the Northern Pacific Company through the Yakama reserve, to the Carson and Colorado through the Walker River reserve, to the Jamestown and Northern through the Devil's Lake reserve, and to both the Spokane and Palouse and the Washington and Idaho companies through the Cœur d'Alène reserve; but these measures, lacking the necessary action by the House, have not yet become laws, and will doubtless be renewed this winter. The Northern Pacific has applied for authority to construct a short spur in the Puyallup reserve, and Commissioner ATKINS thinks that a satisfactory arrangement will be made, since it will supply "such additional railroad facilities at the city of Tacoma as will be required by the increase of business arising from the completion of the Cascade branch."

It is only from such a summary of the numerous and important steps taken since the present year began that a true idea can be obtained of current railroad building across Indian reserves. It used to be thought imperative to check railroads at the boundaries of these domains and force them to make a long and costly detour. Now the Indians themselves are generally found eager to give rights of way, receiving, as they do, not only compensation for all land taken, but advantages in procuring supplies. Commissioner ATKINS does not doubt that this policy will be increased.

Commerce in the Arctic Ocean.

For the second time since the wealthy Russian merchant SIBIRIAKOFF began his persevering efforts to force his steamer through arctic ice to the mouth of the Yenisei River, the feat has this year been accomplished. The steamship Phœnix, laden with merchandise from Leith, has unloaded her cargo on the banks of the Yenisei, whence it has been carried by steamer and lighter many hundreds of miles up the great river. The Phœnix hopes to return to Europe next year with Siberian produce.

When NORDENSKIÖLD came home, after making the Northeast passage, he said there would be no difficulty in establishing trade by steamer between Europe and the mouth of the Yenisei. If this was true, the fact was very important, for the Yenisei is one of the world's great rivers. It is navigable by large vessels during the brief summer season for six hundred miles from the sea, and by light-draught boats to the very heart of Siberia. For years Mr. SIBIRIAKOFF has been trying to demonstrate that NORDENSKIÖLD'S judgment was correct, but every year, except one, his vessels have been baffled by the ice in the Kara Sea.

In 1880 his steamer, the Oscar Dickson, reached Siberia, but on the return trip she was crushed in the ice and sank. His steamer on the Yenisei has taken several loads of Asiatic produce to the mouth of the river, but though SIBIRIAKOFF sent from Europe three vessels in one year, not a pound of his Siberian freight has ever reached Europe by sea. His ventures in the Arctic Ocean have cost him $500,000, and the successful voyage of the Phœnix will have to be repeated several times if he ever regains the money he has lost.

It is not likely, however, that this uncertain route to Siberia will ever be worth much to commerce. The Phœnix was favored with a fine season for Arctic travel. In fact, it is believed the route to Franz Josef Land was nearly free from ice all summer, offering a splendid opportunity to explorers had any of them happened to be on hand.

We Don't Care a Rap.

Our esteemed friend, the *Boston Herald*, now no longer on the box seat driving the Administration, but meekly and sadly tramping on foot, may be pardoned for uttering these queer observations:

"There is one piece of folly which it would seem that even the most obtuse Democrat must be equal to appreciating. It is that it is not possible for the Democrats on their old basis to elect a President of the United States. They tried this experiment for twenty-four years, and they failed every time. Three years ago the Mugwumps took a hand at the attempt to elect a Democratic President on a new basis. They have had the satisfaction, despite Democratic obstructions, to see him keep to a considerable degree upon it since he has been in office."

Almost all the Mugwumps who were old enough to vote in 1876 voted against SAMUEL J. TILDEN, yet he was elected; and he was elected "on the old basis."

In 1885 DAVID BENNETT HILL was easily elected Governor of New York, obtaining a handsome plurality in spite of the frantic efforts of the Mugwumps.

The party that carries New York next year will elect the next President. The Democratic party, supported by the Administration and rejoicing in the disappointment of the Mugwumps, is in better condition to carry New York than it has been for four years. The more the Administration sits upon the Mugwumps the more joyous and hopeful does the Democracy become and the stronger does the Administration become.

But apparently no amount of kicking has any effect upon the Mugwumps. They have nowhere else to go to. They feel that they're not wanted, and yet they will not go. They will never allow themselves to be counted.

The United Democracy doesn't care a rap for them any way. They can come or go as they please. Mr. CLEVELAND has given them a very strong hint to go, and Governor HILL does not ask for their assistance.

CHAUNCEY DEPEW says that the time has come when an American play can be written; and why shouldn't he write it himself? He could certainly give it a bright and witty dialogue, able characterization, and the proper number of acts and scenes. As for plot, there wouldn't be any trouble about that, for he is a good French scholar. He would be sure to create a greater interest in the dramatic world than has been felt since the Astor place riot. We entreat Mr. DEPEW to employ his next vacation in concocting and concatenating a great American play. That's about the only cup he hasn't won.

The Rev. Dr. JOSEPH PARKER of the City Temple, London, who has been lecturing in the West, says that he is amazed and oppressed by the size of the United States. This is the more unfortunate because the United States hasn't been in the slightest degree oppressed or amazed by the size of Dr. JOSEPH PARKER.

ANTHONY COMSTOCK'S views of art may be designated as a nude departure.—*Cincinnati Enquirer.*

But ANTHONY COMSTOCK himself can only be designated as a public nuisance.

The women inspectors at the Custom House are covering themselves with glory and uncovering a deal of smuggling. But the woman smugglers continue to smuggle with equal industry.

We notice with great interest that our friend, Mr. BRAM STOKER of Trinity College, Dublin, so widely known in connection with Mr. IRVING'S brilliant theatrical enterprise, is to lecture at Chickering Hall next Friday afternoon on ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Mr. STOKER is an accomplished scholar and a graceful, large-hearted man. We are sure he has made a very thorough study of his subject, and that even we, who are to the manor born, may count upon hearing from him views of the great American which will be new to us and instructive, as well as facts which have passed through our minds without making upon them the impressions they should have made. We welcome Mr. STOKER to the lecture stage of New York.

The new Buffalo census shows a gain of more than 27,000 since the census of 1885. Buffalo is now a tidy town of two hundred and thirty thousand odd, growing and not blowing. By the way, what a fine motto for the seal of a municipality those four words would make.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN yet waits upon the border, casting back friendly glances at the children in Madison square. He will find it dull in New Brunswick. His seat is still reserved for him. His little friends are waiting for him. Come back, GEORGE FRANCIS, come back! You are a New York institution. Do not shut yourself up—except on the subject of anarchy.

Boston is rapidly winning a large and lamentable reputation as a place where a fair fight is not to be had. If the town doesn't reform, SULLIVAN will undoubtedly abandon it upon his return; and then what will become of it? Where is Persepolis? Where is Palmyra? Boston needs to brace up.

ANTHONY COMSTOCK should look after the trees in the Central Park. Stripped of their leafy garb, their bare limbs exposed to the blasts of November—why, there's a genuine COMSTOCK lode up there.

Buy your gobbler. Don't try to get one in a raffle. Put cotton in your ears, and escape the siren rattle of the dice box. So shall you awake to-morrow morn without reckiness and without remorse, and with the pleasing consciousness that there's a fine bird in the ice box.

Move On! Move On!

From the Savannah News.

Pulitzer of the New York *World* continues to attack, by insinuation, Col. John R. Fellows lately elected District Attorney of that city. That is his way, probably, of getting even with THE SUN, which keeps telling him that he must "move on."

The Catholic News in Brooklyn.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The *Catholic News* is the only Catholic newspaper published in the *World's* Brooklyn annex, and the *Catholic News* is not supplied with paper by the *World*. Respectfully yours,
H. RIDDER, Publisher.

We congratulate Mr. Ridder on the change.

HE IS A PROHIBITIONIST,

Though His Newspaper is Both Wet and Dry—Likewise Not Silent.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your correspondent in Atlanta has misled you into doing a very serious injustice to a gentleman who is held in the highest esteem by all who know him and his unimpeachable character. I refer to Col. Wm. A. Hemphill of the Atlanta *Constitution*. Col. Hemphill has been connected with that journal, both as business manager and as part proprietor, since it began publication. He is by no means the avaricious cormorant your correspondent would have the public believe. He is a Christian gentleman, of known liberality, extensive charities, and enjoys a business reputation that is enviable for its probity and just success. His attitude concerning prohibition has never been in question since the measure became an issue in Georgia. In the campaign in Atlanta in 1885 he was a straight-out Prohibitionist. Mr. Grady was also a Prohibitionist, while Capt. Howell was then, as now, an honest and open opponent of the measure. They have declared their convictions openly, without prejudice to their relations as co-proprietors of the newspaper.

In 1886 Col. Hemphill was put forward for Alderman in Atlanta by the Prohibitionists and elected, and is now serving as one of their representatives in the City Council. He is not silent in the present campaign. Only a few days ago he presided over one of the largest prohibition mass meetings ever held in the city, and made a lengthy address filled with convincing facts in favor of the measure, and which was most vociferously endorsed by the vast audience.

I trust you will give these facts room in your columns in justice to Col. Hemphill and his position in this affair. I was an employee of the *Constitution* many years, and know the high character of Col. Hemphill among his fellow citizens. I write this, therefore, as due to a Christian gentleman and faithful friend. Yours very truly, SAM W. SMALL.

MR. CLEVELAND AND THE NEW YORK ELECTION.

Striking Views of the Great Democratic Journal of Texas.

From the Galveston Daily News.

Advices from Washington state that Mr. Crain and other leading Democrats are much encouraged by the result of the recent election in New York, and express themselves as confident of Mr. Cleveland's renomination and reelection. This, too, seems to be the prevailing opinion of the Democratic press of the country, and doubtless foreshadows a renomination and a second term for Mr. Cleveland. New York has spoken, therefore all doubts vanish.

It is singular, though, that the determination of such an important question as the continuation of a party in power should be made on such a haphazard game as a State election in New York; that a wise and conscientious Administration should count for nothing, and that the manipulation of voters in Kings county by ward politicians should be left to settle so grave a question. As unreasonable as this may appear, the fact still remains that had the people of New York elected young Grant instead of his more successful opponent on Nov. 8, Mr. Cleveland's chances of both renomination and reelection would have looked far less bright than they do to-day, and it would have required a heavy draft on his proverbial good luck to land him safely on the right side of the fence next year.

This state of affairs shows that the people, or rather a portion of them, are growing more independent of party ties and easily turn their backs on party platform principles, and this is true in a marked degree of the people of New York. It seems almost incredible that they should have elected Mr. Cleveland Governor by over 200,000 majority, and then, while admitting the purity and wisdom of his Administration, give him a majority of less than 1,200 when a candidate for the Presidency. Yet New York did this, and if surface indications of the drift of public opinion may be taken as forecasting coming events she intends giving him an overwhelming majority next year.

Democratic leaders and Democratic newspapers assert and believe this simply because the Democratic party was successful in New York the other day. A victory has been won, and that for them is sufficient. When party lines are broken and party principles blown to the wind, there is a grand rush of uncertain voters to get on the winning side. Just as naturally there would have followed a like rush to the Republican ranks had the Democrats been defeated.

That Mr. Cleveland's Administration has been an honest and pure one is unquestioned; that it has been a wise one is questioned by his opponents alone; that it has had the effect of relegating to the background the rascals on the one side and the mossbacks on the other, is admitted by all, and that its chief aim has been to elevate, purify and cleanse every branch of the public service is part of the history of the past three years.

Yet the personal fitness for the Presidency of the man who has had the courage and ability to mark out and follow such a course successfully is lost sight of, and his chances of reelection made to depend upon the personal whims of a few thousand voters in New York, who, judging from the past, are as likely to vote one way as the other. Of course it is said that the vote in New York was an endorsement of Mr. Cleveland; but if the Republicans had placed in the field a man who could have drawn votes by his great personal popularity, and he had been elected, would it be fair to claim that the result was a condemnation of Mr. Cleveland? Certainly not, and therefore it is possible that on this occasion Mr. Grant's want of popularity defeated the hopes of the national Republican party as surely as the great popularity of his father defeated the national Democratic party on two occasions.

For many years Ohio never failed to "withhold her endorsement" of Republican Administrations in off years, and with equal regularity never failed to give it when a Republican candidate for the Presidency was in the field. There are too many elements in a State election to permit of its results being considered either in the light of an endorsement or condemnation of a national Administration, and the vote in New York last Tuesday meant nothing more nor less than that the Democratic party in that State was strong enough to elect its candidates Gov. and will be likely to have many recruits from the uncertain or unattached elements to swell its ranks in the Presidential campaign next year.

But whether it can work the New York pivot, other things equal, so as to assure the election of a Democratic President, will depend largely on the temper and inclination of the Mugwump contingent. Any conspicuous concession to or any scandalous bargain with a New York political machine on a spoils basis would excite a degree of disgust and distrust among the party's Mugwump allies which even the name of Mr. Cleveland might not prevent from running into loud, active, and bitter opposition.

Mr. Cleveland's Fellows Letter.

From the Brooklyn Citizen.

As to the effect of Mr. Cleveland's letter in behalf of Col. Fellows only a word need be said. It doubtless gave great offence to the Mugwump and other so-called independent elements, but it secured for the President a degree of true blue Democratic affection greater than any other act of his Administration has elicited.

The Sun and the Working Women.

From Life.

If Shakespeare had been a reader of THE SUN, and had seen therein that a man by the name of Godheip paid poor women seventy-five cents a dozen for making undergarments, his query as to "what's in a name" would have possessed even more pertinence than it does now.

From the Richmond State.

THE SUN has been doing a good work in exposing the wrongs of the sewing women of the metropolis, and the facts it presents are startling. Women are paid $1.50 per dozen for trousers; fifteen cents apiece for vests; and twelve cents per day for crocheting shawls. Yet we have had a high protective tariff in this country for twenty-six years. The advocates of this system claim for it that it raises wages in all callings. Surely none of the least of its benefits have trickled into the dreary homes of the working women of New York.

Where Can a Sailor Vote?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Please answer these questions, which I will ask as a reader of THE SUN:

1. What right has a sailor to vote?
2. And where has he a right to vote?
3. And where has he a right to vote when claiming a home in no State, but as a citizen of the United States?

NYACK, Nov. 21. J. McM.

A sailor only has the right to vote when he is a citizen of some State. He can vote only at his place of residence and under the conditions which the laws of the State prescribe, such, for instance, as to the length of time of his residence in that place.

As a citizen of the United States no man has the right to vote anywhere. We repeat that one can only vote at the place where he lives, and under the laws which govern at that place.

The Suicide of the Evening World.

From Life.

The only fun connected with the execution of the Anarchists was furnished by the *Evening World*, which committed a sort of journalistic homicide by announcing the end of the tragedy some two hours before it occurred.

INTERESTING GOSSIP OF THE DAY.

Senator Frye stopped over in Boston, on his way to Washington, to talk in favor of no license with his Republican friends. He is the most pronounced Prohibitionist of all the leading Republicans, and it was no secret that he regarded New York State lost to his party after he had spent a few days campaigning here in October. He said that the liquor plank in the Republican platform would gain not a single vote, but would cost a good many. He is reported to have said that it would have been better to have had no liquor plank in the platform at all.

Senator Frye does not hesitate to say plainly, though he has not made public declaration of this belief, that the Prohibitionists are right in declaring that the Republican party will be compelled before long to face the alternative of favoring the total suppression of the liquor traffic, or of disintegration. Three years ago, after his campaign in the West for Blaine, Frye said to friends in New York that the Republican party must come out squarely for prohibition or sooner or later suffer. Frye, however, is not in favor of national legislation on this subject. He thinks it a matter of police legislation, and should therefore be left to each State. He gets most delightfully heated when talking about it, and it sometimes pleases some of his friends to wind him up and set him agoing, that they may have the pleasure of seeing Frye in a fever.

Frye was not always a Prohibitionist or total abstainer. In his younger days he neither refused a moderate glass himself nor wished to prevent any one else from forty drops or so. But he became convinced that its use was harmful for the individual and a curse to the people; and though he is no temperance ranter, his opinions, when expressed, are as forcible as Neal Dow's. But what of stimulus Frye lost when he made up his mind that alcohol was bad for mankind, he in a measure receives from tobacco. He is one of the nervous men who can smoke inordinately without seeming bad effect, nor does he disdain a bad cigar when he cannot get a good one. If it be tobacco it is good, to his view; all genuine tobacco cigars are fine in his opinion, but some are finer than others.

It is strange that only two of the Maine Congressmen are total abstainers, and these two are from the same town, Lewiston. They are Frye and Gov. Dingley, and they stand on the same Prohibition rock. Blaine is a practical abstainer, though he now and then sips a little light wine. Tom Reed very rarely touches liquor, except a half glass of champagne at a formal dinner. Milliken was found at the Chicago Convention away off in one of the subterranean caverns under the big hall doubled up with cramp, which he was trying to overcome with the contents of an ounce bottle of brandy. Hale is more abstinent than he used to be, but he doesn't turn his wine glass down at a dinner. All of these Maine statesmen are in correspondence with Blaine, and have, no doubt, informed him that it was the Prohibition vote in New York which wrecked the Republican ticket.

The Massachusetts gathering which Frye addressed seems to be a movement to head off further prohibition losses. It is an attempt to commit the Republicans squarely to no license, but to leave the matter where Greeley suggested the tariff should be left, to communities to settle. Long, Robinson, and Hoar appear to have devised the scheme, so that the Republican party may say that it stands committed to no license, as a local issue, and will help the Prohibitionists to secure such such legislation in each State. Frye thinks that some declaration to that effect ought to be made in the next platform, and believes that it will hold a majority of the Prohibitionists in line in New York, Connecticut and New Jersey, which are the only States in which Prohibition losses seriously threaten the Republicans.

Shoppers in the great dry goods bazaars in this city have been puzzled and often annoyed by the queer combination of odd figures fixed upon as prices for goods. Articles marked 40 cents cause the question why they were not marked 50, and 99 cents, or 74 cents, or 19 cents, and other combinations are so strange that they suggest that they were fixed simply to keep a person waiting for change. It cost one person $5 recently waiting for the one cent change due him in the purchase of a 48-cent article, for which he had given a 50-cent piece. The delay in getting change caused him to lose the last train home, and he had to stay in town all night. It is rather queer, too, that proprietors refuse, as a general thing, to explain why these figures are marked down, though one of them said the other day that they result from exact computations as to gross cost, with the percentage of profit added.

A stout woman has recently been complaining that the fashion newspapers and magazines print no plates that give fleshy women any satisfaction. She avers that none but women of slender, graceful figures can study these plates to any advantage, and declares that a foreigner who saw these periodicals would suppose that all women in America were of willowy proportions. And yet the number of such is said by modistes and dealers in the wearing apparel of women to be a small minority. American women, especially those who have the means to indulge in dressing with fashion's decrees, are inclined to decided plumpness, and the regret of such, when they examine the elaborate plates displaying handsome garments on supple-formed women, may be imagined. But the makers of these magazines smile when these complaints are brought to their ears, and declare that to print realistic plates for stout women would cause others to smile, too.

When Gen. Arthur was President he conceived a great fondness for the son of Postmaster-General Howe, Mr. Frank Howe. The young man became Assistant United States District Attorney, and had his tastes been political, would have had a fine chance for gratifying them. But he became an enthusiast on the subject of the drama, and gave himself up to that pursuit. Two of his plays have been accepted by one of the best managers in this city. But Mr. Howe has found that an accepted play is one thing and a play produced is another; and he waits for a production with that hope deferred which maketh the heart sick.

Mr. Cazauran, one of Mr. A. M. Palmer's readers, recently said that the manuscript of plays are offered or sent to Mr. Palmer at an average of two a day. In the last year he has read over 300 plays, and out of that number how many will it be supposed were recommended to Mr. Palmer's attention? Just two! One of these was highly recommended, the other just passed muster.

If every person of prominence who wrote plays and submitted them were to confess it, or if the managers of city theatres should give the names of those who aspire to distinction in this field, there would be more surprises. Literary men, some of them of great repute, politicians, army officers, and even clergymen have been and are constantly submitting their little dramas. About everybody who can write the English language seems to be seized at some time or other with the desire to write a play. Thousands of them, good, indifferent, and abominably bad, are ground out every year. The passion comes, like the measles, to everybody at least once, and with one attack is generally cured.

One, at least, of our Presidents has had a play partly written, perhaps wholly. Gen. Logan, Senator Ingalls, Henry Watterson, and Mr. Blaine have confessed either to writing or contemplating the writing of plays. But we have never produced in America a great playwright and great orator in the same person as Sheridan was, or a playwright of the ability to produce a great tragedy, a fine melodrama, and a successful comedy, and at the same time publish brilliant novels and attain prominence in political life, as did Bulwer, though Thackeray did make fun of him.

Aubrey H. Boucicault, son of Dion, sails this morning on the Saale to see if he can have the trial of the divorce case between his parents postponed until June. His mother, Mrs. Agnes Robertson, is now starring with "My Geraldine" company, and if she leaves it before the close of the season the company will be broken up. The divorce case between Mr. and Mrs. Boucicault is to be called for trial in London on Dec. 1. Aubrey Boucicault is a handsome young man of dark hair and complexion, but without his father's talents.

George D. Starr, Barnum's authorized agent for foreign business, arrived in Liverpool yesterday, to hear of the great fire at Bridgeport. He sailed on Saturday a week ago in the Ohio. He was commissioned to scour the world for attractions, going into Russia, Tartary, and Thibet. Edwin H. Low, who shipped Mr. Starr, asked Mr. Barnum yesterday if he should cable Starr about the Bridgeport fire. "No," said the great P. T., "it's all over the world by this time!" Mr. Starr's special commission is said to be to secure a talking gorilla.

Not a Good Session for Absentees.

From the Courier-Journal.

The Democratic majority over all in the House of Representatives is eleven. This is not such a big majority, but it is better than fifty. In the last House the majority was so large that many of the Democratic members were absent when their services were needed. They seem to think that the majority on their side was so large that their votes would not be necessary. The result was that often the leaders had to postpone important legislation. An old member of Congress is authority for the statement that the party in the House with a small majority always does better and more prompt and efficient work than the party with an overwhelming majority. The Democrats in the next House will find that they will have to stick close to their desks, or else Tom Reed and his Republican friends will clean them out early and often.

Carlisle and Randall.

From the Brooklyn Citizen.

As it is very much to be desired by the enemies of the Democracy at the present time that there shall be ill will between Congressman Carlisle of Kentucky and Congressman Randall of Pennsylvania, it is quite in the line of its duty as a traitor for the New York *World* to be misrepresenting these gentlemen to each other. Happily, however, the industry of the knavish publication in question is not likely to avail much.

No; Rum on One Shoulder.

From the Baltimore American.

The *Atlanta Constitution* is performing the remarkable feat of carrying water on both shoulders.

UNFAIR TO THE BRIDE.

The President Helps on a Joke at the Expense of a Blissful Couple.

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

A large number of newly married couples on their wedding tour are among the callers at the White House tri-weekly receptions, and to these, when discovered, the President is always particularly gracious. A few months ago a very amusing incident attended the visit of a newly married couple. The groom was on the editorial staff of a leading daily newspaper of Chicago. On his arrival in Washington the groom called on the resident correspondent of his paper, who, in turn, called on the newly wedded pair at their hotel. A visit to the White House was planned, the correspondent agreeing to accompany and present them to the President. It was explained that a large number of newly married people attended the public receptions, and that the President had become so expert that he could detect a bride at the first glance. This particular bride declared that she had endeavored to conceal the fact from observers that she was a bride, and flattered herself that her efforts had been successful. She was convinced that the President would not be able to detect her. "You cannot deceive the President," said the correspondent. "He has not failed in a single instance since he was married."

A visit was made to the Treasury Department to occupy the time intervening before the hour appointed for the reception. The correspondent seized an opportunity, and wrote a note to Col. Lamont, informing that shrewd attaché of the result of this conversation, and that it was his purpose to attend the public reception with his newly married friends. Lamont was requested to notify the President and request him to identify the young lady as a bride. The party reached the White House in good season, and, at the suggestion of the correspondent, they seated themselves on a sofa in the East Room, and watched the other visitors pass and greet the President. Taking their places at the tail of the line, the party was soon in front of the President, when the correspondent presented his friends. Grasping the lady's hand, the President said: "Mrs. ——. I am pleased to see you, and desire to present my congratulations on your recent marriage. We have not had the usual number of brides among the callers to-day. I think you are only the fourth; but the scarcity in numbers is compensated for by the beauty and attractiveness of the few who to-day favored us."

The young lady was so completely surprised with the kindly speech and manner of the President, as well as by his identification, that she could make no reply, and passed speechless to the vestibule, where she burst into tears. She charged the correspondent with revealing to the President that she was a bride, a charge which he effectually combated by referring to the fact that he not been out of her sight and hearing during the entire morning. Recovering her composure she upraided herself for stupidity in not making proper acknowledgment of the President's cordial greeting, and expressed the greatest surprise at the wonderful power of discernment he exhibited. In this she was not more surprised than her husband.

Six Coveted Electoral Votes.

From the Baltimore Gun.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—One purpose of the Republicans in the next session of Congress is to leave no effort untried for the admission as States of two or more of the Republican Territories. If Dakota and Washington Territories are admitted the Republicans could count with the utmost confidence upon six more Republican electoral votes. Bills for the admission of both of these Territories will be pressed to an early passage in the Senate, and a tremendous effort will then be made to create a public sentiment which will induce or compel the House to take favorable action.

In 1876 the Democratic House passed the bill to admit Colorado, in the chief that it would be a Democratic State. There is no doubt the Democrats were cleverly outwitted by the Republicans on that occasion. They will not be inclined to assist in creating new Republican States and perpetuating Republican dominion in the Senate, unless there are some excellent reasons of a general character for it. If Colorado had not been admitted in 1876, the electoral votes which were stolen for the benefit of Hayes would have done him no good. The enthusiasm of the Republican Senate for the admission of new States is apt, therefore, to be met with indifference by the Democratic House, at least until after the Presidential election.

President Depew's Swift Ride.

From the Albany Journal.

It makes the calmest spirit dizzy to contemplate the startling speed attained by the train carrying President Depew, directors, and other officials of the Central-Hudson Railroad on the recent tour of inspection of the Central and West Shore roads. The speed can be inspected from a train running at the rate of 60 miles an hour surpasses the comprehension of the ordinary traveller, who is grateful if he can make 35 miles an hour on a first-class ticket. The inspectors' train was composed of four cars. The train was run on "limited" time between New York and Buffalo. The Chicago limited express makes this run in 11½ hours. In returning Saturday via the West Shore the train averaged 57 miles an hour from Buffalo to New York. The scenery along the West Shore route between Canajoharie and Downing station is very picturesque. The distance between stations is seven miles. This run was made in six minutes, and the run from Buffalo to New York occupied only 10 hours, being 1½ hours less time than is required for the Chicago limited to cover the same distance. General Manager Layng of the West Shore undoubtedly gave the officials of the Central-Hudson the fastest trip of inspection on record.

Commended by Two Labor Leaders.

From the Albany Argus.

Gov. Hill yesterday received the telegrams we present below. Chief P. M. Arthur is well known as being the head of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers of the United States, while C. S. Wheaton is at the head of the Order of Railroad Conductors of the United States. These two organizations are a power, and took an active part in securing the appointment of Michael Rickard. The telegrams are as follows:

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Nov. 21, 1887.

To His Excellency Gov. D. B. Hill of New York, Albany:

Please accept the thanks of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers for the appointment of Mr. Rickard as Railroad Commissioner. P. M. ARTHUR.

CHICAGO, Nov. 21, 1887.

To Hon. D. B. Hill, Executive Chamber, Albany:

Please accept the sincere thanks of our order on the appointment of Mr. Rickard. C. S. WHEATON, G. C. C.

Another Hungry Joe Come to Grief.

From the St. Paul Globe.

Among the hackmen in town is a fellow who drives out of Danzenbern's barn, who is known by the name of Hungry Joe, from certain hoggish propensities he has always shown. It is needless to say that Hungry Joe is unpopular among his brother workmen, and a good deal of their time is spent getting up jokes on Joe. Wednesday night he was particularly unpleasant in his behavior, so one of the boys, catching him in the Nicollet House lobby at midnight, ran over to a restaurant and telephoned a hack was wanted at 1,700 Third avenue south. Joe waltzed to the 'phone, winked, smiled, and jumped on his hack to catch the order. When he got out to the block he woke half the people up banging at doors, and got cursed and sworn at more times in an hour than he had all his life previously. Finally it dawned on his mind that he had been sold, and yesterday there was not a madder man in the city than Hungry Joe, the hackman, who got left for being too funny.

A Souvenir of a Tremendous Tragedy.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—Although it was a disposal of the effects of Henry Ward Beecher, little interest was excited outside of his personal friends, who attended for the purpose of buying souvenirs. Books and bric-a-brac went, one after another, until a tiny, paper-bound copy of Mrs. Browning's poems was offered. The auctioneer regarded it carelessly, but one person present had discovered written on a fly leaf, "Theodore Tilton to