...'S NEW FIELD.

...PPENED THAT HE WAS TO A WASHINGTON CHURCH.

...Sunderland Says that the Idea Originated with Him and that He Now Considers It an Inspiration—No Salary Is Stipulated, But Certain Conditions Are Imposed Which the Church Gladly Accepts—A Church with a History that Is Closely Identified with the Great Americans of Early Days—Its Influence Through the Stirring Times of the War—Dr. Sunderland's Long Pastorate.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—People in Washington are wondering at the sudden change in the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church to which the Rev. T. De Witt Talmage has been called by special action of the deacons and elders. Why the congregation wants Dr. Talmage to come here is regarded as much more of a conundrum than why he wants to come. It is well known that for a long time the famous Brooklyn divine has earnestly desired to extend the circuit of his oratorical labors and increase the size of his audiences. He has felt that the national capital is just the point from which he would like to circulate his published sermons, and that the headquarters of politics, administration, and statesmanship would be the best platform for him from which to reach the great public upon whose applause he has so long existed. There are a large number of Presbyterian churches in Washington, but that one over which the venerable Dr. Sunderland has so long presided is the very last to which it seems fitting that Dr. Talmage should have been called. It is a church whose popularity and usefulness faded away many years ago. The greater part of its congregation migrated to the fashionable quarters of the city as it went in its inevitable course westward, leaving the old brick church on 4½ street, down among the lawyers' offices and boarding houses, forgotten and almost deserted. In that condition it remained for many years, until Grover Cleveland, becoming President of the United States, discovered in Dr. Byron Sunderland an old acquaintance, and lifted his neglected church into establishment prominence by being married to its pastor, and going there occasionally with his lovely bride to worship. The same crowds of curious public citizens who used to hang about the doors of the old Metropolitan Methodist Church, next door to Dr. Sunderland's, to see Gen. Grant arrive on Sunday morning, the same crowds that filled the streets about the Foundry Church to see the Hayes family coming on foot to worship, and the same crowds that were wont to sit on the benches in Lafayette square to see Gen. Arthur walk through it from the White House to St. John's Church, which has a memorial window to his first wife, blocked the streets in the neighborhood of 4½ street to gaze on Grover Cleveland and his bride. They went every Sunday during the first Administration, in spite of repeated disappointments, but now the Cleveland pew is much oftener vacant than occupied, and the congregation has begun to grow small again. Something had to be done to put worshippers in the pews and money in the contribution box. So Talmage is to come and preach to Cleveland, and his published sermons will go forth with the endorsement of the First Presbyterian Church of Washington, whose most conspicuous pewholder, and, indeed, the only conspicuous one, is the Chief Magistrate of the nation.

It is a queer tale of how Talmage was called, and of the terms upon which he has been engaged. No salary has been stipulated. Dr. Talmage is simply to come and preach on Sunday evenings, leaving the sordid question of salary to be decided hereafter, according to his own desire. The church, with the coming of Dr. Talmage, will have three pastors, as the venerable Byron Sunderland and the Rev. Adolos Allen will remain. Dr. Sunderland has been pastor of the church since 1853, and has been intimately connected with its rise, decline, and fall. With him originated the idea of asking Dr. Talmage to come, and he says that he now looks upon the suggestion in the light of an inspiration. To use Dr. Sunderland's own language, it came about in this way:

"If any one had told me two weeks ago," said he to THE SUN correspondent, "that there was even a prospect of Dr. Talmage coming to our church in the near future I should certainly not have believed it, for until two weeks ago the idea of even asking him if he could come was the very furthest from my thoughts and those of the officers of my church. The call came about very curiously. We had a meeting of the officials of the church for the purpose of talking over the ways and means in the approaching centennial of its founding in the city of Washington, which we had proposed having during the latter part of November. It had been proposed by the trustees to have Dr. Talmage come here at that time to give a talk, possibly at Convention Hall, where he might have a large crowd. I attended this meeting, and gave my heartiest approval to the plan. Suddenly, without thought, I rose, and the idea came into my mind—I look upon it now as an inspiration—to call Talmage permanently, and I said, and quick as a flash and without thinking, 'Here we are talking about getting this man to be with us for one night, why not call him here for all the time? Why not ask him to be our pastor?' The words actually dumfounded the trustees, and there I stood, almost dazed and thunderstruck at the temerity of my remark. The reason I think it was an inspiration is, that I had not thought of it for a moment, and blurted it out as soon as it came into my mind. I really don't know what possessed me that night. Of course, the trustees thought it was the most idle thing in the world to consider. They answered me by saying that he was a man with offers from all over the world; the proffer of an immense salary from London, and the building of an immense new church; large offers from syndicates, and many inviting propositions from the largest Presbyterian churches in the country. There was another proposition made him recently from the Red Cross Society. They raised a large sum of money for the relief of the Armenians, and proposed to Dr. Talmage to go to Armenia in their behalf and expend the money for the benefit of the suffering Christians in that persecuted land. How could we, they said, in our modest though historical church here in Washington, expect to get the services of a man with such offers as these? I argued that I was old and feeble, nearing seventy-five, and my sphere of active usefulness was about over, but that there was unquestionably a field in this city of politics and government for a man of Dr. Talmage's attainments.

"In spite of myself I controverted all of the objections of the trustees. I argued that we didn't know about Dr. Talmage's aims and ambitions. That while these tempting offers had been made, there were many things which might interfere with his taking advantage of any of them. He was naturally anxious about the safety of the Armenian expedition, and did not, I thought, care to leave his own country, even to take advantage of such a magnificent offer as that which came to him from London, and I was not certain that he could not do as much good at our church here in Washington as at any other Presbyterian church in the country. I argued that it had been some time since Dr. Talmage had been unsettled in his pastorate; that he had not been anywhere else; that his Tabernacle had been burned down; that his Brooklyn associations, owing to the death of his wife, were sad, and that he would probably like a change. We were old friends. I knew that he like Washington and that he had preached at my church, giving afterward such evidence of great gratification at the reception which he had received from my people and the people of other denominations in this city who had called to hear him. All of these arguments I used as it they had been in my mind for months, and from that evening until his acceptance I never ceased to urge the Tuesday morning I have been convinced that he would come to us.

"Finally a joint meeting of the elders and trustees was called and it was resolved that if they thought I could succeed in getting Dr. Talmage to this city the church would be willing to make the call. This decision of the trustees was mailed just to Chicago, where Dr. Talmage was then, and upon receipt of it I went to Washington, to Dr. Where Dr. Talmage was to visit Harrison, summer cottage, Cape May, and he came. I told the Doctor that I was in Washington had been trying to get him on for a while and the matter was up to a certain way, and I finally broached the subject of his coming to us permanently. He said that he had been floating around since the burning of his Tabernacle, with no roots anywhere, and that he wanted to get down to work again. I told him the history of my life and of my church. I told him as nearly as possible the actual conditions as they existed in my pastorate at Washington. I told him that the town had moved to the northwest of us, that the people had moved away, and that while, speaking geographically, the church was in the centre of the city and not far from the Capitol building, we were not near the fashionable quarter, but, in fact, down town. He listened to me very interestedly, and I was favorably impressed that night, although nothing was settled. The next morning the subject was renewed and I asked him seriously whether, if he received a letter signed by the officers of our church signifying our desire to call him to Washington, he would consider the matter. His reply was that he would consider it certainly and seriously. This was absolutely all that a man could say under the circumstances, and I immediately wrote to Washington explaining the whole situation and asking the officials of the church to prepare a formal call asking him to come. This was immediately done and sent to Dr. Talmage. That was how the call happened to be issued.

"At a meeting last Monday night of the congregation at the church there was no dissenting voice on the motion of sending the formal call to Dr. Talmage. It is true that there were certain conditions imposed by Dr. Talmage to be complied with, but they were cheerfully accepted by the members of the church present. There were seven of these conditions, as follows: That the present current expenses of the church, exclusive of any obligation on account of the call, shall be provided for; that Dr. Sunderland is not to withdraw from the pastorate so long as his strength permits him to remain; that Mr. Allen is not to be disturbed in his pastoral relations, except at his own option and with the consent of the church; that all the preaching services, Dr. Talmage, if he prefers it, is to have exclusive charge of the Sabbath evening service, and the present pastor to have charge of the other services; no definite sum or charges to be specified in the call, but the pledge of the church that they will do their utmost in that direction; the call to be unanimous, and, if accepted, the installation to be effected at the earliest possible moment; these conditions to be modified, if found necessary, by the consent of the parties.

"These conditions were entirely satisfactory to the church," continued Dr. Sunderland, "and we would have been glad to have him under any condition. He was here several months ago and preached in our church at night. The church was crowded to the doors, and the crowd overflowed into the street. After the sermon indoors he was obliged to go out on the steps and give another short address of twenty minutes to the people assembled in the street before they would leave. This, he said in our recent meeting, affected him strongly, and he held Washington in grateful remembrance. One thing is certain, his sermons at night, which is the time he wishes in preference to the morning or afternoon, will draw large crowds, of all denominations, and the good he can do is without limit."

No fixed salary for Dr. Talmage has been agreed upon. He is reported to have said that when the church and people most make contribute to it he will be for them to act. Sales of Dr. Sunderland and Dr. Allen will probably be the same as before, but it is believed that the latter is contemplating accepting a call to another city. When asked whether a call had not been offered to Dr. Talmage by another Washington church both Dr. Sunderland and Dr. Talmage, while intimating that such was the case, would not give any definite answer or say which one. An idea of the Washington sentiment in regard to Dr. Talmage's evening sermons and the popular reception which he is likely to receive is shown by the fact that, although Dr. Talmage's acceptance of the call has been announced officially but one day, Dr. Sunderland has already received a number of letters from prominent Washington people asking to rent pews. Dr. Sunderland's church has never had a pew-renting system, but when Dr. Talmage comes here such a plan will be put in operation by the officers of the church.

The Rev. Dr. Sunderland is one of the most interesting characters in Washington. He has been here since 1853 as pastor of this church. During the first years of the war he was chaplain of the Senate, and during that time his prayers, which were personal in nature, entered somewhat into the feelings of the times, and were strong, forcible utterances of his opinions of slavery and of his steadfastness with the Government and the people of the North for the preservation of the Union. These prayers, which he took down in shorthand stenographer and are now, in the form of manuscript, among the archives of the Senate, a record of the conditions of the public mind at the time. There is one notable prayer which has lost its edge in a very, very humorous way. The Senate had been for some weeks moving along in its work in a dilatory fashion, much after the manner of some of the Senates of to-day, apparently heedless of the importance of momentous questions which were pending before it. One morning Dr. Sunderland arose and addressed the Senate by an ardent prayer to God for brains. On another occasion, during one of the fierce slavery and anti-slavery debates, Senator Salisbury of Delaware was bringing forward argument upon argument and proof upon proof, selected with great care, that slavery was thoroughly sanctioned and even ordered by the Bible. Dr. Sunderland one morning offered a prayer in which he asked the Lord God to be pleased to send down his Holy Spirit on the Senate and on the people of the country, and followed this by referring to Mr. Salisbury's argument that the Bible recognized slavery as one, with language which was more eloquent than prayer. He clearly disproved the Salisbury idea that slavery was a Bible institution, and finished by praying that the Senator and the people of the United States might avoid one and abolish the other. There were the days when partisan feeling was bitter among all men, and the ministers of the Gospel were not exempted; but this prayer, which took the form of a speech, caused a great talk from one end of the South to the other.

The First Presbyterian Church is a historic building, and its history is closely identified with the great Americans of early days and the beginnings of our Government. The first meeting place of the church was a carpenter shop on the ground now occupied by the White House, which was being used during the erection of that building in 1795. The shop, as well as the White House itself, was then known as way up town, and in fact in the woods. In those days, according to Mrs. Mrs. Adams, the wife of the President, used to have her clothes lines stretched across the East Room. The Adamses occasionally attended the little carpenter's church near them in the woods. After the completion of the White House in 1800, and the little carpenter shop was torn down, the congregation which had been formed there and in an old building which was used as a schoolhouse, near the northeast corner of Tenth and F streets. After that they removed to what was then known as "the Academy East," near the present site of the Washington Navy Yard. Up to this time Dr. Sunderland said that the church was a kind of nomadic institution, the congregation worshiping where they might. When the large block on First street N. E. was built, consisting now of three private residences, but then used for the sessions of Congress while the Capitol was in process of building, the elders of the church obtained leave to meet there on Sunday and also in the room of the Supreme Court in the basement of the Capitol, where their first communion was observed. The pastor of the church at this time was John Brackenridge, who served until 1819. While occupying the room of the Supreme Court in the basement of the Capitol they determined to erect a church to the south of the Capitol. This was subsequently done and was first occupied in 1819. It was known for a long time as "The Little White Chapel Under the Hill." It is on Pennsylvania avenue, between First street and South Capitol, where some of its walls, still standing, are buried in the debris deposited there. In the course of the long congregation, increasing and the city growing to the west and north, it was decided to purchase the site of the present church on 4½ street on which to erect a larger edifice. It was dedicated in December, 1827, at which time the Rev. Reuben Post was the pastor. The main audience room was entered directly from the street, between four massive pillars, which formed a porch, and is the portion now used as the Sunday school. The auditorium extended sixty feet to the west, where a fine old mahogany pulpit stood, reached by a flight of circular steps on either side. Back of the pulpit was a window recess hung with scarlet damask curtains. A gallery extended on three sides of the auditorium. There was no organ, only a huge bass viol. Side lights furnished the illumination, and the old church was a most picturesque place.

Dr. Sunderland became the pastor in 1853, and in 1869 the church was much enlarged and put into the condition in which it is at present. It now is a large, well-lighted edifice, well fitted and furnished, and the audience hall, with good acoustic properties, is particularly inviting to a pastor. The roll of membership is not large, nor has it ever been, although it has contained the names of many noted public men. The Brent record of 80 years ago, shows a membership of thirty-one. In 1833 the roll of members was 269. During the pastorate the whole number of names added to the roll was 1,190, of which 1,001 have been received by profession, 189 by letter, 40 by death, leaving 314 as the present membership. In an estimate were made of the separate number of church members from the beginning it would probably not be more than 2,000, while the number of communicants would reach three or four thousand. In this number there have been many men and women of prominence in church and State. Some of the well-known names of old Maryland, Virginia, and District families who have attended the church since its beginning are the Bradleys, the Blagdens, the Caldwells, the Bacons, the Lathrops, the Wooms, the Cottenduns, the Dangerfields, the Hindells, the Page, the Parkers, the Walkers, the Waldes, the Beals, the Wrights, the Dougleses. The church has also been attended, or sometimes visited, by such men as Henry Clay and many Senators, Representatives and Judges, John Quincy Adams, Thomas H. Benton, Daniel Webster, James K. Polk, Franklin Pierce, James Buchanan, Salmon P. Chase, J. S. Morrill, Henry A. Foote, Alexander Hamilton and Grover Cleveland.

It is impossible to estimate the influence of this church through the stirring decades of the past by being brought into touch with so many of the great characters that have served in this national capital. In 1856 President Jackson had a controversy with the Rev. Mr. Campbell, then pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, in regard to certain religious matters, and became a pewholder, which gave the church great prominence during his Administration. Mrs. President Polk was most devoted to its interests, and in 1849 a farewell reception was given her immediately after her last communion there. President and Mrs. Pierce became regular attendants, and aided the church personally in many ways. It was in this church in 1858 that the great series of daily prayer meetings, then spreading over the country, were inaugurated. Dr. Sunderland calls it the beginning of a baptism on high which prepared the nation for the awful baptism of blood which followed it. During the four years of civil war, situated as it was at the very centre of disunion, although the capital of the Union, the church was foremost for the Government and emancipation. In July, 1863, it was the scene of a great conference, when Dr. Massey of London presented an address from the French and English clergy on the question of emancipation and the issues of the pending struggle. One of the most notable and far-reaching events in the history of the church occurred in the winter of 1866. The late Hon. Frederick Douglas then delivered from the pulpit his lecture on the life and death of Lincoln. It was the only door then open to him in Washington. It cost the church dearly among certain classes of people who had been its supporters, but it was the first step to establish the prestige of free speech for the colored people as a race in this country.

In 1884, when President Cleveland first came to Washington, he became a pewholder here, and for the four years of his first term he and his family went there regularly, as Dr. Sunderland says, not always in peace, but with remarkable immunity. The crowds of people during this first term who came to see the President were great, and policemen were required to keep the crowd in order at the door and in the street. Seeing the President come out of church on Sunday was one of the sights of the town, and visitors from all over the country crowded there and stared almost impudently during the services. The decision of the President to go to Dr. Sunderland's church involves rather an interesting story. About forty-three years ago, while Dr. Sunderland was pastor elect of the Park Church in Syracuse, he received a call to go to the Presbyterian church in Fayetteville. The pastor of this church was Mr. Cleveland's father, and the old gentleman's wife and daughter, one of the President's sisters, afterward married to a Mr. Hoyt, came to the church on the morning when Dr. Sunderland preached his first sermon. They remembered this sermon and Dr. Sunderland, who met them afterward, throughout the succeeding years, and Dr. Sunderland's name was often mentioned in the family in the presence of Grover Cleveland. Although the President was no regular attendant at any church, and did not know the pastors of any of the Washington churches when he reached here after his first inauguration, the reminiscences of Sunderland and the preacher spoken of at the little church in Fayetteville. Dr. Sunderland received one morning a note from Dan Lamont, then the President's private secretary, asking for a plan of the church, and saying that the President would like to send an office to select a pew for the newly arrived family at the White House, as they intended becoming regular attendants.

During his first term President Cleveland, his sister, Rose Elizabeth, and Mrs. Hoyt, who visited the White House at that time, rarely missed a Sunday, and the crowds who went to the church were sure of seeing the President. During the second term, however, the President has not been so regular in his attendance. In fact, he rarely comes. When Mrs. Cleveland is not at Wellesley or Gray Gables, she occupies the pew with some other member of the family; but the crowds who come to see the President are no longer gratified. Dr. Sunderland performed the marriage service which united the President and his wife.

COULDN'T CONTROL THE BRAKES.

Two Brakemen Hurt on a Rockaway Beach Train at Seaside Station.

LONG ISLAND CITY, Sept. 29.—The Rockaway Beach train, leaving this city at 1:30 P. M. today, was made up of an engine and four cars. At Seaside station the engine leaves the train and sidetracks to take water. When the engine left the cars to-day the brakemen could not control the brakes and the train, under full speed, smashed into the bumpers at the station.

The front platform of the smoker was smashed and passengers were thrown from their seats by the violent shock. Brakeman William King of 139 Calyer street, Greenpoint, had his right ankle badly lacerated. Brakeman William Miller of 124 Eagle street, Greenpoint, was more seriously injured. Four of his toes were amputated, and he may lose his right leg. Both men are at St. Joseph's Hospital, this city.

DR. ABBOTT IMPROVING.

He Did Not, However, Appear in Plymouth Church Yesterday.

The Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott is rapidly recovering from the injuries he received recently in a fall from his horse. In accordance with the advice of his physician, however, he did not go to Brooklyn and take part in the services in Plymouth Church yesterday, but remained at his country home at Cornwall-on-the-Hudson. He expects to beat the prayer meeting next Friday night and to occupy the pulpit next Sunday.

St. Joseph's Missing Girls.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Sept. 29.—An anonymous letter received by the mother of Maud Steidel, the girl who disappeared from her home on last Sunday night, has given the police the only clue to her whereabouts. It is asserted by them that the girl will be found in a few days. The letter threatens the mother with severe punishment for the trouble she has caused to Father Wagner, and says if she had not made the accusations the girl would have been at her home before this time. The police assert that they have found the writer of the letter, and will try to force a confession from him.

Nothing further has been heard from Dora Kennedy, who disappeared shortly after Maud Steidel was missed under similar circumstances.

Burglar Caught as He Landed from a Window.

Stephen Keary of 208 Thirteenth street, Jersey City, was awakened about 4 A. M. yesterday by a noise in the house. He crept stealthily down stairs, but careful as he was a burglar who was there heard him and made his escape through a window. Policeman Donovan of the Seventh street station, who had seen him enter the house, caught him as he landed on the grass plot. The prisoner gave his name as George Collins and said that he had no home. He will have an examination this morning.

Stepped in Front of a Locomotive.

Matthew Zabrickie, who says he lives at 133 McKenzie street, Chicago, was struck yesterday by a Pennsylvania Railroad locomotive on the Hackensack bridge and mortally injured. He stepped from one track to avoid a train and was hit by the locomotive on the other track. He was removed to the City Hospital in a dying condition.

Bell Van Brunt Accused of Embezzlement.

LONG BRANCH, Sept. 29.—Bell Van Brunt was arrested to-day, charged with embezzling funds belonging to the United Express Company, by which he is employed. It is alleged that he opened money packages. He gave bail to appear before Judge Britton to-morrow.

The Weather.

There was a storm of considerable force travelling eastward yesterday, with its centre over the lake regions, the attendant high winds being felt over the middle Atlantic and New England coasts, where they reached 25 and 30 miles an hour, increasing at night and blowing from the south.

Showers fell throughout the lake regions, over northern New York, and over the New England states. In all the Northwest States the weather was clear and colder. The temperature was below freezing point in Montana, the Dakotas, and western Minnesota, touching as low as 18° at Williston. It was slightly warmer east of Illinois and Missouri.

In this city yesterday it was cloudy and threatening at times, with a rain squall up town in the forenoon and more rain at night; highest official temperature 67, dropped from 68 to 55 in 12 minutes at 8:30 P. M. after the rain had begun; average humidity 85 per cent.; wind south, average velocity 18 miles an hour; highest 27 miles; barometer, corrected to read to sea level, at 8 A. M. 30.06, 3 P. M. 29.97.

The thermometer at Perry's pharmacy, Sun building, recorded the temperature yesterday as follows:

3 A. M.	66°	6 P. M.	62°	9 P. M.	58°
6 A. M.	66°	9 P. M.	60°	12 M.	57°
9 A. M.	68°	12 M.	61°		
12 M.	67°	3 P. M.	67°		

Average Sept. 29, 1894 ..... 65½°
Average Sept. 29, 1895 ..... 60½°

WASHINGTON FORECAST FOR MONDAY.

For New England, rain, followed by fair weather in southern and western portions; southeasterly winds, shifting to westerly; cooler.

For eastern New York, rain, followed by fair weather; probably fair Tuesday; cooler; southeasterly winds.

For eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, showers in the early morning, followed by fair weather Monday and Tuesday; cooler; northwesterly winds.

For District of Columbia and Maryland, clear, followed by fair and cool weather; northerly winds.

For western New York, generally fair, preceded by local rains in the early morning on the lakes; westerly winds; cooler in eastern portion.

For western Pennsylvania, Ohio, and lower Michigan, generally fair Monday, with cool to cloudy weather; winds

M. DE WITTE'S BERLIN VISIT.

HE SAYS HE IS NOT ON A POLITICAL OR A FINANCIAL MISSION.

Higher Tolls on the Baltic Canal—Daily Life and Opinions of the Empress—The Emperor's Treatment of the Young Princes—An Impostor and a Countess Who Sided with Him Are Now in Prison.

BERLIN, Sept. 29.—The prolonged stay in Berlin of M. De Witte, the Russian Minister of Finance, and the visit here of an agent of the Bank of St. Petersburg have given rise to reports that Russia is endeavoring to induce Germany to participate in her projects in China. M. De Witte, however, has positively denied this. He said he had been in Switzerland for his health, and was on his way home with his family. He was here to consult eminent German physicians. The fact that he had seen several bankers here, he explained, was due to his interest in the formation of a large electrical company in Berlin, in which he hoped the Disconto Gesellschaft and other German bankers would become interested. M. De Witte said he told the bankers that if further arrangements concerning Russo-Chinese finances were required they would be conducted through French bankers exclusively.

The *Cologne Gazette*, apropos of reports that Berlin bankers had been sounding Minister De Witte on the question of their taking a share in a new Russian state loan, warns them to keep aloof from all financial projects in which he is concerned, and reminds them that since he had controlled the finances of Russia the debt of that empire had increased by three and a half milliards of francs. "If Russia herself or any Russian enterprise wants any more money," says the *Gazette*, "let the French lend it to them."

Despite the complaints of the Chambers of Commerce at Kiel and Stettin, the Government has declined to reduce the tolls of the Baltic-North Sea Canal. The protest of the Stettin Chamber says that in August only 718 vessels passed through the canal, and that at the old rates. On Tuesday next the new rate, which increases tolls by 25 per cent., will go into effect. As the electrical lighting is very defective vessels are likely to be stopped during long winter nights, and this prospect will still further lessen the traffic. A few days ago a pole carrying a fully charged wire fell, and two workmen passing along in the darkness came into contact with it. One of the men dropped dead and the other was rendered insensible. Workmen tried to remove the dead body from the wire, but were forced to desist. The poor fellow's shocks left his clothes torn, and the body remained where it was until the current was turned off.

A lady connected with the Empress has given interesting details of her daily life and opinions. The Empress is not an admirer of the "emancipated woman," and holds that matrimony is woman's natural destiny. Nevertheless she has advised ladies under exceptional circumstances to adopt a profession, and has helped to this end. She gives strict attention to the details of her household work, and often visits the kitchen. The Emperor is inflexible and sometimes very harsh in his treatment of the young princes and the Empress smooths the way for them in a motherly fashion. If their tutors find them inattentive she takes their teaching in hand for an hour or so, and if they become unruly does not shrink from using the cane. The Crown Prince is excepted from this treatment. The Princes are great stamp collectors, and spend spend much time arranging their collections. When the Empress sees a new stamp in their collections she questions them about the geography and characteristics of the country from which it emanates. Her Majesty is kind to her domestics, but forbids them to accept any presents from guests or others under penalty of dismissal.

A sensational trial has just been closed at Darmstadt. An impostor has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment for fraud, and a lady is under arrest for perjury. The impostor is Adalbert Tomba, who masqueraded under the name of Count von Nesselrode. He is the son of a tailor of Budapest, became a student at Heidelberg, and after leaving the university was a tutor in the family of Prince Max Waldeck, who has estates in Germany and Hungary. Tomba was sent to Count Waldeck's estate in Hungary.

Some time afterward a person styling himself Count George von Nesselrode arrived at the Waldeck castle at Kurnbach, in the Grand Duchy of Hesse, where he was received as a guest by the Countess Waldeck, who had left Count Waldeck in Hungary. Nesselrode for some months posed as a friend of the family, and was regarded by the Countess as a most estimable person. The Kurnbach people were scandalized by the supposed immoral relations between Nesselrode and the Countess and began hooting them. Finally indignation became so great that as the pair were driving out one day a large crowd pelted them with missile and drove them through the town and inside the castle gates. After getting within the gates Nesselrode drew a revolver and fired it over the heads of the mob. The police were called, but Nesselrode had vanished. He was caught later and locked up in the town jail.

When he was arraigned before the police next day, he persisted that he was really Count von Nesselrode, and Countess Waldeck under oath sustained his assertion. Even when absolute evidence that he was Adalbert Tomba was produced the Countess declared that she had not recognized the Count as the former tutor Tomba, but had believed him to be the Count von Nesselrode, which she still believed. Tomba was sentenced to two weeks in prison for firing his revolver and an additional sentence of a month's imprisonment for using a false name. The Countess was arrested and is now in jail awaiting trial upon the charge of perjury.

The African traveller Carl Peters presided at a meeting in the old Reichstag building last evening to create a German union for the fostering of sports, outdoor plays, and gymnastics. An executive committee was formed, including Carl Peters, Count Oppersdorf, and Dr. Gebhard. It was not the aims of the meeting.

Joseph Perez, alias Roland, formerly a blacksmith and later an actor, who has been signing articles as responsible editor of the Socialist organ *Vorwaerts*, has been arrested on the charge of lese majeste in the comments of the *Vorwaerts* upon the speech of the Emperor to the Guards at the Sedan fêtes. It is probable that Perez never wrote a line that appeared in the *Vorwaerts*, and is in jail merely as a dummy for the real writer.

A great court hunt has been arranged at Grunewald for Nov. 4. The King of Saxony and the other German princes have been invited by the Emperor to take part.

The Empress has gone to Grafenholz in Silesia to pay a visit to her sister, Princess Caroline Mathilde, the wife of Prince Frederick Ferdinand.

The rumors that Prince Henry of Prussia, brother of the Emperor, has been sent away on leave of absence for a year because of a serious quarrel with the Emperor, is discredited in court circles. It is asserted that it had long been arranged that Prince Henry should go on a prolonged tour after the naval manœuvres at Kiel.

The dangerous Otero is drawing crowds of admirers to the Winter Garden Theatre.

Heydrich's operatic drama "Amen" is being presented at the Stadt Theatre in Cologne, with notable success.

Father McGlynn at St. Brigid's Celebration.

The congregation of St. Brigid's Church at 125 Avenue B, of which the Rev. Dr. Patrick F. McSweeny is rector, celebrated the sixth anniversary of the consecration of the church yesterday morning. Solemn high mass was celebrated at 11 o'clock, the Rev. Dr. McSweeny being the celebrant and the Rev. Charles F. Reid the deacon. The Rev. Dr. Edward McGlynn of Newburgh preached an eloquent sermon on church consecration from the epistle of the day.

Conductor Sinclair Killed by a Train.

John H. Sinclair, 45 years old, of New Haven, Conn., a freight train conductor on the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, was run down and killed by a train in the freight yards of the Harlem River branch yesterday afternoon. His legs and arms were severed from his body. Sinclair was married and had three children. His family lives in New Haven. He had been employed by the company for eighteen years, and expected to be put on a passenger train next month.

Four Lions and a Kangaroo Born in the National Zoological Park.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—Within the past week there have been an unusual number of additions to the animals at the National Zoological Park. A lioness gave birth to four whelps, a kangaroo brought forth a baby jumper, and a nest of young rattlesnakes attract much attention. The latter is said to be the first case of the kind known to have occurred in captivity.

Fell Sixty Feet on Rocks.

Paul Mertz, 37 years old, a waiter, who lives at 107 Sullivan street this city, attended a wake in Jersey City Saturday night. On his way home about 5 A. M. yesterday he fell from the Baldwin avenue bridge into the Pennsylvania Railroad's deep cut and received injuries which will probably prove mortal. The fall is about sixty feet and there are rocks at the bottom. Martin was taken to the City Hospital.

FLINT'S FINE FURNITURE, IN DELIGHTFUL PROFUSION AT MANUFACTURING PRICES. 43 WEST 23D ST.

To-Day We Open

Our complete line of new creations in Autumn and Winter Novelties in our Custom Department. The fabrics, textures, and colorings which we display are the product of the best manufactures in the world. The variety which we place at your command is exceptional, while our prices are lower than usual for same qualities.

Our ready-to-wear Autumn Top Coats equal the best, $10 to $35.

A. Raymond & Co.
MEN'S OUTFITTERS.
NASSAU AND FULTON ISTS.

CATHOLIC CONGRESS.

Hierarchy and Clergy to Meet Under the Auspices of the Eucharistic League.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—A Congress of the Catholic Hierarchy and clergy of the United States, under the auspices of "the Priest's Eucharistic League," will be held in this city on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. Being held concurrently with the dedication of the McMahon School of Philosophy at the Catholic University at the opening of the new scholastic year, the occasion will be one of great interest to the Church throughout the country. The league is an old organization in Europe, where it numbers many thousand members. Its object is to promote devotion to the Holy Eucharist, and each member obligates himself to spend at least one hour each day in adoration of the sacrament. The American branch of the order was instituted at Notre Dame, Ind., in August, 1894. The Director-General is the Rev. Bede Maier of St. Meinrad's Abbey, Indiana. The directors of the several archdioceses are the Rev. Edmund Didier of Baltimore, the Very Rev. Joseph Rainer of Milwaukee, the Rev. Charles Denovel of New Orleans, the Rev. James Trobec of St. Paul, the Rev. J. Flanagan of St. Louis, the Rev. Henry Brinkmeyer of Cincinnati, and the Rev. Edward Kalvelage of Chicago.

The Congress will be opened with Pontifical high mass at St. Patrick's Church, Mgr. Satolli, the Papal delegate to the United States, celebrant, and a sermon by Bishop Keane, rector of the university. The sessions will be held at the university, and Cardinal Gibbons will preside. A series of papers will be read during the meeting, after which they will be referred to a committee of churchmen, selected because of their fitness to reach a practical conclusion upon the views expressed. The titles of the papers with the names of their authors follow:

"The Place of the Holy Eucharist in the Divine Plan of Salvation," the Rev. E. R. Dyer of Baltimore.

"The Eucharist and the Spiritual Life of the Priest," the Rev. D. P. McMahon of Newark.

"The Holy Eucharist and the Ministry of the Priest," the Rev. D. J. Feehan of Fitchburg, Mass.

"How to Excite Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament Among the People," the Rev. J. F. Foley of St. Louis.

"The manner of preparing children and adults for their first holy communion," the Rev. H. J. Heuser, editor of the *American Ecclesiastical Review*.

"The Priest's Eucharistic League," the Rev. H. Brinn Mayer, President St. Gregory's Seminary, Cincinnati.

"The Holy Eucharist in the Eastern Church," the Rev. Joseph Vashek, the noted Armenian missionary.

The conclusions of the Congress will be formulated in resolutions prepared by a committee composed of the chairmen of the various other committees, presided over by Archbishop Corrigan of New York. Delegates to the Congress, which will include in its membership all the prominent Church dignitaries of the United States, began to arrive this evening.

LOOKS TO CONGRESS FOR RELIEF.

Mr. Trenholm Says It Should Frame Some Legislation to Relieve the Treasury.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—Mr. William L. Trenholm, who was Comptroller of the Currency during Mr. Cleveland's first Administration and is now President of the American Surety Company of New York, was in Washington yesterday and talked to a reporter on the financial situation. When Comptroller he recommended in his annual report of 1887 that some provision be made for the retirement of greenbacks while there was yet a great surplus of revenue in the Treasury. In his judgment such action would have prevented the present crisis upon the gold reserve.

When asked what the financiers of the country expect from Congress in the way of legislation on the financial question on the eve of a Presidential election, Mr. Trenholm replied that the practical people of the country certainly have a right to expect that their regularly authorized representatives will see the wisdom of framing such legislation as will relieve the Treasury from its present embarrassment, without considering the political side of the question.

"That has been the great trouble," said he, "in dealing with the question of national finances. It has been treated as a political issue instead of being considered as a practical business proposition. It is not a subject that may be treated successfully by inexperienced persons, but it requires earnest and conscientious consideration at the hands of a convocation of experts.

"The business men of the country," continued Mr. Trenholm, "without regard to political affiliations, are looking anxiously to the coming of Congress, with the hope and expectation that some remedy will be suggested and adopted that will at once appeal to the plain people as being thoroughly practical and beneficial to the whole country. It is no time to pander to the free silver sentiment prevailing in certain localities, and advocated by men who, while honest in their convictions, have not had the practical experience to fit them to deal with this great problem. It is not a question of party success or party failure, but it is a question whether the business interests of the entire country shall be preserved and the credit of the Government maintained."

COTTON MILLS IN CHINA.

One to Be Under British and Another Under American Management.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—Consul-General Jernigan, stationed at Shanghai, reports to the Department of State that a cotton mill under British management will soon be erected at Shanghai. The erection of the mill was made possible by the treaty of peace between China and Japan. The announcement of the prospectus for the first cotton mill was greeted with applause when announced in the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce. The prospects of the new company are bright, and since its formation three large cotton mills are contemplated, the largest of which will be under the management of a well-known American firm.

Mr. Jernigan says that it is believed that China has in contemplation a banking system, organized after western systems, taking from each such parts as can be more readily utilized. There are now many banks in China, and circular letters of credit through the empire can be easily obtained, and the system of remittance by draft is almost as complete as in any other country. The wealth of the country is inconvenient in making purchases of much value, and coins of more intrinsic value are needed. In connection with the currency subject Mr. Jernigan urges the establishment of an American bank at Shanghai. At present the trade between the United States and China is through the medium of exchange negotiated through British banks in China. The profits on exchange could be made as well by an American bank.

THE THIRD TORPEDO BOAT.

A Seattle Firm Gets the Contract to Build It at $160,000.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29. Secretary Herbert to-day formally decided to award the contract for the construction of one of the new torpedo boats to the Seattle firm which was the next lowest bidder to the Herreshoffs. This firm is one of the latest established on the Pacific coast, and as the experience of the Navy Department with shipyards inexperienced with Government work has not tended to encourage the smaller firms to bid for work, the Secretary questioned his right to make the award until an investigation determined its ability. The Herreshoffs will build two boats at their bid of $167,000 each, exclusive of armament, while the Western firm will get the contract for the other at $160,000. Secretary Herbert said this evening that he was confident that the new firm would turn out a good boat, and he only wished that some of the other smaller shipyards had submitted bids within the limit of construction allowed by Congress, so that the work could have been more evenly divided.

LIVE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

The subject of Mark Twain's pluck in starting out at his time of life to pay his debts and start anew by lecturing around the world came up for discussion at one of the clubs the other night. Some one said that his fun was no longer fresh; it had been discounted by his public, which now foresees what he is going to write whenever he begins. "Not at all," said a friend of Clemens's; "he is spontaneously humorous, and his fun is too genuine to ever play out. The last time I saw him, only the other day, I noticed that as he finished one cigar and threw it away he pulled another from his pocket and lighted it. 'Do you smoke all the time?' I asked. 'No,' said he, 'not all the whole time; I never could form the habit of smoking in my sleep. I only smoke when I am awake. Well, I do get up in the night along about 3 in the morning and work in a cigar. I do that, but nothing more.' All this was said with that incomparable drawl which is natural with him and gives such added humor to all his funny sayings. 'I suppose I am—what the reporters would call a