The Sun.

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Conditional Repeal Becomes a Democratic Measure.

Nearly all of the Democratic Senators are reported to have agreed to the steering committee's plan of compromise, as engineered by Senator GORMAN, and, according to present indications, tacitly, if reluctantly, accepted by Mr. CLEVELAND'S Administration.

Apart from any consideration of the effect upon the prospect of a settlement, the change in the situation wrought by the proposition for compromise has one very important political aspect.

The plan of compromise will be a Democratic measure, and a Democratic measure exclusively.

Up to this time certain Republicans and certain Democrats in the Senate have been working together to put through an unconditional repeal of the silver purchase clause of the SHERMAN act, as desired by Mr. CLEVELAND when he issued his proclamation of June 30, convening Congress in extraordinary session. The issue has been unconditional repeal, but it has not been a party issue in the Senate.

As soon as all of the Democratic Senators, or enough of them to constitute a majority of the Senate, adhere to the compromise plan, the issue is no longer unconditional repeal. It is conditional repeal, and it becomes a Democratic issue. The Republicans who have united with the unconditional repeal Democrats in the demand for unconditional repeal, at once stand aside. Their attitude toward the new proposition is indicated by editorial articles in the *New York Tribune* and other organs of their party, denouncing the proposed compromise as a disastrous and ignoble surrender.

The Democracy becomes solely responsible for the compromise measure, for the task of putting it through the Senate and the House, and for its practical results if it shall be enacted.

Conditional Repeal—The Conditions.

The proposition which is about to be submitted to the Senate for compromising the dispute in that body over the Silver Purchase Repeal bill, differs from unconditional repeal in one essential and important particular, namely, the provision for coining the seigniorage upon the bullion now in the Treasury and upon that which is to be bought up to Oct. 1, 1894.

Opinions may differ as to whether a surrender is involved in postponing for eleven months the cessation of silver purchases for which the majority of the Senate have so long been vainly struggling. Nor is it of great importance whether the paper money in circulation of less denominations than $10 shall be composed of silver certificates, or of Treasury notes, or of greenbacks. It will pass from hand to hand just the same, and serve its purpose just the same. But the serious thing is, that the total silver and paper currency of the country which has to be kept at par with gold, if we do not wish to see it drive all our gold out of use as money, will, under the proposed compromise, be increased by the issue during the next eleven months of about $37,000,000 additional Treasury notes and by the coinage of $50,000,000 and more of seigniorage, or difference between the cost of the silver bullion in the Treasury and the number of standard dollars which must first be coined out of it to cover the Treasury notes issued for its purchase.

The amount of money in circulation in the country, other than gold coin and gold certificates, was reported by the Treasury Department on the first day of the present month at $1,138,016,210. Since then it has been increased somewhat by silver purchases and by the issue of national bank notes. To redeem this money in gold, if redemption should be demanded, the Treasury holds about $81,500,000 in gold. By Oct. 1, 1894, the total amount of our paper and silver money will be, under the proposed compromise, not less than $1,200,000,000, and it may be more.

Unless, therefore, the compromise is amended by the addition of a provision for increasing in some way the Treasury stock of gold, the maintenance of gold payments will be put by it in extreme jeopardy.

An Absolutely Solvent Concern.

It seems to the *Daily News* of London that "if the conditions continue in the United States, the country will rapidly drift toward bankruptcy."

John Bull need borrow no trouble on that score, and actually he borrows none. The firm of Brother Jonathan, Yankee Doodle & Co., will continue to do business at the old stand, with abundant resources of capital and unimpaired and unequalled credit. It is on the road to neither financial nor political bankruptcy. It has always met its obligations in the past, and it will always meet them in the future. Its notes will not go to protest. If it wants to borrow money, it can get all it asks for, at any time, both at home and abroad, at the lowest rate of interest accepted in the financial markets of the world. Its friends will not be distressed and its enemies will not be gratified by seeing it go into bankruptcy or get on the road to bankruptcy.

The conditions of which the *Daily News* speaks are temporary, and will be speedily removed. For the moment, the revenue of the concern is somewhat less than its expenditures, but a sufficiency of revenue is easily obtainable, and the delay in getting it is due simply to a change in the concern's method of doing business and to a pending discussion as to its financial policy.

Last year the majority of the partners decided that the existing system of obtaining revenue is contrary to the fundamental principles on which the copartnership was originally established. That system was devised, primarily, for the purpose of protecting the general business of the concern from outside competition, and not for the purpose of getting revenue. The decision made last year was that, by the terms of the copartnership, such a method is forbidden, and that the concern must raise revenue solely for the purpose of getting the requisite money. It must regulate its means of obtaining revenue with the single view of getting money enough for the honest and economical conduct of the machinery of the business, without regard to any other end. That is, the concern must estimate its expenditures carefully, and then proceed to raise the money for them, stopping there.

This change involved a revolution in the method of conducting the concern, which cannot be effected in a day. It takes time; but the necessary revenue is easily obtainable, more easily under the new than under the old system; because the new is for the sole purpose of obtaining revenue, and the old is for a purpose which conflicts with obtaining revenue. The managers of the concern are now considering the details of the new plan, and while they consult as to them there is naturally some disturbance to the business. The old method has been rejected, but the new method is not yet arranged and in operation.

Disagreement exists as to the financial policy of the concern, and, of course, while the discussion to which it gives rise goes on, there is the disturbance of uncertainty; but this uncertainty will soon be removed, and the concern will proceed on the career of prosperity which has made it the soundest, the most powerful, and the most successful of all the national partnerships in the world.

Everybody at home understands that. Everybody abroad understands it. Nowhere is there any doubt of the absolute, invincible, and continuing solvency of the strong old house of Brother Jonathan, Yankee Doodle & Co.

The Health of the City.

The compulsory vaccination during the past week of a considerable number of the adults employed in certain business establishments, and of the people in some lodging houses, and of the residents upon blocks in which there had been isolated cases of variola, may have created an apprehension that the city is in danger of an epidemic of small-pox. If there were any such danger—and we know of no reason for supposing that there is—the proper method of averting it has been adopted by the Board of Health. The existence of a single case in any locality insures a visit thereto of the Board's special inspectors, who at once isolate the case, disinfect the quarters in which it had been found, and then proceed to vaccinate everybody who may have been liable to catch the infection. On account of the publicity given to these proceedings, some people have been led to entertain an exaggerated notion of the extent to which the malady has prevailed in New York.

There has not been any epidemic of small-pox in the city at any time during the year, and the reports of the municipal health officers do not give any indication of the approach of such an epidemic. Take last week, for example, when the apprehension was greater than it had been at any other time in the year; there were but three deaths from small-pox in a total number of twenty-one reported cases of it. During three weeks of this month there have been but eight deaths from it among the forty-seven cases. This is a mortality smaller than that from any one of nearly twenty other diseases, less even than that from meningitis, about nine-tenths less than that from bronchitis, not one-twentieth as large as that from pneumonia, and not one-thirty-fifth as large as that from consumption. In the whole of the month of September there were but eighteen fatal cases of small-pox in the city. In the month of August there were two fatal cases, in the month of July two, and in no previous month of the year did the disease prevail to any extent that could give any cause for the slightest alarm. An epidemic of small-pox is a thing that can hardly be thought of in New York. The treatment of it is fully understood, and so are the means of preventing its spread. The medical faculty are the masters of it. They have not been able to extirpate it wholly from the world; there are sporadic cases of it, from time to time, in all large cities, mainly among people who have not been vaccinated, or who have been imperfectly inoculated, or who have failed to get vaccinated again when that was necessary.

We cannot speak too highly of the alertness of the Board of Health ever since a notion got abroad that there was danger that the malady would become epidemic. The doctors of the Board carried on a very lively campaign in several parts of the city last week. Upon some east side blocks nearly everybody was vaccinated. In several up-town business establishments the virus was applied to all the employees, both sexes. The needle and quill were used, not because of the existence of the malady among those subjected thereto, but for prophylactic purposes. There is no doubt that the precaution was well taken. The Board's inspectors will not relax their efforts as long as a case of small-pox can be found in New York.

The city has been peculiarly fortunate this year in that it has not suffered from several of the epidemics with which it was supposed, at various times, to be menaced. We have not had the cholera, though there has certainly been danger that it would be brought among us by the immigrants from the infected countries of Europe. There was fear at one time of an epidemic of the grip, but it came not. We seemed in the first part of summer to be approaching an epidemic of meningitis, but the number of cases has not at any time been large. Of course the city, like other cities, always suffers from typhoid and scarlet fever, measles and diphtheria. With the improvement of our sanitary condition, we have reason to hope for the subsidence of all, or nearly all, of these contagious maladies.

The Military Job England Has on Hand.

The British campaign against the Matabeles has not opened brilliantly for the whites. Their reported successes in the first engagements are not confirmed by later despatches. In fact, one of the three small British columns, advancing from the east, was forced to retreat by the first considerable body of the enemy it met, and another of the columns, advancing from the south, and consisting chiefly of King KHAMA'S Bechuanas under white leadership, was also driven back.

The Hovas of Madagascar are wont to say that their two great military allies are General FOREST and General FEVER. Nature has also provided the Matabeles with two allies that may prove of considerable advantage to them in the present campaign. One of them is the Matoppo Hills and the other is the floodgate of Heaven, which, probably, will be pulled wide open in two or three weeks more.

The granite Matoppo Hills are a great natural defence, stretching between the most populous part of King LO BENGULA'S country and the columns of mounted white men that are advancing against him. They may be easily crossed at only one pass. If the King's soldiers were as well armed and disciplined as their enemy, his capital would be safe from any attacks coming from the forts that, two weeks ago, started their columns against him. It is in the neighborhood of these hills that both the eastern and the southern columns have just met reverses.

The rainy season is unhealthy for white men, renders many of the little rivers almost impassable, and converts a large part of the country into a vast swamp. Unless the British decisively defeat the Matabeles within the next four weeks, there is no prospect that the proposed punishment can be inflicted for months to come.

Some military men in England have already expressed the opinion that the thousand men now in the field, well armed and well equipped though they be, are not enough to settle the Matabele question. They have some good arguments on their side; and it is certain that the British must despatch their business with alacrity if they are to make this campaign short, sharp, and decisive.

An Ignorant Senator.

Mr. WILLIAM M. STEWART of Nevada has presented to the Senate of the United States a proposed amendment to the rules of that body in the following words:

"No Senator who is directly or indirectly interested in any national bank, or in the stock of any national bank, shall vote upon any bill or question affecting the coinage or issue of currency by the Government, or through the instrumentality of national banks."

To adopt such a rule would be to act upon the assumption that the Senate can restrict the constitutional rights and powers of Senators. Of course, the Senate possesses no authority to do any such thing.

While it may very well be that Congress can enlarge the privileges of Senators and members of the House of Representatives by proper legislation, it is clearly not within its power to restrict or limit the exercise of any right which belongs to a Senator or Representative by virtue of the Constitution. The right to vote upon any bill or question in regard to which a vote is taken in the Senate belongs to every Senator. The Constitution nowhere declares that interest in the measure under consideration, whether direct or remote, shall operate as a disqualification from voting. It does declare that each House of Congress may determine the rule of its proceedings; but no one has ever heretofore contended that this power to make rules of procedure extends so far as it would be carried by the adoption of Mr. STEWART'S proposed amendment.

If the Senate can lawfully prohibit any of its members, who happen to be interested in national banks, from voting upon any question concerning the coinage, it can lawfully prohibit any of its members who are stockholders in railroads from voting upon any question relating to Inter-State commerce; and the rule of exclusion might be carried so far as to prevent any Senator who owns any property from voting upon any question.

We would respectfully suggest to Mr. STEWART of Nevada that even a Senator of the United States may derive some advantage from an occasional perusal of the Constitution.

Senator Hill in Brooklyn To-night.

The Hon. DAVID BENNETT HILL is due in Brooklyn to-night. The faithful Democracy of that town will have the privilege of hearing the issues of the campaign presented by a leader whom they are proud to follow, and an orator to whom they are always glad to listen.

No doubt hundreds of New Yorkers will cross the river and go to the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Indeed, we shall not be surprised if the Senator's audience includes many citizens who have not heretofore counted themselves among his particular admirers. Recent events in the Senate have stimulated, even among Mugwumps, a desire to know something more of a statesman about whom they have talked and written so much, and understood so little.

Let them go, by all means, Mugwumps included; and may those who go, not exactly to scoff, but to see and scrutinize, remain to pray!

The *New York Times's* criticism of Senator VOORHEES for not calling up on Saturday the closure resolution of which he gave notice on Friday, is not well founded. Friday was Friday, and Saturday was Saturday for the rest of the world; but for the United States Senate Friday and Saturday were both one and the same legislative day, and that day was Tuesday.

There is remarkable unanimity among officers of the army in ascribing the recent increase of desertions in part to the new law which prohibits the reënlistment of private soldiers after ten years' service.

Gen. MILES says that this legislation is, in his opinion, injurious to the army, "depriving the Government, as it does, of many experienced, heroic, and patriotic men, whose presence in the service would, from every point of view, promote its efficiency and character." Gen. CARLIN thinks it probable that some men who enlisted originally with the view of devoting their lives to the service, felt aggrieved at being debarred by this law, and have deserted in consequence of it. Capt. GROESBECK reports that the increase in desertions "is with little doubt due to the influence of the ten years' service law. The oldest soldiers have resented the spirit of that law, and their increased discontent has been communicated to the younger men. The soldiers of our army have no longer a profession which may be confidently entered for life." Lieut.-Col. KENT says that the ten years' law and the discharge of men before the five years' term have much changed the character of the enlisted strength of the army.

These are only examples of great numbers of the current reports on this subject. Thousands of officers and men have petitioned Congress for the repeal of the ten years' law. There are, it is true, other causes for the increase in desertions. Gen. SCHOFIELD thinks them to be "entirely beyond control, unless it be by increasing the certainty and severity of the punishment for desertion." He holds that in an army as small as ours every man should be efficient, and that those who are not so should be got rid of promptly. This can be found out, he thinks, with much less than five years' trial, while ten years is too short a time for enabling the Government to get the full worth of the services of good men.

The result of his views is seen in a bill recently introduced by Congressman CURTIS for the repeal of the ten years' law, and for reducing the term of enlistment to three years, with a provision that no soldier shall be reenlisted for a second term "who is not specially well qualified for the military service, or whose service has not been honest and faithful." The reduction to three years would really involve no very serious change, since under the existing law a soldier is entitled to his discharge, if he wishes it, at the end of three years, although enlisting for five. On the other hand, Gen. SCHOFIELD thinks that this change would allow doing away with discharge by purchase, "which has proved very prejudicial to military discipline."

It will be seen that there is a prospect of undoing some of the experimental legislation for the army which Mr. PROCTOR secured as Secretary and Senator, and that the ten years' law is pretty sure to be wiped out.

The bill which went through the House last week, by a vote of 178 to 1, for the amendment of the Chinese registration act of last year, ought to be passed by the Senate without delay. It provides that the period of registration shall be extended for a term of six months, thus offering the Chinese who have not obeyed the law by registering, another opportunity of signifying their obedience to it. The registration act already on the statute book, which was made applicable in May of 1892, and which was terminable within a year from that time, has never been enforced during the eighteen months of its existence. We need not now discuss whether the courts have been to blame for failing to perform their duty in regard to it, or whether the lack of money to meet its requirements has prevented its execution, or whether the President is blamable for permitting it to fall into "innocuous desuetude." If we may use a striking phrase of Presidential coinage. In any event, there have undoubtedly been obstructions to its enforcement that could not be easily surmounted. But the main facts are that the Chinese have not registered, as required by law; that the recalcitrants have not been arrested or brought under the law, and that we cannot now banish at once a Chinese population numbering over 100,000.

The extension of the time of registration is therefore a necessity; and, in order to show respect for the law, that extension ought to be provided for without delay, even at an extra session of Congress called for other and more important purposes.

There is some reason for believing that the Chinese will embrace another opportunity for registration, if it be given to them. We are informed that the well-disposed new Chinese Minister favors the passage of the bill amending the act; and we suppose this signifies that he has been instructed to give orders to all Chinese subjects in this country that they shall obey the American law. John Chinaman is an obedient subject when he recognizes the authority under which any solemn decree is issued.

Gov. BILLY RUSSELL'S neat speech at Trenton is not getting all of the attention it deserves. It began with a tribute to the first President of the republic for his courage and steadfastness in New Jersey; and wound up with an equally fervid and eloquent tribute to the twenty-second President, apparently based on the general idea that there could be no compromise on the silver question.

The City Club seems to have forgotten already the purposes which led to its foundation.—*Philadelphia Press.*

O, no! The City Club never forgets the purpose of its existence; namely, to sit on the stile and continue to smile, which may soften the heart of that cow.

THE ARMY OF TO-DAY.

Its Duties and Prospects—Marksmanship, Drill, Discipline, and Weapons.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—The year which is reviewed in the annual reports of the Commanding General of the Army, the department commanders, and the various staff corps officers, has been one of exceptional tranquillity for the military establishment. The Indians nearly everywhere have been quiet, and the contrast between the anxiety and trouble they formerly gave the troops and their present attitude, as a whole, is gratifying. There has been no recurrence of the Messiah delusion, which once threatened so much trouble among the Sioux and other Indians. There was a brief excitement in Black Horse's band of Navajos, but it was easily disposed of, as was the trouble among the Choctaws. One task of considerable difficulty imposed on the troops was that of expelling the squatters from the Cherokee Outlet and keeping it clear, so as to give all the settlers an equal chance in the race for new homes. But the chief feature of campaigning has been along the Rio Grande, in preventing and punishing violations of the neutrality law by armed bodies wishing to cross into Mexico. The task was a hard one, as the fordable portion of the river boundary is so long, and the dense chapparal offers such means of concealment; but our troops were reënforced, at considerable expense to the country, and the duty was most creditably performed, the invading bodies being broken up and dispersed.

In what condition is our little army to-day? Gen. Schofield says that its standard of discipline is satisfactory, and his views are corroborated by those of other officers. Gen. Miles, for example, finds a good state of discipline and faithful service on the part of the troops, and good judgment and discretion among the officers, as shown by the task of keeping peace between the hostile factions of the semi-civilized tribes and in removing trespassers from the public lands. Those troops also that attended the dedication ceremonies of the World's Fair presented, he says, a fine appearance, were well equipped, and marched and manœuvred with commendable skill and accuracy. Gen. Merritt says that the discipline of the troops is excellent, and that the capacity and disposition of the officers were never better. Others could be quoted to the same effect.

Gen. Schofield also notes that the standard of marksmanship in the army, both with artillery and small arms, was probably never so high as now. This latter praise seems well merited, since in the recent army competitions at Fort Sheridan the scores were said to be not only the highest ever made by the military riflemen of this country, but to beat the world's records. When the teams compete the next time the weapons used, perhaps, will be the new Krag rifles, of which some should be ready for distribution by the end of this year. At all events, the selection of a magazine arm is one of the leading features of the twelve months that is past, as its issue for regular use will be a leading feature of the current twelvemonth.

During the year the army has steadily practised the new drill regulations. Col. Heyl of the Inspector-General's Department reports that while he has heard some adverse criticism upon them among officers, with a desire to return to Upton's tactics, yet the general opinion is that an advance has been effected. He suggests that it might be well, before making any modifications in the new regulations, to have a fair practical field test by, perhaps, four battalions of infantry, two of cavalry, and three or four light batteries, together with hospital and signal detachments, coming together with everything necessary for a three months' campaign, and camping, drilling, and manœuvring together as if on a war footing.

One drawback to the satisfaction with the year's results has been an increase in desertions. It had been hoped that with the purchase system and with various steps for the improvement of the condition of the troops, this evil would continue to diminish as it had done during the previous year. But to general surprise the number of desertions has increased, and the result is dissatisfaction with the famous Proctor law, designed to diminish them. Col. Heyl says that the opinion seems almost universal among company commanders that "the law, especially the furlough provision, has done much to impair the efficiency of the army. As a rule, they favor abolishing the purchase system and reducing the term of enlistment to three years." The ten years' service law is also considered an incentive to desertion. The recruiting service, however, has been brought to a high standard, and the hard times have furnished an abundant supply of good recruits.

The operations of the lyceums are praised. The importance of the education given at colleges by the army officers is especially dwelt upon by Adjt.-Gen. Williams, who shows that the total average attendance at these institutions for the last year was 23,628, as against 19,104 the year before, and 16,537 the year before that. Of course the growth is in part normal, but it is fair to assume that some of it was stimulated by the drills. And if these are advantageous to the institutions, they are to the Government, which finds in them the sources of reliance on a trained body of young men in case of need. Since the report of Gen. Williams was drawn up, the House of Representatives has passed without a dissenting vote a bill increasing the possible number of details of officers from the army as instructors to 100, making with the navy details an aggregate of 110.

The reorganization of the artillery and infantry is one of the measures for which the army looks to Congress, and yet perhaps not very confidently, since it is difficult to secure increased efficiency under the plans proposed without some increase in expense. The process of concentrating troops by the abandonment of small posts continues, and the result will be to increase the comforts and advantages of the men, as well as their efficiency, by placing them mostly in large forts, of modern construction and modern conveniences, while enabling them also to be supplied at less expense and to be drilled in larger bodies. Now that a magazine rifle has been selected, and that the army has been furnished with breech-loading rifled field guns of a new pattern, it is hoped that a reserve of both weapons will be authorized by Congress, so that the militia may have them, and that supplies will be ready for forces that might have to be raised on the sudden outbreak of war.

When Would the Thirty Days Begin?

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Senator Voorhees's proposed new rule provides, in substance, that when a question has been debated for thirty days the Senate shall proceed to take a vote on it. When would the thirty days begin? Can a new rule be made retroactive? Are rules ever so made? If nay, as good parliamentarians contend, then under the new rule the silver debate might, and probably would, continue another thirty days, unless a compromise were meanwhile reached.

THE CHOLERA IN LEGHORN.

Sanitary Inspector Rosso Says the Mortality Is 65 Per Cent.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—Sanitary Inspector Rosso makes the following report to the Marine Hospital Bureau from Leghorn, Italy, under date of Sept. 30:

"I arrived here yesterday afternoon to find the town with a deserted look and a general panic among the inhabitants, many of whom had fled to other places. As many as 30,000, I am informed, have lately left, and business is generally prostrated. All the hotels are closed, but at the request of the Consul one of them allows me to occupy a room. The watchman and I seem to be the sole occupants. Mortality from this epidemic so far is about 65 per cent., and the female deaths have more than doubled those of men. The authorities appear to be making strenuous endeavors to stay the epidemic. The Mayor has prohibited public processions, closed the schools, &c. A procession of 200 women who attempted a visit to a shrine in the suburbs has just been dispersed by the police and the church closed, which nearly resulted in a riot. I am told that if necessary the troops will be called out to preserve order."

Mr. Rosso made an additional report two days later, in which he says that notwithstanding the prevalence of cholera the Italian authorities give clean bills of health, and it is said that a disposition exists on the part of the populace to conceal cases, for the reason that the sanitary authorities destroy furniture in making necessary disinfection and make no adequate return therefor.

The grand marble synagogue was closed on the day of atonement (Sept. 25) by order of Chief Rabbi Bertenoglio of Leghorn. Next to that of Amsterdam this is the wealthiest synagogue in the world, and this is the first time that it has ever been closed.

Consul Sundberg from Bagdad reports: Panic and flight of Christians and Jews. Mohammedans resigned to the will of God. Rumor here that 35,000 died of cholera in Mecca during this year's pilgrimage, which was unusually large. No rational attempt is made to stay the disease. At any hour that I choose to look out of the window I can see a dozen women washing clothes soiled with cholera dejecta in the river, and immediately below water carriers obtaining our daily beverage."

POLITICAL NOTES.

These are the Democratic candidates in the eight Senate districts in this city:

The Seventh district, on the west side below Twenty-sixth street: Candidate, Gen. MARTIN T. McMAHON, Democratic member of the last Senate and a Democratic Assemblyman in the Legislature of 1891. The Democratic majority here is 8,700. There is a Republican candidate, but, practically, there is no opposition to Gen. McMAHON'S election by a substantial majority.

The Eighth district, east side, south of Fourteenth street and east of Avenue B: Candidate, JOHN F. AHEARN, elected Senator from the Sixth district in 1889 by 4,700 majority, and reelected in 1891 by 11,000. A man who beat TOM GRADY. Democratic majority in the district under the present apportionment, 13,000. A Republican candidate is said to be running, but there is no serious opposition to Mr. AHEARN'S return by from 10,000 to 15,000 majority, probably 15,000.

The Ninth district, east side wards below Fourteenth street, east of Sixth avenue and west of Avenue B: Candidate, T. D. SULLIVAN, Democratic member of Assembly from the Second district in Legislatures of 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, and 1892. A popular Democrat. Democratic majority here under the present apportionment, 10,000. The identity and whereabouts of the Republican candidate said to be running are known to the Hon. JACOB M. PATTERSON; but such knowledge is not generally diffused.

The Tenth district, south boundaries Fourteenth and Twenty-eighth streets, north boundary Fortieth street, east boundary East River, west boundary Hudson River: Candidate, FRANK A. O'DONNELL, Democratic Assemblyman for the Twelfth district in the last Legislature. Democratic majority in the Senate district under present apportionment, 12,000. There is a Republican nominee in the district, but no serious opposition to Mr. O'DONNELL'S election.

The Eleventh district, north boundary lines Fifty-ninth and Fifty-second streets, south boundary line Fortieth street, Hudson and East Rivers, lateral boundaries: Democratic candidate, JOSEPH C. WOLFF, Democratic Assemblyman from the Sixteenth district. Like McMAHON, the Democratic candidate in the Seventh district, Mr. WOLFF is a veteran of active service in the war. Democratic majority in the district, 8,000. A Republican is in the field, without a chance of success; no other opposition.

The Twelfth district, all the territory north of the preceding district and south of Seventy-second street: Candidate, THOMAS C. O'SULLIVAN, Democratic Assemblyman from the Nineteenth district in the last Legislature. A west side orator. Democratic majority in the district, 7,000. No Republicans in sight.

The Thirteenth district, upper west side with the Twenty-third ward, across the Harlem bridge: Candidate, CHARLES L. GUY, a new man. Democratic majority, 4,500. No serious Republican opposition, and no other opposition to Mr. GUY'S election. A growing district, growing more Democratic.

The Fourteenth district, Harlem, east: Candidate, JACOB A. CANTOR, Democratic member of Assembly in 1885, 1886, 1887; Democratic Senator in 1888, 1889, 1890, 1892, and 1893. A veteran in legislative service. Democratic majority in district, 8,500. No Republicans in sight. No Democratic opposition.

The Twenty-fourth ward of this city, which casts a total vote of less than 4,000, is attached, for Senate purposes, to the Westchester district, which is strongly Democratic. A. H. MORRIS, a Democratic Assemblyman, is the candidate there.

There are some remarkable things about our eight Democratic candidates for Senator. First of all, all eight will be elected; secondly, all eight will be elected with practically no opposition to them; thirdly, seven of the eight were members of the last Legislature and obtained the support of the voters of their respective districts when candidates in 1891 or 1892; fourthly, New York city has not had, under any previous apportionment, eight Senators in Albany to guard its interests and protect its rights.

This year a Tammany nomination to the Senate or any other office hereabouts is equivalent to an election; and it is gratifying, under these circumstances, to know that all eight Democratic candidates are stalwart and unflinching members of the regular and invincible organization. There are no vacant seats in the band wagon this year for the belated.

A Republican Journal on Senator Hill.

From the Albany Express.

The qualities Senator Hill has exhibited in the Senate were the qualities which have advanced him to the leadership of his party.

They were perceived long ago by those who studied the man, and did not form their opinion of him by the flippant criticisms of shallow opponents.

For years the *Express* has predicted that David B. Hill was the most dangerous opponent the Republican party had to confront. The wisdom of that statement is beginning to be appreciated.

When Mr. Hill went to Washington the *Express*, in face of loud declarations to the contrary, said he would soon be acknowledged as a leader of his party there. That prediction seems to be coming true.

Sam Houston's First Marriage.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—The story printed in THE SUN of Saturday, the 21st inst.—it being a letter from Texas to a St. Louis paper—about Sam Houston's first marriage by a cousin of the deserted wife, is an old one. There is not a word of truth in it. It was one of the stories referred to by Houston in his conversation with his colleague in the United States Senate, Gen. Rusk—not Reagan—when he declared that the secret would die with him. In this he was mistaken, but he was not mistaken in pronouncing the present resurrected story, among others, false. Whether the truth will ever be told depends upon circumstances. The particulars are all known and the correspondence relating to the separation of Houston from his first wife is in existence and sacredly kept. It will continue to be kept until the seal is broken by authority. Such a publication, for the present at least, is altogether improbable.

A Scottish-American's Question.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: Allow me to ask your correspondent, A. R. Horner-Smythe, his authority for designating Scotchmen and Irishmen as representatives of "subjugated conquered races."

The subject matter of his letter is altogether too insignificant to merit notice, but the appearance of such a profoundly erroneous statement in your worthy paper, even if it expunges from a voluntary correspondent, calls for your interference.

Were an educational test imposed on all immigrants, we should not have to confess with shame the existence of such ignorance on our shores.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., Oct. 21. SCOTTISH DESCENT.

A Hair Splitter Has His Little Joke.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir*: On page 3 of to-day's SUN, under the heading, "He Knows His Business," I find the following: "Men are willing to go blocks out of their way to get a satisfactory hair cut and have their beard properly trimmed."

I would like to ask a couple of questions in regard to this statement. Why should men go blocks out of their way for the sake of getting a single hair cut? One would suppose that almost any barber could be trusted to cut one hair. Any way, why should the men get the hair cut at all, if it is "satisfactory"?

By throwing a little light on this subject you will greatly oblige

ONE WHO BELIEVES IN COMPOUND WORDS.

NEW YORK, Oct. 21.

His Collar.

I am not here with a brass collar around my neck.—*Senator Allen of Nebraska.*

Of course you're not. Who said you were?
You wear a silver collar
Whose value is not eighty cents
Upon the current dollar,
And if you had the Alliance way
You'd wear one of potatoes,
Or corn, or wheat, or rye, or oats,
Or sorghum, or tomatoes.

HONEST MONEY.

COMMODORE MELVILLE'S REPORT.

A Strong Plea for Conferring Actual Rank on the Engineers of the Navy.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—An exception to the ordinary run of annual reports is that of Commodore George W. Melville, the Arctic hero, Engineer-in-Chief of the United States navy. It is in dealing with that feud of long standing between the officers of the line and the engineer corps over conferring actual rank on engineers that Commodore Melville writes most interestingly, and he deals with the subject in language which, while respectful and dignified, is not to be misunderstood.

"Coming to the question of conferring positive rank instead of the meaningless 'relative' rank now held by members of the engineer corps," says Commodore Melville, in introducing the subject, "I earnestly trust that the department will recommend to Congress some measures looking toward this just and proper recognition of the service performed by the officers of this corps. Why officers devoting their lives to the service, who have always had a certain portion of the crew to organize, muster, discipline, station, and drill in the various manœuvres intended to make the vessel efficient and destructive, and who from this time on will have under their control from 25 to 60 per cent. of the entire ship's company, should be denied recognition as a military element in a fighting organization would be incomprehensible to any one not familiar with the inside workings of the navy."

In the naval battle of the future, Commodore Melville says a ship will fight with her engines as well as with her guns; the ram will be a more dangerous weapon, and one more feared than the battery, and if her boilers or her engines fail, the vessel will become a drifting mass, absolutely at the mercy of the enemy. Commodore Melville clinches his argument by reference to the Victoria disaster. He says:

"Let those who decry the engineers as 'non-combatants,' take home the lesson to be learned from the loss of the Victoria. It was not powder that there worked destruction, it was steam; and if such horror can occur in peaceful manœuvring, what might not happen in time of battle? Here is a ship lost under the exact conditions of battle, rammed by another, and see how the 'non-combatant' engineers came out of it. The whole engine-room staff on watch perished to a man, so says London *Engineering*.

"That the engineers are influenced by sentiment is admitted as perfectly true, for what are honor and courage and patriotism and other feelings that distinguish men from brutes, but sentiment?" asks the Engineer-in-Chief.

An increase in the number of engineer officers is earnesly recommended in the report. New ships are taking most of the available men. "And unless something is soon done our navy, now practically an engineering one, will be crippled for want of engineers."

During the last fiscal year the Bureau of Steam Engineering expended $617,633, and subtracting outstanding obligations has $15,518 remaining to its credit. Of the former amount $150,718 was used in work at the New York Navy Yard, $14,241 at the League Island Yard, Pa., $86,038 at the Mare Island Yard, Cal., $93,103 at the Portsmouth Yard, N. H., and $21,159 at the Boston Yard.

Repairs to the cruiser Atlanta, which was so much neglected that several of her officers were reprimanded, and narrowly escaped court martial, cost $20,000 for her boilers, machinery, and other mechanical apparatus alone. It will require 120 days from July 18 last to remedy her disgraceful condition and fit her for sea.

The estimates submitted for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, aggregate $997,890. This sum includes $375,000 for steam machinery, stores, and incidentals, which is $20,000 less than the appropriations for the current year.

Since the date of Commodore Melville's last annual report six new vessels have had official trials and have satisfactorily fulfilled contract requirements, except the Monterey, which is somewhat short of the required horse power. But she was the only vessel where the contract called for a given horse power, all the others being "speed" ships.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S RENOVATED.

Two New Organs, Marble Altar and Reredos—Improvements that Cost $85,000.

Service was resumed yesterday in St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Madison avenue and Forty-fourth street. In his sermon Dr. Greer commented on the improvements which have been made during the summer.

"Five months ago," he said, "a collection was taken for the purpose of improving and decorating the church. It was not reprehensible, but entirely proper and fitting that a church which had done so much for others should at last do something for itself. This church has contributed $1,100,000 in the last five years for benevolent and charitable work. While a change has been made in the church building, no change will be made in its work, which, I hope, will be more earnest than ever before.

"There will probably be much suffering in New York city in the coming winter, and I have provided for a careful and personal canvass of that part of the city which comes particularly under our jurisdiction, and where, perhaps, suffering, if unrelieved, would be great. Whatever you give this morning will be used for that purpose, not carelessly, I trust, but wisely and in the light of personal knowledge, so that there will be no people in that part of the city which we canvass who shall endure much hardship."

The change which Dr. Greer spoke of consists of a complete renovation. Scarcely anything has been untouched, excepting the black walnut pews and the carpets. The walls and the ceiling have been retinted, the former with an olive green and the latter with a light buff. The rather sombre colors are lightened by the bronzed curved lines of the arches. The white stone pedestals of the columns of Scotch marble have been recut and the columns have been crowned with bronze-colored capitals, with Greek crosses and shields in relief. The lights which formerly were grouped about the capitals have been transferred to bronze chandeliers.

The musical service will be greatly strengthened by the addition of two new organs, which have been placed in the chancel to the right and left. The old organ remains in the gallery, and all three are connected by electric wires so that they may all be played from the keyboard, which is to be placed in the organ at the left of the chancel looking from the body of the church. The organs cost $25,000.

The most conspicuous changes have been made in the chancel. The rear wall of the church was taken down and removed to the west, giving an additional length of ten feet to the chancel. It was desired to buy the house just at the rear of the church so that a much larger extension could be made, but the house belongs to an estate which is so tied up that the property could not be sold. The floor of the chancel, which has been raised, is beautiful, with white marble inlaid with variously tinted artesque mosaics. The chancel rail is of yellowish onyx, inlaid with marble. The choir seats, of dark-brown oak with inlaid maple, contrast richly with the marble and onyx of the floor and chancel rail. A rich pulpit of the same variety of oak has been placed in the chancel by Mrs. Daniel C. Blodgett as a memorial to her husband.

The glory of the chancel is the immense white marble altar and a beautiful white marble reredos about 12x5 feet, representing Da Vinci's "Last Supper." A panel at the right of the altar bears the inscription, "In affectionate remembrance of Harriet Woodward, Frances Mary and Mary Gaylord, beloved children of J. W. and H. B. Barrow, is the Kingdom of Heaven." To the right and left of the reredos are large slabs of yellowish-white onyx, all being set in a bank of sepia-colored slabs of onyx which extends from the floor to a height of about twenty feet.

The chancel wall above the organ bank is framed in by a raised bronze lettered inscription. The centre of the space is occupied by a huge Latin cross of dark tints, and proceeding from the cross are rays of light which illuminate hundreds of letters. Dr. Greer said it had been intended to have a large painting occupy the space, but that was a work which could not be done in a hurry, so it has been deferred. The entire cost of the improvements has been about $85,000.

The Villain Foiled Again.

From the Buffalo Express.

"I've seen a good many funny snaps in the way of plays and play-actors in my time," said the advance agent, "but one I struck out in Milwaukee the other day was by far the best of anything I have been up against. It was in one of the museums there. The museum has a stock company in its theatre, and the great specialty is border drama. Every week they give a new drama of the wild and woolly West.

"This play that I saw was a blood-curdler of that character, and at the time I arrived at the theatre the stage was pitch dark and two men were fighting a duel. I could hear the knives clash together and hear the men stumble around the stage, but I could but faintly distinguish the forms of the actors. After awhile there was a thump on the floor and the villain I knew it was the villain by his accent hissed: 'Ah, ha! Rudolph Tegherington, I have you now and no one nigh to save me do the deed!'

"Then the drummer hit the brass drum a belt and the calcium man turned on the light and away up