OUR TEACHERS' SALARIES.

THE MONETARY QUESTION BROUGHT FORWARD AGAIN.

For Eighteen Years the Teachers Have Pleaded for a Higher Basis of Compensation, and Such Points as They Have Gained Have Generally Been Ignored by the Board—Treatment of Women.

The salary question is one that has concerned the teachers in the public schools for years. Altogether there are some 4,000 instructors in the primary and the grammar departments. The question has been of particular interest to the women, of whom there are some 3,000, because on account of the policies which have prevailed in the Board of Education they seem to have been less fairly treated than the men. Although the whole question has been agitated at all times, it is now of particular importance, because the annual school budget is being made, and will soon be presented to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. Not only is it true, in the language of men like J. Edward Simmons and Stephen A. Walker, that "the teachers don't get a dollar too much for their work," but, in the opinion of those who have studied the subject, there is gross injustice done in hundreds of cases. According to the present standard a teacher's salary depends not on her merit, not on her individual capacity as an educator, but upon the average attendance of the school in which she happens to be appointed. An examination of the department would show that teachers doing similar work in different wards of the city receive different salaries. The fact that both are apparently of equal ability and have been equally long in the service does not in any way control the question of what her salary shall be. The situation may be likened to that prevailing in a store where the salaries of salesmen depend not upon the size of the bills they sell, but upon the number of customers coming in. For example: If the proprietor were to say in the morning, "I will have a count kept of the number of people who come in here to-day. There are ten salesmen, and if each salesman has to look after fifty customers I will pay him $5 for his day's work; if he has only thirty to look after I will pay him $3 for his day's work; if he has more than fifty customers I will pay him at the rate of $1 for every extra ten."

"But," says one of the clerks, "suppose I have only twenty-five customers, and succeed in selling to those twenty-five customers more goods than this other salesman who will attend to fifty, won't I get anything for that?"

"No," replies the merchant. "I don't care what sort of work you do, whether you sell any goods or not. I'm going to base the wages upon the number of customers that each clerk has to attend to during the day."

Probably there is not a store in New York or any other city where such an absurd standard for the payment of wages exists. Yet such a ridiculous condition is the condition in the public schools on which the salaries of teachers depends. Practically no account is taken of the ability with which a teacher manages her class of children, no account of the inspiration that she gives to them, no account of the work that she gets out of them, no account of the methods which she uses, no account of the information which she imparts. Her wages depend entirely upon the average attendance of the school. As the attendance decreases yearly in many neighborhoods through causes over which the teachers have no control, and as the teacher's efficiency increases with each year's experience, it is manifest that any plan which recognizes rather than advances, the compensation, contains the elements of unfairness. The evil was recognized by Commissioner Dodge, and during her term she secured the adoption of an amendment providing that any decrease of salary caused by a falling off of attendance might be restored to the incumbent by special action of the Board. Any later incumbent would, however, enter the position at a salary to which it had been reduced, with the result that many teachers in both departments are receiving salaries of 20 per cent less than their positions call for. Statistics show that teachers of twenty years' service are in many cases receiving less than $600 a year.

For many years the most thorough, systematic, and well-organized work has been done by the teachers toward having a plan of salaries adopted which should be founded on some principle of right and justice. All the work, however, based upon the theory of equal and free teachers was drawn up and presented to the Board of Education by the primary department principals. So very earnest and energetic was the work done, and so complete was its failure to accomplish any result, that no further effort was made by any body of teachers until the introduction of the McManus bill into the Legislature of 1883. According to its provisions the salaries of all principals and of all assistants in the grammar departments were to be increased. There was to be no increase in the primary departments, where the salaries were already very much lower than elsewhere. The noticeable features of the arrangement, as far as the grammar departments were concerned, was, and this obtains under the present régime, that the salaries of the men assistants were to be very much in excess of those of the women assistants, the requirements as to ability being in all cases the same.

Throughout the entire plan there was an entire lack of recognition of length of service, the only real basis for any schedule, there being no work in which skilled workers can engage in which experience contributes to efficiency so decisively as in that of teaching. It is, indeed, a matter of fact that each term finds the intelligent, painstaking teacher improving upon the methods of the preceding term.

As it was in 1883 as the McManus bill desired it to continue, and as it is to-day, it is not unusual to find that teachers in the primary departments, after years of efficient service, are in receipt of compensation smaller than that received by girls just graduated and appointed into a grammar department, and where men and women are associated as teachers on the same grade that there is a difference of salary in favor of the men teachers, although as to experience the case is exactly reversed.

The indignation aroused among the teachers of the primary department by the unfairness of the McManus bill, resulted in the calling of a meeting at Grammar School 47, and as the outcome of this meeting Land others which followed such influence was brought to bear that the bill died very early in the session. A protest sent to the Legislature contained a very emphatic demand for a length-of-service arrangement of salaries, irrespective of grade, department, or sex.

Until the defeat of the McManus bill the primary teachers had met only as a temporary organization; their victory taught them, however, wherein their power for future action lay, and the organization became permanent. Although not its principal object, the salary question received very serious consideration, and a plan was presented to the Board of Education and was referred to the By-law Committee. This plan embodied the length-of-service idea, and provided that a teacher in a girls' class should commence on a salary of $500 a year, and in a boys' class on one of $550; these salaries to be increased by $50 additions until fixed maximums were reached. No action whatever was taken, and after waiting a year with such patience as could be commanded, a committee of primary teaches asked permission to lay their cause before the By-law Committee. This was granted, not very graciously, it must be confessed; but that made little difference to the workers who knew as well the need of a revision. At this meeting the teachers were told by a Commissioner, after considerable talk on both sides, that, although the Board felt that something ought to be done, it was not possible just then, as the Board was in trouble about some bonds. Finding that the Board could or would do nothing, it was decided that an appeal should be made to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and a paper embodying the wishes of the teachers with the petition to the Board of Education was sent to one of the most prominent members of the Board. This letter elicited a most prompt and kind reply, and a time was appointed for a conference with the teachers. The conference resulted in the obtaining from the Board of Apportionment the sum of $75,000 for the purpose of effecting such a readjustment of salaries in the primary departments as would meet all just and reasonable requirements. After loaning this money for over a year, the Board of Apportionment, without having made any efforts toward a readjustment, diverted the money given for that specific purpose, the gifts to teachers of seven and fourteen years service, regardless as to whether their salaries were large or small, thereby occasioning comment decidedly severe.

When the next budget was asked for from the Board of Apportionment a special appeal was made for the granting of the $75,000, not for the purpose for which the primary teachers had worked so hard, but, instead, to carry out the provisions of the legislative act. But this time the Board by Commissioner Holt, which, following the example of its predecessor, used as its basis the length of service of the school. In an aggravated form, with the usual discrimination in favor of the men assistants, and against the teachers of the primary departments.

This bill was combated by the Association of Women Assistants in the Grammar Departments with the same vigor as was shown by the Primary Teachers' Association, and at the personal and urgent request of many teachers and others interested the $75,000 asked for was denied. In spite of all opposition, however, and through some financiering known only to those inside, the Holt plan was adopted, and has been in operation ever since.

The women assistants since that time have been striving to secure some recognition for length of service. Last year they had the satisfaction of seeing a bill introduced into the Board by Miss Dodge providing that the minimum salary for all teachers of ten years' service should be $750. This bill was severely opposed in the Board, but at length was referred to the special committee known as the Committee of Eight. This committee unanimously reported in favor of the resolution, the time, however, having been extended to fourteen years. It was then adopted by the Board, and the teachers congratulated themselves upon having at length secured some recognition for tried and efficient service. To their utter surprise, however, the Board failed to take up the provision of its own by-law, giving as a reason that the Board of Apportionment had refused to allow a sufficiently large appropriation. The by-law was suspended for the year 1890, the votes of Mrs. Agnew and Mrs. Powell being the only dissenting ones to the action of the Board. The matter has again been brought up by Mr. Tamsen, and has been referred to the Finance Committee, which, it is believed and hoped, will make such efforts as will preclude the possibility of so just a provision remaining any longer a dead letter.

The importance of the teacher as a public servant is not denied. Her work has great bearing upon the formation of the character of those intrusted to her care. For five hours a day her relation to her pupils is that of a mother to her children. For years and years of all work done in any public department this work has been the most poorly compensated, and yet it requires peculiar instincts, broad education, constant application, and the surrender of energy and time, even after school has been closed. The faithfulness so characteristic of the woman teacher has never yet been recognized in New York city, except in the private schools, and the public school teachers now who are asking for a change in the standard upon which their compensation shall be based make no unwarranted or extravagant demand. Under the present management of the expenditure of the money given to the Board of Education it perhaps may not be possible to grant what the teachers ask without asking for additional appropriations, but those who understand the finances of the Board of Education claim that if certain reforms were instituted, if certain unnecessary expenditures were abolished, and if that same intelligence controlled the spending of the school money that controls the spending of a corporation's money, the request of the teachers could be complied with without adding to the amount of the ordinary budget. Whether this is the case or not, there is a widespread and an aggressive sentiment in favor of the claims of the teachers. And even if more money must be had for the school department in order to pay the teachers in a fair manner, additional money ought to be given.

WIFE ACCUSED BY THE OTHER WOMAN.

Detectives Found Her at an Improvised Altar Praying for Her Husband's Return.

Mary McKeon was a prisoner in the Harlem Police Court yesterday morning. She is about 35 years old, and her dark chestnut hair and dark blue eyes shaded with long lashes still indicate that she was handsome before grief and neglect impaired her health and possibly her mind. Her husband is Charles McKeon, who is proprietor of liquor stores at Chrystie and Hester streets, 105th street and Third avenue, and 112th street and First avenue. Nine years ago he met Mary Schultz, and went to live with her at 2,169 Second avenue. Some time ago he was arrested and put under bonds to pay $8 a week toward his wife's support. Last Thursday night Mrs. McKeon went to Mary Schultz's house to urge her husband to return to her. He fled from her presence and remained on the roof in the pouring rain while Mrs. Schultz and a servant forcibly ejected Mrs. McKeon from the house. In the struggle some of the furniture was broken and Mrs. McKeon was badly choked. On Friday night Mary Schultz went to the East 126th street police station, and asked Detectives Price and Mott to arrest Mrs. McKeon on a charge of wilfully destroying the furniture and stealing a gold special section in money.

The detectives found the accused wife kneeling before an improvised altar. An image of the Virgin and a well-worded appeal to heaven for aid to secure the return of her husband were on the altar, and a light, which Mrs. McKeon said she never allowed to be extinguished, burned in front of it. The detectives contented themselves with telling Mrs. McKeon to appear in court in the morning.

She was there promptly, and ex-Assemblyman Van Cott volunteered to defend her when he heard the story. Her accuser's lawyer argued only that Mrs. McKeon had destroyed furniture, and that his client deserved protection from similar invasions of her home. Justice Meade refused to aid in what seemed to be an effort to get the injured wife out of the way, and dismissed the case. Mrs. McKeon said some furniture might have been broken in her struggle with the detectives, but she denied that she had stolen anything.

"Why do you not let him come back to me?" she asked her accuser, but was vouchsafed no answer.

Three Stories About Wild Birds.

SPRING BROOK, Pa., Oct. 18.—Last spring Ziba Richmond of Spring Brook Corners found a wild turkey's nest on Shiny Mountain. There were seven eggs in it, and Richmond carried them home in his hat. He had put a hen to sit that morning, and he took the eggs from her nest and placed the wild turkey's eggs in it. The old hen kept right about her business as though no change had been made in the contents of the nest, and in due time she hatched out seven homely little turkeys. The youngsters all lived, the old hen was motherly and kind to them, and her small brood grew fast. Richmond had no domestic turkeys on his place, and he took particular pains to have all his neighbors see the wild little fellows, declaring that he was going to winter them all and raise a superior lot of fowls from them next year. Everything went well with the old hen and her adopted children until the third week. Early one morning Richmond heard the hen squalling as though a hawk had tackled her, and, fearing that such was the case, he ran out and found her fighting with a big hen turkey that had seemingly been trying to get the brood away from the hen. Before he could climb over the fence one of the roosters flew at the strange bird, jabbed his sharp spurs into her head, and killed her as dead as a hammer by the time Richmond got there. He found that the dead turkey was a wild bird, and he was satisfied that she was the one whose nest he had robbed, and that she had flown down from Shiny Mountain that morning. The turkeys grew like weeds, and when the old hen weaned them each one was bigger than its foster mother. They got so they roosted in a tree near the house, and every night Richmond counted them and saw that they were all there. The birds were early risers, and one morning in August, before Richmond was up, they all cleared out, and Richmond has not seen a feather of a single one of them from that day.

On Halsey Fuller's farm, near the head of Rattlesnake Run, a pair of flickers had a nest this summer in a hole in the trunk of a dead elm tree. A hen hawk had the habit of alighting on a stub of the tree to eat its prey, and once when it did so the flickers came piping out of their domicile, darted viciously at the hawk, and drove it from its perch. The hawk soon forgot all about the licking, for the next day it settled there again, and once more the flickers sailed into it and made it take to flight. The stub was evidently the hawk's favorite perching place, for day after day Mr. Fuller saw it there, even after the smaller birds had repeatedly thrashed it. Its presence on the stub greatly irritated the peaceable flickers, and one day Mr. Fuller had in some bushes and hanged away at the hawk with his rifle. The big bird lodged in a crotch, sixty feet from the ground, and the flickers darted at it from side to side, and kept constantly squalling at it till Mr. Fuller sent his hired man up to throw it down. The hawk was alive, but badly crippled, and both of its eyes had been put out by the angry flickers while it lay fluttering in the crotch.

Andrew Dunham, who lives on Monument Creek, shot a sharp shinned hawk in his orchard one day last month. It dropped to the ground with a broken wing, and a cur dog belonging to Mr. Dunham dashed at it as bold as a lion. The maddened hawk made a spring at the dog, and the dog turned tail with great agility. He wasn't quite quick enough, though, for the hawk struck both of his claws into the cur's rump, and the cur never ran so fast or yelped so hard in his life as he did on his way to a pair of bars a hundred yards from where the hawk had caught him. He dashed between the bars and tore himself loose, but he kept on running and yelping till he had gone 400 yards farther when he fooled about, sat upon his haunches, and howled back at the hawk. Mr. Dunham has got the hawk in a cage, but he can't get the cur to go near it. He is going to kill the bird and have it stuffed as soon as its wing heals up.

No Doubt About the House.

From the Chicago Tribune.

Johnes—Smith, I am told you delivered your maiden political speech at the opera house last night. How did it go?

Smith (with enthusiasm)—Had a tremendous house, Johnes—perfectly tremendous.

Johnes—Yes, I know the house is a large one. How about the audience?

(With some constraint)—There was nearly a hundred of 'em, Johnes—nearly a hundred.

IRELAND'S GREAT PERIL.

RAPIDLY PERFECTING THE PREPARATIONS FOR CARRYING RELIEF.

Local Committees to be Formed in All American Cities—The Home-Rulers in Sympathy with the Movement—The Subscription List up to Date.

The week has been devoted by the officers of the American Committee for the Relief of Famine in Ireland chiefly to the work of organization. At a meeting of the General Committee the routine work of the Executive Committee was approved, and the members of the latter Board were requested to proceed with the organization of local committees in the cities of the United States and Canada. The work of collecting subscriptions it is designed to delegate entirely to local committees. The New York committee will probably be formed this week, and then substantial results may be looked for.

There is no longer any danger that the nonpartisan relief movement will be antagonized by the Home Rule leaders. The American committee was formed and began work without even the knowledge of Mr. Parnell and his associates, and at first the latter expressed apprehensions lest the form of relief should be such that the landlords would indirectly be benefited, and that thereby the political misfortunes of the people should be increased. The assurances of the American committee that it proposed to do nothing more than feed the hungry and clothe the naked has removed these apprehensions, and it is said the Home Rule leaders have expressed their hearty sympathy with the movement.

The past week has been prolific of messages to the American Committee showing that the response to the committee's appeal will be hearty and universal. Starting, as the committee did, nearly three months earlier than any similar committee ever before started, there was some natural fear in the minds of the members of the committee that its action might be misconstrued. The early starting of the movement for the relief of the terrible distress that is sure to come to Ireland this winter was not meant by the committee to imply that such distress would come earlier this year than it had come in previous famine years, but it was meant to enforce the fact that relief had gone in previous famine years from America to Ireland too late to prevent much suffering and to save much valuable life; and it was started thus early so that relief from America might be at hand at the very first moment that it was needed by the Irish.

From various parts of the United States letters and telegrams have come to the American Committee. The city of Hartford, Conn., has already forwarded to the American Committee, through the Hartford *Times*, nearly one thousand dollars, and a public meeting to further the movement was called by Hartford's Mayor, the Hon. Henry C. Dwight.

The action of the city of Galveston, Tex., has been no less prompt. On Oct. 9, in pursuance of a call published in the Galveston *News*, a mass meeting was held at Harmony Hall. Resolutions were passed, the sum of $1,347.50 was contributed by those present.

Among the letters and telegrams which have been received by the American Committee the following may be mentioned as samples:

The *Evening Journal* telegraphed from Albany: "Will be pleased to act as your subtreasurer at Albany without expense, and will begin work to-day if satisfactory. We start it with a subscription of $25."

The *Globe* of Chicago sent a telegram to the same effect.

Mr. S. S. Flower, editor of the *Arena* of Boston, writes: "I should be delighted to do anything in my power to aid the famine-stricken people of Ireland. I enclose you my check."

Mr. John J. Kennedy, Superintendent of the Branford Dock Works, Branford, Conn., writes: "We have taken up amount our employees subscription for the famine fund. Will you kindly advise us by return mail who is the authorized agent in New York."

A very valuable donation was received from the National Press Association. Mr. William F. G. Shanks, the President, notified the committee in the following letter: "We send you herewith a few newspaper articles having reference to your committee and its work. If these clippings are of any use to you, we will furnish you with them from all the newspapers of this country and Canada. We give you this service gratis in order to show our sympathy with your efforts in the cause of humanity."

The following contributions have been received by the Treasurer since the last acknowledgment was made:

Additional subscriptions sent Hartford *Times*..	$687 01
J. J. Davidson, Bluefield, W. Va.	5 00
Richard Higgins, Hosley's, Pa.	1 00
James McDonnell, Clemo, Pa.	1 00
Cornish & Co., Washington, N. J.	25 00
Employees of Cornish & Co.	30 00
Thomas Loran, Grand Forks, N. D.	4 00
James Foley, Parkersburg, Iowa	5 00
M. Meyer, Bethune, Col.	5 00
S. Louisville	1 50
Mrs. J. D. Thiheau, Flandreau, Dak.	6 00
Mrs. Lumas	1 00
Mary J. Fitzgerald	5 00
George Farrington, Spencer, Wis.	5 00
Charles S. McNaugh, Wilmington, Del.	1 00
B. O. Flower, Boston	25 00
Lucy Otis, Lafargville, N. Y.	2 00
Norwich	20 00
Father Morrin's parish at Cato, N. Y.	30 00
Cash	1 00
Previously acknowledged	877 46
Total	$1,797 57

The subscriptions of the employees of Cornish & Co. comprise $1 from each of the following: J. L. Reid, G. B. Milroy, W. A. Baylor, J. W. Kinney, H. Drake, T. V. Gordon, T. Byrne, Jr., J. Brotzman, P. W. Thatcher, W. R. Vanover, H. Howell, A. Burd, C. H. Morgan, W. Waller, A. A. Thompson, F. J. Aton, W. H. Andrews, E. S. Smith, R. H. Thornton, D. J. Rogers, W. Vanmatts, S. Thatcher, R. Lance, W. E. Morgan, G. F. Snyder, W. J. Byrne, H. N. Florey, C. N. Shrope, J. Nier, J. B. Scott, R. W. Godfrey, G. Roch, J. M. Anderson, R. E. Whitmore, J. W. Thornton, W. E. Shrope, J. T. Reed, J. P. Edgerton, J. Kline, W. M. De Nee, W. A. Hedden, R. W. Smith, E. Snyder, A. J. Craft, H. M. Broad, E. Rush, J. H. Cyphers, Sr., J. H. Miers, P. Barry, G. Heed, A. H. Wietzel, T. Gleason, C. M. Bryant, J. Wagner, P. Gleason, J. H. Beildeman, J. Donnelly, J. S. Fox, W. Hamilton, D. Hornbaker, F. Thomas, G. W. Miers, D. H. Petty, A. F. Florey, S. Thornton, F. Creveling, W. McKinney, E. J. Hutchings, J. Vanover, A. O. Allen, J. W. Lunger, H. J. Florey, W. L. Bowne, J. Bowlby, W. H. Campbell, J. R. Senior, J. F. Tinsman, J. Mershon, S. Beavers, R. F. Hopple, A. Dalrymple, T. H. Case, W. S. Stewart, E. E. Carter, M. Rush, C. L. Opdyke, J. R. Witte, W. Fehr, L. D. Florey.

The Norwich subscribers are as follows: One dollar each from William Shea, James McCaffery, Maurice Welch, Patrick Finton, John Kane, Frank Kane, Frank McKeag, James Hughes, Frank McCahoy, John Dowling, John Craney, James Brannon, Felix Conlin; and 50 cents each from these: John McGarry, Patrick Donahue, Hugh Burns, Patrick Carbery, Chas. McFaiden, Luke Brannon, James McCahey, Robert Sloan, Jan Conolon, Thomas Tracey, John Tracey, Jerry Falver, Jerry Murphy, Bernard Quinn, Michael Corr.

The Rev. B. H. Latrobe of Baltimore is an exceedingly indiscreet clergyman. He should read THE SUN, especially THE SUN of Oct. 5.

Connecticut Curiosities.

NEW LONDON, Oct. 17.—The curiosities of the season are interesting. E. C. Turner's hen laid a triple combination egg a day or two ago in North Stonington. Prying into the extraordinary product, Mrs. Turner got one yolk and suddenly came to another egg, which she cracked and got one more yolk. Still further along she found a third egg, which was a little thing but very distinct and perfect. If any other hen has ever equalled, or ever shall equal, the Turner hen in grinding out a three-yolk egg, Mr. Turner would like to hear of it.

S. P. Eunis of Ashaway has a squash gigantic; its weight is 109 pounds. He raised it in his garden, although the garden is not more than a quarter of an acre in size.

Charles H. Chapman, in the southern part of the county, pried a boat out of his garden this week that weighed 14 pounds and 11 ounces. He showed it in the Westerly *Tribune* office and the editor said it was the biggest beat he ever saw, though his experience had been a long and painful one.

John O'Hara is constructing a pair of shoes for a Brooklyn man that are 18 in size. The lasts on which the shoes are swung are 15 inches long, 14½ inches around the toe, 15¾ inches about the instep, and 20 inches about the heel and instep.

Patrick Dwyer of Main street, Ansonia, proudly exhibits a pumpkin squash in his garden that is 34 inches in circumference and still growing. It is estimated that there is enough meat in it for the monster for a family all winter.

At Bristol Everett Horton got a pear off a tree in his yard that weighs 19½ ounces. Its circumference is 15 inches.

E. F. Bromley of New London raised eight mammoth squashes in his Ocean avenue garden on three vines. The biggest one weighs 89 pounds, and the smallest 35.

Used His Ear for a Purse.

From the New Haven Palladium.

In Ansonia yesterday three Chinamen entered a street car, and when the conductor came for the fares one of the Celestials gave his head a turn and a jerk and dropped three nickels from his ear into the conductor's hand.

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS.

The Chorus Society is rehearsing for its concert to be given on Thursday evening, Dec. 4, at which time Sir Arthur Sullivan's dramatic cantata, "The Golden Legend," is to be produced. The soloists on this occasion will be Mlle. Clementine de Vere, Mrs. Hattie Clapper-Morris, Mr. William J. Lavin, Mr. Carl Dufft, and Mr. Graham Reed. The subscription sale will begin at the Lenox Lyceum to-morrow morning.

To-night Herr Seidl will give his farewell concert at the Madison Square Amphitheatre. Among the numbers will be selections from "The Huguenots" and "The Trumpeter of Sackingen," with the famous trumpet solo by Mr. Seifferth, the Grand Funeral March from the "Götterdämmerung," the second rhapsodie by Liszt, and the charming "Largo" by Handel; the "Blue Danube" waltz (Seidl's conception of it) and the "Tannhäuser Overture."

Mme. Minnie Hauk, who is to appear at the Metropolitan Opera House during part of the coming season, is to sing during November and December in the cities of Berlin, Dresden Leipsic, and Cologne. Early in January she will fulfil a short engagement at Nice and Monte Carlo, and then she will sail for New York. She has just received the Cross of the Saxon House Order from the Duke of Saxe-Coburg.

The box office of the Lenox Lyceum will be open daily after to-morrow morning for the sale of tickets to the Thomas Sunday night concerts, which are to be begun on Sunday next. Herr Theodore Reichmann is to be the soloist at the first concert.

Mr. Franz Rummel has returned to this country, and he made his reappearance in Cambridge, Mass., in conjunction with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, on Wednesday evening last. On Thursday evening, Oct. 30, he is to give his first concert in this city at the Lenox Lyceum, when he will be assisted by Theodore Thomas and his orchestra.

Miss Agnes Huntington is the recipient of a long cable despatch from Baroness Burdett-Coutts congratulating the fair songstress on the hit she has made in New York.

WEST FARMS INDIGNANT.

Wants to Vote at Home and Not in the Place Capt. Stephenson Has Provided.

West Farms people have as rural a dislike for a change of custom as they had years ago, before annexation made them New Yorkers. Voters of the Thirty-third election district were used to voting in the village, although West Farms is away down in one corner of the district. Under the requirements of the new ballot law the old polling place seemed too small. Capt. Stephenson secured a carriage house in the centre of the district, and the owner boarded it all up, cut new windows in it, hid the rafters with bunting, and set up a stove to keep inspectors, poll clerks, and voters warm.

Then Capt. Stephenson found he had aroused a discussion which is likely to keep the good citizens of West Farms warm without any artificial means. They insist that the new polling place is a barn situated in a swamp, difficult of access, and altogether unsuitable. The Captain insists that it is a central location, easy of access to the majority of the voters, and much better in every way than the old polling place. It is on La Fontaine avenue, and from its appearance the Captain has the best of the argument.

A NEW MILKING MACHINE.

Milks Cows Cheaply and Advantageously to Themselves and Milk Drinkers—It Works.

From the London Times.

On the farm of Haining Mains, on the estate of the Duke of Portland, for some months past a new milking machine, invented by Mr. William Murchland, sanitary engineer of Kilmarnock, has been in operation.

The apparatus, as installed at Haining Mains, is of a very simple character. An ordinary iron pipe, one inch in diameter, is carried round the cow house at a convenient height above the shoulders of the cows. It communicates with a hand pump, whereby the air is drawn from the pipe, a circular tank connected with a shallow well of water serving as a regulator of the vacuum. From the iron pipe project connections, one opposite the space between every pair of animals, each connection being furnished with a stop cock. To any one of these connections is fitted a length of India-rubber tubing, the other end being attached to a nozzle near the top of the milk pail, which is of special construction. The pail is cylindrical in form, with a truncated conical top. Its opening, which is four inches wide, is closed by means of a thick glass disk, which rests inside flush with the outer rim of the pail, supported by a thick rubber band, held in place by a projecting ledge underneath. On one side of the shoulder of the pail is the nozzle which has been referred to and on the opposite side are four similar nozzles, all of which are like the small connections from the pipe. To the solitary nozzle is for attachment to the long flexible tube from the iron pipe; the other four are for short lengths of tubing connected in their turn with specially constructed teat cups, each of which receives a teat of the cow under operation. The cups, like the pail, are made of tinned iron, and each is provided with a tap or stop cock. The milk pail has, in addition to its handle, a couple of hooks, by means of which it is suspended a little in front of the cow's udder, a broad band of girthing being laid across the animal's loins for the purpose.

The modus operandi is very simple. When all is ready, the pump is worked by a lad, and the air is thus exhausted from the iron pipe. Then a pail, with its cups attached, is adjusted under the cow, the long tubes joined to one of the connections overhead, the stop cock is opened, and a partial vacuum is established within the pail. Next one of the cups is moistened and placed in it to embrace a teat; the stop cock of the cup is then opened, the teat is thus brought under the influence of the vacuum, and the greater external atmospheric pressure at once causes the milk to begin to flow. After all four cups have thus been adjusted, four jets of milk can be seen flowing into the vacuum immediately beneath the glass cover. In from eight to ten minutes the cow is milked "dry."

The animals submit very quietly to this novel method of milking, and after the first time they appear to be scarcely conscious that they are being deprived of their milk. The apparatus, indeed, promises to relieve cows of much of the distress which, under existing circumstances, seems inevitable. Its use will obviate the excruciating pain that animals with chapped or swollen teats must necessarily suffer when milked by hand. Moreover, its employment will insure much greater cleanliness in the operation of milking, a benefit of at least as much importance to the consumer as to the producer. One attendant can conveniently keep half a dozen cows going. By the time the adjustment has been made for the sixth cow the first cow will about have finished milking, and her pail can be taken for the seventh cow and so on. To maintain the vacuum a few strokes at the pump occasionally are sufficient.

Mrs. Burton Harrison Wrote "The Anglomaniacs."

The authorship of "The Anglomaniacs," which has run its course through six or eight numbers of the *Century Magazine*, has been declared at last, and Mrs. Burton Harrison turns out to be the unknown and mysterious personage who is responsible. A great many people have thought of her before, but could not see why she should publish anonymously after her position as a pleasant writer of New York society and Southern sketches had made her known. The knowledge of politics and of other questions with which a man would seem to be more likely to be familiar led many people to attribute the story to different authors of the other sex. Mrs. Harrison's novelettes, "Bar Harbor Days," "Helen Troy," and "Golden-rod," and her play, called "A Russian Honeymoon," in which Mrs. James Brown Potter frequently appeared here, made her best known. A new novel by her, dealing with the life of the South with which she is familiar, is coming out about Christmas time.

St. Luke's Hospital Society.

The society of St. Luke's Hospital met yesterday in the office of the Continental Trust Company, 18 Wall street, and elected this Board of Managers for one year: Samuel D. Babcock, Waldron P. Brown, Hugh N. Camp, George A. Crocker, Chauncey M. Depew, Charles M. Fry, Anson W. Hard, Charles G. Landon, Benoni Lockwood, George M. Miller, Hoffman Miller, J. Pierpont Morgan, Gordon Norrie, Henry A. Oakley, Henry Parish, Percy R. Pyne, Moses Taylor Pyne, Henry B. Renwick, Charles H. Russell, Jr., Edward Schell, J. Noble Stearns, David Stewart, Cornelius Vanderbilt, and Philip G. Weaver.

The report of the retiring Board showed that the special subscription, which was started to abolish the $34,500 debt, aggregated $43,950, leaving a balance of $9,450, which was applied toward the current expenses of the year. There were 1,997 patients treated during the year, out of whom 866 were discharged as cured and 600 as improved.

Puzzles in Relationship.

From the Des Moines Leader.

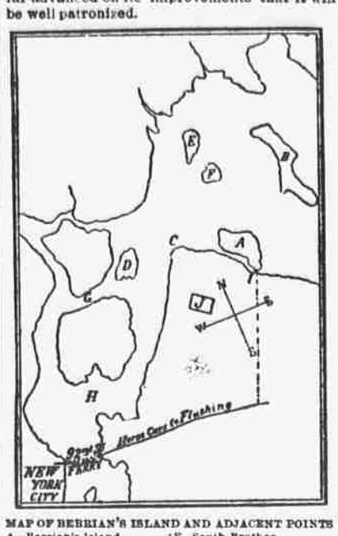
Two Polk county widowers had a grown daughter, and each took the other's daughter as his second wife. Through these marriages children were born to each. These children grew reasonably fast. What is the relationship between the two men, and their wives, and in what relationship do the children stand to each other and to the old folks? The old farmers were fathers-in-law to each other and also sons-in-law to each other.

FOR THE GOOD OF ATHLETICS.

THE MANHATTANS PURCHASE AN ENTIRE ISLAND FOR A SUMMER HOME.

$75,000 to be Expended for Improvements—What the Grounds Will Look Like When Completed—A Fine Track to be Constructed for Sprinting Purposes.

The growth of the Manhattan Athletic Club during the past year has been phenomenal. Since its organization, thirteen years ago, the club has been very strong athletically, but when the New York Athletic Club moved into its new club house on Sixth avenue, in 1885, it took a jump in membership and wealth that left the Manhattans rather in the rear. The latter, however, was soon after its rival in the matter of a handsome club building, and by 1888 work had been commenced on its magnificent structure on Fourth avenue and Forty-fifth street. During that year the New York Athletic Club added Travers Island to its plant. On it are an athletic track, boat house, tennis courts, and a commodious club house, with all the facilities of a city building. It is actually a paradise for men of athletic or outdoor tendencies. The Manhattan Athletic Club, realizing that sooner or later it must own a country home, has, even before moving into its new city club house, purchased an island at the head of Long Island Sound, and by next summer it is thought work will be so far advanced on its improvements that it will be well patronized.



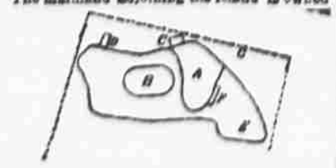
MAP OF BERRIAN'S ISLAND AND ADJACENT POINTS

A—Berrian's Island.
B—Riker's Island.
C—Lawrence's Point.
D—Sunken Meadows.
E—North Brother.
F—South Brother.
G—Little Hell Gate.
H—Hell Gate.
I—Draw bridge to island.
J—The Woolsey mansion.

The map showing Berrian's Island and the adjacent points reveals at a glance how near and accessible it is to New York city. William J. Swan, the Chairman of the committee that selected the island, says that one can easily drive from the Fifth Avenue Hotel to the Ninety-second street ferry, cross the East River to Astoria, thence to the island in three-quarters of an hour. Its nearness he considers invaluable so far as its universal popularity is concerned. Chairman Swan also says that one can take the elevated road at Forty-second street to Eighty-sixth street, then a surface car to the Ninety-second street ferry, cross and take another surface car which goes to Flushing, get off at the road leading to the island, and not consume over an hour, and he thinks the transportation facilities of this way will be increased in the near future. Arrangements will also probably be made with the Ninety-ninth street ferry, which goes to Flushing, to stop at the island. A steamboat dock will be built, and as the island is right in the course of the boats, very little time would be lost by their stopping.

The island includes forty-one acres above water, and about thirty acres underneath water shown by the dotted line. From point to point the land is nearly half a mile long. Its profile reveals low land at each extremity, with two mounds or bluffs like a dromedary's back dividing the island into hills and a valley. The mound toward the northern end will be cut away and used to raise that part between the two hills as they are now. The levelling is shown by the dotted line in the view of the profile. This will make a large, open, level place, with plenty of room for a quarter or even a third of a mile track. The former distance seems to be the more favored on account of its being easier to regulate the different distances of races on a track with an even number of laps to the mile. The land surrounding the track will be a little above it, the whole resembling an immense spoon. Foot and carriage paths will be on the banks of this amphitheatre, and spectators occupying any part of the bank can have a view of everything going on in the field. The grand stand will be situated at the southeasterly end of the track, and will rest against the large bluff, on which the club house will be built. In fact, the latter building will be so close to the stand that they will almost be considered connected. The site for the grand stand was chosen for two reasons, first, its closeness to the club house, and secondly, on account of the sun's rays not striking the front of it until late in the afternoon.

A prominent feature of the place is that the water near it is free from current. On the east side Bowery Bay is situated, and this affords a magnificent rowing course. The main channel of the Sound is on the other side of Riker's Island. Therefore, the water in front of the Manhattan's home will be an excellent place for yacht anchorages. The low land on the southeastern end will be used as a field for miscellaneous sports, such as rifle and clay-pigeon shooting, base ball, tennis, &c. Near the bluff a large stable will be built to accommodate those who bring their carriages to the island. Connection to the main land will be made with a drawbridge, and the road leading from the shore to the road from Astoria to Flushing will be very much improved.



PRESENT PROFILE LOOKING NORTHEAST FROM MAIN LAND.

A—Proposed levellias and filling in.
B—Club house site.
C—Site for stables.
D—Water line.

The soil of the island consists of sandy gravel. There is no vegetation to speak of, and the only rock in sight is a few boulders, although there are some on the water's edge at the northwest end.

The club house will be built on the bluff, and its ground floor will be about sixty feet above the water. It will be a long low structure, two stories high, containing a large hall, offices, dining room, parlors, yachting and chart rooms, &c. A huge open fireplace will be conspicuous in the main hall. On the floor above there will be about one hundred sleeping apartments with fresh and salt water bath rooms in good supply. At the easterly end of the building there will be an auxiliary structure attached to the main club house by a covered hall. This building will contain the bar, café, billiard room and bowling alleys, and above will be servants' sleeping apartments. The main building will be surrounded by a balcony twenty-five feet wide. Electric lights and gas will be used throughout this building and its attached structure. A boat house or building for the use of visiting clubs may also be erected near the athletic track.

No composition has yet been determined upon to use in making the track, but the probabilities are that a mixture of clay and cinder will be brought into play, which is about what is used on the track at Berkeley Oval. This is found to be far better than an entire cinder course, and also better than a clay or dirt track. It combines the dryness of the former in wet weather and the speed of the latter in ordinary weather. Arrangements for electrical timing will be made, and the latest improvements in sprinting and pole vaulting uprights and hurdles will be had.

The mainland adjoining the island is owned by E. J. Wooley. The Manhattan Athletic Club will issue $200,000 in 5 per cent first mortgage bonds. Mr. Wooley will accept $125,000 of said bonds in payment in full for the island. The remaining $75,000 in bonds are to be disposed of at par and the proceeds to be applied to the improvements. The consummation of the sale of the land has been contingent upon the club disposing of the $75,000 in bonds. These bonds have met a favorable market, and the island, therefore, is about as good as purchased. Work will be commenced as soon as possible to level the land and erect the club house and other structures. In case the buildings are not far enough advanced next year to be occupied, Mr. Woolsey will allow his mansion on the mainland to be used as temporary quarters. The estimated cost of the buildings is as follows: Club house and furnishing, $27,500; excavation and levelling, $15,000; track, $5,000; boat house, $10,000; stables and contingencies, $15,000; general expenses, $2,500. The trimming and furnishing of the club house will be plain but comfortable.

A
B
C
D