LIVE WASHINGTON TOPICS.

GEN. ALGER OF MICHIGAN SOON TO HAVE A SON-IN-LAW.

A Newspaper Writer from Boston Has Won the Heart of the Millionaire's Daughter and He Has Given His Consent to the Match—Civil Service Commissioner Roosevelt Gives His Opinion of Frank Hatton in Picturesque Language.

WASHINGTON, June 22.—The travelling companion of First Assistant Postmaster-General Clarkson in his trip to the Northwest in search of information as to the needs of the postal service, which he will utilize by resigning his office immediately upon his return to Washington, is young Mr. Morton Mitchell, a nephew of the Vice-President and a staff correspondent of the Boston *Herald*. Mr. Mitchell is not making a visit to the Western States purely on professional business any more than Col. Clarkson is. There is a very interesting little romance connected with the friendship of these two gentlemen which will particularly interest the people of Boston and Michigan.

Col. Clarkson chose his travelling companion at the suggestion of Gen. Alger, who will before the snow flies bear the relation of fond parent to the cultured and handsome young gentleman from the hub. Mr. Morton Mitchell and Miss Fay Alger are engaged to be married, and have received the blessings of their parents on their contemplated union. Col. Clarkson is the responsible agent in the matter. It was at a dinner party given in his handsome home on Dupont circle, one evening last winter, that Mr. Mitchell met Miss Alger, and the engagement is the result. After a few months of courtship Mr. Mitchell summoned up courage to apply to Gen. Alger for the honor of his daughter's hand, and, while it was not granted, the General told the young suitor that if at the end of the year he and his daughter were of the same mind he would be glad to give them his blessing and anything else that they might stand in need of. Soon after this brief but satisfactory interview between the old gentleman and the young one, the state of things was made known to Miss Alger's intimate friends at a luncheon in her father's house at Detroit.

Mr. Morton Mitchell is a fine specimen of the college-bred Bostonian. He is a graduate of Harvard, belongs to one of the oldest and best known families in the State, and has travelled extensively in Europe and in the United States. In fact much of his time has been spent abroad, and he was educated mainly in Germany and France. On leaving college he joined the staff of the Boston *Herald*, and has done creditable work in various fields since that time. Last fall he accompanied the personally conducted excursion of the State Department given to the delegates to the Pan-American Conference in the capacity of correspondent for the *Herald*. He therefore had an opportunity to spend several days in Michigan, and found time to make a brief visit to the home of his intended. Upon the conclusion of this famous trip of the South American delegates Mr. Mitchell came to Washington, and during the winter wrote many interesting letters to his paper. He became a member of the fashionable Metropolitan Club and spent his evenings mainly in society. The stories which he sent to the *Herald* related not so much to Congressional and political matters as to interesting gossip circulating in the clubs and drawing rooms of the West End. Mr. Mitchell is about 30 years of age, tall and well formed, with wavy brown hair, parted in the middle, a smooth-shaven face, and an English accent. He wears eyeglasses, and has a studious, refined appearance well becoming a resident of Boston. A stranger might put him down for an Englishman, but he is thoroughly an American, except for the foreign training which he received in his boyhood days.

It is whispered about among Mr. Mitchell's friends in this city that several young men in Detroit have paid the hand of Miss Alger's hand, but none of them could stand before the attractions of the young man from the East. Gen. Alger himself, although typically a Western man, and one in whose bonnet the Presidential bee occasionally buzzes and louder as 1892 approaches, has always had a warm spot in his heart for Boston. One of the most creditable acts of his brief political career was the speech which he delivered on the subject of the tariff before the Home Market Club in Boston a year or so ago. The speech made quite a hit and was well received. It is not impossible, therefore, that the General's willingness to have his daughter ally herself with a distinguished Massachusetts family may have been influenced somewhat by the hope that in the cause of his daughter's happiness he may find support for his political ambitions. At any rate the union of the daughter of the Western self-made man, whom Chauncey Depew referred to abroad as a genuine Yankee specimen, and the son of a family representing all the traditions, culture, and refinement of the East, is an interesting topic of discussion as showing how rapidly the lines of social distinction that have heretofore marked a barrier between the old East and the new West are being obliterated by the push and energy of the wealthy men in the states that but a few years ago were regarded as on the edge of civilization.

No date has been fixed as yet for the wedding of Miss Alger and Mr. Mitchell, but it is likely to take place in Detroit next winter, and will be an event of social importance that will long be remembered by the inhabitants of that beautiful and historic old French town.

The Fortification bill, which is now in conference, contains a Senate amendment providing for the erection of a counterpoise battery, for which $10,000 is to be appropriated. The Fortification bill two years ago contained a similar provision, and directed that the battery should be constructed by the inventor under the direction of the Board of Ordnance and Fortifications. The Board conscientiously endeavored to carry out the provisions of the item, and from time to time urged the inventor, Col. Beverly Kennon, to submit his plans and specifications. To expedite the work an allowance of $10 a day was given to him. This allowance the inventor sedulously drew for nearly nine months without responding to the continued calls made by the Board to furnish the necessary details to enable the work to be begun. The site chosen for this novel battery, which was to revolutionize all modern ideas of defence, was Fort Hamilton. According to the explanation of the model exhibited it was only necessary to scoop a hole in the earth and therein build a staging which would support a platform upon which the gun was to be placed. The platform was to be arranged so that it could be easily lowered or raised by a system of nicely adjusted weights and pulleys. When it was necessary to load the gun the platform could be lowered, and the operation performed under cover of an impregnable covering of earth. The idea was so simple that the Board met with approval by all economy Ordnance Department. It was claimed by Col. Kennon that he successfully planned and operated a similar battery while in the Khedive's army, at the bombardment of Alexandria. The appropriation lapsed, and the Board said that a careful estimate made upon the plans submitted by the inventor would call for the expenditure of a larger sum than originally appropriated. From time to time Congress has demonstrated its ignorance and inability in dealing with subjects of this kind, and it was hoped that when the Board of Fortifications was created such measures would be dealt with by experienced and competent men. Its existence is somewhat contracted when its recommendations are departed from so radically.

To-morrow will be District day in the House, but whether the day will be given up to matters of local interest depends on the Coinage Committee. If it should be ready to report upon the Senate amendments to the Silver bill, there are indications that the Committee on Rules will be ready in turn to see that the report secures speedy consideration in the House. It is also probable that by Tuesday morning the same committee will report a rule making the National Election bill a special order for the remainder of the week. If this order is adopted it will probably be one of the most exciting and bitter partisan debates witnessed in recent years.

A political debate may also occur in the Senate this week upon the bill for the admission of Wyoming into the Union, which is the first order of business. When it comes up the Democrats will offer a substitute in the shape of an omnibus bill, providing for enabling acts for Wyoming, Idaho, Arizona and New Mexico. The Territorial bill will have to give way, however, for the consideration of appropriation bills, the Committee on Appropriations being determined to pass these measures as rapidly as possible. The Legislative and Consular and Post Office bills are now on the Senate calendar, and the committee expect to be able to report the Agricultural, Indian, and Sundry Civil bills before the end of the week. Two of the bills, and probably three, will be disposed of by the Senate in the next six days. If opportunity offers, Senator Frye will make an effort to have his shipping bills considered, and, if that fails, then he will press the River and Harbor bill in order to have it out of the way before the Tariff bill shall be taken up. Senator Davis will probably have the conference report on the Dependent Pension bill considered early in the week. A part of Thursday afternoon is to be devoted to the delivery of eulogies upon the late representative Cox.

All except one of the fourteen regular appropriation bills have been acted on in one or both Houses of Congress. Only two of the thirteen, however—the Army and Military Academy bills—have passed both Houses and been approved by the President, and are now laws. The condition of the remaining eleven is as follows:

The Naval, District of Columbia, and the Pension Appropriation bills have passed both Houses and are now in conference; the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial and the Fortifications bills have passed both Houses and are ready for conference, although the conference committees have not yet been appointed; the Post Office, Consular and Diplomatic, and River and Harbor bills have passed the House, been reported to the Senate with amendments by the Senate committees having them in charge, and are now awaiting action by that body; the Agricultural, Sundry Civil, and Indian bills have passed the House and are now being considered by the Senate Appropriations Committee. The General Deficiency Appropriation bill is the only one that has not yet been considered by either body. It not having been reported from the House Appropriations Committee.

Almost 400 bills, the larger portion being House bills, have been sent to the President since the opening of Congress for his action.

Senator Morgan of Alabama is reported as having said that if his voice and endurance could prevent it, no Federal election bill should pass the Senate. His colleague, Senator Pugh, said substantially the same thing on the floor of the Senate, and Senator Gorman, the caucus Chairman, is reported as having said: "The Federal Election bill will never pass the Senate." The Republican leaders of the House have little hope of getting their Election bill through that body. Cabot Lodge, the champion of this bill, says: "We shall pass it in the House. What the Senate will do is a mystery now and at all times."

It is asserted that an intimation has been made to Commissioner Lyman of the Civil Service Commission that his resignation would be acceptable, and that in the event of his not taking the hint a successor could be named without the formality of a written request for his resignation. Mr. Lyman is the unfortunate gentleman who had too many relatives, one of whom, in a moment of weakness, he put into an office. The relative turned out badly, and Mr. Lyman, who has been a hard-working official of the Civil service Commission ever since its foundation and really the moving spirit of the concern, is likely to find his official days cut short.

The State Department recently received a letter suggesting that the squadron of evolution be sent to the coast of Africa, on the ground that American interests in the Congo State demanded protection. The letter was signed Earl English. Mr. Blaine referred this communication to the Navy Department, and it is said that Secretary Tracy has declined to pay any attention to it. Earl English is an Admiral on the retired list of the navy, at present living in Culpeper, Va. It has been represented to the Secretary of the Navy, by bureau officers who claim to be familiar with the circumstances, that Admiral English's suggestion is born of a desire for revenge on Admiral Walker. In 1884 Admiral English was in command of the European station, having the Lancaster as a flagship. While at Nice the officers of the squadron made quite a reputation for sociability, and reports reached the Navy Department regarding their conduct. Friends of secretary Chandler wrote him that he was being openly criticised by the naval officers, who, it was said, did not hesitate to apply to him harsh epithets. The statements were confirmed by official reports to the State Department. Mr. Chandler was greatly angered at the conduct of the officers and at the lack of discipline among Admiral English's minor associates, and he prepared orders detaching Admiral English and ordering him home, with a reprimand. Commodore Walker, then chief of the Bureau of Navigation, used his influence in behalf of English, and pleaded that officer's excellent record as evidence of his loyalty. Secretary Chandler, however, transferred Admiral English from the European to the South Atlantic station. The reason for this transfer never before has been divulged. Admiral English, according to the officer quoted, has evidently credited Admiral Walker with inspiring this transfer, but he affirms that it was through Walker's influence that he did not suffer greater punishment. Commodore Ramsay succeeds the white squadron will remain on the South Atlantic station until fall, perhaps, and then come north, unless unforeseen circumstances arise demanding the presence of the fleet in another part of the world. There is no intention, he said yesterday, to send the squadron to Africa.

The fierce attack which was made upon the Civil Service Commission, mainly through the columns of the Washington *Post*, of which Mr. Frank Hatton is the editor, and which led to the recent investigation by a committee of the House, has naturally tended to leave with Mr. Roosevelt, the belligerant member of the Commission, a rather unfavorable personal estimate of Mr. Hatton. Mr. Roosevelt is always picturesque in his use of language and when his theme is the editor of the *Post* this quality is vividly displayed. In speaking to-day of Mr. Hatton's connection with the investigation, he said:

"One of the comical features of Mr. Frank Hatton's attack upon the Civil Service Commission, as at present constituted, has been his flinching when before the committee. The first night the committee met I took the chance to tell him officially, addressing the committee, that his statements were unpalliated falsehoods, and that having uttered them rendered him infamous. He did not resent the intimation further than by turning a dull greenish white. It was well known that I intended to handle him roughly when I made my final argument before the committee, accordingly he did not dare to be present, but actually bolted like a rabbit and ran away out of town. It was the first meeting of the committee he had missed. Mr. Hatton will never be able to do all the mischief to which his malignity prompts him, for he lacks the requisite physical courage. He is fond of speaking of the new Civil service system as a chinee, but really his method of warfare is itself not remotely akin to that which is popularly believed to obtain in the Flowery Kingdom. The Chinese soldier is said to rely largely on making faces, beating gongs, and exploding hand grenades of evil odor; feats which, together with other peculiarities, make him unpleasant rather than formidable. He is noisy and noisome, but he is ineffective. Similarly Mr. Hatton's characteristics are fitted rather to render him an offensive companion than a dangerous enemy."

THE SENATE TARIFF BILL.

Effect on the Customs as Compared With The House Bill and Existing Law.

WASHINGTON, June 22.—The statement of the effects on the customs receipts of the Tariff bill as reported by the Senate Finance Committee has been completed and, with the reasons of the committee for recommending its proposed changes in the bill as it passed the House, will probably be submitted to the Senate to-morrow. Counting each paragraph stricken out of the House bill as a change, there were just three hundred changes made by the Senate Finance Committee. The reasons given generally are brief, and consist of the statement that the rate proposed is believed to afford sufficient protection. In the cases of changes of importance the motives that actuated the committee are given at some length.

The tables accompanying the statement, showing the estimated revenues under the proposed rates, together with comparisons with existing rates and those proposed in the House bill, were prepared by Mr. Evans, the Treasury expert, and Mr. Burtoe, the committee's clerk. These show that the amount of duties collected in 1889 upon the importation of all articles made dutiable in the House bill and the amendments proposed by the Senate, was $1,030,446,945. The duties estimated under the House bill amount to $896,319,097; under the bill as amended by the Senate, $902,853,002. The equivalent ad valorem rate under the House bill is 52.30 per cent.; under the Senate bill, 51.97 per cent. The reduction of revenue by the transfer of articles to the free list in the House bill (including $10,422,878 reduction of internal revenue taxes stricken out by the Senate Finance Committee) is estimated at $71,064,774; by transfer of articles to the free list in the Senate bill the reduction of revenue is estimated at $67,593,945.

A foot note to the recapitulation says: "These tables are prepared upon the plan and theory usually followed; the estimates are largely conjectural, and more or less unreliable and misleading. They are based upon the assumption that the bill should become a law, merchandise of like quantity and values would be imported as was imported during the fiscal year 1889. This basis can only be accepted as reliable where changes in rates are not of such a character as to necessarily cause increased or diminished importation. The reduction above given of $71,064,774 by the House bill and $67,593,943 by the Senate bill appears to be certain, but if the imports should be the same as last year under the new rates the reduction would amount under the House bill to $26,128,642; under the Senate to $26,318,953."

Mr. Peters's Women of the Old Testament.

The Rev. Madison C. Peters of the Bloomingdale Reformed Church, whom a Philadelphia despatch accuses of plagiarism, has been preaching a series of sermons on "Women of the Old Testament." A member of his congregation wrote to THE SUN that Mr. Peters had drawn largely from Wharton's "Famous Women of the Old Testament" for these discourses. Last evening Mr. Peters's text was "Hannah the Sick Mother," after listening to part of the sermon THE SUN reporter borrowed from Mr. Peters a copy of "Famous Women" and found that the chapter on "Hannah" had been pretty freely drawn upon.

Mr. Peters said that he had unquestionably made use of Mr. Wharton's book and of other books, and saw no reason why he should not do so.

DEATH CARRYING THEM OFF.

A Startling Record of Mortality Among Connecticut Old People.

WILLIMANTIC, June 22.—The wand of death has touched many notable persons in the band of Connecticut old people in the past ten days. Almost all of them had reached fourscore years, and some had attained about a century of life. Never before, probably, in the history of the State was the mortality for so brief a time so large among the very aged as it has been since the beginning of the year.

In Middletown Uncle Harry Freeman, a fine old colored man, whom every one knew and respected, died, at 90 years of age. For three years his health had gradually failed, and finally he had fainting spells, which, Uncle Harry said, were "bound to finish the old man, sure." He was the son of Ishmael Freeman, a slave, but Harry was born free. When he was 17 years old he was taken by the Alsop family of Middletown for a servant, and thereafter spent his whole life with them until he became too feeble to work. Harry was born on Christmas day in the morning, and was always proud of that fact. He left a wife, a third one, but no children. He owned the place whereon he dwelt and was prosperous. Always active and industrious, he had hobbled down town with a cane for many years, and, when no longer able to walk, rode there daily in a carriage. His sister, Mrs. Rachel Penny, died last winter, about as old as he was. Another sister died at 95 years of age.

Here is a list of old folks who have died within a few days at 90 or more years of age: Prentice Comstock, Niantic, 91 years old; the Rev. Joseph Sessions, Chaplin, 90; Mrs. Nancy Eldridge, Upper Mystic, 95; Esther Seamans Mathewson, Putnam, 91; Mrs. Sally Nettleton, Killingworth, 98; Henry Brown, Mansfield Centre, 92 years 6 months; Julia Wilson, Hartford, 92. Henry Brown was the oldest man in his town, and had been a member of the Mansfield Centre Church for fifty-two years. Until this year he had never been absent once from Sunday services in the church in that period. Prentice Nettleson, also, was a man of unvarying habits, and had never been sick in his long life until his fatal illness. His wife survives him at Giant's Neck, Niantic, 94 years of age. Her three sons, one of them 76 years old, and her son-in-law, Mr. Loomis, were the pall bearers at her husband's funeral.

Still more notable was the death of Mrs. Abigail Judd, who died at the home of her daughter-in-law, on Cedar street, in New Britain, and who was born in Kensington in 1796. Several years ago Mrs. Judd became deaf and nearly blind, but she retained her wonted vigor and cheery spirits until the end.

In Mansfield, a beautiful hamlet in high and rugged Tolland county, Lyman Barrows is dead, at 81 years of age. Ralph Wallace of Hartford, who died, aged 77 years, was the oldest Irish resident of that town. He had dwelt at the capital for half a century, and was the founder of the fire business there. Capt. Frank Peck of Ledyard, Mystic village, among the forests of East Haddam, died, aged 79 years. Mary A. Bacon is dead at Danielsonville, aged 80 years; Ebenezer Gay Whiton, a prominent politician, at West Stafford, aged 77; Capt. Richard Burnet, an old-time seaman, at Burnet's Corners, aged 80; Smith Brown of Clark's Falls, North Stonington, 81; William H. Hancock, ex-City Councilman of New Haven, 75; Erasmus French, mechanic and inventor of Waterbury, 76.

Dr. Ashbel Bates, a respectable physician of Wallingford, who has had many narrow escapes from death, died at 76 years of age. Mason S. Kendall of Ashford is dead, aged 78 years. In Mr. Kendall's neighborhood, which is a wonderfully healthful one, are sixteen persons who have passed three score and ten years, and all are in vigorous health and glowing spirits. Massina Clark, a prominent real estate dealer, died in New Haven, aged 70 years.

Several aged persons died in a sudden and startling way. Alfred Bennett, of Hall of Stafordville, dropped dead while on his way from the house to his barn. J. M. Harris of Amherst, Mass., 70 years old, a famous maker of concrete walks, while visiting at Stafford Springs, died quietly in his easy chair in the sitting room of the Stafford Springs House. After dinner he took a seat in the breezy room and gazed into the street. Scores of people passed and repassed within a few feet. An hour passed, and some one saw that Mr. Harris sat very quietly in his reflective position, and approached him. He was dead.

Ira Holman Bates, 75 years old, fell dead near his home at West Thompson. Oliver Fox died very suddenly at Columbia. He was driving along the street, and some one saw him fall backward while the horse trotted leisurely on. He was dead before passers-by reached his side. He was 79 years old. Mrs. E. F. Brihan died almost instantly at Middletown. Mrs. Edie Cone of East Haddam, 76 years of age, a confirmed invalid, died in her chair, her hands crossed in her lap, and without a sign of a struggle. A gentle smile illuminated her face for several hours after her death. She had been hopelessly ill for many years.

VENTILATING THE STATE CAPITOL.

The Work of the Man-on-the-Roof-with-a-Cannon-Ball Interrupted.

ALBANY, June 22.—Workmen are busily employed about the Capitol in following out the plans of the State Board of Health for ventilating the building. It was difficult to locate the many flues opening into the chimneys. As it was necessary to find just where each one began and ended, and no one about the building knew just where they are, the expedient of fastening a cannon ball to a long rope and dropping it down each chimney was hit upon.

This has proved very successful, but in its operation it has carried temporary consternation into nearly all of the department offices. It is difficult for the clerks in the various apartments to keep from jumping when the ball of iron goes rattling down the flue beside their desks; but when the man on the roof drops it fifty or 100 feet, and it comes bounding out through a fireplace into an office, banging up against a desk or the shins of the nearest State official, and scattering a cloud of soot over everything, the effect is somewhat startling.

The man on the roof with a cannon ball has has had it all his own way for a number of days, but one day last week he came to grief. He sent his little projectile bounding down a chimney on the north side of the Capitol, and a moment later the clerks in the corporation department of the Secretary of State's office were enveloped in a cloud of soot as the ball bounded through the fireplace and knocked the splendid furniture to pieces. The clerks recovered from their astonishment in time to see the ball beating a retreat up the chimney, and quickly laid hold of the rope. The man above tugged, and all below hung on with a will. The clerks succeeded in tying the ball to a heavy piece of furniture, and sat down to laugh at the man's attempts to pull it up the chimney. It was a number of hours before the cause of the solid shot's delay in coming up the chimney was discovered, as no one at work on the roof could tell where the ball had gone, and a search of all the offices on that side of the big building had to be made. When it was found there were some emphatic words used, but who it was that tied up the shot could not be ascertained.

TIED HAND AND FOOT.

Invoice Clerk Hewitt Van Marter Found Drowned in Trenton.

TRENTON, June 22.—The body of Hewitt Van Marter, 29 years old, was found in the Trenton water power this morning. His left wrist was fastened with a string to both his ankles. He was an invoice clerk at the Mercer pottery. He disappeared last Wednesday. On the back of a torn envelope he had written that he was unworthy of burial, and asked that his remains be not interred. In another note found upon his person he directed that $25 be paid as a reward for the finder of the body. Coroner Bower is in possession of a sealed letter also found on the suicide addressed to Miss Minetta Heidweiler, a typewriter in the office of Knight & Guichtel, stenographers. She was absent when the Coroner called at her house to-day. As no reason for the suicide is known, the Coroner thinks that probably the letter to Miss Heidweiler may throw light on the case.

Van Marter was respectably connected and bore a good reputation. At the Mercer pottery he was a favorite employee. He was an expert swimmer, and undoubtedly he bound his hand and ankles together the better to accomplish his purpose. From remarks he made to different persons just before his disappearance it is judged that he had already planned his death. His parents live in Ringoes, N. J.

Railroad and Other Property Damaged by a Cloudburst.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., June 22.—A cloudburst crossed the Ohio River, thirty miles above here, last night, reaching to Wheeling. It washed out railroads, destroyed fences and crops, and carried off many thousand dollars' worth of timber and other property. Trains on the Ohio River Railroad were detained twenty-four hours by breaks and washouts near Belmont. From above Belmont the track of the storm ran across the State, crossing the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad near Central, where it cut that road in two places, making wide gaps and detaining trains twelve hours. Reports of damage are coming in from all along the track of the storm, stating that many thousand dollars' worth of property was destroyed and crops ruined.

PLEDGED NOT TO STRIKE.

SECEDERS FROM THE ORDER OF RAILWAY CONDUCTORS ORGANIZE.

Bound to Resist in the East the Progress of Western Ideas and Federationism Among Railway Men—Causes of the Split

The fight that has been going on in the ranks of the Order of Railway Conductors culminated yesterday with the establishment of a new organization called the Independent Order of Railway Conductors. The seceders who formed it met at the Coleman House, in this city, and more than fifty divisions were represented. It will be recalled that at the May Convention of the Order of Railway Conductors in Rochester sixty-five delegates stood out against the abolition of the "non-strike" clause in the constitution. There was a hot time in the Convention, but a majority of over 200 decided in favor of strikes, and a committee was appointed to consider the practicability of federating with other railroad organizations. The opponents of strikes distinguished themselves by donning badges consisting of blue ribbons with this inscription in in gilt letters: "65—True Blue—Never!" When they lost the day several of them telegraphed home advising their divisions to forfeit their charters immediately. The divisions that did so have had a world of trouble since, as will be explained later. The members have quarrelled with one another and the divisions themselves are split up.

C. S. WHEATON.

The new brotherhood will make the fourth of its kind. There was a fifth association, but that is defunct. It was the first association of the kind among the conductors and was called the Railroad Passenger Conductors' Association. It was organized shortly after the war. One of the existing four is purely an insurance association and doesn't interfere with the relations between companies and employees. It is the "Old Reliable" Railroad Conductors' Life Insurance Association and it is considered the best of all.

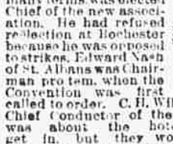
S. S. CLARK.

Then there is the Brotherhood of Railroad Conductors which is confined principally to the far West. It numbers about 2,000, and it split off from the Order of Railway Conductors two years ago because it wanted a striking organization, and the vast majority of the Order of Railway Conductors wasn't in favor of strikes at that time. There has been a good deal of strife between the two associations, but they will coalesce again, now that the parent order is on the strike basis.

W. P. DANIELS.

The order that was born yesterday represents the last remnant to hold out against the mighty wave that has engulfed every railroad organization in the country, except the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. There seems to be no doubt that that association will go over to the strike basis at its next Convention, leaving a remnant in the East, like that of the conductors, which will organize a new brotherhood opposed to strikes.

The Order of Railway Conductors had a membership of about 15,000 up to the last Convention. The secessionists, who will join the new Independent Order of Railway Conductors, number about 2,000, and they expect to increase this. There were 60 or 70 delegates present yesterday at the Coleman House. C. S. Wheaton, who was Grand Chief Conductor of the old order for many terms was elected Chief of the new association. He had refused reelection at Rochester because he was opposed to strikes. Edward Sash was made Chairman pro tem. when the Convention was first called to order. C. H. Wilkins, Assistant Grand Chief Conductor of the present association, was about the hotel and was seen in but they wouldn't let him. Assistant Superintendent Frank Griffith of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad still retains an interest in the work of the conductors, and he was put on an important committee. Other prominent members who figured in the Rochester Convention and left the new association, were A. S. Ostrander of the New Haven division, and S. D. Chittenden of the D., L. and W. division. Chittenden had been a delegate to conventions four successive years, and he therefore went to the Rochester Convention as a delegate at large.

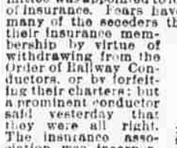

C. H. WILKINS.

A. S. OSTRANDER.

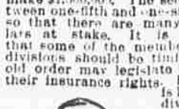
The simple clause which caused all the trouble was this. It was struck out of the old ritual and it was inserted in the ritual of the Independent Order of Railway Conductors yesterday:

"I will not engage in any strike of railway employees while I am a member of the order."

The new constitution doesn't differ much otherwise from that of the old order. A committee was appointed to look into a new scheme of insurance. Fears have been expressed by many of the seceders that they would lose their insurance members by virtue of withdrawing from the Order of Railway Conductors, or by forfeiting their charters; but a prominent conductor said yesterday that they were all right. The insurance association was incorporated, and as long as they kept up their assessments they had nothing to fear. About 4,000 belong to the insurance association. The assessments amount to about $40 a year, and the policy is for $2,500. Over $1,000,000 has been paid out every year. For ten years this would make $1,500,000. The seceders represent between one-fifth and one-sixth of the old order, so that there are many thousands of dollars at stake. It is natural, therefore, that some of the members of the seceding divisions should be timid knowing that the old order may legislate to deprive them of their insurance rights.


S. D. CHITTENDEN.

Hence a further split is likely in some of the divisions themselves. In Hoboken, for example, some of the old members will probably keep the charter, which was hastily surrendered just after the Convention by a vote of only 14. They have a membership of nearly one hundred. Many of them didn't know of the meeting. Assistant Grand Chief Conductor C. H. Wilkins was Hoboken last week trying to rally enough votes to keep the charter. He has been in New England, too, and he will save as many pieces as he can. There will be the novelty of rival associations on some of the railroads.


W. C. CROSS.

These were some of the prominent divisions represented yesterday: St. Albans, Portland, Providence, Worcester, Montreal, Toronto, St. Johns, N. F., New York 54, embracing New York Central and Long Island Railroad men, Hoboken, Jersey City, from the Pennsylvania and West Shore roads, New Haven, Hartford, Springfield, Bellows Falls, Fitchburg, Birmingham, Philadelphia, and Elmira. Some were represented by proxy. All subscribed to the new constitution and decided to bolt the old association.

H. STAPS.

The pictures of the leaders in the fight at the Convention are given herewith. E. K. Clark of Ogden, Utah, is the recently elected Grand Chief Conductor of the old Order of Railway Conductors. W. P. Daniels of Cedar Rapids has long been Grand Secretary of the old order, and he remains with it as its foremost man in fighting its enemies. He has published an article defending the latest step of the order and ruging down some of the secessionists. C. H. Wilkins, the Assistant Grand Chief Conductor, is from Chicago. Howard Evans of Schenectady and W. C. Cross of Burlington have attained prominence on the Executive Committee of the Order of Railway Conductors.

Next to C. S. Wheaton of Elmira, who was elected new Chief of the order, Messrs. Ostrander and Chittenden are as well known as any in the Independent Order of Railway Conductors. It hasn't yet been made known who the other officers are.

Minister Ryan Ill.

CITY OF MEXICO, June 22, via Galveston.—United States Minister Ryan is suffering from illness.

REFORM THE REFORMERS.

This is Dr. De Costa's Advice to Heber Newton's New Party.

"A Citizen of No Mean City," was the subject of the Rev. Dr. B. F. De Costa of the Church of St. John the Evangelist yesterday morning, and he paid his compliments to the recently organized Citizens' movement.

"There are two difficulties," said Dr. De Costa, "in the way of municipal reform. The first difficulty is that of finding genuine political reformers. A large proportion of the men in public life and in society are guilty of reprehensible conduct. In the list of prospective reformers we shall find men actually representing some of the worst elements, including many criminals now regarded as respectable because they have not been found out. We shall find among the reformers the bankrupt who has become rich through bankruptcy, the merchant who has thrived by swindling the customs, the real estate and railroad wrecker, the Stock and the Produce Exchange gambler tossing up for chances of people's bread, the politicians who spends his thousands in demoralizing the franchise, and the bloated philanthropist who pays his dues to charity organizations out of rents of dens of infamy and vice. We shall have the leprous debauchee, the adulterous millionaire. They will come to the reform virtuously excited against official offenders, and reformers of this kind will be encouraged in this crusade by preachers who look down from their pulpits on Sunday without daring to rebuke their sins, and who could profitable employ all their energies for some time to come in reforming themselves.

"Among other supporters of reform, we shall have the pious bookseller who pirates the works of unprotected authors and publishes them. The movement for municipal reform will have the support of that great Book Concern which began by publishing the holy thoughts of Thomas à Kempis, and has ended by sending out to the world a volume whose nudities disgust the editor of one of our daily newspapers, while the entire work was designed to rob Stanley of the just rewards of his African enterprise.

"I am sorry to present you with such a picture, but it is necessary. There is little difference between the present agitation and others that have gone before. In the main it represents in its last analysis the attack of the unscrupulous wealthy against an unscrupulous class who want to be wealthy. A large part of the strength of the movement is coming from Wall street and the exchanges. We are told that the exchanges are taking it up, and the exchanges conduct a large part of the gambling interests of New York. These gamblers sit openly in the churches and rule in social circles unrebuked, though we all know that there is no real difference between the operation of the executive and the bucket-shop and of sucidal Monte Carlo. The operators on Boards have two codes of morals—one for themselves and another for the municipality. What is wrong at the City Hall is right in Wall street.

"The first thing needed is the reform of the reformers. Let it be granted that the movement will result in the election of a Chief Executive who will be free from the influence of any political party. He is at the mercy of the Board of Aldermen, selected for the most part out of the worst elements. Occasionally the Board includes a new and capable man, but these run the risk of losing their character when they enter into such an organization. We must reform the Board or abolish it. Any successful municipal reform will demand a new charter, which shall take this power out of the hands of the vicious classes and entrusts the election of the Aldermen upon a general ticket instead of by wards, as now. The Mayor must have absolute power to name his appointees.

"The phrase 'Citizens' movement' has no irresistible charm, and may prove a mere will-o'-the-wisp," leading us into quagmires deeper than we have yet known. Let the Church do her duty, and there will be no need of municipal reform."

THE BIG FRAUD TRIALS.

Four of the Indicted Election Officers Must Face a Jury To-Day.

Thomas Fallon, Jacob Moschell, Thomas Hart, and George De Raney will be placed on trial in the Court of Sessions in Jersey City this morning on an indictment accusing them of conspiracy. They compose the Election Board of the First precinct, First district, in Jersey City, and are the first of the indicted election officers to be brought to trial. The three first named are Democrats. De Raney is a Republican. He is a chief clerk in the employ of Gen. John Ramsay, a Republican leader. The trial is the first of the kind in more than twenty years. The oldest inhabitant can hardly remember when an Election Board was tried for crime against the election laws.

For about two weeks the report has been circulated in Jersey City that De Raney has turned State's evidence and will appear as a witness for the prosecution. It was said yesterday that he might appear as a witness, but it will not be as a confessor to save himself. He told a SUN reporter recently that last fall was his first experience as an election officer. He was warned by Gen. Ramsay before he accepted the place, that it was a dangerous one. He was crooked and the other election officers would get the best of him unless he kept a sharp lookout. He was at his post all election day, and he thought things were going all right, but when the polls closed at night he found evidence of fraud.

"I couldn't believe my eyes," he said, "and I can't to this day understand how they did it. I've made up my mind that at election times one man can't watch three, and I'll never be an election officer again."

To prove their innocence of the charge against them the men tried to-day will have to explain how it was that more than 200 votes were cast and counted in their precinct than there were names in the poll book, how 116 joker ballots got into the box without anybody seeing them voted, and how it came that twenty names appeared on the poll list that were not on the registry list. Prosecutor Winfield says he is sure he can prove that the irregularities were the result of a conspiracy between the indicted men and other persons whose names are at present unknown. He says he will prove that the joker ballots were voted inside of regular ballots by repeaters; that the jokers were previously stamped so as to attract no attention when in the box as though they had been voted in the regular way. Those repeaters, he expects to prove, signalled the Election Board when they voted, and told how many votes they put in the box, so that a corresponding number of names might be written on the poll book. An effort will also be made by the Prosecutor to connect Democratic leaders with the crookedness, to prove that joker ballots were all stamped beforehand with stamps furnished by a Newark man, and that they were given out to "right" men the night before election at Democratic headquarters. The Newark man who is supposed to have furnished the stamps for the joker ballots disappeared from that city the night of the day that the first ballot box was opened by the Senate investigation committee in Trenton. He has not been seen in New Jersey since. It is said he had had the stamps made by a rubber stamp manufacturer in this city.

Among the witnesses who have been subpoenaed to testify to-day are Sheriff Davis, the Democratic leader, Dennis McLaughlin, the second ranking Democrat in the county, Assemblyman Byrne, City Collector O'Neill, the chairman of the City Democratic Committee, and Tax Commissioner Michael J. O'Donnell, the Chairman of the Democratic County Committee. It is thought the trial will last a week, and possibly longer.

Came to Court in the Stolen Shoes.

Jacob Herbert, a youngster of 17, with a sun-burned face stood as a prisoner before Justice O'Reilly in the Yorkville Police Court yesterday morning while Samuel Bloomberg, a shoe dealer at 883 Second avenue, told how the boy with two companions had sauntered past his store last Wednesday afternoon and snatched up three pairs of new shoes from a case on the sidewalk. They got away with their booty, but on Saturday night Bloomberg saw Herbert passing by his store and promptly knocked him down. Justice O'Reilly held the prisoner in $500 bail for trial, and Bloomberg was walking out of the court room when he saw two boys who resembled the men who seemed to be much interested in the proceedings. He recognized them as the companions of Herbert and one of the other officers followed them in. Two pair of the cast-off shoes much the worse for the three days' wear were found on the feet of these boys, and they met the same fate as Herbert.

Has Found Out What Temptation Is.

Charles Shay, a neatly dressed boy of 14, accompanied by a middle-aged woman, who wept a good deal, was a prisoner at Essex Market Police Court yesterday morning charged with stealing 75 cents from Christina Rohde's newspaper stand at 15 East Eighth street. A number of the boy's friends, including his Sunday school teacher, appeared to testify for him. He recognized them as the companions of Herbert and one of the other officers followed them in. Two pair of the cast-off shoes much the worse for the three days' wear were found on the feet of these boys, and they met the same fate as Herbert.

He Got a Hat.

Joseph Fairhurst, a Scotchman, arrived here on Friday on the City of Berlin. He left his luggage aboard the ship and got drunk ashore. On Saturday night he lost his hat. He says he tried to go aboard the City of Berlin to get another. He was found aboard the Tenton, a vessel of the opposite side of the pier, and was accused by two Hoboken policemen of breaking into the room and stealing the Derby hat. Fairhurst was arraigned at Jefferson Market Court yesterday morning and charged by the policemen with having mistaken the Tenonic for the City of Berlin and that he supposed he had taken his own hat. He showed his certificate as a chief engineer, and said that he was on his way to Charleston. Justice Hogan held him for examination to-day.

THE NORTH AMERICAN TURNERS.

Fourteenth Annual Convention of the Union Opens in This City.

Eight long double rows of clean-limbed, broad-shouldered German-Americans filled the big hall of the Central Turn Verein, in Sixty-seventh street, at the opening of the first session of the fourteenth Convention of the North American Turner Union yesterday morning. Among them were active and retired athletes of all ages and experiences, from the young men of 25 or 30, who had never seen the Fatherland, up to turners of 30, 40, and