THE RIDENOUR SCANDAL.

SUBSTANCE OF CHARGES AGAINST THE BROOKLYN PRINCIPAL.

An Alleged Revolt Against His Caresses of Teachers and Pupils—The Indignation Engendered by the Occurrences Complained of Was Allowed to Smoulder for Five Years—The Accused Says "Consider a Marriageable Man Daily Thrown Among Forty-five Old Maids"—He Admits Kissing Tots and Expects to Do It Again.

William B. Ridenour, principal of Grammar School 43 of Brooklyn, is to be brought to trial before the Board of Education as a result of charges preferred against him by three teachers of that school, Mrs. Mary F. Hooper, Miss Ida E. Hagan, and Miss Johanna Hauptman. An injunction granted by Justice Bartlett on Friday restrained the Board from dismissing Mr. Ridenour without a public hearing, and the whole story, the details of which have been hitherto so carefully guarded, must come out.

The charges against Mr. Ridenour are based upon misdeeds alleged to have taken place four or five years ago, but it was only last summer that formal charges were preferred. Up to that time Mr. Ridenour had always borne a good reputation among his superiors and, it had been thought, among the teachers and pupils that were under him.

WILLIAM B. RIDENOUR.

In July the Rev. Newell Woolsey Wells of the South Third Street Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, called at the house of President J. Edward Swanstrom of the Board of Education, Mr. Swanstrom was not at home, and as he left the city on his vacation almost immediately, he heard nothing more of Mr. Wells until he received a letter from him dated July 31. In this letter the writer stated that he was greatly interested in the welfare of School 43, and that he had enough confidence in Mr. Swanstrom's manhood to believe that he would not allow the revolting condition of things in School 43 to continue when it was in his power to change them.

"I know whereof I affirm," wrote Mr. Wells, "when I say that there are teachers in that school to-day whose lips have been closed by the fear of losing their positions if they should disclose some of their experiences, and I know further that there are scholars whose experience has taught them the wisdom of not trusting themselves alone in the presence of their principal. The names of teachers and scholars are in my possession."

Mr. Swanstrom, upon receipt of this letter, called on Mr. Wells and asked for further particulars. The minister told him the substance of the stories he referred to, but was at first unwilling to give sworn statements because the accusers were young girls, teachers and pupils, who were unwilling, he asserted, to undergo the notoriety that must follow. Mr. Wells said, finally, that he would bring the girls to Mr. Swanstrom, and then have them make affidavits. On July 16 Mr. Wells took to Mr. Swanstrom's house Miss Hagan and Miss Hauptman, teachers in School 43, and Kittie Henshaw and Chrissie Beck, two young girls who had been pupils there. The following is a sample affidavit made by the four:

CITY OF BROOKLYN, } ss.
COUNTY OF KINGS, }

Johanna Hauptman, being duly sworn, says: I live at 223 Rutledge street, Brooklyn. I am a teacher in P. S. No. 43. On several occasions the principal, Mr. Ridenour, took improper liberties with me. He put me on his lap and hugged and kissed me against my will.

I never could go through the hallway without his attempting liberties with me. On one occasion he asked me to go to his home to do some school work. He had no wife at that time. I went there and he attempted to * * * take liberties with me. I resisted him, and had strength enough to get out without delay. After school hours he would come in my class room and take improper liberties with me, so that it became necessary for me to have some pupil there to prevent it. JOHANNA HAUPTMAN.

Sworn to before me this 16th day of July, 1895.
J. EDW. SWANSTROM, Notary Public.

Miss Hagan's affidavit was to the same effect. The two pupils stated in their affidavits that Mr. Ridenour used to get them into his office in the school, hold them on his knee, kiss them and hug them, and, although they were but 10 years old when these things happened, they assert that they stoutly resisted him.

As a result of the charges contained in these affidavits, President Swanstrom reported the matter to the local committee of School 43, Henry P. Schmidt and George W. Schaedle, who, on Aug. 8, suspended Mr. Ridmour upon charges of gross misconduct, and recommended that he be dismissed from the service of the Board of Education. This action was reported to the Committee on Teachers, and on Sept. 10 Mr. Ridmour was notified of the charges and informed that the Committee on Teachers would meet on the evening of Sept. 16 to investigate the matter. In a subsequent letter Mr. Ridmour was advised that he could appear before that committee, with counsel, to defend himself.

The meeting on the night of Sept. 16 was long and heated, lasting from 8 o'clock until long after midnight. There were present President Swanstrom, Chairman James Weir, Jr., James B. Bouck, Charles A. Buttrick, Arthur S. Somers, John W. Weber, and Dr. John L. Zabriskie of the Committee on Teachers, Henry P. Schmidt and George W. Schaedle, the local committee, and Assistant Corporation Counsel Howard O. Wood. Mr. Ridenour appeared without counsel and conducted his own case. The witnesses heard were Miss Hagan, Miss Hauptman, Mrs. Hooper, Mrs. Kirkland, Ridenour's housekeeper, and William W. Baird, before whom two former pupils had sworn to statements of the same nature as those made by the Beck and Henshaw girls.

Mr. Ridenour protested against being called on to answer charges of which he knew nothing except in a most general way. He demanded that he be allowed to have a copy of the specifications and that time be given to him to secure witnesses and prepare a defence. He denounced the whole business as a plot to get him out of his position, a job arranged by three teachers who, he asserted, had a grievance against him. In this demand he was upheld by some of the committee, but the demand was overruled and the investigation proceeded.

The four affidavits were read and Mr. Ridenour was sworn. He made a general denial of the charges, saying in part:

"Gentlemen, my wife died about seven years ago, and I became a marriageable gentleman at once; I became an object of interest to several young ladies in that school. Later on I was engaged to a young lady; immediately after that announcement these young ladies came to the front with all sorts of stories. I had proposed to Miss Hagan twice, she said. She stated that I had not only asked her but had requested her mother for her and had been refused as many times. Well, I couldn't make up my mind to believe that Miss Hagan had told any such story, and I went to her and said: 'Did you tell anybody that I proposed to you?' 'Yes, I did,' she said. 'Well,' replied I, 'did you ever understand that I said anything to you which amounted to a proposal of marriage, or could be construed as such?' 'I so understood you,' she said. 'And that I asked your mother for you?' 'Yes, you did. I so understood it.'"

Mr. Ridenour then said he had called on her but twice, once to take some flowers sent by the teachers when she was sick, and once again, when she was sick, to take her the pay roll and check. On the last occasion he was in the house but a very few minutes.

He said that he had for years regarded Miss Hagan as "a hopelessly incurable incompetent," but he had decided not to find fault with her, because she could do no better.

He said that all the trouble started in February last, when he had refused to promote Mrs. Hooper on account of incompetency. She then won Miss Hagan and Miss Hauptman over to her side, he asserted, and together they had concocted the charges.

As to the charge by the Beck girl, Mr. Ridenour said that she had been invited to a party at Miss Hauptman's house and compelled to sign a statement. In respect to the Henshaw girl, he admitted that he had kissed her.

"She was a little tot about 8 years old," he said, "a very sweet little thing. Her teacher sent her to the office one day, and I said to her, 'Do you ever kiss the gentlemen?' and she said, 'Yes, sir.' I said, 'Would you like to give me a kiss?' She said, 'Yes, sir,' and turned around and gave me a kiss and then went and told her teacher. If you are going to turn out the principals that caress the children in their schools, you will turn out all the principals in this blessed town."

He said that on another occasion he had met the little Henshaw girl on the stairs and had spoken to her kindly, and she had told her teacher that he had kissed her again, which was not true. He said he did not think it wrong to caress a little girl like that; in fact, he had often advised his teachers to take the bad boys in their arms and caress them. They didn't get much petting, he said, and would appreciate it. He ended his defence by saying:

"Let any one of you gentlemen make the experiment of being an unmarried man, daily thrown in contact with forty-five old maids, and see what will become of it. I think these accusations the most outrageous things I have ever heard. From whom do they come? Four or five disgruntled old maids. We have forty teachers in the school who say they never heard the least indelicacy from my lips and have never known me to be guilty of immoral conduct."

Mr. Ridenour was then subjected to a cross-examination by Mr. Swanstrom. In it reference was made to Mr. Ridenour's reputation of being an atheist and to trouble he had had in Paterson, where he taught before he came to Brooklyn, ten years ago. Reference was also made to his niece, a girl of twenty, who lives with him at 270 Stuyvesant avenue. According to the testimony he gave, he had adopted her and provided for her education. A great many questions were asked about the location of their respective rooms in the house. Ridenour testified that his niece often used his room in the daytime as a sitting room. Teachers came to his house occasionally, and at times went to his room with his niece. He said that he had often accompanied them up stairs, but never had put his arm around any one of them. He denied in toto having taken liberties with the teachers or having told them indelicate stories. He admitted that he had taken little girls on his lap and little boys, too, and said he expected to do so again.

In answer to a question whether he ever sent a girl pupil out for liquor, he said he had, to a wholesale liquor store near by, to get liquor for teachers who were sick. He denied that he ever drank any of it himself. He admitted that he was a drinking man and that sometimes he drank harder than at others, but he said he didn't think he had been under the influence of liquor while at school, nor had he been drunk on several occasions since his suspension.

Mr. Swanstrom testified that he had read over the affidavits to the Beck and Henshaw girls before ther signed them. Two more affidavits were read, one by a former pupil, who said that Ridenour had tried to kiss her, then offered to marry her, and one from a present pupil, 13 years old, who charges the principal with taking her on his lap and hugging her.

The first witness for the prosecution was Miss Hagan. She testified that she had been teaching in school 43 for ten years. She couldn't remember the first time Mr. Ridenour kissed her, but she knew, she said, that she was not willing to be kissed and have him put his arms around her, and he made the remark: "Why do you turn away from me?" She said he often tried it again, and would come into her room after school and annoy her so that she had to keep children with her to protect herself.

Once she went to his house to take to him an algebra problem she had solved. She didn't remove her coat or hat, but sat with him on the sofa. He asked her to remove her wraps, but she refused; then he kissed her. At that time his wife was living, but was not at home. She came in while Miss Hagan was there."

Mrs. Hagan said she didn't express any indignation to Mrs. Ridenour, although so upset that her appearance must have shown what had happened. She also said that Ridenour had given her $5 at various times for work she had done.

As to his alleged proposal of marriage she couldn't remember the words he used, except that he said: "You can't blame me for asking. I suppose you think an old fool is the worst of fools." The proposal was real, at least she thought so. She also described more fully the improper acts of which she accused Ridenour.

Mr. Ridenour cross-examined Miss Hagan at length. Mr. Somers asked her why she had waited five years to bring charges, to which she answered that there was a time for everything, and the time seemed to be ripe now. It was further brought out that the first time Ridenour kissed Miss Hagan, as she alleged, he was still a married man, but, nevertheless, she had gone to his house afterward. But she did become hysterical, she asserted, at the time of that first kiss, although she expressd no indignation.

Miss Hauptman's testimony was of the same order as that given by Miss Hagan. She, too, had gone to Ridenour's house to take some music. She alleged that he kissed her immoderable times at school in spite of her resistance, and that when she went to his house he attempted to take liberties with her. The children in her school, girls of 10 or 11 years, complained about his kissing them, so the asserted.

Mrs. Kirkland, who did the rough housework for Ridenour, said that he had been drunk on the Friday or Saturday before the examination. In February, a teacher, whose name does not appear in the testimony, had been at the Ridenour house from 9 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon, and Mrs. Kirkland said she had seen Ridenour and that teacher together under suspicious circumstances. She said Ridenour's niece was sick at that time. She also testified to finding garments belonging to Ridenour's niece in his bed.

She admitted that she knew of no improper relations between the two.

Mr. Ridenour explained the presence of the teacher in February by saying that she had come to spend the day with his niece, who was ill.

The witness further said that the nurse had been in Ridenour's room all day on the Saturday previous to the examination and that the door had been locked. She had seen Ridenour go in, but didn't see him come out.

Ridenour explained the presence of his niece's night dress on his bed by saying that she was ill and had slept there while he slept in her room up stairs.

Mrs. Hooper testified that Ridenour had come to school while under the influence of liquor and had made indecent remarks to the teachers.

She denied that she had been actuated by a spirit of revenge in making the charges.

The committee afterward met in executive session, and two weeks ago presented a report to the Board unanimously exonerating Ridenour of the charges.

The committee was discharged, and then Henry W. Maxwell offered a resolution to the effect that Mr. Ridenour's usefulness in the school was at an end and that he be asked to resign. This motion, after two adjournments, came up for a vote on Friday. Action, however, was prevented by Justice Bartlett's injunction.

The date on which the public trial will open has not yet been fixed.

THE ELEVATION OF SATOLLI.

He Will Be Made a Cardinal Formally in Baltimore on Dec. 15.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 23.—Cardinal Gibbons today said that the consistory at which the elevation of Mgr. Satolli to the Cardinalate will be promulgated officially will assemble in Rome on next Monday. In an interview the Cardinal added:

"Mgr. Satolli has arranged to have the ceremonies incident to his elevation take place in the cathedral in this city on Sunday, Dec. 15, beginning at 10½ A. M. I have understood that His Grace, the Archbishop of St. Louis (Kain), has been requested and has consented to preach the sermon upon this occasion. The mass will be celebrated by Mgr. Satolli, and I will have the honor of conferring the beretta.

"The invitations to the ceremony are now being printed after a formula used upon the occasion of my own elevation to the Cardinalate, which I furnished to Monsignor Satolli at his request. The invitations upon these occasions are always extended personally by the person whose additional dignity is the occasion of the gathering. They will doubtless be sent to all the prelates of the country with whom from time to time Mgr. Satolli has been brought into official and personal relations. Just how many of them or what other specially invited guests will attend the ceremony cannot be known definitely, however, until the acceptances have been received, which will probably be between Dec. 8 and 10.

"Immediately after the announcement is made in the consistory on Monday the member of the Noble Guard designated by the Holy Father to be the bearer of the beretta and zuchetto will leave Rome for Washington.

"No further details of the ceremony will be arranged until after his arrival. It can be said, however, that in all essential particulars the ceremony will be similar to that upon the occasion of my own elevation."

In reference to the changed relations of Mgr. Satolli to the Holy See, by reason of his elevation to the Cardinalate, Cardinal Gibbons said that the Monsignor would cease to bear his present title of Pope's Ablegate, and that this title had already been transferred to Dr. Sbaretti, a member of Mgr. Satolli's household.

Mgr. Satolli would, however, continue to discharge the duties of the Pope's official representative in this country until he went to Rome next summer to complete the ceremony of his investiture by receiving the Red Hat at the hands of the Holy Father and receives a church at Rome, a benefit which every Cardinal enjoys.

On his accession to the Cardinalate he will become pro-delegate, but in abeyance of the appointment of a successor, Dr. Sbaretti temporarily holding the title the Monsignor will continue to discharge the duties. Mgr. Satolli for the present will draw no salary on account of his added dignity. Only those Cardinals who reside in Rome and are occupied in the general government of the church receiving money for their services.

Brooklyn Day at the Atlanta Fair.

ATLANTA, Nov. 23.—Brooklyn Day at the exposition was a success. The Brooklyn party arrived at the exposition soon after 11 o'clock, Mayor Schieren being escorted by Troop A from New York city. The guests were escorted to the stage by Mayor King of Atlanta, President Collier, and Vice-President Bullock of the Exposition Company. Addresses were made by Timothy L. Woodruff of Brooklyn, Chairman of the Citizens' Committee; Mayor King of Atlanta, Mayor Schieren of Brooklyn, President Collier of the Exposition Company, Fred W. Wurster, Mayor elect of Brooklyn; Murat Halstead, and William Cullen Bryant. An oration was delivered by St. Clair McKelway, and a poem by Will Carlton was read by Mr. William Berri.

PLAN TO ATTRACT GOLD.

THE TREASURY SCHEME TO REPLENISH THE GOLD RESERVE.

It Gives New Facilities for Exchanging Currency for Gold to Banks and Others—The Treasury to Pay the Express Charges Heretofore Borne by the Banks.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—The Administration decided to-day upon a plan to replenish the gold balance which, it is confidently expected, will have the effect of deferring for some time at least the issue of bonds for that purpose. The following circular was sent to Sub-Treasury officers:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.

SIR: Department instructions of July 9 and Aug. 23, 1886, requiring you to reject and place a distinguishing mark on all gold coins presented to your office for deposit which are found to be below the less current weight, are hereby so modified as to instruct you, when requested, to accept all such coins at valuation in proportion to their actual weight, such valuation to be determined by deducting from the nominal value four cents for each grain Troy found below the standard weight of each piece. All light-weight pieces thus received by you are to be held in the cash of your office separate from full-weight coins, and each bag of such coins to be plainly marked with the amount of the face and actual values of contents. If the depositor should prefer to have the pieces that are found to be below the least current weight returned to him, you will, before returning them, stamp each piece with the distinguishing mark referred to in department letter.

SCOTT WIKE, Acting Secretary.

United States Treasurer Morgan followed this circular with instructions to the Sub-Treasury officers to receive from banks and others United States gold coin in exchange for paper currency. Deposits are required to be made in sums or multiples of $500, and the express charges on the gold coin and the paper currency returned therefor will be borne by the Treasury Department. Except in special cases, the Treasury has never before paid express charges both ways on gold deposited in exchange for paper and on the paper also. The banks have for years endeavored to induce the Treasury to do this, and the fact that it has at last done so is evidence that Secretary Carlisle has determined, as the President has heretofore announced would be done, to exhaust all the means in his power to maintain the gold balance.

It is not understood that this new departure will be permanent; it is looked upon as a temporary expedient to obtain gold. The expense to bankers and others has always been large in securing new currency in cases of redemption, and in paying express charges on the returned currency when gold was deposited for it. Under this new temporary arrangement the Treasury pays the charges heretofore borne by the bankers. The rate paid by the Government under its contract with the express companies, however, is less than the rate charged individual shippers. The Government rate in all territory East of the Pacific slope is fifty cents a $1,000 for gold, and twenty cents a $1,000 for paper.

It will be the aim of the Treasury to keep Sub-Treasuries supplied with all denominations of currency, so that depositors may receive what they desire promptly. They will not have to wait until the certificate of the gold deposit is transferred to Washington. Treasury officials explain that shipments in multiples of $500 or multiples thereof is to keep within the terms of the contract with the express companies. This restriction does not apply to local deposits of gold in a Sub-Treasury city, where any sum may be deposited and currency received for the same.

THE LAST OF THE GAINES CASE.

A Long and Famous Litigation Finally Ended in the Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—The famous Myra Clark Gaines case, it is believed, was finally ended in the Supreme Court of the United States yesterday, when Chief Justice Fuller announced that the appeal of the city of New Orleans from the judgment of the Circuit Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Louisiana, in favor of the United States, ex rel. W. W. Whitney, had been dismissed for failure to print the record. Myra Clark Gaines, then Mrs. W. W. Whitney (not the W. W. Whitney just named), instituted the first suit for the recovery of the property bequeathed her by the will of her father, Daniel Clark, in the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Louisiana in 1836, and five years later it had reached the Supreme Court of the United States. From that date, 1841, until yesterday, in one form or another, the controversy has had a place on the calendar of the court.

In 1859 the plaintiff, then a widow, having survived both Mr. Whitney and Gen. E. P. Gaines, whom she subsequently married, filed an original bill in the Supreme Court of the United States against the city of New Orleans to recover property held by it, and a decision in her favor was rendered at the December term, 1867. The value of the property claimed was estimated in 1861 to be $35,000,000. Suits, subsequently prosecuted, were filed for the purpose of getting possession of the property included under the Supreme Court judgment of 1867. It was estimated that she recovered six or seven million dollars' worth in all, but she derived little personal benefit therefrom, as it was largely eaten up by the expenses of maintaining the litigation. She died Jan. 9, 1885.

The appeal dismissed yesterday originated in a judgment entered by the Supreme Court of the United States in 1891 in favor of Whitney, the administrator, and against the city of New Orleans for $591,313, with interest at five per cent. from 1881. Under this decree the Circuit Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana issued an execution against the city which was returned *nulla bona*, "no good." Thereupon, Whitney petitioned for a writ of mandamus to compel the City Council to levy a tax wherewith to pay the judgment. The city answered that the ordinary expenses of the municipality, together with the interest on its debt of $20,000,000, exhausted the revenues from taxation, the rate of which was then as great as the city could impose under legislative restriction. A peremptory writ of mandamus was issued by the court, after hearing the case, to arrange to pay the judgment, and from this decree the city appealed. In the mean time, however, a settlement was effected with the heirs, and, there then being nothing further in the appeal, the city allowed it to lapse, and the dismissal yesterday was ordered under the rules.

In the history of the case all the prominent attorneys in Louisiana were engaged either on one side of the other. For Mrs. Gaines the attorneys of national prominence who appeared in the Supreme Court of the United States within the last thirty years were Jeremiah S. Black of Pennsylvania, John A. Campbell, an ex-Justice of the Supreme Court, and Thomas J. Semmes of Louisiana.

RAMS FOR THE NEW BATTLE SHIPS.

The Special Board Recommends that They Be Eleven Feet Below the Water Line.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—The special Board of Naval officers directed to consider plans for the new battle ships Nos. 5 and 6 has recommended to the Secretary of the Navy that the extreme points of the armored rams with which these vessels are to be fitted shall be eleven feet below the water line. This is an English idea embodied in the battle ship Texas, and it was opposed by three members of the Naval Board on Construction, composed of a majority of the bureau chiefs of the Navy Department.

The suggestion that the striking point of the ram should be lower was first made by Commodore Sicard, commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. A depth of 5 feet 6 inches for the ram has been adopted in building our battle ships, with the exception of the Texas and Maine. Commodore Sicard's suggestion was that the ram point should be lowered two feet below the standard named, and his letter on the subject was referred to the Board on Construction.

Three members of this Board opposed it, principally on the ground that a lowering of the ram, with its heavy armor, would have a tendency to make the vessel sink lower in the water. Two other members favored the idea of Commodore Sicard, and the matter was finally referred to the special Board, of which Rear Admiral John G. Walker is President. This Board has gone even further than Commodore Sicard and his supporters among the bureau chiefs, and the question at issue will have to be settled by Secretary Herbert.

DESTROYED TREASURY RECORDS.

A Colored Laborer Burned Them After Removing the Stamps, Which He Sold.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Charles E. Edwards, a colored laborer in the Treasury Department, is under arrest for destroying papers belonging to the records of the Treasury. The papers destroyed were the records in customs and other cases of the war period, and are valuable as being receipts for moneys paid. During the war stamps were attached to receipts of nearly every kind, and Edwards, it develops, was after these stamps, which are now obsolete and greatly in demand by stamp collectors. He removed the stamps and then destroyed the papers or threw them among the waste paper to cover up his crime. Edwards acknowledged having received $250 for the stamps so obtained from stamp collectors. More than 5,000 papers are missing, and the thieving has been going on for a year or more.

Fourth-class Postmasters.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—The following fourth-class Postmasters were appointed to-day:

New Jersey—Jacob Feldman, at Woodbine.
New York—J. L. Cone, at Beulah; Mrs. Anitha Fradesburgh, at Forksville; A. J. Hurley, at Macedon Centre; J. W. Gardner, at Rotterdam Junction; Hill, J. H. Waggoner, at Gramel; John McNamara, at Zurich.

THE HOUSE COMMITTEES.

Mr. Dingley of Maine May be Chairman of Ways and Means and Leader of the House.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Speaker Reed is expected to arrive in Washington to-day or to-morrow. Gossip as to the prospective Chairmanships of House committees is taking a definite form, the latest rumor ascribing to Mr. Reed the intention of making his colleague, Mr. Dingley of Maine, the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means and the leader of the next House. It is said that the supposition heretofore entertained that either Mr. Dalzell of Pennsylvania or Mr. Payne of New York would be made Chairman of this committee is erroneous. It is pointed out that Mr. Dingley was the ranking Republican member of the Ways and Means Committee in the Fifty-first Congress, and therefore in the direct line of promotion to the Chairmanship whenever the Republicans should again obtain control of the House. It is asserted that he relinquished this advantage out of loyalty to Mr. Reed, in order to give him the opportunity to vindicate on the floor, as the acknowledged leader of the minority, his acts while Speaker. Now Mr. Reed, it is said, will reciprocate by placing Mr. Dingley back in the position he chivalrously vacated. Another Maine man, Mr. Milliken, is understood to be slated for the Chairmanship of the Committee on Public Buildings. Col. David B. Henderson of Iowa is regarded as the probable Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, the choice resting between him and Representative Cannon of Illinois.

The Chairmanship of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors is being discussed a good deal by the members as they drop in at headquarters. The legislation that comes before this committee is so important to so many sections of the country that in some respects it is a very desirable committee to serve on. Mr. Hinger Hermann of Oregon has served on this committee for many years, and the interests of his district are largely involved in the bills that are prepared by that body. Gen. Grosvenor of Ohio is also an old member of the committee, having outranked Mr. Hermann in the Fifty-first Congress. It is understood that he desires very much to be made Chairman of the next committee. Both these gentlemen are understood to be on their way to Washington to find out how the land lies.

It is said that Representative Aldrich of Illinois has given out a quiet tip that he will apply for membership on the Committee of Inter-State and Foreign Commerce, held by Mr. Durborrow during the last session. This committee had charge of the Nicaragua Canal project.

Representative McCall of Tennessee arrived in this city this morning, and says that a caucus of Southern Republican Representatives will probably be held on Wednesday evening next to consider matters in connection with the organization of the House. All Southern Republicans will be asked to participate in Wednesday's caucus.

MEETING OF NAVAL OFFICERS.

A Committee to Procure Legislation That Will End Stagnation in Promotion.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—The largest gathering of line officers of the navy ever held in this city for the consideration of legislation to relieve the stagnation in promotion met this evening at the Arlington. Discussion was prolonged for several hours, and at times was exceedingly lively.

It was finally decided that if the line is to succeed in securing favorable legislation this winter it must work independent of the staff corps and not wrangle with them regarding absolute rank or any of the other features of the joint commission's bills which were so bitterly antagonized last year. No staff representatives were asked to be present, nor will this corps be considered by the line in its efforts to get a bill through.

The first thing done was the adoption of a resolution thanking the Secretary of the Navy for his efforts to end sluggishness in promotion, and assuring him that the line would not antagonize any bill which he may deem best for its interests. Another resolution was adopted approving the main features of the joint commission's bill reported last year and urging Congress to take up this measure and pass it after eliminating those sections relating to the staff.

A joint committee was appointed consisting of Commodore Phythian, Commander Bradford, Lieut.-Commander Moser, Capt. Sampson, and Lieut. Sheutze, to represent the navy's interest before Congress. This committee was instructed to do everything possible to procure the passage of a personnel bill this winter.

The staff corps will meet soon after Congress meets to take action with regard to legislation in which they are interested. The engineers will again insist on absolute rank, while the marines will ask that their commandant be made a Brigadier-General and the corps materially strengthened. The doctors and paymasters are indifferent to any legislation, and seem satisfied with their present condition.

MINISTER THEDIM'S FUNERAL.

The Diplomatic Corps, the State Department, and the Army and Navy Represented.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Funeral services over Senhor Augusto de Sequeira Thedim, the late Minister from Portugal to the United States, took place this morning in St. Matthew's Church. The body was removed from the legation to the church at 10 o'clock, escorted by Troops E and H of the Sixth Cavalry, under command of Capt. Craig, and headed by the Marine Band. The casket was covered with flowers, largely the offerings of friends in the diplomatic corps. As it was being carried into the church the Marine Band played a sacred hymn.

The diplomatic corps was present, with very few exceptions, headed by the dean, Sir Julian Pauncefote, British Ambassador, and all wearing their state uniforms and orders. In addition to these was Senhor J. N. Acerado, Portuguese Consul-General at New York, who will discharge the duties of Minister pending the appointment of a successor. The Administration was represented by Secretary Olney and Assistant Secretaries Uhl and Rockhill of the State Department, the judiciary by Chief Justice Fuller of the Supreme Court, the army by Assistant Adjt.-Gen. Ruggles, the navy by Admiral Walker and Capt. Singer of the Bureau of Naval Intelligence. Within the chancel sat Cardinal-elect Satolli, attended by Dr. Booker, his private secretary. Requiem high mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Charles M. Bart, assisted by Father Lee as deacon and Father Reynolds as sub-deacon.

As the body was borne from the church the Marine Band played "Nearer My God to Thee." The procession was formed, with the cavalry leading, and escorted the body to Mount Olivet Cemetery. There it was temporarily consigned to a vault, awaiting shipment to Lisbon for final interment. Senhora Thedim will sail from New York on the 30th inst. with the remains.

Naval Orders.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Capt. B. H. Buckingham is to be relieved from command of the Dolphin, and will be assigned as naval aid to the Secretary of the Navy and as secretary to the Board on Construction. His successor will probably be Commander Burwell.

These naval orders were issued to-day: Passed Assistant Paymaster Z. W. Reynolds, detached from the Thetis with three months' leave; Lieut. W. S. Benson, detached from the Blake and ordered to the Dolphin; Ensign C. M. McCormick, detached from the Endeavor and ordered to the Dolphin; Ensign C. B. Morgan, detached from the Michigan and ordered to the Dolphin; Ensign J. H. Reid, detached from the Hydrographic Office and ordered to the Coast Survey; Paymaster John Irwin, detached from the Vermont and ordered to the Thetis; Ensigns C. S. Stanworth, F. H. Brown, and H. A. Wiley, ordered to hold themselves in readiness for sea duty.

UNCLE GEORGE'S CLUB HOUSES.

Seventh District Republicans Object to Being Ruled By an Outsider.

Uncle George B. Deane's Abingdon Square clubhouses are making trouble for the Republican organization in the Seventh Assembly district. Uncle George has been the Republican leader in the old Ninth ward for many years That meant something when the boundaries of the ward were almost coincident with those of the Assembly district. The new apportionment in June last divided the Ninth ward among three Assembly districts, the Third, Fifth, and Ninth, and left Uncle George a resident of the Fifth, although his political interests were mostly in the Seventh.

Uncle George owns several buildings on Abingdon square which have been used as club houses. These are now just inside the Fifth Assembly district lines. Notwithstanding the fact that he resides in the Fifth district, Uncle George is still trying to run the Republican organization in the Seventh and to get it to meet in his club house outside the Assembly district lines. This is objectionable to many Republicans, and there is danger of the Platt-Lauterbach Republicans losing the district on account of it.

Mr. Deane has always controlled the district for the Platt forces, and has been appointed by President Lauterbach one of a committee of three to reorganize the Election District Associations there, despite his non-residence. He has established headquarters of the Reorganization Committee in the old club house, which is in the Fifth district, and there is grumbling and a general demand that Uncle George give way for a younger man and a resident.

VIGILANTES ON PATROL.

GOING TO GET THEMSELVES SOLICITED AND CALL THE POLICE.

One of Them Is 60 Years Old, but Most Are Young Men, and They Will Try to Drive the Women of the Tenderloin Off Broadway and Sixth Avenue.

Theodore Dwight, who is an electrical engineer, stood at 7 o'clock last night in the library of his flat at 103 West Fifty-fifth street surveying a map of the Twenty-fifth Assembly district, which was propped up against the back of a sofa. The map was covered with a sheet of glass. It represents a pet project of Mr. Dwight's, and as he gazed at it he unfolded to a SUN reporter the very latest crusade that Dr. Parkhurst's young disciples in the suppression of vice are going to direct against the scarlet women of the Assembly district in which Dr. Parkhurst lives and has his church. Mr. Dwight's special map was a diagram of the district between Fourteenth street and Thirty-sixth street and Fourth and Seventh avenues, a part of the "Tenderloin" which Mr. Dwight said was again infested by street walkers. Mr. Dwight is President of the City Vigilance League of this Assembly district, and he said last night that Dr. Parkhurst was in full sympathy with the work that he proposed to begin. Mr. Dwight is a slim-built man with a light moustache.

"Our league," he said, "has received complaints that the women who were driven off the prominent thoroughfares by Dr. Parkhurst have returned in such numbers as to be an offence to the respectable men and women who go to the theatres at night or walk for recreation on the avenues. The evil is worst in Broadway and Sixth avenue, between Fourteenth and Forty-second street. We propose to drive these immoral women off these particular thoroughfares, and keep them away, and a number of members of the league are going to do this special police work."

Mr. Dwight paused in thought a moment, and then resumed in a tone of great earnestness.

"Understand, we do not propose to persecute these women. We recognize that they must exist, and that for over 2,000 years how to control them and make them least harmful has been a problem that has not been successfully solved. We are simply going to keep them out of the sight of the respectable promenaders."

"How?"

"How? Why, our members will patrol Broadway and Sixth avenue at night in the Twenty-fifth district, and if one of these women solicits a member he will appear to assent to her invitation, and walk on with her until he meets a policeman, and then call upon the officer to arrest the woman. He will make a complaint and stand by it. Now, we all know that men who are looking for these kind of women can find them. We do not propose to interfere with that; but we do propose to prevent the women soliciting decent men. Let the men do that sort of thing if they want to, but do it so that it shall not offend the respectable. We propose to do our very best to stop flagrant instances of improper conduct on the public thoroughfares by these women."

"How many members are going to do this police work?"

"We have a large membership, but as to the number I have always declined to give information. They are not all young men, either, who will do patrol duty. I know one member who is 60 years old. They all, however, young and old, are ready to brave adverse criticism. In fact, we expect it, but we believe the better part of the community will sustain us when they understand our purpose. We believe that this work should be undertaken in the interest of public morality and for the purification of the neighborhood I mention. We do not, I say again, desire to injure these women. We merely want them to go to other neighborhoods, where their presence will not be so offensive, and we want them to behave in the streets with a due regard for the feelings of the respectable citizens."

"Is Dr. Parkhurst going to take any active part in the new work?"

"Dr. Parkhurst hasn't the time. He is on deck around elections, but his ministerial duties prevent his giving us anything but his moral support and encouragement in this particular work."

Mr. Dwight expects the newspapers to lend him support in his crusade, too. He said that the police force is getting better, and that this new work of the league was intended to aid the good policemen.

Mr. Dwight had an interview yesterday with Commissioner Roosevelt, and he was understood by THE SUN reporter last night to be of the opinion that the President of the Police Board considered the Assembly district work of the league of the Twenty-fifth Assembly district to be a good thing for the city. But Mr. Dwight didn't say this in so many words. He said he hadn't talked with Capt. Pickett, the police commander of the district, in which the amateur detectives are going to operate. Mr. Dwight seems to be between 30 and 35 years of age. He is sure he has got hold of a good idea, and he is going to stick to it.

Select Board.

East Side.

HOTEL ST. STEPHEN,
46-50 East 11th st. Quiet, homelike; steam heated; terms very reasonable for permanent guests; lunch 40c.; dinner 75c., wine included.

11TH ST., 214 EAST.—Large parlor, with board; also other room; moderate; early breakfast.

53 3D ST., 147 EAST, near Lexington av.—Nicely furnished large front, heated rooms; all conveniences; excellent board.

58TH ST., 226 EAST.—Nicely furnished second floor front room; all conveniences; heated house; excellent board.

West Side.

SAN MARCO,
21 WEST 32D ST.
Select family house. Suites and single rooms, with bath and toilet, at moderate rates. Transients $2 to $3 per day. American plan.

CLINTON PLACE, 82, near 5th av.—Large front room with board; private bath.

4TH ST., 177 WEST.—Comfortable room with board for one or two gentlemen; private house; table board.

12TH ST., 63 WEST.—Gentlemen can have handsomely furnished rooms; excellent board; American family.

13TH ST., 129 WEST.—Large selection of elegantly furnished rooms, hot and cold water; board optional.

13TH ST., 243 WEST.—Nicely furnished large room suitable for two; gas, bath; moderate; table board.

14TH ST., 307 WEST.—Large and small rooms; good table; prices moderate; table board; references.

14TH ST., 253 WEST.—Large and small rooms, with board; excellent table; reasonable.

20TH ST., 131 WEST.—Large and small well-furnished, warm rooms; home cooking; moderate prices.

21ST ST., 125 WEST.—Newly furnished double, single sunny rooms, heated; refined surroundings; table; moderate; moderate.

22D ST., 157 WEST.—Large square well-furnished room with excellent table; moderate prices; table board; references.

23D ST., 366 WEST.—Handsomely furnished large and small rooms; heated; excellent board; reasonable.

38TH ST., 223 WEST.—Large double parlor, suitable for doctor or dentist; other desirable rooms; table board.

43D ST., 201 WEST, off Broadway.—Handsomely furnished rooms with first-class table; parlor, dining room.

44TH ST., 214 WEST.—Large or small rooms; superior table; references exchanged.

48TH ST., 67 WEST.—A few choice rooms, handsomely furnished; moderate prices; strictly first-class table.

Select Board—Brooklyn.

ASHLAND PLACE, 15, near Fulton st.—Excellent board, room, and fire $5; improvements; piano; good home.

HICKS ST., 170, "Heights."—Newly and comfortably furnished rooms; large and small; steam heated; hot and cold water; excellent board, optional; six minutes to "bridge;" references.

MONTAGUE TERRACE, 11, Brooklyn Heights.—Delightful rooms, commanding fine view of bay; ten minutes from Wall st., New York; in a private house, where only a few boarders are taken; references required.

Furnished Rooms & Apartments to Let

East Side.

"BAVARIA," 59TH ST., 242-244 EAST.—Elegant rooms, $1.50 to $5; gentlemen or quiet couples; housekeeping; transients accommodated.

ELEGANTLY furnished large, small, heated rooms; parlor suitable for doctor or dentist; private house; exc