SCHEME TO AVOID A CAUCUS.

DEMOCRATS OPPOSED TO THE TARIFF BILL TO BE CONCILIATED.

They are to Be Invited Before the Committee to State Their Grievances—Gen. Wheeler of Alabama Still Thinks that a Caucus Will Be Held, and that the Whole Bill Will Be Carefully Considered—The Heavy Hand of the Administration Visible in Some of the Changes Already Made—The Tax on Cigarettes Increased.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Democrats in charge of the new Tariff bill are very much disturbed at the efforts of their dissatisfied colleagues to hold a caucus in order to settle the party differences on this important question behind closed doors, and are trying to invent some way to kill off the caucus scheme. The Ways and Means Committee think they have succeeded in doing so. They realize that a caucus is inevitable unless the Democrats who are opposing the bill can be conciliated in some way. It has been decided, therefore, to begin the conciliation process by proposing that the dissatisfied Democrats appear before the committee and state their grievances, to the end that their wrath may possibly be appeased by changes in the bill.

The readiness with which those in charge of the new tariff measure have consented to make changes at the dictation of friends of the Administration leads to the hope among the Democrats who do not like the bill that their protests will be listened to. The most conspicuous case of yielding to Administration influence occurred when William A. Poucher of New York, fortified by a strong personal letter from Secretary Lamont, appeared before the committee and succeeded in securing an increase in the rate on barley malt to 30 per cent. in the interest of the farmers of northern New York. This is twice that this bill has been changed as to this item since it was first published, and each time the increase is said to have been directly attributable to Administration influences. In this respect, therefore, the brewers of the country and of Great Britain, who supposed that they could rely upon the assurance of the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, not only that there should be no increase in the internal revenue tax upon beer, but that the materials which enter into the manufacture of beer should be placed upon the dutiable list at greatly reduced rates, have discovered that the heavy hand of the Administration is against them as regards the duty on the article which is the chief component part of beer, namely, barley malt.

Mr. Poucher is not the only New York Democrat who wants changes made in the bill, and some of the strongest men on the delegation have intimated to Chairman Wilson that if certain industries in their districts that have been discriminated against in the new bill are to be sacrificed, it will be their duty to oppose the passage of the bill in the House. An illustration of the feeling that the New York members have for the Tariff bill is shown in the case of Mr. Haines, the Democratic Representative from the Nineteenth district. He openly denounces the bill, and says that he will work and vote against it, believing, as he does, that it is an unfair measure, and strikes a death blow to the industries of that portion of the state which he represents.

The proposition of the Ways and Means Committee to conciliate the disgruntled Democrats, by allowing them to be heard before the committee, has not yet been submitted to them, but will be shortly. It is not known whether the proposition will be accepted or not. If it is, the committee will be obliged to recall its latest draft of the completed bill and postpone the date for reporting it to the House, which is now fixed for Tuesday next. A day or two will make little difference, however, as it is settled now that no formal discussion of the bill will be had before the holiday recess.

Gen. Wheeler of Alabama, who has worked up the Democratic programme, thinks that a caucus will be held and last several nights. On this subject Gen. Wheeler said to-day:

"Forty-three gentlemen signed the call and I only spoke with fifty members regarding the matter, and all but seven endorsed the movement. If there seemed to be indifference among them. It is better to settle our differences in private than in the open sessions of the House. The whole bill will be carefully gone over. The members from my section will urge the manifest unfairness of putting coal and iron ore on the free list, while the men who own the mines are paying a duty of 40 per cent. on the machinery with which they are operated. There is one matter which we would like to have equalized. The sugar men will ask that the bounty be abolished, and that a duty of say three-quarters of a cent be placed on raw sugars. They will be satisfied with that, and so, too, will the best sugar manufacturers. Then there is the chemical schedule. A number of changes can be made in chemicals that will increase the revenues, benefit the consumers, and not injure the trade. Other members will also suggest changes in other schedules, but these I speak of are the ones that occur to me now as being desirable to have modified."

A delegation of manufacturers of yellow metal from Taunton, Mass., appeared before Assistant Secretary Hamlin at the Treasury Department this morning, accompanied by Congressman Randall of New Bedford, to solicit assistance in securing a modification of the administrative part of the tariff bill, the effect of which would be to interfere with a very important branch of commerce in New York city. For forty years or more there has been a provision in the statutes which has permitted the importation in bond of yellow metal, and its reexportation to foreign ports in American vessels engaged in the foreign trade. This provision, of course, was not applicable to American or other vessels engaged in the coastwise trade. It was originally inserted in the law when wooden shipbuilding was a prominent industry of Maine, and it was designed to aid in reducing the cost of the sheathing of American ships, and to furnish the ships with freight after they should have been constructed. Under the operation of this provision of law the chief manufacturer of yellow metal in Europe has been accustomed to keep large stocks of his product in bonded warehouses in New York, from which he has supplied very extensive orders from South and Central America and other foreign ports. This European manufacturer has been able to undersell the manufacturers of yellow metal by two cents a pound. He has simply placed his goods in bonded warehouses, reexported them, and not paid any duty. The manufacturers of yellow metal at Taunton, Mass., who are the chief manufacturers in the United States, contend that if they are satisfied with the tariff rates upon the materials of which the yellow metal is composed, cut that they desire to have this ancient law changed so that they may be relieved of the competition in the foreign markets of this European manufacturer, who uses the bonded warehouses of the United States as his storehouse, who pays no duty, and who contributes nothing to the support of the Government. This was the story that was told to Assistant Secretary Hamlin this morning who took the subject under advisement, with the understanding that he would make some recommendation to the Ways and Means Committee on the subject. These manufacturers appear to have rightly concluded that one of two ways would be open to the Ways and Means Committee: is through the Treasury Department.

All the changes that have been made in the Wilson bill since the original draft of that measure was submitted to the full committee will be reported to the House tacitly by the Democratic and Republican members of the committee before the bill is reported to the House. It is taken for granted, however, that the modifications that have been agreed upon by the majority members of the committee will be sustained, even if the Republicans vote solidly in the opposite direction. Representative Burrows, one of the Republican leaders on the committee, is under the impression that some of the alterations that have recently been made in the bill will not receive the sanction of the full committee.

An additional tax of fifty cents per thousand will be put upon cigarettes. This decision was reached to-day by the sub-committee having charge of the internal revenue features of the bill. It was also decided that cigarettes weighing three pounds to the thousand shall pay three dollars per thousand, the same as cigars. A member of the committee justifies the action of his associates by saying that it was deemed advisable to increase the tax on cigarettes with the hope that the practice of smoking them may be retarded.

A. A. Healey Elected President of the Brooklyn Democratic Club.

A. Augustus Healey was last night elected President of the Brooklyn Democratic Club in place of George Foster Peabody. Mr. Healey was one of the leading lights in the recent Republican-Mugwump combination which upset Democratic supremacy in Brooklyn for a time. It is his ambition to have his Presidency signalized by bringing about a reorganization of the Democratic forces in Kings county on the Philadelphia plan of election district representation without any cooperation from the regulars.

WHERE REPUBLICANS ARE SCARCE.

Election District Organization Is Difficult Down Town.

The final touches to the report of the Sub-Committee on Republican Reorganization were applied at a meeting held in the office of Chairman Elihu Root yesterday afternoon, and the report is now ready for presentation to the full committee of thirty-three whenever Chairman Cornelius N. Bliss shall call it together. This he is expected to do in a few days, for the plan is to be submitted to the County Committee at its meeting in Grand Opera House Hall next Thursday evening. The greatest difficulty that the plan builders encountered was in making the election district basis of organization applicable to the lower sections of this city. It is quite easy to have an election district organization in a majority party, but in election districts where the returns show one, two, and sometimes no Republican votes, it is difficult to arrange a plan for organizing such a party representation. Then, too, the question, "What's in it?" controls more or less in these districts, and it has been found by the committee to be a very delicate undertaking to arrange to build up a party organization on their plan without a free use of money.

The news that Jacob Patterson will cease to be boss of the local Republican machine, and that a new county organization is to be built up which will be recognized by the Republican State Committee, is hailed with joy in the neighborhood of Essex Market, where the old friends of the late Johnny O'Brien abound. They are members of the Logan Club, of which Martin Engel is President. The Engels and their friends have been Republicans, but anti-Patterson. They were recognized by the State and National Republican Committees, though, and last year, with their help, 20,000 votes were polled for Harrison in the Third. This year only 1,700 Republican votes were cast in the district.

Frank J. Martin is being put forward as the leader of the new anti-Patterson organization, which is to be started in Scottish Rite Hall next Monday evening, and will have the support of Martin Engel and the Logan Club in knocking out the present machine organization, of which Charles H. Murray is the leader.

Another east side minority leader who is looking for recognition by the organization of the Scottish Rite Hall movement is William H. Huber, who has been making a hopeless fight against George Hilliard in the Sixth.

George Fredrick, who was one of the delegates to the Republican County Committee elected at the primary held in the Tenth Assembly district, has resigned because, he says, the election was a sham.

E. J. Tindale, counsel for the Lincoln Union or Cowie faction of the Ninth Assembly district Republicans, has accepted the statement of the regulars that the list of names which they furnished him by order of the Supreme Court is the only roll of the organization, and that there are no minutes of the meetings of the association. He has consented, accordingly, to a discontinuance of the proceedings for contempt.

AN ANALYSIS OF THE VOTE.

No Credit is Due to the Republican Bosses for the Election of Their Ticket.

ALBANY, Dec. 14.—The official figures as canvassed by the State Board of Canvassers yesterday shows that the Democratic vote in the State on Nov. 8 fell off the Cleveland vote of 1892 about twenty per cent., while the Republican vote fell off only ten per cent. The Prohibitionists' vote fell off ten per cent., and the Socialist-Labor vote five per cent., while the People's party gained about twenty per cent. Had the percentage of falling off of the Democratic vote not exceeded that of the Republican vote the Democrats would have elected their State ticket, with the single exception of Judge Maynard, by over 30,000 plurality. Bartlett received 30,128 less votes in the State than Harrison received in 1892, yet he is elected by 101,084 plurality, while Harrison was defeated by 45,518 votes.

The counties showing an increased Democratic vote over that of last year are Albany, Rensselaer, Chemung, and Schuyler. No other counties show a falling off in the Democratic vote of 1892. The only counties that show a gain in the Republican vote over Harrison's vote are Erie, Kings, and New York. In Clinton and Montgomery it was close. But the Republican machine leaders do not seem to have been the people relied upon for the result. The Hon. T. C. Platt, while the Republican vote in the State was behind 10 per cent. only allowed Tioga county, his old home, to run 22 per cent. behind, and Judge Maynard's vote to be only 7 per cent. behind his party vote. Republican Sub-bosses L. V. Baker and W. G. Burleigh of Washington county permitted the Republican ticket to fall behind 20 per cent., while Judge Maynard received all but 4½ per cent. of the vote given to the other Democratic candidates. "Coroner" Hackett of the Republican State Committee suffered Maynard to approach within 3½ per cent. of his party vote in Oneida county, and Congressman Jim Belden and ex-Collector Frank Hendricks were so lax as to let down Palmer drop 30 per cent. behind his party vote and Judge Maynard to get within 4½ per cent. of his party vote. Senator Warner Miller and John Vrooman were also asleep on election day up in Herkimer county, for they suffered Judge Maynard's vote to get up to within 12½ per cent. of his party vote, notwithstanding there was a bitter fight going on in the ranks of the Herkimer Democracy. It really looks as though the Republican leaders ought not to have much to say about dividing the spoils.

MORE TALK OF INVESTIGATION.

Virginia Democrats' Nominee for Senator a Hill Man.

RICHMOND, Dec. 14.—The Virginia Senatorship nomination will probably be the subject of an investigation after all. For some time there have been rumors afloat to the effect that money was offered to Delegate Binford of Henrico during the late canvass to vote for Thomas S. Martin's nomination for United States Senator. Mr. Binford said to-day that some time after his nomination for the House, persons who were interested in Mr. Martin's behalf offered to contribute four or five hundred dollars to his campaign fund if he would agree not to vote for Mr. Lee. He refused the offer of help under the conditions suggested, and never heard anything more from Mr. Martin's alleged friends. It is given out to-day that this statement of Delegate Binford will result in an investigation.

There is probably no public man in Virginia who is known by sight to as few men as Thomas S. Martin, the Democratic caucus nominee. His personality is now being made known for the first time to Virginia people. He is a very quiet and reserved man, and has a fine farm in Albemarle county. Mr. Martin is fond of horses. He keeps a number of blooded animals and finds recreation in galloping over the hills, or holding the reins behind a fast trotter. He does not drink or smoke.

He was a strong Hill man in the last national caucus, believing in practical politics. As he did not care to antagonize the Cleveland element, however, he did not take any part in the selection of delegates to the National Convention.

THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

Mr. Fellows Calls on Mr. Nicoll—The Former Says He Will Make No Changes.

District Attorney-elect John R. Fellows called upon District Attorney Nicoll yesterday, and it is understood that they talked about the affairs of the District Attorney's office. After the conference Col. Fellows was asked whether he proposed to make changes in the staff of the office. He said:

"The office is well organized, and I don't think that it can be improved in any direction. The only change will be made on Jan. 1, when I succeed Mr. Nicoll. It is possible that there may be a readjustment of the salaries of the deputy assistants, with a view to equalizing them."

It was reported yesterday that Assistant District Attorneys Wellman and Stapler had resigned. Mr. Wellman's resignation, to take effect at the conclusion of the trial of Dr. Meyer, and Mr. Stapler's on Jan. 1. Mr. Nicoll said that he had not received either of the resignations. It is deemed quite certain, however, that Mr. Stapler will retire on the date mentioned. It was also said yesterday that ex-Senator Thomas J. Creamer and ex-Judge Stephen S. Blake are slated to succeed Mr. Wellman and Mr. Stapler, but at salaries of $7,500 a year.

Arrangements have been completed for a dinner at Delmonico's on Dec. 21 to welcome District Attorney Nicoll back to regular practice as a lawyer. It is expected that 250 of Mr. Nicoll's friends will attend the dinner.

Investigating Alleged Election Frauds.

The extraordinary Grand Jury began yesterday an investigation of alleged frauds at the recent election. Evidence was submitted to District Attorney Nicoll by Lawyers Wheeler H. Peckham and John W. Goff. This evidence relates to alleged frauds in the Fifteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh districts, and in parts of the Third Assembly district; the Eighth and Twenty-sixth of the Eighth; the Fifty-first of the Seventh; the Twenty-eighth of the Fourth; the Twenty-sixth of the Fifth; the Third of the Twelfth, and the Eighteenth, Nineteenth and Twenty-third of the Second. It is expected that the Grand Jury will devote at least two weeks to the investigation.

THE NICTHEROY IN BRAZIL.

IS AT A NORTHERN PORT, WHICH MR. MENDONCA WON'T NAME.

The America, Repairing at St. Pierre, Will Join the Nictheroy in About Ten Days—Peixoto Will Doubtless Wait Till He Gets His Fleet Together Before He Offers Battle to Mello—Provisions Abundant and Good Order Maintained in Rio.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—A cablegram was received to-day by Minister Mendonca from Capt. Baker, commanding the Nictheroy, saying that he had reached Brazil without accident and would report his arrival to the President. The port he arrived at is not divulged by the Minister, as he hopes to prevent agents of Mello in this country from receiving any information of the whereabouts of the fleet or its probable movements. The Nictheroy sailed from St. Thomas in company with the America, but after the accident to the latter ship by the bending of one of her connecting rods she left her behind at St. Peirre, Martinique, to make repairs and proceeded on her way alone.

The Minister also received a message from Capt. Crossman of the America, saying that his engines were almost ready. He intends to put to sea to-morrow. The America will go under full steam, which should land her alongside the Nictheroy in ten days or less.

Pernambuco is the port where the vessels will probably await the arrival of the Piratini, and this will, no doubt, be the headquarters of the fleet until reinforcements from the South and Europe, in the shape of the Riachuelo and Benjamin Constant, two powerful war ships now at Toulon, and the Girandantes and Bahia at Montevideo, join them. The Piratini, in tow of the Santuit, is now somewhere in the West Indies. She will report her arrival at the first port, and if she has not already joined the America, will be directed to keep on after her.

Minister Mendonça to-day compared the relative merit and strength of the opposing fleets as they will be when they come together in battle. The Minister believes that the present difficulty will be settled by a fight at sea and that no end of the present unsettled condition of affairs in the republic can be reached until Mello is defeated and his vessels sunk or captured. The present blockade of Rio harbor, he believes, will probably continue until a decisive fight between Mello's ships and Peixoto's squadron brings it to an end.

President Peixoto is said to be a level-headed, cool, and determined ruler, and will not make an attempt to defeat Mello's fleet until he has gathered his available strength and is fully prepared to make his most effective onslaught. This will not be sooner than the middle of January. The Minister believes that the policy of Peixoto will be to wait until he can gather his fleet at some port in northern Brazil, and then sail for Rio, while Mello outside, if possible, then enter the harbor and bring Da Gama to terms. The Minister admits that Mello's Aquidaban and Republica will be the most difficult vessels to defeat, but only compel them to strike their colors there would be no difficulty in defeating Da Gama with his weaker fleet.

Two of Peixoto's finest ships, the battle ship Riachuelo and Benjamin Constant, are at Toulon and have been there since early in the summer. The Benjamin Constant was built in France and has never been in Brazilian waters. She is a new vessel of the Charleston type, heavily armed, and one of the finest of her class in the world. She has been ready except her armor for weeks, but agents of Mello in France are thought to have been at work to delay her sailing. Repairs to the Riachuelo were begun in the latter part of October and are nearing completion. She is of the same general type as the Aquidaban, Mello's flagship, but is said by naval experts to be a superior vessel. She is faster and has a more formidable secondary battery.

The Minister has heard nothing in the past week of the condition of the ships, but is satisfied that they will be ready to sail by Jan. 1 for Brazil. In this event they would reach port about Jan. 21. With these two vessels and the New York fleet the Minister is confident of defeating Mello. The Riachuelo is a match for Mello's crack ship, Aquidaban, and the Benjamin Constant is on even terms with the Republica, the only vessel of the insurgents which could overtake the Nictheroy and America. But the question now is whether the Government can afford to wait until January. Provisions are abundant in the city of Rio, and good order is maintained without any show of effort.

The Government has designated a new landing for the launches of foreign war ships. It is in the Sandu district, on the north side of the city, and near Morro da Saudade.

LISBON, Dec. 14.—The Lisbon correspondent of the United Press obtained today a few additional facts as to the state of affairs in Brazil on Dec. 5 when the steamer Nile sailed.

Gen. Gomercin da Saraiva, the insurgent General, was reported to have left the marching northward from Uruguayana on the South with the men whom he had gathered from the cattle ranches. His objective point is Rhode Janeiro. He was expected to arrive in the neighborhood of the city about the middle of this month. Along the coast movements were thought that an important engagement would take place by Dec. 15.

A despatch from Buenos Ayres says that President Peixoto has issued a decree declaring Admiral da Gama a traitor.

BUENOS AYRES, Dec. 14.—It has been received here from Rhode Janeiro to the effect that Mello France has declined to accept the management of the Brazilian Republican. The Government has deported Gen. Argolo of the command of the Fifth military district, fearing further renewal of the blockade is impossible for steamers to discharge their cargoes. Business is suspended.

The America to Continue Onto Brazil.

News was received yesterday from Senor Mendonca, the Brazilian Minister, by Mr. Charles H. Flint, that the converted cruiser America is ready to leave the West Indies. The injury to the valve of the air pump and one of the rods connected with it has been repaired. Mr. Flint said he thought the America would proceed immediately to Rio de Janeiro.

Murray Puts a Mortgage on O'Gorman.

James J. Galligan, who was appointed Clerk of the Eleventh District Civil Court four years ago, has been reappointed for a full term of six years by Civil Justice Thomas F. Murray. Galligan is a Murray Democrat and Justice Murray is to be succeeded on Jan. 1 by James A. O'Gorman, a Tammany Hall man.

Silver Novelties.

A Store Full of Them.

Tie clasp, 75c. Scarf pins, 50c. Menthols, $2.25. Emeries, $1. Garters, $2.50. Suspenders, $3.50. Scissors, $2.75. Book marks, 35c. Penholders, $1. Penknives, $2. Hat pins, 50c. Send for catalogue.

Open Evenings.

J. H. Johnston & Co.,

17 Union Square, N. Y.

ZELLA NICOLAUS HAS GONE.

She Raises Money Somehow and Sails for Other Fields in Europe.

It is reasonably certain now that Mrs. Zella Nicolaus, the blond young woman who Superintendent Byrnes says has a star record as a blackmailer and adventuress East and West and whose last exploit was a suit for $40,000 against George J. Gould, has left the country She is believed to have sailed on the Lahn of the North German Lloyd line on Tuesday morning. She was accompanied by Mr. A. Buhman, who was her guardian in the suit against Mr. Gould. They had two staterooms.

United States Marshal Bernhardt is responsible for the statement that they have gone. He stood down on the pier when the passengers were boarding the big boat. Right beside him were Lawyer Alex. Hummel and Gustav Amberg. At the rail of the boat was what the marshal describes as "a vision of yellow-haired beauty." The vision wore a black silk gown and a black velvet military cape. She threw kisses and smiled sweetly at the lawyer as the tugs moved the boat from the pier.

"Then," says the marshal, "Mr. Amberg turned to me and said, 'Do you know who that lady is?' I said 'No,' and he said, 'That's Mrs. Nicolaus, the woman who sued George Gould for $40,000.' Beside her stood a thin little fellow with a brown moustache. 'That,' said Mr. Amberg, 'is the man who was appointed her guardian.'"

Mr. Hummel was asked yesterday, "Do you deny that Mrs. Nicolaus and her guardian have sailed on the Lahn?" He answered, "I will not make any further statement about the Nicolaus case."

The story told yesterday by friends of the woman was that the suit against Mr. Gould would never be heard of again, and that one of the conditions was that the woman and her consort, Mr. A. Buhman, should leave the country and never return. It is said that on the last days of the stay of the couple in the city they were watched by detectives. These last days were spent in shopping and according to all accounts a large amount of money was spent. The detectives, it was said, watched the steamer depart.

Whether or not this story has any truth in it it is premature to say that Mrs. Nicolaus and Mr. Buhman will not trouble any one in New York for a long time.

Regarding a suggestion that the case had been settled Mr. Gould said that it had not been to his knowledge.

A CHICKEN LEAK IN SHANTYTOWN.

Mr. McCarroll Suspected Mrs. Schneider and Appealed to Justice Welde.

Patrick McCarroll is one of the old settlers of Shantytown, in 135th street, near Park avenue. He was happy in the possession of forty-two chickens and four ducks until Mrs. Mary Schneider moved into a shanty alongside. Then his fowls gradually disappeared until only eight chickens and no ducks remained.

While he was thinking about his losses Mrs. Schneider surprised him by a visit. She told him that somebody had been stealing her chickens. She asked him to let her see the eight chickens remaining, and pointing out two of the missing ones they were hers, and wouldn't he give them to her right away. He wouldn't, but instead put a fresh lock on the door. Despite his care the two chickens Mrs. Schneider picked out disappeared the same night. At the Harlem Police Court yesterday he asked Justice Welde to publish her name.

"My chickens are going just like his was," Mrs. Schneider said, "and if he didn't take my chickens then the coons on the next block took them all."

"You have both got some chickens now and you are liable to arrest about them," asked Justice Welde. Both admitted that such was the case.

"Well," Justice Welde went on, "I'll settle this case now by sending word to the Board of Health to remove all the chickens."

The neighbors hurried out of court together to save their fowls from the Board of Health.

BOUGHT OFF BY THE POOL.

$400,000 Paid to Close the Sparrow's Point Steel Rail Plant for a Year.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 14.—The statement comes from those interested in the Pennsylvania Steel Company that it has agreed with the three other principal steel manufacturing corporations, the Bethlehem, the Carnegie, and the Illinois companies, to close the steel rail plant of the Maryland Steel Company, its branch in this State, during 1894 on the payment of $400,000, that being the estimated profits from the manufacture of rails during the coming year.

The establishment of the extensive works at Sparrow's Point has always been a source of profit to the steel makers. Those works are especially well situated for the manufacture and delivery of rails for railroads on the Atlantic coast, and were by this fact alone serious competitors with other concerns. Their position at tidewater enabled them to receive foreign ores direct from the steamers, and they could also deliver much of their product by means of water transportation, avoiding the higher freights of the railroads.

Now it is said their owners have entered a steel rail combination, and, to benefit it, it is added, is to be kept in the establishment of the price of rails at $24 and $25 a ton. The rate has been as low as $22. The agreement is not to affect either the manufacture of steel in other forms than rails or the shipbuilding department at Sparrow's Point.

VISITORS IN DELANCEY STREET.

A Reception at the University Settlement to Show What the Society Is Doing.

Delancey street had a treat yesterday afternoon when the University Settlement gave a reception at its house at No. 24 Delancey street did not go inside, but stood on the sidewalk and watched the visitors from Murray Hill and their carriages. The greatest wonder was a brougham with two men on the box, and for twenty minutes the coachmen and groom were under a tree of juvenile criticism.

Delancey street and the region about it have shared in the good work that the society has already accomplished. The reception was given to enable persons unfamiliar with the practical workings of the organization to inspect the buildings and to see just what it is aiming to do. The society went down town and had a cup of tea in the big room on the first floor, where on other days are gathered the beneficiaries of the institution.

Among those at the reception were A. C. Bernheim, President Seth Low, L. W. Clark, Mrs. John R. Fine, Mrs. Prescott Hall Butler, Mrs. J. H. Schiff, and Mrs. R. V. Johnson.

New Deal in Thurber-Whyland Affairs.

The friends of Thurber, Whyland & Co. decided yesterday that the organizers of this great concern were entitled to some consideration themselves, and they rejected Culman Bass's proposition to supply $500,000 of new capital toward the reorganization. The stockholders and creditors, and others interested in the company's welfare, said that Mr. Bass practically wished to secure the great business for $500,000, leaving little for the original stockholders. The reorganization will now be perfected by two bank Presidents and one merchant, and the promise of necessary capital for the reorganization and rehabilitation of the company has, it was said, been obtained from other sources than Mr. Bass.

Dan Coughlin's Trial.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—A hard fight was made today at the trial of Daniel Coughlin for the murder of Dr. Cronin by his lawyer, ex-Judge Wing, to keep from the jury all testimony of the policemen who saw men in the vicinity of the murder at different points of the North Side, the carpenter's wagon with three unknown men and a trunk in it. An effort was made at the previous trial to exclude the testimony. The Court decided to admit the testimony, and the day was given to the evidence of these policemen.

Marino Would Like $25,000.

B. C. Marino of Newark, who had a whole firm of New York Italian bankers this creditors arrested in criminal proceedings, alleging that they assaulted him and emptied his safe, has begun civil proceedings, too, and as they did not defend, Judge Ingraham has ordered a sheriff's jury to assess the damages. Marino sued for $25,000.

Jersey City Bonds Go for 101.32.

The Jersey City Board of Finance received several bids yesterday for $550,000 of new city hall bonds. Blair & Co. of 33 Wall street, this city, bid 101.32 and interest for $250,000 of the bonds and 101.02 for the entire issue. The latter bid was accepted. The bonds are payable in gold and bear five per cent. interest.

Special Sale of Mantels

ON ACCOUNT OF

REMOVAL

January 1st to our new building, 101 5th Av., NEAR 18TH ST.

In order to make room for our new line, we are offering our line of sample Mantels, in all woods and designs, at less than factory cost. If your house is not yet ready for Mantels, make a selection and we will hold them for future delivery.

J. S. Conover Company,

28 AND 30 WEST 23D ST.

A $50,000 PRIZE FOR INVENTORS

Offered for a System of Street Car Propulsion to Replace Cable and Trolley.

The Metropolitan Traction Company sent a letter to the Board of Railroad Commissioners in November last offering a prize of $50,000 for the invention of a system of street railroad propulsion superior to the cable and the trolley. In this letter the officers of the company say:

On streets where the lines are straight and the business is heavy the cable system is the most economical yet invented. For general use in a city, winding about through the streets following the routes of travel which the public wish to pursue, it is impracticable. You require straight routes for cable roads. We have in addition to the lines upon which the cable will be laid over eighty miles of street railroads now operated with horses all below the Central Park. It is to these lines in particular that we now desire to direct your attention.

Up to the present time the only system whose practicability has been demonstrated is the overhead trolley. We are well aware, however, that its application in the streets of New York would not meet with the approval of the community. What we most desire now is to hasten the development and perfection of a better system. We therefore submit the following proposition:

First—We will set aside the sum of $50,000 to be awarded as a prize to any person who shall, before March 1, 1894, submit to your honorable Board an actual working system of motive power for street railways demonstrated to be superior or equal to the overhead trolley.

Second—The qualities necessary to meet this requirement shall be left to your decision, but with the present state of the art, a system to win the award must necessarily approximate the trolley as a standard of economy in operation, but should be without the features objectionable to the public that are in it.

Third—We shall expect no rights in the invention in return for the $50,000, and shall have nothing whatever to do with the making of the award further than to pay any expenses which your honorable Board may deem it necessary to incur in the matter, such as employment of experts, the giving of hearings, or the conduct of experiments—this in order that no effort may be spared to achieve the desired result.

In answer to this proposition, Mr. S. H. Beardsley, in behalf of the Railroad Commissioners, sent a letter to President John R. Crimmins, undertaking to cooperate with the company with certain limitations.

Mr. John D. Crimmins said last night that the offer of the company was made for the best interests both of the company and of the city. He was sure the overhead trolley would never be introduced into New York. The general idea was to encourage the invention of some sort of underground trolley system which would be free from the disadvantage of liability to kill horses and men in the streets above it.

FAIRCHILD TALKS TO BANKERS.

He Thinks Congressmen Know Very Little About the Currency.

ROCHESTER, Dec. 14.—Ex-Secretary of the Treasury Fairchild was the guest of honor at the first annual dinner of the Rochester Clearing House Association, given at the Genesee Valley Club this evening. Fifty gentlemen representing the moneyed institutions of the city were present. Henry C. Brewster, President of the Association, presided. In the course of his after-dinner speech Mr. Fairchild said:

"We have had several narrow escapes when the predictions of danger from unsound currency came near being realized. It doesn't seem to me, from the action in Congress recently, that we escaped because of any particular intelligence on the part of the members composing that body. We escaped by good luck. The men who voted for sound money, many of them, you will see by their speeches in Congress, gave reasons for their votes which were entirely unsound and of no force. We take too much for granted. There has been too little thought given to the subject of currency in the East. In other parts of the country, from which the danger is threatened, they think they are studying the question to the bottom. There are far more people thinking about the question in the Mississippi Valley than there are in the East. When these questions are discussed these people are so well equipped that it is difficult to match them when it comes to argument."

ODDS AND ENDS AT AUCTION.

A Sale of Unclaimed Articles at Police Headquarters Yesterday.

Every few months Property Clerk Harriot of the Police Department has a house cleaning in his bailiwick in the form of a public auction, at which all unclaimed property in his care is disposed of. The twenty-sixth sale of that character took place in the basement at Police Headquarters yesterday, and was attended by the usual throng of junkmen and dealers in second-hand articles, among them being about a dozen women.

The property disposed of was a curious collection of odds and ends. The bidding was brisk and fair prices were realized. A seal-skin cloak sold for $20. One hundred and thirteen caps formerly worn by the mounted police brought $5. The caps were worn for the first time when the department paraded for the edification of Princess Eulalie, and they gave the men such an uncanny appearance that after a brief service the Police Commissioners called them in and paid for them out of their own pockets. They cost $2.15 each.

Two hundred and thirty-five of the old iron and glass ballot boxes, that cost $30 each, went for $7.50. About ten tons of ballots used in the municipal election in 1892 sold for $1.20 per ton. About $500 was realized by the sale.

A FATAL EXPLOSION.

Painter Steiner Let the Can of Benzine Fall Against a Hot Stove.

Charles Steiner, a painter in the employ of August Bigalke, 67 York street, Jersey City, was at work yesterday afternoon in a room at the rear of the shop washing the paint off some signs with benzine. Mrs. Bigalke and her daughter Annie, who is twenty-two years old, were in the room. Steiner accidentally let the can of benzine fall against a hot stove and an explosion and fire followed. The blazing benzine scattered over Steiner and some of it reached the two women. Steiner was fatally burned. He was removed to Greene avenue hospital.

Mrs. Bigalke and her daughter ran screaming into the street with their clothing ablaze. Some men caught them and extinguished the flames. The women are seriously but not fatally burned. They were taken to a drug store in Washington street and their injuries dressed. The building caught fire and an alarm was sent out. The damage was slight. Steiner is 28 years old and lived at 85 Wayne street.

Suicide of a Letter Carrier.

Letter Carrier John P. Keowen, aged 27 years, of station "B" in Brooklyn, committed suicide on Wednesday night at his home, 310 Halsey street, by swallowing a solution of cyanide of potassium. He purchased the poison at the drug store of H. P. Arnoble, at 375 Tompkins avenue, explaining that he wanted to use it in his electric battery. The druggist, who had no suspicion of his real purpose, warned him to be careful in handling it, owing to its deadly nature. Keowen went directly to his home and, after swallowing the poison, told his mother what he had done, but gave no explanation of the act. His mother sent for a physician, but Keowen died soon after his arrival. Keowen had been despondent for some weeks, but from what cause neither his mother nor intimate friends can conjecture.

Peters to Be His Own Assessor.

Some one's conscience has smitten him $9,276 worth. Comptroller Myers received yesterday by messenger a note signed "Z. Y. Z." enclosing a draft for that amount drawn by the Plainfield Bank of New Jersey, with the request that the sum be accredited to the "Conscience Fund."

A Consolidated Street Railway.

SIOUX CITY, Iowa, Dec. 14. The Consolidation Company was organized here yesterday. It has absorbed the Sioux City Cable Railway and expects to consolidate all the street railways in this city. The company is capitalized at $1,000,000, with offices in New York and Sioux City.

An Express Company Robbed.

FORT SCOTT, KAN., Dec. 14.—The Pacific Express room at the Missouri Pacific depot in this city was entered while the messenger was absent for a few minutes and between $600 and $1,000 taken. As the robbers took the warrible, it is impossible to learn the exact amount.

MARRIED WHILE ON A SPREE.

BANK PRESIDENT DEVINE SEEKS TO HAVE FLYNN'S KNOT UNTIED.

Lucien Decaen d'Audiffret Secures an Absolute Divorce—Amy Busby is Freed from Aubrey Boucicault, and Victory Bateman Goes on the Warpath Against the Professional Women's League.

Thomas Devine, a lumberman and President of the Bank of Kent, Washington, living at Portland, Or., declares in papers in an action he has brought for divorce in the Superior Court in this city that he learned in a most incidental way that he had been married, and had a wife in this city. About two months ago, Devine says, a friend who had been here to see the town had returned to Oregon and expressed regret at the mesalliance which Devine had contracted while here on a visit. Devine says he scratched his head for a long time in dubiety, and finally gave it up. His friend then explained that he had learned from sources which seemed to be trustworthy in that regard that Devine had married one Nellie English while on a lark. Devine thought his friend was a little off, but as the friend persisted, and gave some information showing he had met some of the people Devine had met here, Devine decided to look up the matter. He asked Howe & Hummel to find out if he was a married man, and as the result of inquiry the suit followed.

Devine, who is said in the papers submitted by the defendant to be worth $200,000, admits remembering that he came here for a good time in December, 1892, putting up at the Hoffman House. He doesn't know exactly how extensive the time he had was, but his lawyers assure him that it was quite large. They found that he had been married to Nellie English by Alderman Cornelius Flynn, at the City Hall, on Dec. 19, 1892. She was then living in West Thirty-ninth street. Devine bethinks him that he did spend one night there. He was married the next morning. The woman has since made no claims upon him. David May said yesterday that when he went up to serve the papers on her she nearly dropped dead. She seemed to have had no idea that she was a wife any more than Devine had that he was a husband. Both sides allege a statutory reason for divorce. The woman will move for counsel fee and alimony on Monday in the Superior Court before Judge McAdam. Devine is a widower with two children.

Lucien Decaen d'Audiffret obtained an absolute divorce from Judge Bischoff of the Court of Common Pleas yesterday from Louise d'Audiffret, formerly Courtois, on a report of Charles N. Morgan, referee. The d'Audiffrets were married in Paris on April 14, 1877. The referee finds that the wife was at the Hotel Savoy with one Graef. In the complaint she was charged by her husband with intimacy with Walter H. Graef. Mrs. D'Audiffret did not appear before the referee, but she was represented by Robert Goelher as counsel. She put in the defence, D'Audiffret said, that he had a cottage at Normandie-by-the-Sea last summer. Mr. Graef also summered there. On Sept. 10 he learned of his wife's relations with Graef and refused to live with her any longer. He gave up the cottage and came and registered himself and wife at the Marlborough Hotel. He said that such registry was part of a plan to shield her. He declares that he never spent a night there, and that he has since been living at 12 West Twenty-ninth street. It was shown that Graef had taken Mrs. d'Audiffret to the Hotel Savoy on Saturday night, the 11 last. They took suites 128 under the names "W. H. Barrett and wife, Tarrytown." Mrs. d'Audiffret was identified by a picture of a fair, intellectual-looking woman of about 35 years. A photograph of Graef was also put in evidence.

Amy Busby is no longer the wife of Aubrey Boucicault, the son of Dion Boucicault. She secured a decree of absolute divorce from Judge McAdam of the Superior Court yesterday. She was married to Boucicault on Jan. 11, 1892, at Chicago, while they were on the road acting. When the divorce suit was brought, about a month ago, Boucicault's name was coupled with that of Miss Victory Bateman, and on account of that she figured as the leading character in a dispute which arose in the Professional Women's League, and which resulted in her dismissal from the league. Now it will be Miss Bateman's turn to retaliate and turn the tables on her accusers and those who attempted to extradite her. There have been boycotts against her in the case at all events. The decree of divorce which has been gran