The Sun.

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THE SUN, New York City.

Advertisements for THE WEEKLY SUN, *issued to-morrow morning, must be handed in this evening before 6 o'clock.*

A Grand New York Enterprise.

The project for the establishment of a Botanical Garden in New York, after the model of the famous Kew Gardens near London, has now taken definite form, and we trust it may be carried into execution at an early day, to the great gain of the people.

The Park Commissioners have agreed to set apart a site for the purpose, a bill for the incorporation of the New York Botanical Garden is about to be introduced into the Legislature, and Bronx Park, one of the most beautiful and most accessible of the new parks, offers every desirable facility for the enterprise. At its southern extremity are large tracts of fertile soil, admirably adapted for horticultural uses and surrounded by some of the most attractive sylvan scenery within the neighborhood of the city. Of these lands it is proposed that about 250 acres shall constitute the Botanical Garden, with its outdoor cultivation of flowering plants, shrubs, and trees from all parts of the world, its houses for indoor plants, and a botanical herbarium and museum for the collection, arrangement, and preservation of pressed specimens of every known plant, and of seeds, gums, and roots for scientific study and investigation. The garden would also be a source from which all other parks and public grounds of the city could receive supplies of flowers, shrubs, and trees, while of itself it could furnish the people with a resort of incomparable beauty and an infinite variety of attractions.

In Europe there are over three hundred of these botanical gardens. At London are the Kew Gardens, at Paris the Jardin des Plantes, at Berlin the Royal Botanic Garden and Museum; and at almost every town of any great importance they are maintained as one of the most valuable of the means of contributing to the pleasure and education of the people. The popular interest in them is indicated by the attendance of more than a million visitors at the Kew Gardens last year, and the Jardin des Plantes at Paris is not less frequented. Everywhere they are among the chief attractions of the towns to whose glory they add. Yet in this country we have almost nothing of the sort, except the SHAW gardens at St. Louis, now in their beginning, though in our own American flora alone we have a practically inexhaustible field for cultivation and display. No city in the world, too, has a better site for such a garden than that which has been selected in Bronx Park. It is near at hand. It is at the natural entrance to a most magnificent series of public parks. There is room enough for the development of the scheme on the greatest scale which the future may suggest. The soil is altogether suitable; and beyond and around the gardens and the buildings would be the attractions afforded by the varied scenery of wood and meadow, hill and dale, river and sea.

The plan for the establishment of the garden also involves little expense to the public as compared with the advantages they would secure. The improvement of the land set apart for its uses will be a great gain to them, and will prepare the way for the development of the whole system of new parks, as yet unready for their enjoyment. Of course the city would put up the necessary buildings, which would be its own property, but their cost would not be great, the estimate being that the annual interest on the sum would not exceed $30,000. The Park Department would make the requisite roads, but these would be demanded under any circumstances, for the new parks must be thus improved for the public benefit, else they will be useless. All the rest is to be done at private expense, the money to be raised by subscription, and provided from year to year by the society incorporated for the purpose. The grounds are to be open and free to the public, subject to such restrictions only as to days and hours as their proper care, culture, and preservation make necessary.

The Legislature, therefore, cannot hesitate to give the authority requisite for carrying out a scheme of so great benefit to the people, and which would be conducted at private expense mainly. The bill for the incorporation of the New York Botanical Garden, whenever it is introduced, will doubtless go through without objection, so vast will be the advantages conferred at a cost so small to the public.

The Church of England Does Not Censure "Lux Mundi."

When the volume of essays by distinguished representatives of Oxford scholarship and thought was published under the name of "Lux Mundi," every one could foresee that, whatever toleration it might obtain in certain quarters, it would be denounced by at least one veteran champion of orthodox Anglican opinion. We refer, of course, to Archdeacon DENISON, who on two memorable occasions in the last forty years had subjected writings, which he deemed heretical, to ecclesiastical censure. It was not likely that he would allow to pass unrebuked a work which frankly denies the inspiration of some important portions of the Old Testament. The expected happened, for in due time Archdeacon DENISON gave notice of a motion in the Lower House of Convocation—the House of Commons of the Ecclesiastical Parliament of the Province of Canterbury—for the appointment of a committee to consider and report upon the preface and eighth essay of "Lux Mundi," as alleged to contain and involve dangerous error. In the early part of this month the motion gave rise to a long debate resulting in a refusal of the Lower House of Convocation to take any official cognizance of the incriminated book.

Nothing could mark more sharply the extension of latitudinarian views within the Anglican communion than this failure of Archdeacon DENISON to bring upon "Lux Mundi" the reprobation to which he had easily subjected two earlier works of much less revolutionary character. He had made poor Bishop COLENSO smart; and it was he, too, who, almost exactly thirty years ago, secured in Convocation the appointment of a committee which condemned many passages in the "Essays and Reviews." Of that once famous volume he declared that it was, in his judgment, "of all books in any language, on which he had ever laid his hands, incomparably the worst. It contained," he added, "all the poison which is to be found in TOM PAINE'S 'Age of Reason,' while it had the additional disadvantage of having been written by clergymen." This was strong language, and it was recalled the other day in Convocation, when the Archdeacon, speaking on his motion, said that "Lux Mundi" was "beyond all comparison infinitely more dangerous than 'Essays and Reviews.'"

As the debate proceeded it became clear that times had changed since 1861, although Archdeacon DENISON had not changed with them. At the very outset Dr. BLOMFIELD, Bishop of Colchester, moved the previous question, which was tantamount to proposing a postponement of the discussion to a more convenient season. The Bishop said that Mr. GORE, the author of the preface and eighth essay of "Lux Mundi," had been hasty in accepting the conclusions of German and Dutch scholarship with regard to certain books of the Old Testament; but he thought that such views were not beyond the latitude to which the clergy of the Church of England were entitled. He went on to say that if they were to condemn such men as Mr. GORE, they would do precisely what the enemies of Christianity would most desire. *Hoc Ithacus velit, et magno mercentur Atridæ:* this the Positivist would wish for, and the Agnostics would buy at a great price. It would be wiser, the Bishop argued, to welcome the aid of men like Mr. GORE, even if the weapons they employed were not exactly of the same fashion and temper as the Bishop's own. His conclusion was that the Lower House of Convocation should express no opinion on the subject which the Archdeacon's motion had brought up.

But the friends of "Lux Mundi," who evidently were in a great majority, would not brook any shirking of the question raised by the Archdeacon. They insisted that it should be faced and answered squarely in the negative. Their chief spokesman, the Dean of Windsor, Bishop-designate of Rochester, said that while the resolution proposed by Archdeacon DENISON was colorless, the speech supporting it had been one of unqualified condemnation, and they should as distinctly refuse to countenance his views by a direct rejection of the motion. The Dean for his own part did not hesitate to claim a share in whatever obloquy attached to the opinions of Mr. GORE and the other authors of "Lux Mundi." But, even if he differed from the book at every point, he should object no less strongly to the appointment of a committee of inquisition. The Dean of Windsor was followed by the Dean of St. Paul's, who declared that to condemn "Lux Mundi" and leave unscathed such a book as "Robert Elsmere" would be preposterous. After other speeches on the same side, including the production of a telling passage from PALEY'S "Evidences," the Bishop of Gloucester withdrew his motion for the previous question, and, the Archdeacon's original motion being put to a *viva voce* vote, it was rejected by so large a majority that no division was called for.

What does this unequivocal decision of the Lower House of Convocation signify? It means that, so far as the authority of this assembly goes, every clergyman of the Church of England is at liberty to believe with Mr. GORE that the Book of Deuteronomy was written in the days of JOSIAH; that the Book of Daniel was prophecy after the event; that the Book of Jonah was a fable, and, in general, that the books of the Old Testament must, like other writings professing to be historical, be subjected to the scrutiny of scientific criticism. Like the Presbyterians in this country, the Church of England would seem to be fairly started on the road which leads to agnosticism.

To Unite the Irish Societies.

A preliminary meeting of the representatives of the various Irish county organizations in this city and vicinity was held on Thursday last to devise means of amalgamating them hereafter into a single central body for benevolent, patriotic, and social purposes. One proposition presented for consideration contemplated the holding of two entertainments a year (a picnic and a ball) to bring the natives of every county of Ireland into social contact, and, further, the payment of $200 to the family of each member at his death. This amount, it was declared, can be obtained by levying a tax of 10 cents on each member if twenty associations with 100 members each should join. The delegates assembled, to the number of sixty, discussed this proposition, but adjourned without arriving at any decision.

There are thirty-two counties in Ireland, and the natives of twenty-eight of these, resident in New York, are represented by separate associations of the kind which it is proposed to consolidate into one open to all Irishmen and the children of Irishmen. The existence of distinct, and apparently indestructible, county lines has always been one of the most serious problems of the Irish question, and one of the most troublesome barriers to union, harmony, and united effort. So long as Irishmen could be kept separate by the jealousies and enmities perpetuated by these county divisions the task of Ireland's opponents was easy. Thus, though there is actually no ground of difference between the two, the Limerick county men and the Kerry county men would not fraternize in support of a leader chosen from either. The Cavan men and the Tyrone men got along together no better; and the men of Galway would not consent to follow the men of Clare, or the men of Clare to follow the men of Galway, even where the purpose mutually sought was one purely benevolent or of avowed patriotic character. Only since the rise of the Irish Parliamentary party abroad, committed to peaceful and united agitation for home rule, have these asperities been modified and these lines to a great extent broken down, to the benefit of all the momentous interests concerned. So soon as the troubles between the counties of the south and west of Ireland (troubles based exclusively on sentimental differences of past times) had been smoothed out, the leaders of the Irish party set themselves to the task of including in the movement such counties as Antrim and Derry, where the Irish Presbyterians chiefly are to be found, separated from other Irishmen by differences in race and creed, by their relation to the English Crown, and by usages and customs. By subordinating all other matters to the chief and essential end of securing home rule to the country, success rewarded the efforts of the leaders in this direction far beyond the expectation of friend or foe, and the thirty-two counties, united for the first time by a common impulse and aspiration, secured the moral and substantial support withheld, both in England and in the United States, so long as the internal divisions of the Irish population seemed to render all agitation hopeless.

While this result, so strongly significant of good leadership and unwavering patriotic purpose on the part of the people, has been secured at home, many Irishmen abroad, conspicuously those of New York, have continued to perpetuate the purely artificial differences, based on party lines, by the continued existence and support of organizations, membership in which is limited to men of a single county and their descendants. Separated, and to some extent hostile to each other, these societies have, in a social, benevolent, and patriotic way, accomplished far less than they could have done, and may do, if united into one association, actuated by a common purpose.

Those at the head of the present movement for gathering together all Irishmen resident in New York into a single organization, in the future to do the work hitherto divided between twenty-eight organizations, are anxious that the county differences of the past should no longer be fostered, and that a more progressive and enlightened view of the duties which Irishmen owe to each other should be established and prevail among men of like heritage and common destiny. What degree of success they have achieved in smoothing out and abating the rivalries known to exist, cannot be determined until a definite plan is agreed to and has procured the assent of at least a majority of the twenty-eight societies in town. But, successful or not, it is certainly a movement in the right direction, made at an opportune time, for the situation of affairs in Ireland is such that, at this moment, union at almost any sacrifice is most in demand. Certainly the Irishmen of New York, while retaining the cherished associations which cling to recollection of home, kindred, and neighbors, can set a good example to Irishmen in other cities by showing themselves willing to sink unessential and oftentimes accidental differences based upon county divisions for the purpose of assisting the cause of their common country and of promoting the prospects of its deliverance from the ills and abuses of which they have so long complained. The proposition to gather under a single head the Irish societies of this city is a long step in that direction, and is well worth the consideration of all Irishmen in whom patriotic regard for the land of their birth is paramount to small temporary advantage.

The Fair and the Unions.

The labor problem is one of the numerous burdens that strain the minds of the Chicago World's Fair Directory. An immense number of workingmen will have to be employed upon the various undertakings of the Fair; and the trades' and labor unions of Chicago have informed the Directory of the conditions which they insist must prevail in all contracts for labor to be done in preparation for it. They have served upon the Board of Directors a notice of their demands, in which they rather threateningly call the attention of the Directory to "the great unrest of the industrial masses, and the very sensitive nature of the relations of employers and employees, not alone in Chicago but throughout the civilized world;" and they recall the labor disturbances of 1877 and 1886. The propositions which they make to the Directory are these:

"1. The employment of union labor as far as possible. 2. Eight hours. 3. Preference given to local residents and American citizens. 4. A minimum rate of wages or $1.50 per day of eight hours for unskilled, unorganized labor. 5. The establishment of a system of arbitration to include all cases of disputes between employers and employees."

Much of this programme is reasonable enough. In the building trades the union labor will naturally be preferred as containing a large number of the best resident workmen; and the Chicago labor unions seem disposed to treat the non-union men fairly. Though the Fair is supposed to be a national enterprise, it is just that the Chicago workmen should be preferred. The danger is that if the Fair work is ever seriously begun, there will be a rush of unemployed labor to Chicago, and that there may be hardship in store for those who are unable to get jobs. Arbitration is all right, on paper. The trouble is that if the decision of the arbitrators in any particular case dissatisfies one of the parties, as it must, there is nothing to prevent the dissatisfied party from refusing to accept the decision. The Directory would be bound, for it couldn't afford to fight the unions, but what is there to bind the unions? The employment, too, of unorganized labor by the side of organized is pretty sure to result in disputes.

The fixing of minimum wages for unskilled labor seems decidedly premature. The Chicago enterprise should be a business enterprise, and its business will have to be managed with more wisdom and economy than have yet been displayed by the persons in charge of it, if it is not to be an enormous failure. The market rate of wages is what business men pay in their private enterprises; it is what they should pay in public enterprises. The employments of unskilled labor are so numerous that it is foolish to attempt to fix a minimum of wages for all kinds of it.

The spokesman of the delegation that laid the propositions of the trades' and labor unions before the Directory said that "the Exposition was a public enterprise, and he wanted the Directory to recognize the question of eight hours as a moral principle." Now it is a moral principle that a man should get eight hours' pay for eight hours' work, and the principle is sufficiently established to need no recognition from the Directors of the Chicago Fair or anybody else. And the work on the Fair has been delayed so long that longer rather than shorter hours will be required. The simplest way to avoid all disputes about overtime would seem to be to pay each workman by the hour, and let him work as many hours as he pleases. The Chicago Fair Directory will have so hard a row to hoe that the labor unions ought to be very gentle and long-suffering. Until it appears how big the holes in the subscription list are, it is crowding the mourners to make the unfortunate Directors accept hard terms in contracts which they may not be able to fulfil.

No Hereditary Aristocracy.

We congratulate the Hon. MARK HOPKINS DUNNELL, M. C., of Minnesota, on his opposition to the proposal made in the House of Representatives that the President should be authorized to appoint every year twenty sons of army officers to be cadets at West Point.

Upon that question Mr. DUNNELL spoke like a genuine American. He would not have an hereditary privilege conferred upon any peculiar portion of the inhabitants of this country. They should all stand alike. None of them should be destined from their birth to the enjoyment of public official advantages over others.

The tendencies to aristocratical institutions and to the establishment of privileged classes are much too strong already. They insinuate themselves everywhere and under almost every pretext. They should be met everywhere with the same determined resistance as has now been exhibited by Mr. DUNNELL.

The Holy Synod of Russia has sent an address to Queen VICTORIA which is a paraphrase of the memorial of the Lord Mayor of London to the Czar on the subject of the persecution of the Jews, except that for Jews the Roman Catholics of England and Ireland are substituted. The Queen is begged by the Russian Synod to remove the yoke of exceptional and restrictive laws which oppresses her Catholic subjects, "making them a parish caste, degraded as if an accursed race." As the Lord Mayor said of the Russian Jews, these Catholics are described as serving in certain regiments beyond their due proportion, and yet forbidden the liberty of striving for the loftiest civil places. Russia is held up to England as England was held up to Russia as an example of religious toleration. "We who have learned to tolerate all creeds," says the address, "beseech your Majesty to order the repeal of those laws that afflict the Catholics," "the representatives of a creed which is the mother of our religion and yours." It is a very fair case of tit for tat.

While war is raging in Chili, which lies in a southerly latitude, and while there is a political uproar in Canada, which lies in a northerly latitude, the great American republic, built on a solid foundation, stands aloft and proud in the enjoyment of peace and freedom under an independent and constitutional government.

Notwithstanding the uproar raised by the Canadian politicians at this time, we do not believe that there is any danger of a violation of the peace of the provinces. The wild threats that are now heard, however, ought to be brought to an end at once. There is far too much talk of "civil war" and the "point of the bayonet," and "cowardly traitors," and "rebel conspirators," and "Yankee hirelings," and the "battle cry of loyalty." We take the liberty of informing the Canadians that such gory language, blustering fulminations, and tantalizing epithets as they are now indulging in are out of order, even in a political campaign when the election is at hand.

A recent poem by T. W. HIGGINSON begins with the lines:

> Light of the morning,
> Darling of dawning.
>
> —*Chicago Herald.*

This explains the failure of Col. HIGGINSON to gain distinction as a poet. He has literary culture and ability, but he lacks ear. No man who makes morning rhyme with dawning can ever win the laurel. HIGGINSON ought to be ashamed of himself.

Where in the world do those "American greenbacks," about which there is so much noise in the Canadian elections, come from? Where is the American party that is so anxious for annexation as to contribute them for its promotion by who'esale bribery in the elections? Some of the enterprising newspaper reporters in Toronto, Montreal, Quebec, or Ottawa ought to begin a secret investigation of the American greenback mystery and win renown by making a thorough exposure of it, giving names, dates, circumstances, and evidence. It looks as though Canada was flooded with greenbacks which ought to be in this country.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN CHINA.

The Emperor's Reception of the Czarevich—Chinese Customs Abandoned.

PEKING, Dec. 28.—It is now certain that the Emperor has himself taken the initiative in settling in a liberal but very unexpected way the much-vexed question in regard to the audience claimed by the Ministers of the treaty powers. It is thought by some that in deciding this question as he did, the young occupant of the Chinese throne has but submitted to the inevitable, in view of the visit of the Czarevich to this city next spring. There is no doubt the Russian Minister has made the Tsungli Yamên understand that nothing short of a personal interview would be acceptable to the future Emperor of Russia, and that he would not think of a prostration or any other humiliating conditions to the audience.

The ceremony in the case of the Ministers will be quite simple, but the significance of it to the Chinese people will be very great. That their Emperor should receive the Ministers without the *Kotow*, or any other evidence of vassalage or inferiority while in his presence, will be to the native mind the strongest possible evidence of China's true place—of her equality, and nothing more, in the family of nations.

It is still more interesting to know what ceremonies are to be observed at the Emperor's reception of the Czarevich. Certainly no one here expects the latter to stand while the Emperor sits, or to be dismissed with a few questions and a bow, as will probably be the case with the foreign Ministers. Every one is anxious to know if he will receive the honor, unknown in China, of a seat in the imperial presence. Will he be permitted to partake of refreshments with the Son of Heaven?

Foreigners can scarcely appreciate the momentous character of these acts in this country. Disguise or gild it as we may, they will stagger the native mind, and shake its faith in the universal supremacy of their sovereign, more perhaps than anything else which could happen. It is again believed here that the railroad to Manchuria is to be built, but the poverty of the Government and its aversion to foreign loans may delay the project, at least till Russia has actually begun the trans-Siberian railway.

HOBOKEN FIREMEN'S MONUMENT.

The Corner Stone Laid Yesterday by Fireman William Hersee.

The corner stone of the firemen's monument which is to be erected in Church square, Hoboken, was laid yesterday afternoon. At 3 o'clock a parade of firemen and city officials started from the headquarters of the Exempt Firemen's Association in Hudson street. It was headed by Mayor Grassman, Chairman Stanton of the Common Council, Fire Chief Applegate, and Assistant Chief Goerig. Following these were the School Trustees, a great many city officials, members of the Fire Department, the Monument Association, the Exempt Firemen's Association, and a number of citizens.

It was intended that the corner stone should be laid by Theodore Van Tassell, the oldest fireman in Hoboken, but he was lying at the point of death, and his place was taken by William Hersee, the next in seniority. He was assisted by Robert Russ, Secretary of the Exempt Firemen's Association, Theophilus Butts, Secretary of the Citizens' Monument Committee, and ex-Mayor McGinnis.

Speeches were made by Chief Applegate, Mayor Grassman, Assemblyman Daly, and others. The monument, which will be unveiled on Decoration Day, will be a large figure of a fireman holding a child in his arms. It will cost $3,500. The committee has already raised $2,500, and the other $1,000 is pledged.

Connecticut Democrats Conferring on a Plan of Action.

NEW HAVEN, Feb. 23.—Gov. Morris and his associates on the Democratic State ticket held a conference in this city this afternoon, at which were present, besides the officers themselves, Senators FOX, Reed, and Pierce and Democratic counsel. They talked up a plan of action to be pursued in Hartford this week. It is said they considered the propositions of settlement made by the Republicans and rejected them all. The meeting gives a semblance of authority to the statement that the Democrats will take the bull by the horns this week and that Morris will be Governor de facto as well as de jure in a few days.

Does Spring Come with the Bluebirds?

At Midland Park, New Jersey, yesterday, a trio of bluebirds filled the air with their welcome whistle just as the sun appeared over the hills. Later in the day a robin joined in the jubilee.

Drinking.

From New York Truth.

In a letter recently received here from one of England's wittiest men, this paragraph appeared relating to a lately deceased pal:

"Drinking is a fine art—a fact he did not know or grossly misunderstood; thus it led to his ruin, then his death. Drinking when done artistically and with taste and discrimination is a most attractive pastime. Never attempt to combine it with anything else; it is in its nature a thing apart. Drinking and business are a mistake. Drinking and a married life are fatal to happiness. Drinking and gambling are suicidal. So you see the secret is never to attempt it in conjunction with any other career you may have in view. If you propose to make it your whole existence, it is wonderful how short and useless your life may be at a very small expense."

Mann's He Dropped on Him.

From the Detroit Journal.

Mr. Isador Xalmetre is a Canadian poet.

Other Means to the Same End.

"You snored terribly in church last Sunday. You set everybody talking."

"Yes; I resembled Byron."

"I don't understand."

"I woke and found myself famous."

THE GROWING NAVY.

Why Congress Has Authorized but One New Vessel at the Present Session.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Only one new warship is provided for in the appropriation bill which has just been agreed upon in conference. Yet this is no sign of waning interest in the navy on the part of Congress, since this one vessel is to cost more than the entire fleet of Roach cruisers with which the modern establishment was started a few years ago.

The cost of the Chicago was $889,000; that of the Boston, $619,000; that of the Atlanta, $617,000; that of the Dolphin, $315,000. The new vessel, which is unarmored, has its limit of cost fixed at $2,750,000, and one like it is now under construction at a contract price of $2,725,000, exclusive of premiums for extra speed. Thus Cruiser No. 13, as the new vessel will no doubt be called until she receives her final name, will probably cost about as much as the four vessels just enumerated with the Petrel added. Their aggregate displacements are upward of 13,000 tons, while hers will be about 7,350; but the enormous 20,000 horse power of the new vessel exceeds by many thousands the combined power of the five ships just mentioned. And with her extraordinary maximum speed of 22 knots she is to have other qualities, including coal endurance and protection for her machinery, such as mark a very great advance over our pioneer cruisers of six or eight years ago, and are proportionally expensive.

While this single additional vessel is to be so remarkable in efficiency, the naval appropriation as a whole is much larger than last year's, which authorized much greater additions to the navy. This results from the fact that the installments of payment for these and other vessels will be very heavy during the coming year. The vessels recently begun are very expensive. The Indiana and the Massachusetts will cost $3,120,000 each; the Oregon, $3,180,000; the New York, which will be our biggest and finest ship at the naval review of 1893 in New York harbor, will cost $2,985,000; Cruiser No. 12, $2,725,000; Cruiser No. 13, probably about the same. Thus these six vessels will cost for hulls and machinery an aggregate of about $17,850,000, and the speed premiums payable on them will probably carry the total above $18,000,000, exclusive of batteries. When the construction of the new navy was begun the largest vessel proposed cost less than $900,000; but now, with no fewer than six authorized, costing an average of $3,000,000 each, the annual bill until they are finished will be heavy, apart from further additions.

It had been thought that Congress might direct the supply of a few more torpedo boats, which can be built for about $100,000 each. But the path in this form of naval construction is perhaps not wholly clear as yet. The torpedo craft have rivals for favor in the Ericsson submarine gun, which has yet to be tested under an appropriation made by Congress, and also in the pneumatic or air torpedoes supplied to the Vesuvius, as yet not fully tried with explosives on that vessel. Perhaps the fifty-second Congress may have more light on these matters, and Torpedo Boat No. 2 will then also be ready or nearly so.

But the new torpedo cruiser of 750 tons, to cost not more than $350,000, may never be built. It is quite certain not to be built at that price, as there was not a solitary bid for it under the call for proposals; and now the Navy bill has been passed, with no attempt to increase the price. The Navy Department first made this estimate of cost for a vessel of considerably less speed than Congress concluded to exact. As any large addition in horse power on a given displacement and weight of machinery costs enormously for the quality of material, the contractors dropped the plan. But the Navy Department's refraining from asking an increase of the limit of price to $400,000 or $500,000 is itself suggestive. Possibly a vessel of that tyre is no longer deemed necessary. After all, it is better suited to European waters, where it will have fleets of torpedo boats to attack. The coal-carrying restrictions of such a craft would give it but limited use here, even in time of war, and its cruising service in peace could be of very little value.

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH.

A Statement Regarding the Recent Work of the Revision Committee.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 23.—Dr. W. E. Moore, Secretary of the Presbyterian General Assembly's committee on the revision of the Confession of Faith, which held its second session at Washington, Feb. 16, says:

"The same method was pursued as at the sessions in Allegheny, so that the entire confession was revised and attention given to the answers of the Presbyteries on each chapter and section designated by them. The work done and tentatively adopted at Allegheny was passed in review and confirmed, or changed as deemed best. The committee thus revised Chapters I.-XVI. The remaining chapters were taken up at these sessions and changes tentatively made were finally adopted as the mature judgment of the committee. The changes, eliminations, or additions are chiefly in Chapter I., 5, Chapter III., 3, 4, 5, 6; Chapter IV., 1; Chapter VI., 4 Chapter VII., 3, 4, 5, 6; Chapter X., 2, 3, 4; Chapter XI., 1-3; Chapter XIV., 1; Chapter XVI., 7; Chapter XXI., 4; Chapter XXIII., 3; Chapter XXIV., 3; Chapter XXV., 6; Chapter XXIX., 2, and Chapter XXX., 2.

"The general desire expressed by the Presbyteries in their answers to the overtures, 'for a more explicit statement of the love of God for the world,' 'for the sufficiency of the atonement and free offer of salvation to all men,' 'for a recognition of the Church's duty to evangelize the world,' 'for a statement of individual responsibility for salvation,' and 'for a more full and clear statement of the person and work of the Holy Spirit,' the committee sought to meet by the preparation of two new chapters, one, 'of the work of the Holy Spirit,' to follow Chapter VIII., 'of Christ the mediator;' the other, 'of the universal offer of the Gospel,' to follow Chapter IX., 'of the free will.'

"These chapters meet most of the suggestions in the answers of the presbyteries, and make many of the changes asked for in other chapters unnecessary. Its conclusions were reached with harmony, and its report will be neither of a majority nor of a minority, but of the Revision Committee. The question of publishing its report before the time of the meeting of the next Assembly, which was left to the discretion of the committee, was fully considered. It was unanimously agreed 'that we do not print any part of our report prior to the meeting of the next Assembly, with the suggestion that the work of the committee be referred to the presbyteries for their consideration, but not as an overture for final action; that the presbyteries be requested to take up the report of the committee at their full meetings, carefully consider it, suggest any changes that they may deem desirable, and forward the report of the same to the Secretary of the Revision Committee by Dec. 1, 1891; that the committee subsequently act upon these suggestions of the presbyteries and make final report to the Assembly of 1892."

Declaiming for the Grady Medal.

The oratorical contest for the Grady memorial medal by the students of Manhattan College occurred yesterday afternoon in the Lenox Lyceum. There were eighteen contestants for the medal, but one of them, Edward C. McFarlan, was kept away by illness. The subjects and orators follow:

"Liberty and Union," Henry Phelps Moriarty, son of School Commissioner Moriarty; "Ireland," Charles C. Cunnan; "Lafayette," George James O'Keefe; "America," Andrew T. Roche; "Emmett's Vindication," Brendan V. Merrigan; "Our Native Land," Thomas S. Flynn; "The Union," Thomas B. Fonelly; "Thoughts of Washington," Michael F. Tobin; "Cross and Crescent," James A. Craig; "Christian Soldier," William J. Sheehan; "Chatham's Reply," John Joseph O'Brien; "Our Heroes," Frank J. Griffin; "Robert Emmett," Nicholas Austin Donnelly, son of the late School Commissioner Donnelly; "The Irish Soldier," Emil A. Vilianyi; "Ireland and America," Daniel A. O'Neill; "Memories," John P. McNamara; "Aileen," James A. Boylan.

The judges were Judge John R. Brady, John P. Brophy, Judge Joseph F. Daly, John H. McCarthy, Judge George H. Van Hoesen, the Rev. Dr. Henry Brann, John H. Byrnes, Judge Charles Donohue, and David A. McClure. The medal was awarded to John Joseph O'Brien.

Moving into the Cherokee Strip.

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan., Feb. 23.—On Thursday morning the *Traveller* said that letters had been received from Congressman Perkins and others that settlers in the Cherokee Outlet could legally hold their homesteads. As a result thousands of people have gone in. Every quarter-section for fifteen miles south of the Kansas border is occupied. At the lowest estimate 10,000 settlers have gone in.

NEW YORK'S CENSUS.

The House Committee Reports Against the Claim for a Recount.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The House Committee on the Census held a meeting this morning and adopted the report prepared by Representative Sherman of New York adverse to the claims of New York city for a recount of the population of that city, and ordered the resolution introduced by Representative Flower, providing for a recount, to be reported to the House with a recommendation that it do not pass. Representative Washington of Tennessee (Dem.) was the only member to vote against the action of the majority of the committee, but there were a number of absentees, including Mr. Holman of Indiana and other Democrats. The report of Mr. Sherman finds that New York city has not made out its case.

The report says that the work of taking the census was begun and completed in New York city without complaint being made by or on behalf of the municipal authorities. On July 18 the population was announced as 1,513,501. It does not appear that the authorities then complained of the count, and the first complaint received was the resolution of Sept. 3 of the Board of Aldermen. The reason for non-action for so many weeks is explained by counsel for the city on the theory that the people of New York are largely out of town in July and August. It does not appear that the municipal authorities were, though they may have been. It is also said that it was because the Health Department found in September that if the census were correct the death rate of New York city had increased so enormously as to indicate a pestilence. Nothing in the hearing before the Committee substantiates this statement. On Sept. 14 the Superintendent of the Census announced that he would gladly investigate and recount, if necessary, if any omissions or careless work were pointed out. It does not appear that advantage was taken of this offer or any further communication had with the Superintendent until Oct. 17, when the Mayor wrote a letter calling attention to the police enumeration. It is not shown that anything was made known to the Census Office except the total. It does appear that the enumerations by the Federal authorities and by the New York police were not taken by the same districts. The Federal enumeration was announced by wards prior to the police count. This letter of the Mayor seemed to close the case so far as the Superintendent was concerned. It appears to the committee that the municipal authorities did not thereby make a case upon which the Superintendent of the Census could act. No claim of errors of a sufficiently specific nature to admit of investigation were made, and on the case presented the Superintendent would not be justified in undertaking a reënumeration of the entire city, nor was any offer made to lay before him the police schedules for comparison, as had been done in other cases where errors were charged.

The report then gives the correspondence with the Secretary of the Interior and, calling attention to the refusal to submit the police enumeration books in the first five wards, says: "The position taken by the Mayor in declining to submit the books of police enumeration in these five wards is most extraordinary, and fully justified the action of the Secretary in declining to further consider the application. The full history of the case leaves us to the conclusion that New York did not show herself entitled under the law to the relief asked for. We think that before calling upon Congress she should have exhausted the remedies under the law. This she clearly failed to do."

But, waiving this question, the report asks, "Did New York present even a prima facie case of incomplete enumeration?" Death-rate estimates are shown to be of little value. The police census admittedly was an enumeration of the time it was taken, and it was apparent not only that there might be, but that there is a much larger population in New York on Oct. 1 than June 1. No proof is produced to show that the Federal census was in error outside of the Second ward, and it is shown that the population of this ward is migratory in character. The affidavits of certain people who were not enumerated in June, to the effect that they then resided in the Second ward, do not show that these persons were actually in the ward in June, or that they were not enumerated elsewhere. Some of the affidavits cover twenty persons, and some of them are shown to be erroneous. Complaints such as were presented to the committee in reference to the Second ward would undoubtedly have received full investigation, and the facts presented in reference to that ward do not justify the reënumeration of the entire city. The resolution is, therefore, reported with a recommendation that it lie on the table.

TILLIE HAHN'S BURGLAR.

He Wasn't Brother-in-law Kelly, but He Looked and Spoke Like Him.

Miss Tillie Hahn was found lying apparently unconscious on the floor in the apartments of her employer, Saloon Keeper Allers, at Union and Court streets, Brooklyn, on Thursday night, with her arms and legs tightly bound with twine and a handkerchief stuffed into her mouth. She said a masked man had surprised her while she was knitting at the kitchen table, and almost frightened her to death by pointing a revolver at her head and threatening to kill her if she uttered a word. A dead faint must have followed quickly, for she had no recollection of the binding or gagging, and could not even tell how she came to be on the floor. The disappearance of $190 belonging to Mrs. Allers explained the motive of the burglar.

When first questioned she declared said she could give no description of the stranger and had no knowledge whatever of his identity. Subsequently, however, she declared that Joseph Reily, her brother-in-law, of 447 West Thirty-seventh street, had done the job. A detective arrested Kelly and he is in Raymond street jail awaiting examination. He says that he has no knowledge whatever of the occurence and that he can prove an alibi.

Miss Hahn herself was arrested yesterday as a witness and committed to Raymond street jail. Her latest story is that Kelly is not the burglar, but that the burglar looked and spoke like him. When the examination occurs on March 6, the police expect to be able to present some interesting revelations.

MORRISANIA FOLK DON'T LIKE IT.

It Isn't a Petty Matter for Them to Have Bread and Milk Stolen From Their Doors.

The relations between tradesmen and those of their customers who live along the line of Alexander avenue have been strained for two weeks. The bills presented by the bakers and milkmen have contained entries for each day while the indignant householders have declared they had not received half the commodities they have been asked to pay for. The tradesmen have insisted that they had delivered their wares regularly every morning, and the Morrisania police have tried for several days to solve the mystery.

It proved a simple matter. The goods had been left in the areaways. At 6 o'clock yesterday morning Policeman Lake caught two lads going along the avenue with a canvas bag collecting bread and milk as fast as it was delivered. The prisoners are cousins, named Richard and James Bannon, aged 17 and 19 years respectively. They live at 875 East 137th street. When caught they had two loaves of bread and three quart bottles of milk in the bag and were looking for more. They admitted that they had stolen the provisions and were locked up in the Morrisania police station.

This annoying style of thieving is well known down town, but it is new to Morrisania people, and they do not like it.

ON A LARK, SURE ENOUGH.

Two Women Arrested for Fast Driving in the Streets of Hoboken.

Two women with a horse and buggy created a sensation in the lower part of Hoboken yesterday afternoon. They were both richly dressed, and their horse was spirited. As they drove through the streets the buggy swayed from side to side, looking every moment as if it would upset, while the greater part of the time the horse was on a run. They narrowly escaped running over children several times. Word was sent to Police Headquarters, and Policemen Stanton and Guinan started in pursuit. The policemen headed them off at Jefferson and Madison streets. Both women were under the influence of liquor.

They described themselves as Kate Smith, aged 38, married, of 158 Jefferson street, and Bridget Kell, aged 25, married, of 140 Madison street. They were locked up on a charge of reckless driving and malicious mischief. Late last night their husbands went to Police Headquarters and had them released on bail. The women borrowed the horse and buggy from a friend, who is now sorry he lent them.

The Vassar Estate.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Feb. 23.—In an interview this morning the counsel for Vassar College deny the statement that the Executive Committee of the college has agreed to pay the next kin heirs of John Guy Vassar $150,000 if they will not contest the will. Such a proposition has been made by the heirs, but the Executive Committee has no power to act, and the proposition has not even been considered by the committee. The trustees meet at the college on March 4 for other purposes, and such a proposition may then be submitted to them.

The Delsartean System Defined.

From the Chicago Tribune

"Grindstone, what do you understand this Delsartean system to be?"

"It is the system, Killerdon, which teaches that you never must scratch yourself in any place that itches."

THE FATE OF THE ELIZABETH.

Founded to Pieces on the Rocks After a Four Months' Voyage.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 23.—The loss of lives by the wreck of the clipper ship Elizabeth off North Head on Saturday night is now estimated at nineteen, including Capt. Henry of the local life saving service. Eleven persons, including the wife and children of Capt. Colcord of the Elizabeth, were saved. Charles Barclay, first mate of the wrecked ship, who with four others succeeded in floating ashore yesterday, says that after the Captain's family had been placed aboard the tug Reliance on Saturday every effort was redoubled to save the ship. Capt. Colcord was badly hurt during the afternoon by being thrown against a capstan, and was unable to move except with great pain, but he refused to be sent ashore.

"Several tugs came up and attempted to succor us," says Barclay, "but their tow lines either fell short of our decks or were broken like threads. We dr