The Sun.

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The Practical Solution of the Rapid Transit Problem.

The report of the very able Commission appointed by Mayor GRANT to consider the problem of rapid transit clearly demonstrates one fact, and this fact is that the proprietors of the existing elevated lines hold the key to the question, and possess a virtual monopoly of swift urban transportation in this city. They own the most available central routes, and what is equally important, if not more so, the one important terminus at the southern end of Manhattan Island; and they have fixed a rate of fare for the entire length of the city, which any new company must adopt, and which is so low that no line that is very costly to build or to operate, can be sure of living on it. Especially will this be found to hold true of any line which would have to buy its right of way for any considerable part of its length.

There are just two practicable methods of giving to this city the increased facilities of rapid transit which it requires. One of these is the construction of a subterraneous line under Broadway, where the company would not have to pay for the right of way, and the only extra expense would be for the construction of the necessary conduits for water works, gas pipes, telegraph wires, and the like. There a railway of four tracks might be built, two for through trains and two for way trains; and the structure might be lighted and ventilated in a way to obviate the objections which exist against ordinary underground railways, such as those in London. At the same time, the Broadway underground would afford a central and convenient line, not too expensive to be attractive to capitalists, with the restriction of a five-cent fare and no more.

The other method of meeting the exigency of the situation is simpler and easier and should first be taken in hand. It consists in changing the existing elevated lines into two-story structures. This would involve building them over anew and more substantially, so as to make them sufficient to support a system of way trains on the first floor and one of through trains on the second; and so as to remove the posts from the middle of the streets and place them out of the way on the curbstones.

Such an arrangement as this would do much more than double the present capacities of the elevated lines; and when it is supplemented with a four-track railroad under Broadway, we may count upon its answering the necessities of the metropolis for an indefinite period.

The Prospect in this City.

As the Republican voters of this city are fewer in number than the Democrats, it is their custom in political contests to make up the deficiency by vigorous and often picturesque combats respecting the question of their candidate for the office of Mayor. This year, just as heretofore, much excitement has been developed among them upon this question, although during the present generation but one Republican, Mr. GEORGE OPDYKE, has been elected Mayor of this town, and that happened nearly twenty-nine years ago.

It will not be pretended, even by a Reform Club statesman, whose monopoly of political ignorance and ingenuousness is so extensive as almost to prohibit rivalry in this regard, that the conditions of 1890 resemble those of 1861. The auguries are now as little favorable to the election of a Republican Mayor as at any previous time; and whatever the Democrats may do, it is a safe assertion that a straight-out Republican candidate would have no better chance of success than an Esquimaux girl in a beauty contest.

Nevertheless an active contest is in progress for the control of the Republican organization in this city. There are two opinions, one for a straight-out Republican nomination, the other for an alliance with any one or every one to defeat the dominant Democratic organization if possible. On the side of the straight-outs are twelve of the twenty-four districts, the least populous, the least important, and the least representative of Republican voters, but, at the same time, of largest individual wealth and the smallest party following. On the side of those favoring a coalition of some sort are about 75 per cent. of the Republican voters of the city.

So far as the decision of the Republicans is concerned, their own leaders are the best judges; but the Democrats also have a lively interest in the matter.

It is usually taken for granted that if the Republicans make straight-out municipal nominations, the dominant Democratic faction in New York will put up a straight ticket of its own; and those voters who are dissatisfied with either or with both will also have a ticket of their own. This would apparently solve the whole question of the canvass, and leave the people with scarcely any necessity for going to the polls. This view of the matter, however, is not based on sound reason, because it does not take into account conditions of which those who advocate it are apparently not aware.

In the first place, while it may be very easy for the Republicans to put up a straight-out municipal ticket, it will be found extremely difficult to get all Republicans to throw away their votes by supporting it. In the municipal contest of 1884 there were 45,000 Republicans who failed to support their straight-out Mayoralty candidate; in 1886, on a much smaller vote, 18,000 failed to support him; and in 1888 the discrepancy reached 33,000. Obviously a considerable number of Republicans do not vote for their party candidates in municipal contests; and the disconnected vote in such a year as the present would probably be fully one-half of the total.

In the second place, the operation of the new electoral law will, for the first year at least, place a premium upon odd and eccentric voting, and it will cause some losses to the regular organizations, Republican and Democratic. Although their hopes of success are certain to prove delusive, various independent organizations will be encouraged to go into this year's battle; and this will augment the floating and unattached vote should the dominant Democrats and the Republicans each put up a straight-out ticket. Even apart from the operation of the new electoral law, the independent vote this year will be unusually large, for there is no State ticket to be chosen, and party lines fall lightly.

In the third place, the multiplicity of offices to be filled is unusual. A Mayor, Comptroller, District Attorney, Sheriff, Judges, and a Coroner are to be chosen, and it does not stand to reason, the stake being so great, that the great bulk of the voters will listlessly and indifferently view the filling of these places of importance by voting for the tickets put up by the Democrats or the Republicans, or by remaining at home. That is against all experience.

The menace of an outside movement, such as this situation would make inevitable, would not be serious for the Republicans, who have little to gain and nothing to lose in the contest; but it would be serious to the Democrats, for an outside, unattached, irresponsible movement one year in advance of the election of Governor and two years in advance of the election of President, would if successful, compel such a readjustment of policies, men, and forces as to embarrass the Democracy in its stronghold.

What is much more likely is that there will be no straight-out ticket on either side. A union between the two Democratic factions on the one hand, and a union of all the forces opposed to them on the other, is much more probable, much less dangerous to the Democratic supremacy, and much more likely to realize the hopes of all well-regulated statesmen.

A Suggestion to College Preachers.

The sermons which it is customary to preach to the graduating classes of colleges, have now for the most part been delivered. They are words of counsel and warning addressed to the young men usually by clerical college Presidents; and from year to year they are about the same.

Their burden is that the training of the school is only the beginning of education; and unquestionably this is so. Some things can be learned best in boyhood, when the mind is most docile; but the great mass of the knowledge possessed by men is acquired through experience obtained only by long years of living in the world, and by continuous study and observation. There is no doubt about that. It has been said since the days of Job, and the college preachers can only vary the form of the statement. Still, we have no objection to its repetition every summer, though it is doubtful whether the boys profit to any great extent by the iteration. They will have to learn the lesson for themselves in the competition of life and under the lashing and spurring of the race upon which they will enter; and they will learn it in no other way.

But as our colleges now are, the young men are getting a preparation for the strife which is not less valuable than the spiritual and intellectual training upon which the preachers lay so great stress. It comes as the consequence of their own initiative, and because of their youth and abundant vitality. It is apart from the regular college curriculum, and has been maintained in spite of the early opposition of college faculties, continued in some cases to this day. While professors, clergymen, and philosophers have given exclusive attention to the development of their minds and hearts, the students themselves have bestowed more of their enthusiasm on the development of their bodies. They have elevated the athletic hero to the first place in the college world, and put mere intellectual accomplishment in a very subordinate rank. If the two go together, as they often do, so much the better; but if intellectual prowess is attained at the expense of physical strength, or in disregard of it, the result excites pity rather than the hearty admiration provoked by physical strength.

That is the rule in our present college society; and it is well that it is so. Thence this standard of estimation has extended to young men generally; for in this country physical training received its first impulse from the colleges, so that now there is no subject in which youth especially is so profoundly interested as the subject of manly sports and exercises. Consequently a radical change in the habits and ambitions of young men has taken place during the last generation. This republic begins to resemble ancient Greece in devotion to athletic exercises and its rejoicing over physical development and muscular perfection. The strong, enduring man has become the hero.

As a result of this newly awakened sentiment, the type of the race is much higher physically than it used to be, and the improvement shows itself in both men and women. They are both growing taller and of more symmetrical proportions; and yet the athletic movement is in its beginning only. It will tell more on the generations succeeding, for it did not extend through society generally until within a very few years. Now there is not a schoolboy who is not inflamed with emulation for athletic superiority, and whose chief heroes are not champions of strength and endurance.

Therefore the college preachers pass by a subject of prime interest and importance when they neglect to speak of the influence of colleges in developing a higher type of manhood in this country, higher not merely physically, but morally also. For athletic training necessitates self-control, self-denial, abstinence, correct habits, and the subjection of vicious tastes and propensities. It also generates self-respect, the consciousness of power, self-reliance, fortitude, courage, persistency, the habit of facing difficulties, and the capacity of husbanding every resource for a supreme effort. It fits a man for the struggle and strife of life, besides making him more valuable to society as a progenitor of the race. As his body strengthens, his mind also gains vigor.

Here is a subject for the clerical Presidents of colleges to preach upon, themselves so often suffering from the absence of such training in their student days. They know very well that athletic exercises are the very life of a college at the present day, and that instruction in them does more than even scholastic renown to fill its classes and swell its power. Why, then, should they not give to such a theme the commanding importance in their sermons to which it is entitled? Besides, they might say something fresher about it than they are accustomed to say about difficulty and slow progress that are met with in climbing the ladder of learning.

Confiscation.

On Saturday last the Senate passed without a division the bill confiscating to the use of the common schools of Utah all the property of the Mormon Church in that Territory. Only eight Senators, one of whom was Mr. TELLER, joined Senator BUTLER in supporting his amendment providing that the funds arising from the sale of the Mormon Church property should be devoted to the endowment of institutions of learning in which the doctrine and practice of plural marriages should not be taught, and which should be under the management of the General Board of Education of the Mormon Church, subject, however, to rules and regulations to be approved by the President. One would think that if the Government confiscated the property of the Church of JESUS CHRIST of Latter Day Saints, it would be only common fairness and decency to vest in representatives of that Church the funds arising from the confiscation. Only nine Senators took that view, and Mr. BUTLER withdrew his motion. Mr. PAYNE of Ohio voted with the Republicans.

Mr. VOORHEES moved to postpone the bill until the second Tuesday of next December. He contended with force that, while the property of the Mormon Church was still in litigation before the Supreme Court of the United States, it was premature to declare to what uses that property should be applied. The motion of Mr. VOORHEES was beaten by a vote of 25 to 20; a party vote, except that Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. PLUMB, and Mr. TELLER voted with the Democrats.

These three dissenting Republican Senators are to be congratulated upon having sufficient firmness and courage to resist the commands of Mr. EDMUNDS. We do not think that they will ever have cause to regret it, nor will the Democratic party deserve anything else than honor for resisting an oppressive and unjust measure. Let the Republicans get and keep all the credit they can from sentimentalists and fanatics for passing it. The Democratic party is true to the Constitution in refusing to punish religious opinion by confiscation. The Republicans attempt to divert attention from the real character of their proceeding by proposing to use for the maintenance of common schools in Utah the funds arising from the confiscation of the property held for church purposes by a part of the inhabitants of Utah. The virtuous attitude of the Republican party in the matter suggests a burglar who assumes airs of moral superiority because he has dropped a part of the swag into the contribution box.

The Church of Latter Day Saints has few friends anywhere, and perhaps none among enlightened men and women. Yet whatever have been its errors, its impostures, or its crimes, the mass of its believers have been honest men and women, industrious and thriving colonists. But had it been composed entirely of jailbirds, there would still have been no necessity and no excuse for confiscating their Church property. It is not right to do evil that good may come. The Republican party may yet have cause to regret that it has disregarded justice for a little cheap applause.

Mr. Quay's Convention.

The Hon. MATTHEW STANLEY QUAY will hold a State Republican Convention at Harrisburg to-day and nominate a State ticket. There has been an unusual amount of heat about the selection of delegates, and various kickers have threatened mutiny in certain contingencies against the Hon. GEORGE WALLACE DELAMATER, Mr. QUAY's favorite. Kicking has been the hardest and complaint the loudest. Perhaps Mr. QUAY has a certain sympathy with Mr. DELAMATER, against whose integrity as a public man serious charges have been brought. If Mr. QUAY wants to show his power and his indifference to the protests of his opponents in his party, he will nominate Mr. DELAMATER. The handsome Adjutant-General HASTINGS, who became famous after the Johnstown disaster, is supposed to be second on Mr. QUAY's list. But these two have been so conspicuous in their candidacy that the friends of each would perhaps be displeased at the other's success. Mr. QUAY may, therefore, deem it advisable lovingly to drop them both and take up Major MONTOOTH, a gentleman said to be without enemies and with the soldier vote.

There may be some hesitation in Mr. QUAY's mind under the circumstances. He can show his power by nominating his favorite, but in that case there is a possibility of a reduced vote. Will it not be better, he may ask himself, to nominate some fellow generally unobjectionable, put him in with a wild hurrah, strengthen the legislative ticket with a big dose of harmony, and get the whole credit himself? But the other way would give more mental colic to his enemies. Which will he take?

We suppose that the amount of space which is to be occupied by the Hon. W. L. SCOTT in the Democratic party of Pennsylvania during the next six months will have something to do with Mr. QUAY's decision. The Hon. DONALD CAMERON, whose successor will be chosen by the next Legislature, also has a considerable interest in Mr. QUAY's plans.

May the wind blow softly through the very handsome whiskers of Major JONES of the *St. Louis Republic* when he appears for marriage on the appointed day next month! We renew to him on this happy event the assurance of our most distinguished consideration.

Of all the Republican magnates now represented pretty generally as in a state of more or less rumpus with each other, the one who seems to rise the most commandingly over all particular antagonisms is THOMAS BRACKETT REED. In saying this we do not forget his very positive stand against his party colleagues who are after free silver coinage.

Brains and sand make the most irresistible combination known to politics.

The policy of the New York *World* is illustrated by some comments in our esteemed contemporary, the *New Haven Palladium*:

"The New York *World* printed President Dwight's baccalaureate sermon yesterday morning—before it was delivered. It is needless to say that the publication was wholly without his sanction, assistance, or knowledge. It is a mitigating feature in this instance that the *World*'s constituency among Yale men cannot be extensive.

"That the *World* did not use the copy sent it by the Associated Press (with the customary injunction, "Hold until released,") is irrelevant. The discourtesy and indecency lay in premature publication."

Dishonesty will be found invariably at the bottom of this disreputable journal's every sensational feature. Always either in the form of unadulterated falsehood, or of treacherous abuse of some decent person's confidence.

The Late Picture Sale in Brussels.

From the London Times.

At the sale of the pictures belonging to the late Senator Crabbe of Brussels, to-day at the Sedelmeyer gallery, the chief works sold were the following: "Buveur et Fumeur," by Van Ostade, put up at 3,000 francs, price paid, 5,100 francs; "Interior of a Kitchen," by David Teniers the younger, put up at 8,000 francs, sold at 7,000 francs; "Jeanne la Folle," by Galait, put up at 7,000 francs, knocked down at 9,050 francs; "Inside an Ale House," by Molin, put up at 10,000 francs, sold at 7,800 francs; "The Road," by Leys, put up at 12,000 francs, knocked down at 8,000 francs; "The Mendicants," by Decamps, put up at 8,000 francs, sold at 9,000 francs; "On the Shores of the Zuyder Zee," water color by Meissonier, put up at 12,000 francs, sold at 9,000 francs; "Winter in Holland," by Van Goyen, put up at 10,000 francs, sold at 9,000 francs; "The Dog and the Glass," by Joseph Stevens, put up at 8,000 francs, acquired by the Brussels Gallery at 10,050 francs; "A Young Girl," by Greuze, put up at 15,000 francs, sold at 17,500 francs; "Halt of an Arab Caravan," by Fromentin, put up at 3,000 francs, sold for 42,000 francs; "The Oaks," by Th. Rousseau, put up at 30,000 francs, sold for 34,000 francs; "Ophelia," by Alfred Stevens, put up at 25,000 francs, sold at 29,100 francs; his "Fedora," put up at 20,000 francs, sold at 5,000 francs; "The Tiger Hunt," by Eugène Delacroix, put up for 50,000 francs, went up to 70,000 francs; "Portrait of an Admiral," by Rembrandt, put up at 60,000 francs, went up to 106,000 francs.

And Never Had a Boom.

From the Springfield Republican.

New York's population is 1,627,227 according to Census Supervisor Murray, or an increase of over 400,000 since 1880. The Boston figures, according to the Globe, will approximate 417,720, which would show that New York has swallowed a population as great as the chief city of Massachusetts within ten years.

THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TROUBLE.

Hopes That It Is Over and That Its Recurrence Can Be Prevented.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—The investigation of the Tongue River disturbances by Major Carroll of the First Cavalry and Col. Curtis of the staff of Gov. Toole of Montana shows that the Indians have grievances as well as the whites. They complain that they get too little to eat; and if that be so, with scores of thousands of cattle on the ranches around the reservation, it is not surprising that a few of these cattle have lately been killed. Two or three years ago some of the Cheyennes went to Fort Keogh begging food, and at that time Col. Crofton, commanding the Fifteenth Infantry, made a report to the War Department asking to have relief extended to them.

The question of rations is involved with one of religion, or rather of fanatical fervor, as Porcupine represents himself to be the apostle of a new Saviour of the Indian race, and some of the Cheyennes give him credence. Next week a gathering and ceremonies are to be held, and Porcupine will address the assembly; and this may possibly renew the late troubles. It is very evident, however, that the intervention of the troops has had a good effect. There are about 900 Cheyennes on the reservation, but not more than 250 warriors; while four troops of cavalry and three companies of infantry have been sent there, and reinforcements from Fort Custer and Fort Keogh could have been supplied. It is true that there has been talk of Indians from Pine Ridge and Standing Rock going to aid the Cheyennes of Tongue River and the Rosebud, but it appears to have been unfounded.

Besides, the Cheyennes disclaim any purpose of going on the warpath and any hostility to the settlers. Although there have been rumors of murders and outrages of many kinds, the only man killed, so far as it now appears, was Robert Ferguson, and the circumstances attending his death are conjectural. Whether he quarrelled with Indians whom he met or whether they murdered him in cold blood is not yet certain. Conceding that his murderers were Cheyennes, the whole tribe can hardly be held answerable for the crime of a few; and since three Indians have been arrested on the charge of complicity in this affair their trial may throw all needed light on the matter.

One source of trouble, or at least of anxiety, comes from the fact that the Indians are armed. But so on the other hand are many of the settlers; and it is doubtful whether it would be practicable to strictly enforce disarmament. The Indians say that they are afraid of the cowboys, and have to go armed; and there is some reason for their apprehension. Although in response to the call of the settlers Gov. Toole sent from Helena 100 rifles and a large supply of ammunition, yet Col. Curtis took the precaution not to distribute these at once, but to keep them until they were known to be needed. The Cheyennes have thrown up what appear to be field defences, but that implies not necessarily hostility but a fear of attack.

The three things needed to insure peace appear to be the supply of adequate rations to the Indians, their confinement to the reservation, and the disarming of them. The authorities have promised to make proper representations about the food, and the Indians are said to have agreed to leave their rifles in their tepees, instead of constantly carrying them about. It seems hard to turn these savages into prison limits, but whenever the Indians are found outside the settlers become anxious for their families and their property, as is quite natural and inevitable. Recently the gathering of several hundred Indians on the White River for dancing and horse racing, following ration day, caused a panic among the settlers who spread a rumor of an Indian uprising, and on learning of this the red men stopped their sports and scattered. In like manner some of the gatherings of the Northern Cheyennes which have caused alarm may have been innocent in intent.

Still, it is no doubt true that this tribe is restless by nature and not easy to manage. They like to roam and to make and receive visits. They have bitter memories of the Indian Territory and of the slaughter at Camp Robinson. Their reservation seems not to be very favorable for farming, even could they be induced to devote themselves to that kind of work. The reservation is also not large enough for them to make a very profitable trade of the surplus, as has been the case with some tribes. But if it is true that they need more rations than they now receive, prudence as well as humanity demands that these wants should be supplied. One of the undoubted results of experience is that it is cheaper to feed Indians than to fight them.

THE HARLEM SHIP CANAL.

The Produce Exchange Asks that the Interests of the Railroads be Protected.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Senator HEAR, in behalf of Senator Evarts, who was absent, presented a petition to-day from the New York Produce Exchange urging that further appropriations for the Harlem River Canal be made contingent upon the consent of the State that railroads shall be permitted to raise their grades so as easily to pass over the bridges spanning the canal. The petition says:

"Rapid transit between the upper and lower parts of the city is a vital necessity to the growth and prosperity of New York. Every means of communication between New England and the West and our city should be kept open and increased. The Harlem River Canal, as projected, although of great importance to the commerce of New York, at the same time is of minor importance compared with such rapid transit within the boundaries of this city and communication between our city and New England and the West. The New York Produce Exchange believes that the projected enlargement of the Harlem River and Spuyten Duyvil Creek should be made dependent upon the railroads being carried across open bridges under conditions which will afford the least interruption to the transit of passengers into and out of New York city."

BROOKLYN'S POPULATION.

A Suggestion that Means be Taken to Verify the Government Figures.

Robert B. Sedgwick, the Supervisor of the Census in Brooklyn, announced yesterday that a rough estimate of the returns gave Brooklyn a population of 816,583. He said he was obliged to make up his figures without any returns from the public institutions, and he had to guess at the number of persons in these places. The returns were practically completed, and his figures would not be changed much by the final count. There might be an increase, but, in his opinion, the extreme limit would not be more than 830,000, and he was not sanguine that it would reach that figure. Brooklyn, therefore, under the claims of Philadelphia and Chicago, drops back to fourth place in point of population.

Brooklyn people don't like this, and say they have not all been counted. They say the public-spirited Chicago enumerators didn't miss a chick or a child, while the Republican leaders in Brooklyn who had charge of the enumerators took the easiest way of getting through their work. It was suggested yesterday that the city Government employ these men recommended by the City Directory management to go over their respective districts again under instructions to find out just how many men, women, and children are in them. If this were done in three representative districts it would, it is said, establish the relationship between population and the number of names found in the directory for the whole city of Brooklyn, and the city could well afford to pay three such men by the day to get this information.

The census returns for Brooklyn for the last half century are: 1840, 36,288; 1850, 96,838; 1860, 266,661; 1870, 396,099; 1880, 566,689.

The Westchester Cup Race.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Will you please decide a bet? Four horses, namely, Tenny, Salvator, Firenzi, and Come to Taw, are entered for a race. A and B discuss their chances and make a bet, B betting that Tenny would win and A taking the field against him. The horses are all scratched but Tenny, who wins from an outside horse that was put in to run. How should the bet be decided?

B WINS. The race was for the Westchester Cup. The horses scratched were announced as probable starters. Sorrento was not an outsider, but one of the original entries, and started according to rule.

Mr. McClelland Says he is Not a Candidate.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In an item in today's SUN under the caption "Mr. McClelland a Candidate," there are three statements made which have no foundation in fact. First, that I have come out as a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Congress in Mr. Lehlbecker's district; second, that I declare myself opposed to Gov. Hill; and third, that I am now engaged in the customs brokerage business.

Permit me to set myself right by saying that I am not a candidate for the Congressional nomination, and would not accept it if tendered to me. I have not declared myself opposed to Gov. Hill. I am not aware of any present political condition that would warrant such a declaration; neither do I believe that such a declaration on my part would be cause for any uneasiness on the part of Gov. Hill. I am not engaged in the customs brokerage business, but am engaged in the legitimate practice of my profession. Respectfully,

CHAS. P. MCCLELLAND.

A more interesting story could not be told than that of "The Last Slave ship," narrated in *Scribner's Magazine* for July by Dr. George Howe of Natchez. It gives the history of the successful voyage of a slaver from the coast of Africa to Cuba thirty odd years ago; and is is not the only interesting article in this number of *Scribner's*.

THEY WILL MEASURE THEIR LACE.

The Errors of a Big English Lace House Make Trouble for New York Importers.

New York importers of lace have been compelled to make some changes in their methods of doing business by reason of short measure discovered in recent importations from the factory of Underwood & Green of Nottingham, England. Nearly every importing house in the city was affected, and although the whole difference involved not much, if any, more than $2,500, a very considerable disturbance was aroused and mistrust engendered that it will take years of straight dealing to overcome.

The goods in question arrived at this port several weeks ago, some consigned directly from Underwood & Green to the dealers here, and some received in smaller lots from the foreign resident buyers of New York houses. The English firm has no agent in this city. According to custom the goods were taken from the Custom House by the importers, and the duties paid on the basis of the amounts noted in the consular invoices. The importers then disposed of the goods to retailers all over the country, still following the invoices, without troubling to measure the goods. When the retailers came to dispose of the laces, however, they discovered numerous cases of shortage, amounting sometimes to one, and sometimes to several yards in a piece. The importers heard of these things promptly, but in most instances not before every yard of their stock from Underwood & Green had been disposed of. Among the first to receive this unpleasant information was Mr. T. S. Ladmann of 71 Greene street. Mr. Ladmann said yesterday:

"The importers consulted with each other, and found that the error was general, and not what might be a natural accident in a single instance. Everybody was receiving angry letters from his customers, complaining of fraud and demanding restitution. There was no recourse for us at the Custom House, for the Government will not accept a measurement made in the importer's warerooms. We warned all our customers to look out for short measure, and, as fast as reports came in we rebated to them, without question, according to the shortage they reported, and also sent demands to Underwood & Green for restitution on our own accounts. In every case that I know of Underwood & Green promptly allowed what was demanded, and they explained the affair as an accident or oversight on the part of their packers. I have been buying of them for twenty years, and this is the first instance wherein any suspicion of irregularity has been discovered. Therefore, inasmuch as they have done all they were asked to do, I should be inclined to let the matter drop out of sight, but, of course, every importer will be on his guard hereafter."

Among other importing houses affected by this short measure were those of Shoninger & Moses, Goldenberg Brothers, Henry Rice, and Einstein, Wolff & Co.

AN END TO THE INK SLINGING.

Connors Goes to the Penitentiary for From Six to Fourteen Months.

John Connors, otherwise "Jack the Ink Slinger," who for months made Sixth and Eighth avenues, near Fifty-third street, dangerous to well-dressed women, whose gowns he slyly bespattered with violet ink, was arraigned yesterday, in the General Sessions, upon an indictment for injury to property, the particular property charged in the indictment being a light-brown cloth gown belonging to Miss Ethel Warner of 1,147 Broadway.

Miss Warner testified that as she was walking in Sixth avenue, between Fifty-third and Fifty-fourth streets, on her way to her home at 1,147 Broadway, at about 11½ on the evening of May 20, she saw Connors standing near an elevated railroad post. She noticed him because, at that hour, the avenue was lonely. As she passed where he was standing he turned and followed her. She quickened her pace, being somewhat alarmed, and he quickened his. He followed her to the door of her home. When she took off her gown, in her bedroom, she saw that it was bespattered with violet ink. The ink was still damp. Her gown, a light-brown cloth walking gown, was ruined. As it had been worn for several times, she valued it at about $25. Gown produced.

Policeman Walter Stafford of the Forty-Seventh street station testified that on the evening of May 23 he saw Connors on Eighth avenue, near Fifty-third street, following Miss Ella Leyster of 121 West seventy-fourth street. He arrested Connors and found his hands and clothing and shoes stained with violet ink. In his hip pocket was a bottle of violet ink and three corked pipe bowls which had been filled with the ink. (Pipe bowls and ink bottle produced.)

Connors testified that he was employed as a hostler in the stables of the Ninth Avenue Railroad. His day's work ended at 10:30 in the evening, and, after he had eaten his supper, it was his custom to take a walk. He did not bespatter Miss Warner's gown, or any other lady's gown. He had seen his children playing with the pipe bowls and the ink on the evening of May 23, and, fearing that they would do mischief with them, he took them away and put them into his pocket, and forgot all about them. There has been no repetition of the offence since his arrest.

Judge Martine told the jury that as the value of Miss Warner's gown was less than $25 Connors could not be convicted of injury to property as a felony. He could be convicted of injury to property as a misdemeanor.

The jury so convicted him, and Judge Martine gave Connors the extent of the law, six months in the penitentiary and $250 fine or 250 days more of imprisonment. He gave notice that he would not remit the fine, and that if any of Connors's friends approached him to persuade him to remit it he would regard it as a contempt of court. If some of the women whose gowns were valuable gowns were ruined could have been persuaded to prosecute, Connors might not have got off so lightly.

LAST EPISTLE OF AZARIAH.

A Policeman Escorts him from the Custom House to the Old Slip Station.

The Hon. Denis Shea, deputy collector of the Fifth division in the Custom House and Mayor of Canarsie, decided yesterday that he could not longer put up with the antics of Azariah Jackson Orton, the clerk in his department who under the nom de plume of "The Voice of God" has written letters to Postmaster Hendrix of Brooklyn and President Harrison. Mr. Shea recommended Orton's suspension to Collector Erhardt, and in the last line of his communication intimated that the best way to settle the Orton matter was to remove him from the service. Col. Erhardt concurred with Mr. Shea's recommendations and Mr. Shea notified Orton that he must leave his desk. Orton threw up his hands and protested solemnly.

"Nobody but Jesus Christ has power to suspend me!"

He refused to go, and devoted himself to addressing another of the mania envelopes which he has loaded the Brooklyn lamp posts with. This had on it:

BENJAMIN HARRISON you are a thief! You bought your way to the President's chair.
Look in the Bible.

At this point Mr. Shea decided that Orton must go, anyhow, and Chief Clerk Hinton called in Policeman O'Shaughnessy. Orton went quietly with him to the Old Slip station. He was charged with disorderly conduct and will be brought up at the Tombs this morning.

SILENCING SQUEAKING BRAKES.

The Elevated Road Putting Soft Shoes On in Place of Hard Steel.

Alderman Gregory's resolution asking the Corporation Counsel what powers the Board has to compel the elevated railroad company to stop its trains with less of squeaking and squealing of brake shoes on car wheel tires was passed by the Board yesterday. The resolution was introduced at the instance of the Eccentric Club, an influential organization that meets on the sidewalk in front of Jefferson Market, or in the flower store of John Morris. In both places it is much disturbed by the noise made in stopping the down trains at the Eighth street station.

Col. Hain says that a remedy for the squeaking has been found. The obnoxious noises prove to be due to the hard steel of the brakes, and a softer metal will be substituted. The noisy brakes are being gradually changed.

New City Bonds Authorized.

The Board of Estimate authorized the Comptroller yesterday to issue $80,000 of revenue bonds for the salaries of the sixty policemen to be detailed to assist the Street Cleaning Department and $67,431 of school bonds, of this $17,000 is for a new school building at Ninety-third street and Tenth avenue, $20,000 for an extension to Grammar School No. 7, and $17,500 for a school house site at Washington and Albany streets.

He Will Return.

"I hear that Policeman X., who assaulted a citizen last week, has disappeared."

"Oh, we'll hear from him again. A bad copper is bound to turn up, you know."

A Leetle Out o' Date.

From the Galveston News.

Uncle Jeremiah Rusk seems to be made of good metal, but he is a muzzle-loader.

Hint of a New Rebellion.

From the Courier-Journal.

High prices for ice and watermelon in the same summer! Can this be tolerated by a free people?

WHY PRESIDENT SIMMONS RESIGNS.

The Complaints of About 180,000 People Come to Him, and He's Tired of It.

At the last meeting of the Board of Education Mr. J. Edward Simmons, the President of the Board, privately informed his fellow Commissioners that he would resign at the next meeting, which will be next Wednesday. When seen at his desk, in the Fourth National Bank, yesterday afternoon, Mr. Simmons said:

"My private business has not for some time allowed me to give as much attention to the working of the Board as I should like to give. My relations with the Commissioners are of the pleasantest nature, but the work is too great. The position in which I am placed is this: There are 4,000 teachers in the employ of the city, 3,500 of whom are estimable and well-educated women. When any one of these instructors has a grievance she turns first to her principal, but, failing to get satisfaction in that quarter, comes to me, as head of the department. Now, I am a most democratic man, and never turn anybody away, but the result is that a large part of my time is consumed in listening to complaints. There are between 150,000 and 160,000 children in the public schools, and if any child is punished or dismissed unjustly, as the parents think, I am immediately visited by mammas and papas seeking redress. Then there are fully 10,000 children for whom there is no room in the schools. Their parents are continually coming to me to know why they can't get in. Further than that, there were 350 workmen in the employ of the department last year, many of whom kept coming to me with complaints by way of appeal from the decisions of Mr. Dalvoise, the Superintendent of School Buildings. With my work as President of this bank and my various private interests, it can readily be seen what little time I have to devote to my family. The fact is that I can stand it no longer, and I think I am entitled to give it up after my long service."

Mr. Simmons has been a member of the Board continuously for nine years, during four of which he has been President. He succeeded Stephen A. Walker as President of the Board. Several Commissioners have been mentioned as successors to Mr. Simmons.

OUR INFERNAL REGIONS.

The Lid Off for a Moment up in One of the Hot Spots on Sixth Avenue.

Another section of the city pavements went up unexpectedly yesterday morning, along with a subway manhole. It was at the corner of Twelfth street and Sixth avenue, in a popular neighborhood for those little manifestations. On the last occasion of the sort two manholes only two blocks further up the avenue went up together. Yesterday's explosion was in the subway on the west side of the avenue, used only for telephone wires. The manhole at the corner of Twelfth street is a large one and the cover is a solid piece of iron four feet in diameter, embedded in a heavy brick foundation.

The Edison Light Company is laying a subway along the same side of the avenue, and yesterday morning the trench for this had reached up as far as Twelfth street, and at 10 o'clock was being dug across that street. The head of it was just beside the manhole, and Foreman R. R. Berwick was standing within a foot of the iron cover directing the men, when there was a roar, and gas, smoke, and broken brick and stone spurted up from the east edge of the manhole in a beautiful fountain. The same edge of the heavy iron cover was raised like the lid of a teapot, and then dropped back with a crash upon the wrecked brickwork.

Foreman Berwick pulled himself together and found that he was all right except for a soreness in one shoulder, where a brick had struck him. The other men were unhurt. The upper works of the engines were carried away, but the wires within it were not damaged. The paving was disturbed for a few feet around.

The explosion was caused by gas leaking into the manhole, which was one of the old ones, without any arrangements for ventilation. There has been great leakage of gas in the neighborhood for a long time.

INTERPRETER HOFFMAN'S AMENDMENT.

The Privilege of Appointing Him Costs the Supreme Court Justices Vexation.

The Justices of the Supreme Court got the Legislature of 1889 to amend section 93 of the Code of Civil Procedure so that they could each designate an attendant to act as a clerk to the Justice. Provision was made for increasing the salary of such attendant clerk by $800. The Justices then went to the Board of Estimate and got $5,600 added to their estimate for this increased salary for seven men.

The whole arrangement was upset by the Legislature of 1890. It was accidentally upset, to be sure, but it was upset none the less effectually. Frederick W. Hoffman, the interpreter of the City Court, is the innocent cause of all the trouble. He thought he would rather be a Supreme Court interpreter at $2,500 a year than a City Court interpreter at $1,500. As there was no place in the Supreme Court he got a lawyer to draft a bill amending section 93 of the code so as to give the Justices power to appoint a $2,500 interpreter. The lawyer referred to a copy of the code that did not contain the amendment of 1889, and, drafting his amended section, left out the provision giving power to designate attendants as clerks at an increased salary.

The Justices at a meeting yesterday decided that as the attendant clerks have been designated, and their salaries appropriated for the year, they need not be disturbed until the first of January. Meanwhile they are not much disposed to make an interpreter out of Hoffman.

LIQUOR MEN UNSATISFIED.

Some of Their Demands Refused by the So-called Whiskey Trust.

The committee of wholesale liquor dealers appointed for the purpose conferred yesterday at the Murray Hill Hotel with J. B. Greenhut, President of the Distillers' and Cattle Feeders' Company, and A. Woolner, another representative of the so-called Whiskey Trust. The trust representative agreed to some of the demands of the dealers, but refused others, and also refused to put in writing what they agreed to verbally, saying that if their word was not good their bond wasn't. What they agreed to was apparently not sufficient to satisfy the committee of liquor dealers, who will report to that effect to the meeting of the trade, which is to be held in the Kemble building this afternoon. The details of the conference will then be announced. If the committee's report concerning the conference is unfavorable, the outcome of to-day's meeting will be the formation of a company for the building of distilleries.

THE PETITIONER WAS INSANE.

Mrs. Lockman's Claim to Some of the Vanderbilt Money Thrown Out.

Surrogate Ransom entered an order yesterday in the litigation over the estate of William B. Allen a grandson of Commodore Vanderbilt, denying the petition of Catherine Frances Lockman for the revocation of letters of administration which had been issued to Ethelinda V. Allen, daughter of the deceased. William B. Allen had an interest in the estate of his mother, Ethelinda V. Allen, Commodore Vanderbilt's daughter, and was also a beneficiary under the will of the Commodore. When Allen died letters of administration were issued to his daughter. Mrs. Lockman then declared that she was the lawful widow of William B. Allen. Surrogate Ransom ordered a reference, and while proceedings were pending before the referee Mrs. Lockman was adjudged a lunatic. The referee finally reported that she was not Allen's widow.

Making It Easier to Get Down Town.

People living across the Harlem River who desired to come down town by the Second avenue elevated railroad have been put to a good deal of unnecessary travel to get to the platforms of the 129th street station. A protest was finally made to the Railroad Commissioners, and that body has recommended that the Suburban Rapid Transit Company establish a means of communication between the east side of the southern end of the Harlem River Bridge and the elevated structure leading to the 129th street station of the second avenue elevated road. This will save passengers fully a minute's time and lots of stair climbing.

Hurrying Up the Third Avenue Cable.

Commissioner Gilroy issued yesterday the permits for the street openings and excavations necessary to put the cable system in use on the Third Avenue Railroad. The utmost expedition will be used in all the work, but particularly on the Park row end, where the Public Works Department wants to put down a new street pavement when the cable work is done. The railroad people said at the City Hall yesterday that the cars would run below Sixth street at the same rate as now, but that the average rate of speed above Sixth street would be about nine miles an hour.

There Are Ways and Ways of Putting Things.

"If you see it in THE SUN it's so."

"Suppose you see it in some other paper?"

"Ten to one it isn't so so."

Our Own Ev-rts.

"He has a wonderful style, has he not?"

"Wonderful. He can complicate the simplest matters in less time than any man I know."

The Administration Perplex