The Sun.

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The Last Appeal.

When it became certain that the Census Office had undercounted the population of New York by about two hundred thousand, depriving this city of one Representative in Congress, and this State of one electoral vote for President, an appeal for justice was addressed to the persons immediately responsible for the great wrong.

PORTER himself was out of the country at that time; but his subordinates, acting in the same spirit as was afterward displayed by the Superintendent, treated the application of our Mayor with contempt. They did everything in their power to prevent the rectification of the wrong; and when PORTER came home he sustained them.

Then the people of New York, through the Mayor of the city and the Governor of the State, directed their protest over the heads of the dishonest census takers to their responsible superior, the Secretary of the Interior. The only effect of this appeal was an insulting letter from Secretary NOBLE to Governor HILL. NOBLE sustained PORTER, as PORTER sustained the smaller falsifiers.

Through the newspaper press and by private appeals the matter was then brought forcibly to the attention of the President of the United States. It was believed and hoped that Gen. HARRISON would care more for his reputation as a man personally honest than for the success of the partisan schemes of the census falsifiers. A word from him would have blocked the conspiracy to deprive New York of the representation to which she is constitutionally entitled. President HARRISON, to his shame be it said, never pronounced that word of justice and honor. He sustained NOBLE, as NOBLE had sustained PORTER, and as PORTER had sustained the unscrupulous counters-out in his employment.

Next, New York turned to Congress for justice. Her case was presented in the House of Representatives with earnest and convincing ability by the New York Congressmen. Their arguments and evidence would have prevailed if the court had not been packed. Day before yesterday, by a partisan vote of 148 to 123, the Republican House sustained President HARRISON, as HARRISON had sustained NOBLE, and as NOBLE in his turn had sustained PORTER and PORTER's subordinate falsifiers.

There is one more opportunity. The Apportionment bill, based, so far as New York is concerned, upon a false and fraudulent count of our citizens, now goes to the United States Senate. Has the metropolis a friend and faithful representative in that body? The last edition of the Congressional Directory records the name of WILLIAM MAXWELL EVARTS as the senior Senator from New York, and sets forth the fact that Mr. EVARTS, although born in Boston, has practised law in this town continuously since 1841. That is half a century. For fifty years Mr. EVARTS has owed to this metropolis whatever he has gained in the way of fortune or fame. If he will practise law for one short hour in the Senate when the fraudulent Apportionment bill comes up, there is no doubt that he can prevent the consummation of this monstrous wrong to the city to which he owes so much.

It is said that Mr. EVARTS, now about to retire to private life, is sensitive to the charge that as a Senator from New York he has not adequately represented our municipal greatness. If that is so, Mr. EVARTS now has the opportunity—probably his last opportunity—to make himself New York's representative, in the full and true sense of the word; and to him, therefore, the people of New York address their last appeal.

The Indian War.

The fears of an Indian war in the Northwest seem about to be realized. Some of the Indians, at first thoroughly alarmed by the preparations the Government was making by sending so many troops to surround them, took refuge in the Bad Lands. The wise and conciliatory policy pursued by Gen. BROOKE to reâssure these Indians and to persuade them to come into the agency and have a conference with him, had a happy effect. With a few exceptions the Indians came to the agency. The result of the talk was satisfactory, and the outlook became promising and peaceful again.

If the authorities who, a fortnight ago, countermanded orders for the arrest of SITTING BULL, have since then deemed it wise to have him arrested, a force should have been sent sufficient to overawe resistance, and thus save the lives at least of the Indian police who bravely undertook that duty. There were plenty of troops at hand, but they were not employed till the mischief was done. Had the old chief seen himself and his band surrounded by a strong body of armed men, numerous enough to make resistance hopeless, he would never have shown fight, nor would his trembling, hesitating followers have been urged into committing themselves, and then allowed to escape only to fight to desperation in the Bad Lands.

With SITTING BULL in custody, the Indian excitement would have quieted down. With SITTING BULL dead, his followers will naturally desire to avenge his death; and now there doubtless will be a war, if war it can be called, where several thousand soldiers are attempting to wipe out "two hundred hostiles." Is this to be wondered at? But let us quote a despatch from North Dakota:

"The country round about is terribly wrought up over the killing of SITTING BULL. Instead of creating an easy feeling it has aroused much apprehension. It is feared that many families of settlers will feel the vengeance of SITTING BULL's followers. SITTING BULL's son, who was killed, was a bright youth, only twelve years old. It is expected that settlers will flock to Bismarck and Mandan by the hundreds as soon as the news of SITTING BULL's death is known."

At the beginning of the talk about the Messiah craze there was a force in the Northwest sufficient to protect that country. The massing of troops there alarmed the Indians. The removal of the troops from Wyoming and Arizona has encouraged the few disaffected Indians in that region thus deprived of troops, and correspondingly alarmed the friendly Indians, who dread being forced into a hostile attitude toward the Government. The death of SITTING BULL has fired the mine. The explosion has come, and who can foresee how far the effects will be felt? Perhaps from Dakota to southern California.

The following is a significant despatch from the commander of the Division of the Missouri:

"ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 18.—I leave to-night for the Black Hills, and I shall be on the reservation in three days. Gen. BROOKE has reported to me that he has exhausted all peaceable means of settling whatever difficulties there may be."

We would very much like to see the whole of Gen. BROOKE's despatch, and would also like to know under what circumstances and impressions it was composed. We confess there is something remarkable about that despatch. What has caused this very sudden and apparently radical change in the belief, policy, and conduct of Gen. BROOKE? Have we the whole of his despatch? Was it penned after the direction of affairs had been quietly taken out of his hands, and SITTING BULL attacked by a force large enough to provoke a fight, but too small either to prevent bloodshed or the escape of the despairing and desperate followers of SITTING BULL?

We have confidence in Gen. BROOKE. He is an officer who is reâssuring and conciliatory, defensive when necessary, warlike when unavoidable, and sure to accomplish results in harmony with the wishes of the country. The newspaper despatches from Chicago quote Col. CORBIN as saying:

"Gen. MILES made up his mind to have the advantage if there was to be any fighting this time."

Such a declaration, taken by itself, is soldierly and is well enough. But there are those who believe that a disposition has been shown to make warlike prophecies come true; and many good people believe that the disturbance that makes it wise to have the advantage just now, has been fomented by want of tact and by interested parties. Unfortunately the fighting is not done mainly by our military leaders. Thousands of troops will be involved in this struggle. Lives will be lost and families plunged into grief and mourning. As for the soldiers themselves:

"Theirs not to reason why,
Theirs but to do and die."

Preserve the Yellowstone Park.

Among the measures before the Fifty-first Congress which are for the benefit of the whole people is the bill for the preservation and protection of the Yellowstone Park. Legislation for this purpose has failed in the last four Congresses, each time in the House. The present bill has passed the Senate and been reported in the House, and there the lobby is trying to defeat it once more.

The value of the Yellowstone Park as a national pleasure ground, a great national forest and game park, is known to everybody. Less known, but not less important, is its value as a reservoir and centre of distribution for water. The mountain streams and the lakes of the Yellowstone plateau are dependent upon the preservation of the forests; and therefore the enlargement, as proposed in the bill now before the House, of the park area by including the mountainous, forest-covered district to the south and west, is necessary, and, moreover, the area which it is proposed to annex contains picturesque scenery which will add to the beauty of the park. The land which is to be taken is useless for either farming or cattle raising. If it is not taken, the forests will not be saved, the water supply of the park region will sooner or later be decreased, and the park will lose one of its chief attractions. It may be added that the tract south of the park is rich in elk.

The other important provision of the bill relates to the punishment of vandalism within the park. The killing of game for the skins must be stopped before long, or there will be no game left in the park. And not only protection of the game from the rapacity of hunters, but protection of the forests, which have suffered greatly from fires, is indispensable. This protection the bill provides.

Against the enlargement, preservation, and maintenance of the Yellowstone Park there is not one rational argument to be made. It belongs to the people, and it is the duty of Congress to keep it in the best condition for the people. The lobby, however, is not concerned for the people. The lobby insists that the bill be amended so as to give the Montana Mineral Railway Company an exclusive franchise to build a track to a mining camp outside of the northeastern boundary of the park. As *Garden and Forest* points out:

"Those interested in the park, for many obvious reasons, object to the admission of any railway. They see in such an admission the beginning of the end. They are quite willing to adjust the northern boundary so as to allow not only the railway but traffic of all kinds to reach the mines without going through the reservation. This object can be easily attained by making the Yellowstone River the northeastern boundary, an excellent physical feature which all could recognize. Curiously enough, the Montana Mineral Railway Company, the corporation asking for this franchise, objects to this adjustment of the northern boundary, because, as they say, it would allow any railway to build to Cooke. What they really desire, it seems, is an exclusive privilege which the proposed amendment would give them, and without which they oppose the bill. It is far better that people along the line of the railway should live under State jurisdiction rather than reside within the reservation. The people interested in Cooke, who consider a railway essential for the development of their property, prefer that the track should run wholly outside the park. They are becoming irritated at the delays caused by the small number of individuals who, for their own personal ends, object to any modification of the boundary and insist upon the railway running through the park."

The railway ought to be kept outside. The park is a park, and not a country to be developed by railroads; nor will railroads add to the charm of its scenery. The bill ought to be passed without further change, and it ought to be passed as soon as possible.

The Water Route to Central Siberia.

The persistent efforts of Capt. WIGGINS to prove that a practicable water route exists between England and Siberia by way of the Kara Sea, have often been reported. Since 1874 this indomitable man has devoted a large part of his time and resources, together with funds supplied by his friends, to proving that the plains of central Siberia may be reached by water from western Europe. If he could demonstrate the practical value of his theory it would, of course, be a great thing both for Siberia and for Europe, for there are in Siberia immense areas capable of supporting millions of people, and rich in all natural resources.

It is possible that NORDENSKIÖLD's glowing description, in which he spoke of these great plains as equalling or surpassing our own rich agricultural lands, both in fertility and extent, may be overdrawn; still there is no doubt that Siberia is one of the future granaries of the world. Its resources, however, can never be developed until it is more easily reached from other lands. At present its people receive no supplies from western Europe, except those which are filtered through the passes of the Ural Mountains or carried along the wagon road from Orenburg. This year, however, a ship load of goods has been taken from London, through the ice of the Kara Sea, and 1,500 miles up the Yenesei River, where it has been landed on the wharves of Yeniseisk. Three months after the cargo left London the vessel which conveyed it to Siberia brought back to England a large load of the products of northern Asia.

Capt. WIGGINS had really demonstrated before that this route may be used for commercial purposes. Last year his voyage would have been successful if it had not been for a misunderstanding. The river transport, which brought a load from Yeniseisk, waited for the ocean steamer at the head of the Yenesei estuary, 200 miles inland, while the steamer was waiting at the mouth of the river. The result was that, failing to connect, both cargoes were taken back to the places they started from. The expedition this year has made a discovery which will prevent such blunders in future. The estuary of the Yenesei is so broad that the small craft of the upper river have not dared to brave the gales which sweep up stream from the sea; at the same time the river is so studded with small islands, and navigators have had so little knowledge of its channels, that WIGGINS has not heretofore ventured to navigate it with ocean steamers, although three years ago he ascended the river in his small steamer Phœnix, of 400 tons, quite to Yeniseisk. This year, however, the lower part of the river has been sufficiently explored to establish the fact that the river can be safely ascended by large ocean vessels to Karaoul, nearly 200 miles from the river's mouth. Thus the last factor in the problem before Capt. WIGGINS has been solved, and hereafter vessels from the upper river will meet European cargo-laden ships at Karaoul.

This year's expedition took thirty-nine days to reach Karaoul, remained there nineteen days, and was twenty-six days on the home voyage. The vessel was absent from the London docks only eighty-four days. Of course, the Kara Sea is passable only for a short time during the summer season. WIGGINS says that vessels bound for Siberia must sail from British ports not later than the end of the first week in August, in order to reach the mouth of the Yenesei in time to make the homeward voyage the same season. He has demonstrated that within these time limits the Kara Sea really presents no bugbears to navigators. He can justly claim to have proved that the ice in this northern sea, during a short period in the summer, is no obstacle to navigation. In all the fifteen voyages he has made up to last year his progress was barred by ice only once, when he started on his journey too late in the season.

What he has proved is that under certain conditions which at last are known and understood, the Kara Sea offers a trustworthy route to navigators. He started out with this theory, and it has taken him all these years to acquire the knowledge of the possibilities of navigation in these waters which would enable sailors to utilize them for purposes of trade. The necessary experience has at last been gained, and there is every reason to believe that in future the water route to Siberia will be largely used.

Capt. WIGGINS deserves the praise which is now given him, for the dauntless perseverance and courage with which he has advocated his theory and endeavored to establish its correctness. Unless the Russian Government interposes obstacles in the way of prohibitive taxation, there is no doubt that the water route from western Europe to Siberia will give a decided impetus to the development of that country.

Fashion and Intellect.

Mrs. JOHN SHERWOOD lectured before a Ladies' Club the other afternoon upon the possibility of our having a Salon here corresponding to the French Salon of the past and present. What she means is a society made up of both clever and fashionable people, the union of fashion with intellect, as she describes it.

But haven't we such a society already? Or, at any rate, is not our fashionable society representative of both the intellect and the fashion of the town, such as they are? Is not the aggregate amount of intellect in it equal to the sum of the intellect in any other social circle of equal size in New York?

This society could not keep together, it could not exist as a distinct institution, if it divorced intellect from fashion. The capacity for social leadership implies the possession of intellectual abilities, oftentimes of a superior order. Mere wealth, luxury, and social experience cannot compensate for the absence of the other. The nucleus of the society must be made up of bright people, or else the whole would soon rust out, and all the sooner because of its grandeur. Luxury alone becomes tiresome, monotonous, satiating. If the society was intrinsically dull and stupid, without intellectual light, it would become intolerable because of its very luxury. It must have spiritual animation or it sinks into materialism.

Therefore we cannot agree with Mrs. SHERWOOD that there is any social void in New York which could be filled by going to work to start a Salon after the Paris model. All the social demands of the town seem to be supplied at present. If fashion leaves out any intellect, it is not because it objects to intellect, but because the intellect does not harmonize with itself. A man may be an intellectual giant and a moral hero, and yet he may be out of place in a society organized for elegant pleasure only. He must be polished outside no less than inside to fit in there. A great writer, an entrancing poet, a brilliant genius, may not be socially assimilable. He may not be able to contribute to the enjoyment of the circle by his personal presence and his speech, however much he contributes to the enjoyment of mankind by his outside labors.

Fashion is quick to discover its own, and it does not throw away material available for its profitable use.

American Ships.

We agree with our contemporary, the *Tribune*, that the ships to be provided for our growing commercial marine within the next few years, must be built in American shipyards. Our new cruisers give evidence that American shipbuilders are able to rival, if not to surpass, the best work of European builders. They ought to be the forerunners of a squadron of American merchant vessels, built in American yards and foundries, built of American steel and iron, built by the industry of America's workmen, built for the service of American commerce, built to be launched from American wharves, and to sail under the American flag.

Our new navy shows what can be done here in constructing warlike cruisers, and the shipbuilders of New York and other maritime ports will yet show what they can do in creating a new commercial marine.

From fifty to a hundred thousand workmen ought to find steady and remunerative employment in the shipyards and the ship iron works of the United States.

In many of the Southern States there is a widespread anxiety to secure immigration of a desirable kind. We hear of it especially from Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana on the west side of the Mississippi, and from Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida on this side of it. Immigrants are wanted to take up the vacant lands and to do work for the owners of fields and forests; they are wanted to help in building up the towns and as operatives in various manufacturing industries. Many of our Southern exchanges, in referring to the subject, tell of the attractions that the South offers to immigrants, and express surprise that so small a proportion of the foreigners who are constantly landing in New York are drawn to that section of the country.

Until a very recent period, the great majority of our immigrants were from the countries of northern Europe, and, as soon as possible after their arrival at this port, they made their way to the States of the Northwest in search of land and of homes. But a change has taken place, and within the past few years a heavy proportion of our newcomers have been Italians, who prefer the city to the country, and who take up their quarters in New York and other large American cities. Many of them have gone from here to New Orleans, but very few of them when they reach the South have any desire to engage in the tillage of the soil or to make homesteads for themselves. The mass of them know nothing either of rural work or of the skilled trades.

The advocates of immigration to the Southern States will, therefore, see that immigrants from northern Europe prefer our Northwestern States, and that immigrants from southern Europe do not furnish the kinds of labor that are most needed by them.

It would be well if the free course of popular lectures provided by the Board of Education, which came to an end last night, were continued through the winter season. It has been a successful course ever since it was begun last month. Large numbers of knowledge seekers have attended the lectures in the various grammar schools in which they were delivered. Nearly all the lectures have been of marked excellence and upon excellent themes, such as sketches of travel, expositions of scientific questions, and other branches of useful knowledge. It is true that the Board of Education is not bound to provide free courses of popular lectures in the winter season or any other season, yet it has the power to do so, without going beyond its proper authority. The expense of the grammar school lectures that have been given will make but a very small item in the budget.

After his critics have had all the fun that amuses them with the Hon. PATRICK DIVVER, in connection with his appointment as Police Justice, the fact will remain unaltered that he is a citizen whose intelligence has raised him to a position of great influence among his neighbors, and whose word they all know is as true as steel. Mr. DIVVER will undoubtedly make an excellent magistrate.

Only two days more for the living skeleton of the starvation show, who has kept up his pluck without catering to it, and tried to keep up a perpetual smile without losing sight of the cash box.

A NOVEL DOLLAR.

Gen. Berdan's Proposed Solution of the Silver Problem.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Gen. Berdan has written a letter to Francis Newlands, Chairman of the National Silver Executive Committee, proposing a novel solution of the silver coinage problem. Gen. Berdan says:

"The scheme is to make a dollar of gold and silver, mechanically combined, by first making a silver coin worth twenty-five cents, with a hole in the centre, and then pressing a plug of gold in the hole that is worth seventy-five cents. The number of grains of silver employed to be fixed by Congress. Such a dollar would not only do away with the serious objections raised by all to the weight and size of the present silver dollar, but the smallness of the gold dollar also."

The General says that he has proposed this scheme to several prominent men during the past six years, and he does not recall a single objection raised by any of them that could be compared to the objections raised against the size and weight of the present silver dollar. He suggests that there should be a raised milled rim around the whole as high as the rim at the edge of the coin for the purpose of protecting the gold from friction; and for the purpose of enabling one to detect at once in the dark, with the thumb and finger, the difference between a dollar and a twenty-five cent piece.

THE BEHRING SEA TROUBLES.

Tupper Contradicts Elliott's Assertion that the Seal are Becoming Extinct.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 81.—In an interview regarding the reports sent out from Washington concerning the Behring Sea trouble the Hon. C. H. Tupper said to-day that the American proposal to allow vessels in the sealing grounds during the winter months, when not a seal was to be had, was, of course, valueless to outside sealing vessels. As to the alleged extinction of seals, the American contention has been refuted from two sources. First, by the evidence of American Treasury officials, and again by that of Canadian sealers. The Canadian Government, Mr. Tupper added, had offered to have the question settled by two experts—one Canadian and the other American—and in the event of their failing to agree, to abide by the decision of an impartial umpire, to whom the question should be referred. Mr. Blaine refused to agree to this, and instead had obtained a report from Prof. Elliott, whom he sent up to Alaska.

THE SOUTHERN DEMOCRACY.

Shaking Off Mugwumpery With Vigor and Earnestness—Virginia's Delegation.

From the Richmond Democrat.

So far from the *Advance* being the only anti-Cleveland "chicken in the old woman's coop," the Southern yards and woods are just full of them. Among these we can mention the Atlanta *Constitution*, the leading Democratic paper in the South, and nearly all the Democratic papers in Texas; the leading papers in all of the cotton States; the Alexandria *Gazette*, Danville *Register*, Petersburg *Index-Appeal*, Lynchburg *News*, and a large number of the other leading Democratic papers in Virginia that have spoken occupy the same position the *Advance* has taken, and these are all backed up by the hard sense of Senators John S. Barbour and John W. Daniel, Gov. Phil McKinney, Col. W. H. Flourney, Frank G. Ruffin, Col. C. Patteson, Capt. Thomas Whitehead, and every leading Democrat in the State, whose opinions we have seen, except Col. O'Ferrall and ex-Attorney-General Ayres.

In fact, our friends, Col. O'Ferrall and Ayres, are about the only two leading Democrats in the State who have expressed a different opinion from the *Advance*, and they will change their wrong opinions long before the Democratic National Convention meets in 1892, when a solid Democratic delegation will be chosen from Virginia.

TWO MORE MARVELLOUS DISCOVERIES.

Sir Joseph Lister Says that Koch is on the Eve of Startling the World Again.

From the St. James's Gazette.

Sir Joseph Lister, speaking at King's College Hospital yesterday on his return from Berlin, where he has been studying the methods and investigations of Dr. Koch, gave utterance to a very remarkable statement. The great surgeon declared that, in the course of three or four weeks at the utmost, the world will be startled by two new discoveries on the part of Dr. Koch, which will transcend in importance what is popularly termed the famous consumption cure.

Briefly stated, Dr. Koch has apparently discovered some substance which will not only cure but prevent two of the most terrible contagious diseases known at the present time. What diseases these are is not known at present save to a very few, Sir Joseph Lister being among the fortunate ones.

The Cancer Parasite.

From the Pall Mall Gazette.

Dr. William B. Russell, senior pathologist in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, read a paper before the Pathological Society of London on Tuesday, and before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh on Wednesday, in which he intimated that he had secured the parasite in a number of cancer cases. Dr. Russell says he has been studying cancer for years. In the course of his investigations he found things which could not, in his opinion, be explained on the principles of ordinary tissue growth. He tried to differentiate some of these by special methods of staining with anodyne dyes. The result was that an organism was differentiated. These organisms Dr. Russell found in all the cancer cases which he examined, between forty and fifty, but under no other disease conditions. By tracing the life history of the organism he found it to be a fungus of the yeast type. The Doctor here again pointed out that his experiments had to be tested by others before his discovery could be accepted.

For Mugwump Hats.

From the Tipton (Ind.) Times.

The *Times* is no prophet, but it wants to make a prediction, and it wants the editor of the *Indianapolis Sentinel* to cut it out and paste it in his hat: The *Times's* prediction is that Grover Cleveland will not be the Democratic nominee for President in 1892.

A Truth Indeed.

From the Kansas City Times.

White beard and snowy hair do not make a poet.

A Bad Case.

"Brenson is an awful free trader."
"How does he show it?"
"He carries his umbrella open on fine days. Says the McKinley bill put it up."

The Stock on Hand.

In any crisis,
We ought to know that last year's ice
Is really just as sweet and nice
As this year's ice is.

POLITICAL NOTES.

It cost the city $1,891.76 for the carting of the booths and ballot boxes, under the provisions of the new law, this year. The largest sum was paid in Capt. Killilea's precinct, the Twenty-second, and the next largest sum to Dennis Markey, who has done carting for Commissioner Voorhis for many years. The expenses of rental and the salaries of inspectors, poll clerks, and ballot clerks at the last election amounted in the First Assembly District to $5,712. There were cast in this district, in all, 5,057 votes, so that the expense of having the ballots counted and of the places to count them in amounted to more than $1 a head. This takes into no account the cost of tickets, election booths, ballot boxes, stationery, advertising, cards of instruction, and incidentals.

The present law governing the legislative apportionment of the State was passed on April 23, 1879. The census upon which it was based was taken in 1875, and had the Republicans in the Legislature complied with the law on the subject they would have passed a bill of apportionment in 1876. Unfortunately, however, for the interests of growing metropolitan localities, the Republicans had a majority in that Legislature and were able to defer action for three years, during which the Democrats were deprived of their proper share of representation, and the inequalities which existed at the census of 1875 grew steadily. The enumeration of the inhabitants by the State authorities is provided for in the Constitution, and should be made in each of the years terminating with five. Thus there should have been a State census in 1885, and the results of it made the basis of an equitable reapportionment in 1886. Instead of this, however, no census was taken, consequently no apportionment has been made. The result of it is that the dist ricts of the State are divided according to the population as it existed fifteen years ago, which gives the rural localities a representation to which they are not entitled, and deprives cities and growing towns of the State of their appropriate voice and influence in its control. With a Democratic Assembly next year, and a Democratic Governor of the Capitol, nothing is required but the votes of three Republican Senators to carry through a fair apportionment plan based upon the new census.

The plan of reorganization of the County Democracy adopted by its leaders at the last meeting of the County Committee will probably receive the acquiescence of a majority of the district organizations and thus govern control of this election for the County. The departure of Judge Power for the South, and his surrender of what Mr. Tilden called "quasi leadership," has led to much gossip on the subject of his successor, circumstances pointing strongly in the direction of Mr. Charles A. Jackson to the post. Mr. Jackson is one of the leaders in the movement which brought William C. Whitney, Abraham Lawrence, and other young Democrats into the field of municipal politics. He was the first President of the Young Men's Democratic Club, the first candidate ever nominated for an elective office (he declined it) by the County Democracy, and is a Democrat of the Tilden school, being a warm personal and political friend of Gov. David B. Hill, and is known not to have in the slightest degree that conspicuous Democrat which have cost the County Democracy such a loss of votes, prestige, and opportunities in the past.

The Tammany Hall primaries for election of members in the General Committee of the organization will be held during the last week of December, and contests are expected in Districts 8, 9, 12, and 14.

One of the questions with which next year's Legislature will have undoubtedly to deal will be the license question, which during the past four years has been constantly before the Legislature, the Republican majority passing each year some measure which, by reason of its impracticable or obnoxious character, it was known and intended the Democratic Governor would veto. This year, however, the Democrats have a majority on joint ballot, and one not unnatural result of this will be the passing of some law designed to put an end to the perplexities which exist on the excise question. Strong efforts have been made for a year past by the friends of more enlightened excise legislation to have more modern regulations on the subject of the control and selling of liquor established. This was the declaration of the last Democratic State Convention, held on Oct. 1, 1889, in Syracuse, on the subject: "We arraign the Republican party for its dishonest treatment of the temperance question. We point to the fact that an Excise Commission, in its majority largely Republican, was, upon the recommendation of a Democratic Governor, in 1888 appointed by the Legislature itself to revise the excise laws, and thereby secure a just and proper solution of the temperance question; that this Commission, consisting of seven members, five of whom were Republicans, reported a measure known as the 'Excise Commission bill,' that this measure was supported by the Democratic members of the Legislature, but was repudiated by the Republican legislators, who, in its stead, passed a bill extreme in its character, illiberal in its provisions, and unjust in its discriminations, drafted for the sole purpose of securing Executive disapproval in order that the temperance question should continue to be an issue in political contests."

The city has been enriched to the extent of $199.12 by the sale, by the Charities and Correction Commissioners, of bones. This item of humble revenue amounts to $2,500 a year.

The advertising in newspapers of the names of candidates, under the new election law, amount this year to $15,927, distributed as follows: *New Yorker Herold* (German), $2,817; *New York Daily News*, $4,830; *Morning Journal*, $3,312, and *New York Press*, $4,968.

Ex-Alderman Thomas Mulligan of the Eleventh district, whose largely attended funeral took place on Sunday last, died in Aiken, S. C. He was for years Justice Ford's first lieutenant in the County Democracy organization of the Eleventh district, and was a warm friend of John Morrissey during the period of that leader's political prominence. He was a member of the Board of Aldermen in 1869 and 1870, but was defeated for reelection in 1871. He was the anti-Tammany candidate for Coroner in 1879, but was defeated by a small majority, receiving 45,000 votes. He was popular, well known, and highly respected.

The tariff reformers of the Hell's Kitchen district have established themselves in club rooms at the corner of Thirty-eighth street and Tenth avenue, and have filed articles of incorporation as "the Eleventh Congressional District Tariff Reform Club" with the County Clerk. Their objects they declare to be "to promote tariff reform by reducing duties of the tariff, especially on the necessaries of life and the raw materials for manufactures."

The only Assembly district in town wherein the local nominees for Assemblyman and Alderman ran ahead of the Tammany county ticket, headed by Mayor Grant, was the Fifth, in which Judge Mitchell is the Tammany leader. Here the Tammany Mayoralty ticket seems to have been slighted in favor of the local candidates. Mr. Grant getting but 3,317 votes against 3,911 cast for him in 1888 and 3,459 cast for him in 1884. The Fifth was, in fact, about the only district in the city in which Mayor Grant received fewer votes in 1890 than in either 1884 or 1888.

There is probably no city department which requires on the part of those in charge of it a greater degree of care, judgment, and firmness than the Department of Markets, which is one of the bureaus of the Comptroller's office. The markets of the city are subject to certain ordinances passed by the Board of Aldermen, as well as certain laws enacted by the Legislature, but great latitude is given to the Comptroller in the fixing and collection of rents, the assignment of stands, the acceptance of bidders, and in the making of rules of market government. Comptroller Myers, in entering upon the discharge of his duties in 1888 found many abuses in the Department of Markets; these he proceeded gradually to correct and cure. Beyond, and in addition to the Superintendent of Markets, there is what is known as the Chief Clerk, and there is also a Clerk of Markets, that position being now held by Putnam Conklin, who was prior to his appointment connected with the firm of H. K. & F. B. Thurber, whose commercial training was considered by the Comptroller to well qualify him for this post. He has rendered faithful and efficient service, and the general administration of market affairs is now such as to secure the praise and approval of men of all parties. The market revenues are a considerable item in the city's income, and one of the few which yields a large profit.

The city has collected during the past twelve months $250 in the way of fines for the sale of oleomargarine.

John E. Brodsky, who was elected to the Assembly as an Independent Republican from the Eighth Assembly district last month, was first a candidate for that position in 1878, and was defeated. He ran again, however, and was elected in 1879, 1880, and 1881. He ran for Congress in 1882 and was defeated by the late William Dorsheimer; he ran for State Senator in 1883 and was defeated by James Daly. He was not again a candidate until this year, when he ran for the fifth time for the office of Assemblyman and was successful. His opponent, Philip Wiesig, was defeated as Assemblyman in 1881, 1882, 1886, and 1888, four times, or just as many as Brodsky was elected.

In their enlightened thoughtfulness, the members of the Board of Aldermen have accorded their sanction to the establishment of an "approved drinking fountain for men and beasts," to be placed at the corner of Houston and Thompson. It is to furnish Croton water.

There is no civil service examination for the District Attorney's office, and in consequence of this the pressure for places in that department after Jan. 1 is exceedingly great, the number of applicants being far out of proportion to the number of places to be allotted.

THE HEX'S DAUGHTER.

A Weird Tale of Modern Witchcraft in Pennsylvania.

"I was on a business trip through central Pennsylvania recently," said a New York travelling man, "and stopped one night in a quiet little old Pennsylvania Dutch town. An old woman had died in the place that day, and wherever I went about the village her death seemed to be the leading topic. I finally asked the landlord of the hotel where I stopped who or what the old woman had been.

"'Oh, she was a hex,' the landlord replied.

"Not having the least suspicion of what in the world a hex might be, I pushed inquiry, and learned that a great many people in that vicinity, and in fact throughout that entire part of the State, were still firm believers in witchcraft and in the power of certain persons, by ridiculous incantations, ceremonies, and prescriptions, known under the generic name of 'pow-wowing,' to drive the witches away from persons, animals, wells, crops, or whatever had fallen under the ban. These witch doctors were usually women, and were known in Pennsylvania Dutch as hexes. They were held in great respect, and the death of one was regarded as a calamity by the believers in witches. The woman who had just died had been a particularly successful hex, and her death was an event of no little importance in the village.

"'Now, I don't believe in witches myself, or in the power of a hex,' said the landlord, 'but I would be obliged to some one who could explain to me an occurrence with which this woman who has just died was concerned, and which came under my personal observation. It was certainly the strangest thing I ever read or heard of, even in this locality, where superstitious belief and credulity find never-ending weird and wonderful things to tell.

"'I don't know how old the hex was who died to-day. No one knows. But twenty years ago she was an old woman. She was the widow of a well-known Pennsylvania Dutch farmer, Jacob Fretcher, who died a quarter of a century ago. Although she was left wealthy, her daughter went out to service, as is the custom with the girls of Pennsylvania Dutch parentage, although they may be prospective heiresses to thousands. This girl, then about 20 years of age, worked at this very hotel. Her name was Barbara, and she is to-day the wife of one of the richest farmers in the county. The landlord at that time was a leading man in this county, and usually a jovial sort of fellow. His name was Joseph Boyer. For some reason he never could explain he took an intense dislike to the old hex's daughter, who worked for him. I have often heard him say that when he was near the girl, or she was in his presence, he could scarcely restrain himself from doing her personal injury, and was constantly, against his will, wishing that he, or some one else, might make her suffer. It was a most singular feeling, for the girl was honest and industrious, and, as the landlord frequently said, the best girl he ever had in his house.

"'Boyer's unaccountable hatred of the hex's daughter was not the only strange fact connected with the two. The girl's fear of her employer amounted to terror. She trembled visibly when he was in sight, and that she suffered greatly could be seen by the expression of her face. At times she fell into fainting fits after Boyer had left her sight, out of which she was revived with difficulty. Another singular thing was that the girl quit the landlord's employ several times, but after an absence of a few days invariably came back and reëntered his service. She told his wife that she had such pains while she was away that she was forced to come back for relief.

"'It seems that Barbara, who was a sensible girl and not inclined to the superstitions her mother was believed to hold the charms against, did not make known to her mother the peculiar sensations and suffering she experienced and endured until nearly a year after they first appeared. Then, finding that she got no better, she confided in her mother, who told her at once that she was bewitched.

"'But who would want to bewitch me, mother?' she asked.

"'I don't know,' replied her mother; 'but I will find out.'

"The old hex took a piece of black paper, took down her witch book, something every hex has, copied something from it on the paper, and folded the paper. She then gave her daughter a hammer and a sharp nail, and told her that at 12 o'clock on the first night of the first new moon must take the paper, the hammer, and the nail with her to an ash tree that stood at the cross roads a mile beyond the village. She must place the paper against the tree, and with one blow of the hammer send the nail home through the paper. That, the hex said, would destroy the witch, but would discover the person or thing that the witch had acted through.

"'I remember it was a night in early fall that Boyer, three others, and myself sat down in the back room yonder to play a few games of euchre. Just before we sat down the landlord glanced out of the window there.

"'"Hullo! a new moon, and I saw it over my left shoulder. I won't have any luck to-night."

"'We played along until it got to be almost midnight, and we dealt for the last game. As the clock in the hall struck twelve Boyer picked up his cards. The next second he sprang to his feet, with a look of terror I shall never forget. He cried out, almost shrieked, the name of the hex's daughter, and fell back in his chair dead!

"'Of course, we were all paralyzed with horror for a moment, but, recovering, we hustled about to do what we could. We summoned a doctor at once, but he was of no use. The landlord was dead—dead, undoubtedly, of heart disease, the doctor said.

"'A few minutes after 12 that night the inmates of a house half a mile up the road yonder, toward the cross-roads, were aroused by some one knocking violently at the door. The person who was knocking proved to be Barbara, the hex's daughter. She was pale as a ghost, and as soon as she could find her voice she startled the family by exclaiming:

"'"I have killed Mr. Boyer!"

"'Thinking the girl was out of her mind the family tried to soothe her, but she declared that she had seen him fall dead as she drove a nail into a paper at the ash tree to lay a witch, according to her mother's instructions, at just 12 o'clock that night. She told what Boyer was doing when she saw him drop dead in his chair. He was playing cards, she said.

"'"As soon as I struck the nail I saw him. He called out my name so that it rings in my ears yet! Then he fell dead."

"'All this came out at the inquest, which was held the next day. The post mortem showed conclusively that Boyer had died of disease of the heart, but Barbara and her mother declared then and ever after that the witch was in Boyer's heart, and that the nail Barbara drove had been buried there. There were few people in the place but what shared in that same belief, and the popular verdict was that Boyer's death was just. And Hex Fretcher became a greater hex than ever. That is why her death has made so profound an impression in the village.

"'How do you explain that strange occurrence? There is no doubt Barbara saw Joe Boyer as she said she did. Did Joe see her when she struck the nail, and know his fate?'

"I, of course, could give my host no explanation of the uncanny affair. Is there any one who could?"

Too Much Fun in a Gymnasium.

Grace court on Brooklyn Heights is one of the most secluded streets in Brooklyn. It extends one block from Grace Episcopal Church at Hicks street, ending in the high ground overlooking the river. The wealthy residents of this quiet spot have a grievance which they recently described in a petition to the vestrymen of Grace Church.

About six months ago the church purchased a large brown-stone building in the court adjoining the church property, and transformed it into a sort of club house for the boys and girls of the parish, who meet there several nights each week for gymnastic as well as religious instruction. The young people get a good deal of fun out of the gymnastic exercises, and some of the sedate residents say that their boisterousness is too boisterous, and the petition to the Episcopal vestrymen is to have it checked.

The Squadron of Evolution.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Every effort is being made to have the repairs to the vessels composing the Squadron of Evolution, the Chicago, Boston, Atlanta, and Yorktown completed by the middle of January, so that Admiral Walker may take them off for their mid-winter cruise. Their destination has not yet been decided upon, but the cruise will probably be in the Gulf of Mexico or some other near waters, suitable to the evolutions and exercises that are to be the feature of the trip.

But What Would Paradise Be Without Her?

From the Jester.

Lady Lecturer on Woman's Rights (growing warm)—Where would man be if it had not been for woman? (After a pause, and looking around the hall)—I repeat, where would man be if it had not been for woman?

From the Gallery—I'd be in Paradise, ma'am.

Bad for Papa.

Mrs. Fangle—Freddy, what are you going to give papa for a Christmas gift?

Freddy—I intended to give him a nickel monkey on a stick, but I got in straitened financial circumstances, and now I can only give him a cent stick of candy.

Easy Work.

One swallow does not make a summer;
A single hair is not a head
One lance alone is not a plumber,
One feather does not make a bed.
Which wisdom goes to show the man
Who reads it with wide open eyes,
That almost any duffer can