The Sun.

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THE SUN, New York City.

New Decisions Under the Ballot Act.

Two interesting decisions under our new ballot law were announced yesterday, one by Mr. Justice BARRETT of the Supreme Court in this city and the other by Mr. Justice DYKMAN of White Plains, in the Supreme Court in the Second Judicial District.

In the case before Judge BARRETT, which was an application by a citizen for a writ of mandamus directing the inspectors of election to place his name upon the registry of voters, it appeared that these officers had refused to register the applicant because he would not remove his hat and hold up his right hand in making the necessary oath or affirmation. As he based his refusal to swear or affirm in this way upon conscientious scruples, the Court held that the inspectors must allow him to keep his hat on and his hand down while he affirmed; and the learned Judge declared that he would impose costs upon any other inspectors who acted like the defendants before him.

While it is customary to hold up the hand in making affirmation instead of oath, the law does not require anything beyond the statement that the person solemnly, sincerely, and truly declares and affirms the truth of the matter to which he deposes. And the Code of Civil Procedure of this State contains an express provision that in swearing a person who prefers not to be sworn upon the Gospels, "he may or may not hold up his hand, at his option."

The other election case, which arose in Rockland county, is much more important. The new ballot act requires certificates of the nominations made by regular Conventions for county offices to be filed with the County Clerk not less than twenty days before election. Owing to some misadventure, the certificate of the nominations made by the Prohibitionists of Rockland county was not filed with the County Clerk at New City in due time under the statute. Application was therefore made to the Supreme Court for relief, and Judge DYKMAN has granted an order directing the County Clerk to receive and file the certificate *nunc pro tunc*, or now for then, as the lawyers say; that is, with the same effect as though it had actually been placed on file more than twenty days before election.

This decision is based upon the doctrine that the provisions of the ballot act in respect to the time when certificates shall be filed are directory merely, and not mandatory; so that the right to have a certificate placed on file is not necessarily lost by failing to get it into the hands of the proper officer within the time prescribed by the statute. If the failure were due to the fault or negligence of the Convention, the courts would not interfere to grant relief; as for example, if the Convention were held so late as to render it impossible to file the certificate in due season. But where the nominations are regularly and seasonably made, and some accident occurs to prevent the certificate from reaching the County Clerk in time, it would be a harsh rule of construction which punished the party concerned by depriving its candidates of the benefit of the official ballot. The delay was less than twenty-four hours in the Rockland county case. We are glad Judge DYKMAN was able to hold that it was not fatal.

Mr. Erhardt a Witness Against Platt.

It is announced that the Hon. JOEL B. ERHARDT will be one of the speakers at a meeting to be held at the Madison Square Garden next Monday night in favor of the election of Mr. THOMAS C. PLATT's candidate for Governor.

Nobody knows better than Col. ERHARDT what Mr. PLATT expects of Mr. FASSETT. Mr. ERHARDT resigned his post as Collector of this port because he had too high a spirit and too much self-respect to obey Mr. PLATT's commands and to continue in an office of which the actual authority was intrusted to the hands of a private citizen.

"I have resigned," said Mr. ERHARDT on July 29, "because the Collector has been reduced to a position where he is no longer an independent officer, with authority commensurate with his responsibility.

"The recent policy of the Treasury Department has been to control the details of the customs administration at the port of New York from Washington at the dictate of a private individual having no official responsibility. The Collector is practically deprived of power and control while he is left subject to all responsibility. The office is no longer independent, and I am. Therefore we have separated."

Mr. FASSETT meekly accepted the office which Mr. ERHARDT was too proud to hold. Mr. FASSETT has had a long experience in submitting to the dictation of a private individual having no official responsibility. He does not know how to be independent.

The presence of Mr. ERHARDT at a Republican meeting must remind every man with a memory that runs back to last summer of the control which the Administration permits PLATT to exercise at the Custom House, and which he is now seeking to extend over the Government of the State. If Mr. FASSETT should be elected Governor, his administration and policy would be dictated by a private individual having no responsibility. The power and the control would be in another's hands.

But the people will not have Mr. PLATT for Governor.

The Last St. Elias Expedition.

The Mount St. Elias expedition, led by Mr. J. C. RUSSELL, which has just returned from Alaska, will add many interesting facts to our knowledge of that region, for it has revealed a new part of it. The explorers did not succeed in reaching the summit of the great mountain. This feat would have added brilliancy to their laurels, but it was not a part of the work committed to them. Their purpose was to study the geology, topography, and glacial phenomena of the St. Elias region.

We learn from the brief summary of their work sent from Seattle that they have restored to the snowy mountain some thousands of feet of stature of which it was unjustly deprived by the imperfect trigonometrical measurements of last year. Everybody was much surprised when the explorers of 1890 returned with the information that Mount St. Elias, which was supposed to overtop all other North American summits, was only 15,428 feet high. Some time elapsed before the computations were subjected at Washington to scrutiny which proved that they were erroneous. Mr. RUSSELL in June last measured a three-mile base line at Icy Bay, about ten miles from the foot of the mountain, and though his calculations have not yet been reduced, and he cannot therefore give the exact figures, he says the height of St. Elias is between 18,000 and 19,000 feet. The computation of the United States Coast Survey in 1874 gave a height of 19,500 feet. In the absence of decisive figures as to the height of Mexico's greatest summit, St. Elias may still be permitted, probably with entire accuracy, to claim the highest elevation.

For the first time the north side of St. Elias has been visited, and the mountain has now been inspected on all sides. It was thought that the north might offer better advantages for reaching the top than the west side and southeast angle, where the previous attempts have been made. This year's effort to scale the mountain was rewarded better than the other attempts, for RUSSELL succeeded in reaching a height of about 14,500 feet, surpassing his record last year and also that of TOPHAM in 1888, who endeavored to zigzag his way up the west face, and was compelled to turn back after ascending 11,450 feet. TOPHAM expressed the opinion that the next expedition should try to ascend from the north. One of the chiefs of the Yakatat natives had told him that he had once, while hunting goats, gone to the north side of the peak and found that the northern face was much less steep than the southern. Whether or not Mr. RUSSELL found the conditions for climbing more favorable, it is gratifying that he was able to do so much work on the hitherto unknown slope. It had been thought possible that northeast of St. Elias there might be some unknown and overtopping peak. All that region has been spread before the gaze of explorers this summer for the first time; but though RUSSELL saw many summits rising to heights from 10,000 to 14,000 feet, he saw none that could outrank St. Elias.

The region of the St. Elias Alps, covered as it is with glaciers many hundreds of feet in thickness, is still in the condition in which Switzerland is supposed to have been during the last glacial epoch. Both RUSSELL and TOPHAM say that the Alaskan glaciers are now retreating. Geologists may therefore be able to observe whether the great ice streams which the explorers describe are exerting such erosive action as has been attributed to their extinct Alpine predecessors. No other accessible region offers so good an opportunity for the study of many features of glacial action on a large scale; and this is why, as Mr. RUSSELL says, the region is full of interest to scientific men and the work undoubtedly will be continued.

In the Eighth Senatorial District.

The Hon. LISPENARD STEWART is a candidate for election again to the Senate from the Eighth district. He has the Republican nomination. Against him Tammany Hall is running MARTIN T. MCMAHON, the County Democracy W. T. JEROME, and the Prohibitionists JOSEPH A. BOGARDUS.

Two years ago Mr. LISPENARD STEWART was elected to the Senate from this district by a plurality of only 305, there being then as now two Democratic candidates in the field. Mr. STEWART was recently asked for his opinion on the desirability of repealing the outrageous press gag provision in the Electrical Execution law of 1888. He replied that he had never read the law and had nothing to say.

It is true that the Hon. LISPENARD STEWART was not a member of the Legislature which passed the Electrical Execution law, with its odious and unconstitutional provisions devised by Commodore ELBRIDGE T. GERRY for the suppression of the freedom of the press. But Mr. STEWART has been a Senator during the past two years, the period covering the general discussion of this measure, its experimental application at Auburn and at Sing Sing, and the universal protest on the part of the newspaper press. It is an astonishing confession on the part of Senator STEWART when he affirms that he has never even read a measure concerning which there has been more public discussion than about any other law passed at Albany during the past ten fruitful years.

Even in the busy days between now and Nov. 3 the Hon. LISPENARD STEWART ought to find time to peruse the Electrical Execution law of 1888. He is probably the only member of the last Legislature now seeking another election who is not familiar with its provisions. We advise him to read the law, and then perhaps he may have something to say on the subject.

In Brooklyn.

The grotesque canvass for the office of Mayor which is being conducted in the city of Brooklyn by HENRY A. MEYER, the Republican nominee, has furnished a fair amount of diversion to those who believe that he would be a proper successor of the able and conspicuous Democratic Mayors of the fourth city of the Union. But it will be just as well for Democrats to study the precise object involved in the nomination of this quaint and apparently unsophisticated candidate.

Mr. PLATT knows that Brooklyn is a Democratic town, as firm in its allegiance to the cause of Democracy as New York itself. He knows that a straightout Republican, without Democratic support, cannot be elected Mayor in Brooklyn, and he knows, too, that there will be no Democratic votes cast there this year except for Democratic candidates. But he cherishes the hope of being able to control legislation in Albany next winter, and the winter following, by keeping his grip on the State Senate. The nomination of MEYER is part of the PLATT plan to secure that result.

The Fourth Senatorial district (one of the three included in Kings county) is made up of wards 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 24, 25, and 26 of the city of Brooklyn, and the town of Flatlands. It comprises substantially the "Eastern District" (Williamsburgh), and also Greenpoint and the extreme outlying wards of Kings county. It is one of the closest districts in the State, and its voting population, constantly growing, is now in excess of 50,000. In the contest of two years ago, the Democratic candidate for Senator was successful there by the slender plurality of 417; two years before the Republican candidate had a plurality of 900; the Republican nominee had in 1887 a plurality of 953, while in 1885 the district was carried by the Democracy by a plurality of 163. With the rapid growth of population, the strength of the political parties has kept even pace, and accordingly the Fourth Senatorial district remains close, uncertain, and wavering. The German-American voters of Williamsburgh make a numerous body, and upon their action the political complexion of the Fourth Senatorial district very largely depends. Mr. MEYER was chosen as Republican standard bearer in Brooklyn with special reference to the views of the Germans, and to secure, if possible, enough of their votes to restore the Fourth Senatorial district to the Republican column, and to deprive the Democracy of another representative in Albany. The rival candidates for Senator in the Williamsburgh district are the same as two years ago, when the Democratic candidate received 21,547 votes, and the Republican 21,130.

The way to defeat the PLATT plan is for the Democrats of the Eastern District to stand to their guns, and vote for FLOWER, SHEEHAN, BOODY, and MCCARREN, good Democrats all.

To-day is the very last day to register. There will be no other registry day this year. If at 9 o'clock to-night you are not registered, you will be unable to vote. No one can register for you. You must do it yourself by appearing at the polling place of the election district wherein you reside. Register. Register. Register.

Fassett on Liberty.

At the meeting of colored citizens in Cooper Union Mr. FASSETT went into these somewhat artificial raptures about liberty:

"I congratulate you, I congratulate myself, I congratulate our country that, wherever the sun shines in its course from east to west, its first rays fall upon a race of freemen, and its last rays send a benediction upon a race forever free. Liberty having descended into every human heart, and having surrounded the brow of every free man with its eternal seal, never can be disputed, it must remain."

Mr. FASSETT is rather late in his congratulations, but the sentiments here expressed are unexceptionable. It is a pity that in his zeal for liberty his sympathies are not comprehensive enough to make him willing that this city should have the liberty of attending to its own affairs and promoting its own prosperity without interference from the corps of Republican legislators over which it has been his fortune to preside as lieutenant commanding. It is unfortunate for Mr. FASSETT, but true, that a vote for him is a vote for the subjection and servitude of New York.

Mr. FASSETT is unusually right in saying that liberty must remain. Liberty must stay, and consequently Mr. FASSETT must go.

To J. S. F.: Straitjacket goes to you by express. You can't take that off. T. C. P.

The experiment of Col. ABE SLUPSKY in school boards will settle him as a boss in this town.—*St. Louis Republic.*

It ought to settle Col. ABE. Unless we misunderstand the situation totally, it will settle him. When a statesman, inflated with vanity and stimulated by an utterly selfish ambition, professes a sudden and immense solicitude about the preservation of the common school system, about which he didn't care a nickel twelve months ago, he simply makes himself ridiculous. People grin and ask "What is this stuffed humbug after now?" Back he goes to private life, even though he carries with him into retirement the proud name of SLUPSKY.

Don't the Republicans themselves think that Mr. FASSETT is making a fool of himself?

Speaking of Mr. D. CADY HERRICK as a candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court while holding on to the office that makes him the political boss of his district, our esteemed contemporary the *Albany Daily Press and Knickerbocker* begs to notify THE SUN that "the people of Albany city and county are competent to run their own politics."

Doubtless. Yet it is better not to run them away from the decency that befits all public affairs.

J. SLOAT—Gents of de Ate: Say, youse knows me, see? I'm de blokie youse wants ter vote fer, see? And now, if you will permit me, I will deliver the rest of my speech in classic Chemung, my native tongue.

The extent and variety of these wonderful United States is seldom realized by a dweller on this little island of Manhattan until he reads one day some strange thing like this naive but cogent suggestion of the Superintendent of Schools in East Feliciana parish, La., to the School Board: "Carrying pistols to school should be positively forbidden, and any teacher knowingly permitting it should be dismissed. If people see fit to allow their boys to go on in this uncivilized manner, they should not be permitted to carry weapons to school to cripple or kill the children of other people."

Such practices it is not extravagant to term uncivilized. The whining schoolboy, as he creeps like snail unwillingly to school, should have only his satchel and shining morning face, no pistol. But what sort of a place is East Feliciana parish, that even the children there go about "heeled" like banditti of Bowery melodrama or cowboys in the palmy days of ranching? The idea is preposterous enough for a GILBERT extravaganza. One wonders whether many little difficulties have been arranged by the boys during the summer, whether children habitually die there with their boots on, and whether perchance it was in this Louisiana parish with the picturesque name that a little trouble once arose over some "whiskey skins," perhaps behind the schoolhouse, and "they piled the stiffs outside the door," to the number, as JOHN HAY reckoned, of a score or more, and "girls went that winter, as a rule, alone to spellin' school."

Has Mr. FASSETT also considered the political effect of attending a mass meeting in the Bowery without a cravat? Taking off his cravat might be regarded as even a more delicate compliment than taking off his coat.

Lieutenant-Governor JONES declares that he will vote for FASSETT. This being the case, he shows a commendable sense of propriety in making the announcement through the leading Republican organ, the *New York Tribune*.

The fact about the matter is that Mr. FASSETT is a light weight. His flibbertigibbet antics, contrasted with the simple, dignified attitude of Mr. FLOWER, are remarkable.

Strange that in the marvellous modern extension of the spoon industry the idea of a campaign spoon has not taken hold.

A FASSETT campaign spoon, for example, with FASSETT in the bowl and PLATT on the handle.

Wouldn't it be great fun if the Wicked GIBBS would tell what he really thinks about FASSETT?

Absolutely all there is to the Republican candidate for Governor is that he has a rich wife.

A translation from the German:
No coat.
No vote.

William Francis Sheehan.

From the Rochester Union and Advertiser.

Mr. Sheehan's career proves him one of the remark able and rising young men of the day. Like the head of the ticket, Roswell P. Flower for Governor, he is a self-made man. Starting in life a poor boy in a newspaper office, and overcoming all obstacles, he obtained an education sufficient to enable him to study law, which he did in the office of the Hon. Charles F. Tabor, the present Attorney-General of the State, with whom, upon admission to the bar, he formed a partnership, which still exists. Although not yet 32 years of age, Mr. Sheehan is now closing his seventh consecutive term in the Assembly. After his development of calibre and character at the first session, he became thereafter at every session the candidate of his party for Speaker, which carried with it leadership of the Democratic minority on the floor, until the last, when, his party being in a majority, he was chosen Speaker, and discharged the duties of the office capably and faithfully under his oath of office and the Constitution, knowing neither friend nor foe in enforcement of the rules framed for his guidance and placed in his hands by the Assembly.

A Case Where Notoriety is Strength.

From the Boston Daily Advertiser.

It must be admitted that Gov. Hill is gaining notoriety, if not strength, outside of New York.

We Don't Believe It.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.

The man who fights for a girl generally quarrels with her as soon as he gets her.

A HOTEL BILL FOR FASSETT TO PAY.

Just One Item in the $500,000,000 Loss to New York by the Fair.

Among the many interests in New York that did good work in securing the capital to guarantee the expenses of the World's Fair should it be held here the hotel interest was prominent, and the proprietors were represented on the committee of selected industries by Mr. E. L. Merrifield, proprietor of the Continental Hotel. About $300,000 was raised by the hotel men as a starter, and they were led by the promise of Fassett and Platt to believe that the Fair was coming to New York. It is no secret that some of the later great hotels were projected about the time the World's Fair was talked about, and were built largely in anticipation of the business that was to come to New York with the Fair.

The hotel men had good reason to expect that their business would be made profitable by the Fair. It was held out to them as an inducement to coöperate in the preliminary work that if the Fair should come to New York it would not only fill all the hotels but all the extra accommodations that they could secure. One of the strongest arguments in favor of holding the Fair in New York was that this city had the best hotel accommodations in the United States, and that no other city could pretend to approach anything like decent accommodations for the immense crowds that would visit the Fair.

The importance of this point did not escape the attention of Roswell P. Flower, then the chief mouthpiece in Congress of the business interests of New York, and in his famous speech showing that New York had already raised a guarantee fund of $5,000,000, and was ready to raise $10,000,000 more and to pledge the people of New York not to ask Congress for a dollar, he called attention to the various interests in New York that were prepared to furnish the requisite accommodations for the Fair, and this is what he said on the subject:

Time is pressing upon us. All must admit that very little is left in which to prepare for this Fair. To reach the standard of advancement of a site that we have, in preliminary work, took Philadelphia one year in time and cost $1,500,000; and it will take Chicago, St. Louis, or Washington much time, and cost either of them much money. If the country is to have a fair within two years, time is a vital factor, and failure in preparation should not be permitted to imperil its success. The only site fully prepared to-day is in the city of New York.

The capacity of New York city for entertaining visitors may be shown by the following table, prepared by the New York Hotel Association:

In the year 1888 the Board of Excise of New York city granted licenses to 286 hotels.	
180 hotels, accommodating 250 persons each	45,000
50 hotels, accommodating 150 persons each	7,500
50 hotels, accommodating 75 persons each	3,750
	56,250
With cots in large rooms and extra parlors, which can be put in use, 50 per cent. of this can be added	28,125
	84,375
Annex rooms outside of hotels will furnish 50 per cent. of this	42,187
Boarding houses can easily care for	175,000
Will stop daily with friends, not less than	200,000
Brooklyn, Jersey City, and other places, near New York, and cities and towns within one hour's ride can furnish comfortable quarters for at least	500,000
Total	1,001,562

Which would enable New York to take care of over one million daily visitors to the World's Fair.

Mr. Merrifield estimates that the loss of the World's Fair cost one hotel alone, the largest in the city (the Grand Central, which has 800 rooms), about $150,000; that the Hoffman House lost say $200,000, and so on through the list of the 180 hotels of New York, which were promised a remunerative trade for a year and a half or two years only to have their hopes dashed to the ground.

Of course, now that the time has come for the hotel men to have forcibly brought to their attention the political claims of the men who lost the Fair to New York, and there is a chance to do what Chauncey M. Depew prophesied would be done, which is to snow the culprits under with 100,000 majority, it is hardly to be expected that the hotel men will throw up their hats for the men who beat them, or get up early or sit up late nights to help along the Platt-Fassett combination that took the Fair away from New York under the mistaken hope that it would benefit the Republican party more in the West than it would injure it in New York.

It must be remembered that the vast business which ought to have come to our hotels meant prosperity to the many branches of business that supply hotels. It meant profit for the butcher, the baker, the grocer, the livery stables, the stores, the mechanics who are employed in constructing hotels and keeping them in order. It meant employment for thousands of waiters and chambermaids. All of these came to grief when the Platt-Fassett men took the World's Fair away from New York and gave it to Chicago. It is true that the chambermaids can't vote, but there are thousands of men who were very much disappointed at the loss of business to the hotels, and the Platt-Fassett men who are pooh-poohing the World's Fair question, and saying that New Yorkers did not want the Fair, may get some appropriate information just now from hotel men. It would be strange, indeed, after such a stab at their business interests as they endured if they should not now take the opportunity to get square with Platt, Fassett & Co., and take this most favorable time to present a "hotel bill" which has been unpaid for a couple of years, and for which Platt, Fassett & Co. are personally responsible. This is a hotel bill with a good many items in it, and it has been drawing interest for a couple of years, and it will be a sad day on the first Tuesday in November when Platt, Fassett & Co. are called upon to pay up.

MR. BLAINE'S QUIET DAY.

A Drive in the Park and a Walk With His Secretary Occupy His Time.

The Hon. James G. Blaine, who arrived in this city on Thursday night, managed yesterday to keep pretty well out of the way of the hundreds of politicians who, at present, throng the corridors of the Fifth Avenue Hotel. But whenever he showed himself in the office, he immediately became the centre of a group of friends and acquaintances bent on congratulating him on his improved appearance.

After breakfast yesterday morning the Secretary drove in the Park with Mrs. Blaine and his daughter, Mrs. Damrosch, and lunched at the home of the latter. On returning to the hotel he paused in the lobby for some minutes to converse with the Hon. Thomas C. Platt, the Hon. Warner Miller, the Hon. J. J. Belden, Col. Clarkson, and Mr. Bernard Biglan. Later in the afternoon Mr. Blaine went out for a walk with his private Secretary, Mr. L. A. Dent. During their absence Mr. Fassett and Mr. Vrooman called at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Chairman Brookfield of the Republican State Committee had been unable to persuade Mr. Blaine to stay over and address the Republican mass meeting at the Madison Square Garden on Monday evening. The Secretary and Mrs. Blaine will leave for Washington on the 10:10 Pennsylvania limited this morning.

THE GORDON WILL CASE.

Ink Said Not to Have Been Made Until After the Date of the Will.

The hearing in the Gordon will case was resumed yesterday in the Chancery Chambers in Jersey City, before Chancellor McGill. Gordon was an inventor and manufacturer of printing presses. He was a millionaire, and it was supposed he died intestate. An old will was discovered recently and offered for probate. The proponents say it is a genuine document, while the opponents are trying to prove that it is a forgery. The testimony given yesterday was entirely of an expert character. There were interlineations in red ink in the original draft of the will, which are said to have been made by Mr. Gordon himself.

Prof. James B. Stebbins of New York had examined the interlinications with a microscope and he declared that they were made with ink manufactured from eosine, an ink that was not discovered until six years after the date of the will. Other experts are ready to testify that the ink is an aniline ink and was in use for years before the will was drawn. Henry C. Adams, the elderly lawyer from Orange who discovered the will among his father's papers, was recalled. He has become doubtful as to whether the draft of the will with the interlineations was made in 1868. He remembers now that another draft was made some time between 1875 and 1877, and he thinks this may be the one.

Mismanagement as Well as Bad Faith.

From the Savannah Morning News.

The extravagance which has marked the management from the very beginning will not be overlooked when the application for a $5,000,000 loan comes before Congress next winter. It is a question whether the application will be granted. If it should not the Fair would be in a very unfortunate financial condition.

Chicago has not contributed the amount of money she promised to, and it is evident that she doesn't intend to contribute any more than she can possibly help. It looks now as if she intended making the Government provide most of the money needed to prepare for the Fair, although when the question of the location of the Fair was before Congress she declared, through her representatives, that she would ask nothing from the Government except a sum sufficient to take care of the Government exhibit. This declaration will be used against her with telling effect when she comes to Congress next winter begging for a loan of $5,000,000. Indeed, it is by no means certain that she will not ask for $10,000,000.

Not Easy to Find Out.

From the Baltimore American.

"My dear, what is this secret in the new ballot they talk of?"

"How to vote it, my precious."

MR. AND MRS. ALBERT EDWARD MOTTRAM.

An Eloping Couple from England Arrives Here by the Britannic.

Among the steerage passengers of the steamship Britannic, which arrived yesterday, was a very pretty young woman with snappy gray eyes, wavy brown hair, and a strong English accent. She wore a long gray cloak that reached clear to her feet and a jaunty hat. Her coat was held at the collar with a silver pin. There was a very pleasant smile on her face, and she clung closely to the arm of a red-whiskered young man, from whose breast swung several feet of gold watch chain. She did not appear to be more than 20 years old. Her red-whiskered companion also wore a smile. He was probably 30 years old. He devoted all his attention to the young woman. They stayed down stairs in the steerage companionway until long after the ship was fast to her pier, and they whispered together and looked closely at everybody who came along.

On Oct. 9 THE SUN printed this cable despatch from Queenstown:

"QUEENSTOWN, Oct. 8.—An exciting scene was witnessed to-day on board the White Star line steamer Teutonic, which left Liverpool yesterday for New York. When the Teutonic dropped anchor here this morning in order to take mails and passengers on board, a gentleman of clerical appearance was to be seen on the company's tender as she approached the steamship. He seemed to be in a state of considerable excitement, and upon boarding the Teutonic asked after a young lady and gentleman, whose description he furnished to everybody, right and left, with the result that he was soon placed in communication with a young couple, who seemed dreadfully frightened and ashamed when confronted by him. No sooner did he catch sight of the young lady than he seized her violently by the arm, dragged her from her companion, at whose head he hurled a shower of abuse, and then literally by force dragged the young lady down the steamer's side and on board the tender.

"The gentleman was the Rev. Bartley Ellis of Wigan, Lancashire, near Preston, and the young lady was his daughter, Harriet Ellis, who had eloped with a young man named Albert Edward Mottram. The Captain of the Teutonic, upon being made aware of the facts of the case, interposed no objection to the removal of his passenger, especially as the young lady did not deny the truth of the allegations made, and could only sob in reply to questions put to her. Mottram also landed, amid the jeers of the passengers."

Seven days later it printed this other cablegram, also from Queenstown:

"QUEENSTOWN, Oct. 15.—Miss Harriet Ellis, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Ellis of Christ Church, Burseley, England, sailed to-day on the Britannic in company with Albert Edward Mottram.

"Miss Ellis ran away from her home a week ago with Mottram, who is a married man, having a family at Wigan, and was about to sail in the Teutonic, when her father, who had learned of her flight, crossed over here and took her from the deck of the steamer. Mottram came ashore at the same time. The young lady refused to leave him, and they finally escaped from her father and are now on their way to New York."

The red-whiskered man in the steerage of the Britannic was Albert Edward Mottram, and he had registered "and wife" after his name on the ship's list. When a reporter addressed Mr. Mottram by name he turned very red in the face as he admitted his identity. He looked over the printed despatches from Queenstown, and said:

"Well, I have nothing to say except to deny it all. I make a most unqualified denial."

In reply to other questions Mr. Mottram did not deny that he was the person named in the despatches, but insisted that his pretty companion was his wife, and that they had been married long before going aboard the ship. When asked if he had another wife living in England he said, "This is my wife." The young woman said the story was not true, because her father was dead. Both denied that there had been any scene on board the Teutonic. Mr. Mottram would say nothing further, but agreed to an appointment to explain the cable despatches at another time.

They will be landed at the Barge Office and questioned by Gen. O'Bierne to-day, and if the cable stories are true and Albert Edward has another wife living in England they will have to go back on the Britannic when she returns.

WOULD-BE VOTERS ANSWERED.

Information for Those Who Wish to Vote, but Do Not Know if They May Do So.

M. Stagg.—If you live in New York from January to September, and in Hoboken the rest of the time, you will have to decide which of the two places is to be your residence—"the place to which, when one is absent, he intends to return." Then you can vote there.

Inquirer.—A man 87 years old who has resided here for thirty-three years, whose father, however, was never naturalized, cannot vote as he is; he can obtain full papers, however, by simply proving that he is over 23, and has been here since he was 16 years old.

Jno. J. D.—Justice Patterson's decision, that "election district" means "Assembly district," is the law of the whole State.

C. D. K.—An American, naturalized in Canada, must go through the same formalities in obtaining American citizenship as if he were an alien by birth.

Can a man move with his family from a county where he has gained his residence into another county and live there long enough to gain a residence there? Can he go back to the county he moved from and claim his residence and vote legally, providing he never offered his vote anywhere but in the county he moved from? H. E. M.

It is a question his conscience must settle; if he moved into the second county intending to stay there he lost his residence in the first county, and cannot honestly claim it again simply because he found that he could not remain in the second county. But if he intended always to return to the first county he did not lose his residence there.

Are students at college, soldiers, or any other body of men of age, who have resided in the State one year and in the district the specified thirty days prohibited from voting in such place, whatever it may be? H. P. E.

The Constitution of this State provides that no student or soldier shall gain or lose a residence because of his being a student or a soldier. That is, a student from Ohio, or a soldier from Illinois, can stay here the required time, but even then is not entitled to vote; but a student or soldier of this State, temporarily in another State, is entitled to vote here, if he registers, even if he hasn't actually lived in the State for years.

Will you explain the exact meaning of the amendments in section 25 of the Ballot law of 1891, more particularly that part which refers to offices where there are more than one position to fill—Coroners and Justices of the City Court?

The first amendment simply explains that the paster must be affixed on the inside of the ballot. The second, to which you refer, means that if there are, say, three names on the ballots, and only two on the paster, the names on the ballot which are not wholly or partly covered, erased, or concealed, are to be counted; thus, if you put a paster on with the names of two candidates for Coroner and erase only one name on the ballot the other two names shall be counted, although you did intend to erase one of them. The third amendment tells you how to fold the ballot once in the middle and then lengthwise. The fourth amendment says that the voting ballot is to be handed in first, then the ballots which you don't want; and the last, that the stubs of all ballots, whether voted or not, must show.

Does the witness to a man's naturalization have to be a citizen?

Yes; that is the decision in Pennsylvania agt. Faper, 1 Brewster, 263, which still stands.

Can I vote at the next election in November? I returned from Chicago, Ill., last March, where I had been for two years for my health, having always voted and lived in New York, except the votes I cast while away. J. B.

No. By voting in Illinois you show that you acquired residence there, and surrendered it here. You must acquire it here again before you can vote.

F. C. L., Long Island City.—Before a man can vote in this State he must have resided one year in the State, four months in the county, and thirty days in the Assembly district and ward—if it is a question of voting for Aldermen.

I came to this country at the age of 10 and have passed my 21st birthday. What have I got to do to procure citizenship papers? Are there certain hours to procure them, and what do they cost? B. A. C.

You must wait two years more before you can get your final papers. Only three years of your minority can be counted in the five years' residence necessary before being naturalized. The courts are open from 10 to 4; the cost is 50 cents.

H. De Witt D.—We think you can register here; you don't seem to have lost your residence here.

Constant Reader.—You lose your vote unless your new house is in the same election district as your old residence.

A Card from John McMackin.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: In THE SUN of Sunday last it is stated that "Mr. Coogan has frequently told how he lost sight of McMackin after the last large lump of money had been put into his hands." The suggestion here is obvious, and it is that I got from Mr. Coogan a large sum of money for campaign purposes, and that instead of devoting it to such purposes I retained it for my own private use.

Now, I hereby make a falsehood the statement that I appropriated any of Mr. Coogan's money to my own use.

NEW YORK, Oct. 21. JNO. MCMACKIN.

Will Get a Long Well With His Experiment.

From the Atchison Daily Globe.

J. B. Welburn, an Effingham man, proposes to keep his house warm in winter and cool in summer from the air in the bottom of a well 100 feet deep.

In the Restaurant.

From Puck.

Mr. Feeder—What's that awful thumping out there? Waiter—Dat's de cook. Yo' ordered a leatherjack steak, didn't yo', sah?

THE ASSAULT ON OUR SAILORS.

Official Report of the Attack Upon Them by a Mob in Valparaiso.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—A cablegram has been received at the Navy Department from Capt. Schley, commanding the Baltimore, at Valparaiso, Chili, giving additional details of the fight between the American and Chilian sailors, in which one of the former was killed. He gives the names of the men hurt in the affray, and corroborates the facts concerning it that have been already printed. He asserts briefly that the fight was caused wholly by the Chilians, who made an attack upon the American sailors without provocation. The boatswain's mate, who was killed, was dragged from a street car by members of the mob, which numbered fully 150. He died in the arms of a fellow sailor.

The officials at the Navy Department deny that the despatch contained any sensational statements, as was asserted in a morning paper, and Secretary Tracy says that the phrases quoted as coming from him on the subject in the same paper are wholly unfounded.

Secretary Tracy and Gen. John W. Foster had a conference with the President this afternoon in regard to the Valparaiso incident, and at its close Secretary Tracy dictated the following as the latest official information on the subject:

"From a despatch received from Capt. Schley last evening it appears that he has made a careful investigation of the origin of the assault on our sailors attached to the Baltimore at Valparaiso on the 16th inst. The investigation showed that Petty Officer Charles Riggan, while riding in a street car, was assaulted, dragged from the car, and shot; that he was murdered in the arms of his companions by about one hundred men who were armed; that Apprentice Fred Talbot was assailed and dangerously cut several times in the back, two of the wounds penetrating his lungs; that Coal Heaver Itherson was robbed and dangerously cut several times in the back, this assault being made by about twenty-five men; that Coal Heaver Turnbull received eighteen wounds in the back, two of which penetrated his lungs, and that he is in a critical state; that Petty Officer Hamilton was wounded several times in the back and other parts of the body; that Coal Heaver Panter and Landsman Davidson were dangerously injured by assaults with clubs, stones, and knives, and that many other men were seriously injured by assaults; that thirty-five seamen were arrested by the public authorities and detained; that the surgeons on the Baltimore are unanimously of the opinion that some of the wounds were inflicted by bayonets, thus showing clearly the participation of the police; that the American sailors were without arms and defenceless; that they were sober and innocent of any misbehavior; that two of the seriously wounded are still in the hospital; that in several instances sailors of the Chilian fleet rendered assistance to our sailors, and that in some instances the police officers protected them."

Secretary Tracy said that he was obliged to paraphrase the despatch in order to protect department cipher code, otherwise the despatch would have been made public exactly as written. He said that through some difficulty with the cipher used in the despatch they were as yet unable to ascertain what disposition has been made of the men arrested by the authorities. He declined most positively to say anything further.

VEDDER WILL HAVE TO HUSTLE.

His Little Scheme to Divide the Democratic Vote in His District Fails.

ALBANY, Oct. 23.—Commodore P. Vedder will have formidable opposition in his race for Senator in the Thirty-second (Cattaraugus-Chautauqua) district at the coming election. Heretofore he has been able to induce the candidate nominated by the anti-Vedder Republicans to drop out. This year they nominated James T. Edwards of Randolph, President of the Chamberlain Institute, a Methodist minister and a very popular Republican. This was done by securing 500 signatures. The Democrats of the district also nominated Mr. Edwards. The situation looked very bad from Mr. Vedder's standpoint, so he had Charles M. Upton nominated by 500 other signers. Mr. Upton is a Democrat, and Mr. Vedder hoped by this means to divert the Democratic vote from Mr. Edwards. The certificate was presented at the Secretary of State's office for filing on Monday, the last day but one allowed by law. It certified that the "People's party" had nominated Mr. Upton. The nomination book in the Secretary's office showed that Mr. Edwards was nominated by the People's party, and Upton's certificate was rejected. The messenger soon afterward returned with "People's party" changed to "Citizens' party." Then, upon receipt of a telegram, "Citizens'" was changed to "Alliance party." The certificate was defective in several respects, and was referred to the Attorney-General. This afternoon Attorney-General Tabor gave an opinion that the certificate could not be filed. In the first place the signers had taken, in violation of law, the name of a party already filing a nomination, and in the second place the person changing the name of the political party had no authority from the signers. This little scheme failing, Mr. Vedder will have to leave the Fifth Avenue Hotel and hustle about his district for votes.

Immigration Increasing.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—The chief of the Bureau of Statistics reports that the number of immigrants arrived in the United States during the month ended Sept. 30, 1891, and the nine months ended the same compared with the corresponding periods of 1890 were as follows:

Countries.	Month Ended Sept. 30. 1891.	1890.	Nine Months Ended Sept. 30. 1891.	1890.
Austria-Hungary:				
Bohemia	684	549	8,146	5,424
Hungary	1,753	1,918	20,244	17,777
Other Austria (except Poland)	2,826	2,103	26,030	28,544
Denmark	668	663	8,802	8,523
France	549	512	4,578	4,403
Germany	10,705	9,567	94,101	73,120
Great Britain and Ireland:				
England and Wales	6,270	6,826	40,702	43,873
Scotland	1,210	1,399	10,183	9,112
Ireland	5,282	5,871	47,939	45,399
Italy	2,561	3,205	57,396	46,748
Netherlands	245	375	4,091	3,774
Poland	3,190	2,218	26,877	14,821
Russia (except Poland)	9,777	3,914	54,232	32,360
Sweden and Norway	5,261	4,408	43,342	35,513
Switzerland	561	716	5,118	5,100
All other countries	1,894	1,684	16