EXTRA 10 PER CENT. DUTY.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL INTERPRETS THE NEW TARIFF LAW.

The Duty Applies to Goods Imported in Foreign Vessels, Except Such as Are Entitled by Treaty to Be Entered in Our Ports—The Bonded Goods Question to Be Decided Later.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—The Department of Justice has rendered an important decision touching the scope of the provision in the new Tariff law placing a discriminating duty of 10 per cent. upon certain merchandise transported in other than American vessels. A construction of the new law was requested by the Secretary of the Treasury in his letter of Aug. 6, wherein he said that since July 24, when the law went into effect, certain diamonds, the production of a foreign country not contiguous to the United States, and worth $90,000, have been imported from Canada, but whether in a vessel or by rail was not stated. The Secretary of the Treasury asked:

First—Whether a discriminating duty of 10 per cent., under section 22, should be levied on the diamonds described.

Second—Whether, in determining the liability of the diamonds to the discriminating duty, it is material to ascertain the mode of conveyance used in transporting them into the United States from Canada.

The opinion of the Department of Justice, written by Judge Richards, the Solicitor-General, and approved by Joseph McKenna, Attorney-General, says:

"Section 14 of the act of 1894 reads as follows:

SECTION 14. That a discriminating duty of 10 per centum ad valorem, in addition to the duties imposed by law, shall be levied, collected, and paid on all goods, wares, or merchandise which shall be imported in vessels not of the United States; but this discriminating duty shall not apply to goods, wares, and merchandise which shall be imported in vessels not of the United States, entitled by treaty or any act of Congress, to be entered in ports of the United States on payment of the same duties as shall be paid on goods, wares, and merchandise imported in vessels of the United States.

"Section 22 of the Tariff act of July 24, 1897, continued the discriminating duty imposed by section 14 of the former law, and added a discriminating duty of 10 per cent. on all goods which, 'being the production or manufacture of any foreign country not contiguous to the United States, shall come into the United States,' from a contiguous country without being imported 'in the usual course of strictly retail trade.' The full text of the section is as follows:

"Section 22. That a discriminating duty of 10 per centum ad valorem, in addition to the duties imposed by law, shall be levied, collected, and paid on all goods, wares, or merchandise which shall be imported in vessels not of the United States, or which, being the production or manufacture of any foreign country not contiguous to the United States, shall come into the United States from such contiguous country; that this discriminating duty shall not apply to goods, wares, or merchandise which shall be imported in vessels not of the United States, entitled at time of such importation, by treaty or convention, to be entered in the ports of the United States on payment of the same duties as shall then be payable on goods, wares, and merchandise imported in vessels of the United States, nor to such foreign products or manufactures as shall be imported from such contiguous countries in the usual course of strictly retail trade.

"The former law imposed a discriminating duty only on goods imported in certain foreign vessels. The present law imposes a discriminating duty also on goods which come into the United States from a contiguous country and are the product of a foreign non-contiguous country and are not imported 'in the usual course of strictly retail trade.'

"It will be observed that the word 'imported' is not used in connection with goods which 'come into' the United States from a contiguous country, save in the exception exempting goods 'imported in the usual course of strictly retail trade'; but for the purposes of this opinion it is not necessary to consider the precise effect of the words 'come into,' as distinguished from the word 'imported,' if, indeed, there be any difference in meaning.

"In determining whether the goods under consideration are subject to the discriminating duty it is not material to ascertain the mode of transportation or method of importation; it is sufficient to know that they 'come into' the United States from a contiguous country, and are within a class subject to duty, namely, are the 'production or manufacture of a foreign country not contiguous to the United States' and are not 'imported in the usual course of strictly retail trade.'

"Your first question is, therefore, answered in the affirmative; your second in the negative."

Attorney-General McKenna called at the Treasury Department to-day and told the officials there that he expected to render an opinion on the more important question of a discriminating duty on bonded goods before leaving Washington. He will probably go away in a few days. A large amount of money is involved in the bonded importation matter. Nearly all the goods shipped from Asiatic ports to places in the eastern portion of the United States are entered through Canada in bond. Teas intended for New York and other eastern cities are usually sent in bond over Canadian railways.

MUST BRITISH SHIPS PAY?

An Expert Thinks So, in Some Cases—Treasury Department Thinks Not.

The point has been raised that all cargoes brought to this country in English bottoms, except such as come from the British possessions in Europe, are subject to the discriminating duty of 10 per cent. By far the greatest part of the imports of this country come in English ships, and of this part all except such as come from Great Britain and Ireland, Gibraltar, Malta, and Cyprus would be subject to this duty.

The attention of THE SUN was brought to this matter by a letter from Alexander R. Smith, editor of *Seaboard*, who says:

"Section 2,502 of the Revised Statutes of the United States was the section, previous to the adoption of the new Tariff bill, providing for the collection of discriminating duties, but which exempted from the collection of said discriminating duty 'all goods, wares, and merchandise which shall be imported in vessels not of the United States entitled, by treaty *or any act of Congress*, to be entered in the ports of the United States on payment of the same duties as shall then be paid on goods, wares, and merchandise imported in vessels of the United States.' The italics are mine.

"In section 22 of the new Tariff bill, which has superseded the section from which I have above quoted in part, that portion which I have italicized was omitted, and of course no longer applies. The new section (the present law) now exempts from the discriminating duty only 'goods, wares, or merchandise which shall be imported in vessels not of the United States, entitled at the time of such importation *by treaty or convention* to be entered in the ports of the United States on payment of the same duties as shall then be payable on the goods, wares, and merchandise imported in vessels of the United States.'

"From this it would appear that to such an extent as this country has entered into a 'treaty or convention' with Great Britain whereby imports in the ships of Great Britain are exempted from the collection of such discriminating duties, to that extent alone are imports in British vessels exempt from such discriminating duty."

Mr. Smith says that there is but one treaty between this country and England on the subject of discriminating duties. This treaty was concluded on July 3, 1815, renewed for ten years on Oct. 20, 1818, and indefinitely extended on Aug. 6, 1827. This treaty provides that no higher duties shall be placed on imports and exports between the United States and "his Brittanick Majesty's territories in Europe" than are paid on the imports and exports of other countries, nor shall any prohibition be made by the United States and the "said territories of his Brittanick Majesty in Europe" which shall not extend equally to all countries. And again, no higher duties or charges shall be imposed upon British vessels in America than those payable by the vessels of the United States, with a like provision for American vessels in "his Brittanick Majesty's territories in Europe." The final paragraph is as follows:

"The same duties shall be paid on the importation into the United States of any articles the growth, produce, or manufacture of his Brittanick Majesty's territories in Europe, whether such importations shall be in vessels of the United States or in British vessels, and the same duties shall be paid on the importation into the ports of any of his Brittannick Majesty's territories in Europe of any article the growth, produce, or manufacture of the United States, whether such importation shall be in British vessels or in vessels of the United States."

Mr. Smith says that the explanation of how imports of British vessels from other than the European ports of Great Britain have so long been exempted from discrimination is found in the phrase "by any act of Congress" found in section 2,502 of the Revised Statutes, which is now without force. There is no treaty with Great Britain by which vessels from ports of other than European British territories are exempt from the discriminating duty, but this matter has been regulated by acts of Congress, and Mr. Smith quotes a circular letter of Secretary of the Treasury W. M. Meredith, dated Oct. 15, 1849, in which he instructs the officers of customs that from Jan. 1, 1850, British vessels "will (under our existing laws) be allowed to enter our ports with cargoes of the growth, manufacture, or production of any part of the world" on the same terms as the vessels of the United States, in consideration of certain changes in the British navigation laws made at that time. Mr. Smith concludes:

"If I am correct in my premises and conclusions, then, until a new treaty is concluded between the United States and Great Britain in which provision is made for the exemption of imports in British ships from any ports from our discriminating duty, it will be necessary to collect the 10 per cent. ad valorem discriminating duty from all imports in British ships entering our ports from other than British European ports. There is the probability, then, if I am correct—as I hope I may be—of our being able to have an immediate practical test of the operation of the discriminating duty law, with all of the force of which it is capable."

Inquiry made yesterday at the offices of various steamship lines which would be affected by the new duty revealed the fact that to most of the men interested this was a wholly new matter. Practically none of them, if they had noticed the part of the section referred to, had given it any serious consideration. As a rule they said that England was a "most favored nation," and therefore they could not be touched by discriminating duties. When the matter was explained to them in the new light they said that the subject needed thought before they ventured any serious opinion, and, they added, "there will be time enough to think when the Treasury Department has passed on it."

Edward N. Norton of the Norton line, which trades with South America and South Africa, had heard nothing of the subject.

"So far as the South American trade is concerned—that is, the Brazil and River Platte trade—the only result of such a duty that I can see is the raising of freight just 10 per cent."

R. R. Gemmell, general manager of the Atlas line, whose steamers ply between this port and the West Indies, had been relying on the "most favored nation" clause to help out the British ships.

"I have heard nothing of this whatever," he said, "but its effects would be most serious. Is it not very unfair that imports from Jamaica should be taxed 10 per cent. and imports from Liverpool should not? The application of the rule to all countries outside of the British possessions in England makes the case still worse. The effect would be disastrous in places."

TREASURY DEPARTMENT'S OPINION.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—It was explained at the Treasury Department to-day that the discriminating duty could not be levied on goods imported directly into the United States in British vessels from countries not British. A special exemption is made in the Tariff law concerning such cases. A treaty with Great Britain gives British vessels the right to bring goods from non-British countries to this country, but goods brought in vessels of countries not having such treaty privileges from other foreign ports are apparently prohibited, under penalty of forfeiture, except in certain cases, from landing dutiable articles in America. The provision of the new Tariff law applicable is found in section 23, which reads as follows:

That no goods, wares or merchandise, unless in cases provided for by treaty, shall be imported into the United States from any foreign port or place, except in vessels of the United States, or in such foreign vessels as truly and wholly belong to citizens and subjects of that country of which the goods are the growth, production, or manufacture, or from which such goods, wares, or merchandise can only or, or most usually are, first shipped for transportation. All goods, wares, or merchandise imported contrary to this section, and the vessel wherein the same shall be imported, together with her cargo, tackle, apparel, and furniture, shall be forfeited to the United States, and such goods, wares, or merchandise, ship, or vessel, and cargo shall be liable to be seized, prosecuted, and condemned in the same manner, and under the same regulations, restrictions, and provisions as have been heretofore established for the recovery, collection, distribution, and remission of forfeitures to the United States by the several revenue laws.

Section 24 qualifies this provision in large measure. It reads as follows:

That the preceding section shall not apply to vessels or goods, wares, or merchandise imported in vessels of a foreign nation which does not maintain a similar regulation against vessels of the United States.

This plainly means that the United States Government proposes to retaliate against any foreign country which will not allow goods brought in an American vessel from a non-American port to be landed in that country.

CANADA AND OUR TARIFF.

That Country Worried Over the Extra 10 Per Cent. Duty.

MONTREAL, Aug. 11.—The decision of Attorney-General McKenna as to the interpretation of the clause of the new United States tariff which deals with the imposition of an extra 10 per cent. duty on foreign goods entering the United States through a contiguous country, is awaited with the greatest interest in Canada.

"If the clause is put in force," said Mr. G. M. Bosworth, freight traffic manager of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, to-day, "its effect will be most serious. It will kill all our China and Japan business in exports intended for the United States, and will also kill entirely importation to the United States through Canadian ports. Montreal in summer and St. John in winter will suffer from the adverse legislation."

The same view is expressed by Mr. George B. Reeve, general traffic manager of the Grand Trunk Railroad system. Mr. Reeve is convinced that the clause in question will not be put into force. Both the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific are taking steps through their representatives to have the matter arranged at Washington.

A MISSING TREASURY PACKAGE.

It Had Been Mailed at Chicago Without Any Address and Went to the Dead Letter Office.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—A mystery which has been agitating the Treasury Department officials in this city, as well as those in the Sub-Treasury in Chicago, for some time was solved to-day. It involved the sudden and inexplicable disappearance of a valuable package which should have been sent by express from the Sub-Treasury at Chicago to the Treasury in this city on Aug. 2. The package did not arrive on time, and the Treasury Department wanted to know what had become of it. A search in Chicago revealed the fact that it had not been sent by express, as no receipt for it could be found. In it were the statements of the Sub-Treasury for that day of the amount of money on hand, the amount expended, and the daily balance. In addition there were a number of drafts, running up to several hundred thousand dollars.

When the chief clerk of the Dead Letter Office of the Post Office Department walked into the office of the United States Treasurer to-day and laid down the missing package, it was received by the chief clerk of the office with much pleasure. The disappearance was due to the carelessness of some one in the office in Chicago. The package was inclosed in an envelope addressed to the United States Treasurer. The envelope was again inclosed in a heavy blue envelope. The letter was placed in the mails without any address on it whatever. Some one had gathered it up with other mail matter, sealed it and put in a mail box without examining it to see if it was properly addressed. When it reached the Post Office at Chicago it was held for several days to see if the owner would claim it. None appearing, it was forwarded with other dead letter matter to the Dead Letter Office here, arriving this morning. A glance at its contents showed its importance and it was sent to the Treasury at once.

COL. REEVE STEPS DOWN.

Removed from the Solicitorship of the Treasury, He Accepts the Assistant Solicitorship.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—The announcement from the White House to-day that Felix A. Reeve of Tennessee had been appointed Assistant Solicitor of the Treasury settles an interesting controversy. Col. Reeve was Solicitor under President Cleveland, having been promoted from the place of Assistant Solicitor, which he held under Cleveland's first and Harrison's Administration. The office is a legal one, and comes under the Department of Justice. Attorney-General McKenna asked Col. Reeve to resign the Solicitorship, promising him that he would be returned as Assistant Solicitor. Col. Reeve declined to step out. He held that he had been promoted to the place, and was practically within the protection of the civil service regulations. The office had been promised to Maurice D. O'Connell of Iowa, but some of the Iowa delegation in Congress did not want Col. Reeve removed. Mr. O'Connell, however, was put in Col. Reeve's place, and the President and the Attorney-General, whose high regard for Col. Reeve had not been lessened by his defiance, decided to let him have the assistant solicitorship. Col. Reeve has accepted the inevitable and will serve in his old place. The President was particularly anxious to show consideration to Col. Reeve because he commanded a Union regiment raised in Tennessee.

The President's Appointments.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—President McKinley has appointed Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Vanderlip to act as Register and Assistant Register during the absence of those officials; also Felix A. Reeve of Tennessee to be Assistant Solicitor of the Treasury, and Benjamin S. Chiswell, Bernard H. Camden, Harry G. Hamlet, and Frederick C. Billard to be Second Lieutenants in the revenue marine service.

SMALL SOP TO BRYANISM.

COUNTY CONVENTIONS MAY INDORSE THE CHICAGO PLATFORM.

But the State Committee, the Leaders Declare, Must Be Silent—This, It is Thought, Will Help Tammany Out of Its Hole—Chairman Truman Is for Unequivocal Indorsement.

The policy of ex-Senator Hill and the other men who are potential in the affairs of the Democratic organization in the State, relative to the Chicago platform, has been plainly indicated by the utterances of State Chairman Elliot Danforth, as well as by many acts of minor local organizations.

Chairman Danforth has more than hinted that it is the purpose of the State Committee at its meeting next month to refrain from reaffirming the party doctrine declared by the national convention at Chicago last year. He said in an interview last Tuesday that the Chicago platform would probably be indorsed by county organizations throughout the State, but that it is improbable that the State Committee will take any action with reference to it. The plea is made that the State Committee is authorized only to nominate a candidate for Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, and that it has no power to make a platform, issue any declaration or address, or do anything other than the specific thing which the State Convention authorized it to do.

This position by Senator Hill, whose mouthpiece Mr. Danforth is, the ultra Bryan men declare to be wholly untenable, and they cite various instances when the State Committee has issued addresses and declared issues without specific authorization from any State Convention. They accordingly demand that the State Committee shall put itself on record regarding the Chicago platform at its coming meeting. How to prevent this and keep the Bryan sentiment quiescent has been the constant study of the Democratic leaders for some time, and it has been decided that the proper course to pursue is to give the Bryanites what they want locally, and to smother the Chicago platform as a State issue. The plan is to placate the Bryan men with places and resolutions in certain counties, so that they will not make too much of a fuss when the State Committee fails to reaffirm the Chicago platform.

Ex-Senator Hill has begun the game in Albany county, which is his present place of residence. Supreme Court Justice D. Cady Herrick is still the Democratic boss there. Ex-State Senator Norton Chase is the State Committeeman and Justice Herrick's chief lieutenant. Both Herrick and Chase are recognized as gold-standard men, although Chase has refused to commit himself on the Chicago platform, and Herrick is supposed to have voted for Bryan. Herrick and Chase are credited with a desire to smother the real issue altogether. In Albany, as in every other section of the State, the majority of the rank and file of the party believe in upholding party principles. Ex-Senator David B. Hill recognizes this fact, but, encouraged by the apparent ease with which Senator Gorman befooled the Maryland Democrats, he hopes, it is said, to play a similar game in Albany county and eventually in the State. This he has set out to do by getting Mayor Thacher to appoint John Bowe, a recognized Bryan man, Water Commissioner of Albany. This has so pleased the Bryan element that, it is said, the leadership of Herrick and Chase is threatened.

This is the way Mr. Hill plays the game in Albany county. In Chemung, formerly a Republican county, he adopted another method. The Democrats of Chemung are for free silver at 16 to 1, and all the other queer things in the Chicago platform. So are the Democrats in Tompkins and Schuyler counties, which are in the same Senate district. Tompkins and Schuyler, through their County Committees, have demanded that the State Committee reaffirm the Chicago platform in unequivocal terms, and have presented a radical Bryanite named Merrill for the vacancy in the State Committee. It required a lot of finessing on the part of Mr. Hill and his friends in Chemung to prevent the adoption of a similar resolution. They only succeeded by a bare majority of one and presented another man, without positive opinions, for membership in the State Committee.

The word has gone forth that it is all right for a certain proportion of the county organizations to put themselves on record for the Chicago platform, but that the indorsement must not be general and unanimous. It must be reserved to only where it is necessary to placate the radical element. It has been suggested, further, that it would be well to withhold some of the indorsements until after the meeting of the State Committee.

The plan, so far as it relates to this city, contemplates the indorsement of the Chicago platform by Tammany at its county convention. This is expected to silence the clamor of the many Bryan organizations which are now a thorn in the side of Tammany.

The radicals are fully apprised of this game, and are prepared to act independently, providing the State Committee does not indorse the Chicago platform and nominate an uncompromising Bryan man for the Court of Appeals bench.

Commenting on the programme of the State leaders, James C. Truman of Binghamton, Chairman of the Democratic State Executive or Campaign Committee, as it is called, said yesterday:

"I do not believe in this idea of dodging the issue. I think the State Committee should meet it squarely and reaffirm the Chicago platform. We have got to be regular, and the only way to be so is by indorsing that platform. We must stand by our colors if we are to expect the support of the voters who stood by us last year. To dodge the issue will surely result in the loss of the State to our party. We may not believe in all that is contained in the Chicago platform, as most people do not believe everything contained in the Bible, but we must take the whole thing, whether the whale swallowed Jonah or not.

"This game of concessions to the radical element in the party locally won't work. We are of the Democratic party, or we are not. If we are we must accept Democratic doctrine as a State organization, and the duty of the State Committee is to swallow the Chicago platform whole."

REFORM THAT DOESN'T WORK.

A Black Eye for the Extension of the Classified Civil Service.

The advisability of extending the classified civil service to include in the competitive lists officials the character of whose service requires little or nothing in the way of an educational test has been disproved by the results obtained through Mayor Strong's order placing ambulance drivers in the classified list. President Croft of the Department of Charities said to a reporter of THE SUN that he had made a special investigation the result of which was the discovery that every accident and every complaint made since the place of ambulance driver was placed in the classified service was chargeable against men who were appointed after competitive civil service examination. Not one accident was charged to the men who were appointed for his peculiar qualifications under the "spoils system," nor had any complaint been lodged against such.

"It looks to me as though this competitive business can be carried too far," was President Croft's comment.

NO REBUKE FOR MR. WOODRUFF.

Nevertheless There May Be a Lively Meeting of Brooklyn Republicans.

Republicans of the Twenty-second ward in particular, and of the adjacent wards in general, have been invited to a meeting to-night in Acme Hall, Seventh avenue and Ninth street, Brooklyn, to express their sentiments in regard to a candidate for Mayor of the Greater New York. The movement for the meeting started directly after the publication of an interview with Lieut.-Gov. Woodruff in THE SUN, in which he spoke of the apparent collapse of the Low boom.

The projectors supposed that it would result in the disciplining of the Lieutenant-Governor. Last night, however, the committemen in charge of the meeting said that it would be of general political interest and that no rebuke for the Lieutenant-Governor was intended. They added that lively times might be expected at the meeting.

VANDERLIP HOLDS SEVEN OFFICES.

But He Draws Only One Salary, as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—Frank A. Vanderlip of Illinois, whose designation by the President to perform the duties of Register and Assistant Register of the Treasury was announced to-day, now holds seven distinct offices and draws one salary. Mr. Vanderlip is a Chicago hustler. He came here last March to become private secretary to Secretary Gage and was soon promoted to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. The salary he draws is for performing the duties of that place. Mr. Gage found his young assistant so capable that he intrusted him with a number of important duties and also retained him as private secretary. With the two offices which Mr. Vanderlip fills by to-day's designation, he is the incumbent of these places: Assistant Secretary, Private Secretary, Register, Assistant Register, Chairman of the Civil Service Committee of the Treasury Department, Chairman of the Commission to Investigate the Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Chairman of the Board to Examine the Condition of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. His multitudinous duties require his presence during every working day in his four office rooms. "He can give cards and spades to Pooh-Bah," said a Treasury official to-day.

BELDEN REPUBLICANS SURPRISED.

The Hendricks Committee Calls Its Caucuses at Too Early a Date for Them to Rally.

SYRACUSE, Aug. 11.—When the Belden Republicans got up yesterday morning they were treated to a surprise, for the Hendricks newspaper organ contained the call for caucuses to elect delegates to the various conventions to be held in the city and county this fall. These caucuses are called throughout the county for next Saturday, which is only four days away. This action was taken yesterday by the Executive Committee of the Republican County Committee, which is controlled by the Hendricks forces, and its significance lies in the fact that the notice is so short that the Belden men cannot rally throughout the county in time to prevent the success of the Hendricks candidates for nomination.

The Belden men have become accustomed, they say, to all sorts of dodges on the other side, but they were not prepared for this sort of a game. In some towns in the county the news of the call will hardly be known before the day of the caucuses, which are to be held at 2 P. M. This practically shuts out all who are not on the Hendricks slate for Sheriff, County Clerk, Surrogate, members of Assembly, and Mayor. The only recourse of the opposition Republicans is to put separate candidates in the field on independent tickets or to go in with the Democrats.

The caucuses last year were called in much the same manner as now, and resulted in a bitter fight over independent nominations, whereby Belden was returned to Congress by a sweeping majority. A Belden man said to-day that they probably would hold separate caucuses, to be called later, and that no member of the McKinley League will attend Saturday's caucuses. Congressman Belden has made the appointments in this district through the recognition of the President, and it was expected that his friends would put up a strong fight in the caucuses to regain control of county politics, but they cannot rally in time for next Saturday.

WHAT BRYANITES DEMAND.

They Will Insist on the Chicago Platform and a Bryanite for Mayor.

Five representatives from each of five independent free silver organizations met in the rooms of the Single Tax Club of Brooklyn, 1198 Bedford avenue, last night. The organizations represented were the Democratic League of Brooklyn, the People's League of New York, the People's Party of New York, the German-American Double Standard Club of New York, and the Bryan Free Silver Club of Harlem.

The conference was held behind closed doors and lasted over two hours. J. T. McKechnie of Brooklyn was the Chairman and Charles B. Stover of the People's League of New York the Secretary. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this conference that as a basis of action of all Democratic forces in Greater New York we demand:

First—The reaffirmation of the Chicago platform.

Second—Municipal ownership and operation of municipal franchises.

Third—That the candidate for Mayor must be a man whose whole character and past, as well as his stand during the last national campaign, offer the strongest guarantees that he will faithfully carry out this policy.

REPUBLICAN CLUBS COMBINING.

Part of President Quigg's Policy of Improving the Party Organization.

The Stalwart Republican Club of the Thirty-first Assembly district held its last meeting last night. It adopted a resolution providing for its disbandment and a consolidation with the Central Republican Club of the same district, of which Assemblyman Harvey T. Andrews is President. This consolidation is part of a scheme which President Quigg of the Republican County Committee has devised to make a more cohesive party organization throughout the city. All clubs supported by the organization which are likely to breed rivalries and dissensions have been requested to settle their differences at once, and whenever possible to effect a consolidation, so that none of these little local club differences will work any disadvantages to the party in its Mayoralty campaign.

In accordance with this request, the Excelsior, Morton, and Union Republican clubs in the Thirty-third Assembly district have combined under the name of the Consolidated Republican Club of the Thirty-third Assembly district. There are three or four other Republican clubs in the district, but they all have the same meeting place and the same membership, which comprises fifteen or twenty irreconcilables.

Peace Among the Onondaga Republicans.

Onondaga county has always been depended on to furnish a story of Republican dissension, but this year, it is said, there is to be an exception to the rule. An armistice is said to have been declared between the regulars, represented by ex-Collector Francis Hendricks, and the forces marshalled by Congressman James J. Belden, the result of which will be the nomination of a county and legislative ticket which will be satisfactory all around. The County Convention has been called to be held in Syracuse on Aug. 21.

Palmer Wants Restoration to His Brooklyn Assessorship.

George Washington Palmer, who was recently displaced as an Assessor in Brooklyn by Wm. J. Taylor, has applied to the Attorney-General for permission to begin quo warranto proceedings to regain the office. He contends that his successor is not legally entitled to the place, inasmuch as he did not go through the formality of a civil service examination.

Griffith for Congress Has 1,266 Majority.

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 11.—Returns to-day from the Fourth Congress district election show an increased majority for Francis M. Griffith, Democrat. The returns have been received only by majorities, and in many cases the footings were made hastily and may be changed when the returning board for the district meets to canvass the vote. The majorities by counties, not official, is 1,266.

PROMOTIONS FOR ENLISTED MEN.

Corporals and Privates Ordered to Appear for Examination for Commissions.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—The War Department will adhere to its policy of appointing enlisted men to commissioned rank, notwithstanding that there are sixty-five members of last June's graduating class at West Point still unprovided with places. To-day the authorities directed a number of corporals and privates to report to the Examining Boards at Fort Leavenworth Sept. 1. There is a noticeable absence in the list of the names of sons of army officers, who heretofore have predominated in the examinations of enlisted men for commissions. Only one is a son of an army officer, Corporal Engelbert G. Ovenshine, who was rejected last year.

The other candidates are Corporals B. P. Nicklin, First Cavalry; Charles S. Lincoln, Second Infantry; Samuel C. Vestal, Second Infantry; Thomas H. R. McIntyre, Fifth Infantry; Richard H. McMaster, Tenth Infantry; John C. Barnard, Twenty-first Infantry, and Privates Malcolm Young, Fourth Cavalry; Robert E. Wyllie, First Artillery; First Sergeant J. D. Bradley, Twelfth Infantry, and Sergeant James V. Heidt, Thirteenth Infantry. All these candidates have successfully passed the department preliminary Examining Boards.

New Gunboats Ordered to Join the North Atlantic Fleet.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—Acting Secretary Roosevelt to-day ordered the gunboat Newport to be commissioned on Sept. 15, with instructions that she immediately thereafter join the north Atlantic fleet for the manœuvres this autumn. The Newport is one of the six gunboats of her class lately completed, all of which will be in service in the next six weeks. Her sister ship, the Annapolis, was also ordered today to join the squadron. The Wheeling and Marietta, similar vessels, will be in commission on the Pacific by Sept. 1, and the remaining two of their class are to follow as soon as crews can be secured. The Nashville, a ship without a prototype in the service, will also join the home fleet the last of this month.

Sicard's Squadron Leaves Newport.

NEWPORT, R. I., Aug. 11.—The ships of Admiral Sicard's squadron, consisting of flagship New York, the Brooklyn, Iowa, Massachusetts, and Maine, left this harbor at 8:30 this morning and headed eastward off Provincetown. The Brooklyn and Iowa will be detached temporarily from the squadron for tactical manœuvres, the others proceeding to Portsmouth, N. H., where they will remain until Sunday, meeting the Brooklyn and Iowa off the Isle of Shoals, when all will go to Portland. From there the squadron will go to Bar Harbor for a few days and then go south to Hampton Roads.

Military Attache at Madrid.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—Acting Secretary Roosevelt has relieved Lieut. Sims of the navy from duty as naval attaché at Madrid and directed him to resume his duties as attaché at Paris and Vienna. The importance of having a special attaché to Spain to study military and naval development has led to the appointment of Lieut. George L. Dyer, who will devote himself exclusively to gathering information of the progress the Spaniards are making in military affairs.

CUBANS ARE WIDE AWAKE.

HAVANA FEARS THAT SHE MAY BE ATTACKED AT ANY TIME.

It Isn't Safe to Run Trains from the Capital to the Suburbs—Weyler Retreats Before Victorious Gomez, and Is Now in Havana Province—Another Spanish Butchery in a Hospital.

HAVANA, Aug. 11, via Key West.—The situation in Havana is more serious than last week, and the activity of the insurgents around the capital arouses general fear that the city may be attacked at any time.

Gen. Weyler has retreated before the invading forces of Gomez and Carrillo from Matanzas to Havana province. Yesterday Weyler arrived with 5,000 men at the Rosario plantation, near Aguacate, in Havana province, and afterward left on horseback for Jaruco and San Miguel, in the same province, followed by his column. It is said that he remained about an hour in Aguacate, and showed great signs of disappointment and uneasiness over the condition of the campaign.

The American Consul at Matanzas has reported to Consul-General Lee that the insurgents invaded that province to the number of 8,000 men, and that the Spanish columns were fleeing before them to Havana.

Gen. Gomez is said to be now in Havana province, and, though no positive information has been obtained, the presence of Gen. Weyler in the province and the state of demoralization of the Spanish army seems to indicate it. If Gomez arrives before the capital there is no doubt that Havana will be attacked by the insurgents. The situation is desperate for the Spaniards. The very train that runs between Havana and its suburb of Marianao was attacked and stopped yesterday by the insurgents. The British Consul and the Consul of China, who were passengers on the train, received courteous treatment from the Cubans.

At Santo del Chivo, near Havana, the battalion España had a hard engagement with the Cubans under Col. Arango and was badly routed, being compelled to retreat toward the capital. The Spaniards left their killed and wounded on the field, and Arango ordered the dead to be buried and the injuries of the wounded to be cared for.

From Matanzas comes the news that Gen. Molina has been wounded in a hard fight with the insurgents. No more details are given.

A Cuban hospital, established in Havana province by Col. Aranguren, has been raided by a Spanish column, and many sick and wounded men were killed. The Spaniards found there a letter addressed to the Cuban Colonel, Emilio Dominguez, by his wife, who lives in Havana, and the poor woman was arrested yesterday and sent to the house of Recogidas. When she complained of the rough treatment given to her she was insulted by the soldiery.

The Spaniards in Havana show great indignation over the killing of Canovas, and the city will go into mourning for three days.

WEYLER'S COWARDLY REVENGE.

Another Now Suffering for the Captain-General's Spite Against Don Santiago Barroeta.

Don Santiago Barroeta, who published a pamphlet here about a month ago exposing the crimes committed in Cuba by Gen. Weyler, has received news from Havana that the Captain-General has taken a cruel revenge, and has vented his spite against one of the members of Señor Barroeta's family. According to a letter received by Señor Barroeta, his brother-in-law, Ramon Hidalgo, was arrested in Cienfuegos on July 28 and thrown into a dungeon. The officer who arrested Hidalgo, Capt. Aldana, is one of Señor Barroeta's personal enemies, and was referred to by him in the above-mentioned pamphlet.

Aldana loaded Hidalgo with chains and then made him walk through the streets of Cienfuegos. He afterward treated him roughly in the jail, where Hidalgo was then confined. He was then sent to Havana and imprisoned in the fortress of La Cabaña. Hidalgo is an American citizen, duly registered at the American General Consulate in Havana, and included in the record of foreigners kept by Weyler. From July 28 to Aug. 7 he has not been allowed to communicate with any person, a flagrant violation of the international treaty between Spain and the United States.

Señor Barroeta said last night that he was sure that his brother-in-law was still "incomunicado," and that he could not send word to Consul Lee of the outrage of which he is the victim. He sent a despatch to the Secretary of State at Washington asking the protection of the American Government for his brother-in-law.

"Weyler," said Barroeta, "could not ask the United States for my extradition as a criminal after I had exposed him. So he has resorted to a revenge worthy of his character."

NO. 868 KILLED AT HIS WORK.

Pinioned Under a Big Rock Knocked Down by a Falling Dirt Bucket.

An Italian, known to his fellow workers as Tony and to his employers as No. 868, was killed yesterday in a sewer excavation on the Hoes estate, on the line of what will be Farragut avenue when the street is open. The sewer is to be an immense affair and the excavation for it is fully 30 feet broad by 40 feet deep. No. 868 was one of thirty or more Italians working in the bottom of the excavation. The small stone and débris incident to the work was being hoisted out of the cut in a big bucket suspended by chains from a derrick.

A bucket load of the débris had been hoisted some fifty feet above the heads of the laborers when the chain slipped and the bucket fell. It struck a huge rock weighing a ton or more at the edge of the bank and sent it rolling down the steep incline. There were wild shouts of warning, and the Italians scurried out of range of the falling stone. No. 868 was ten feet out of range of the stone and felt safe. The stone struck on the rocky bottom, rebounded twice, and pinioned the Italian to the ground in a pool of water. It crushed both his legs below the knees and he lay there bleeding to death while a score of his fellow laborers strove with crowbars and levers to lift the rock off him. They worked with marvellous speed and energy, but it took ten minutes to lift the stone and wedge it up so that the dying man could be lifted from under it. They got him out alive and carried him up the embankment and laid him on the grass under an apple tree. He died there five minutes later.

Meantime Policeman Converse had telephoned to Fordham Hospital for an ambulance. It was a long run and a difficult place to find. Dr. Rafferty started on a new ambulance. The springs proved too light to stand the rocky suburban roads, and one of them broke, and he had to telephone for the old ambulance to replace the broken one. The man had been dead some time, and a dead wagon had been telegraphed for when the doctor reached the scene.

The dead man lived in the Italian colony in 149th street, near Courtlandt avenue. The body was removed to the Morrisania station.

Patrick Lawler, the foreman, of 149th street and Trinity avenue, and Charles Jones, Pelham avenue, and Francis S. Brosnan, 146 West Seventy-fourth street, the contractors, were arrested for criminal neglect. They were arraigned in Morrisania Court and bailed.

MAX DIXLER DISCHARGED.

He Will Prefer Charges Against Policeman Eberman for Clubbing Him.

Max Dixler, the restaurant keeper of 96 Allen street, who was clubbed by Policeman Eberman of the Eldridge street station on Saturday, and afterward was arrested on a charge of committing a felonious assault on the policeman, was discharged in the Essex Market Court yesterday. The policeman, in trying to arrest Mrs. Julia Stein, the housekeeper of the apartments over Dixler's restaurant, because she used abusive language to him in objecting to his presence on her doorsteps, chased her into Dixler's restaurant, and Dixler is alleged to have interfered. After arresting the woman Eberman went back to the restaurant and arrested Dixler. Magistrate Meade considered the complaint changed to disorderly conduct and continued the case until yesterday in order that the policeman's actions might be investigated. The policemen appeared in court with several witnesses, who testified that Dixler interfered with him. On cross-examination they contradicted one another so flatly that Magistrate Meade closed the hearing without calling all of Dixler's witnesses, and declared that there was no evidence against him.

Lawyer Rosenthal asked Magistrate Meade to issue a warrant for the policeman's arrest on a charge of assaulting Dixler, but the Magistrate refused. The lawyer then said he would prefer charges at Police Headquarters.

Acting Inspector Thompson sat with Magistrate Meade while the case was being tried.

Fatal Fall from a Tree.

Eight-year-old Robert Bisson died yesterday at St. Catharine's Hospital from injuries received by falling off a tree near his home at 811 Willoughby avenue, Brooklyn, on Tuesday.

M'KINLEY AT JOHN BROWN'S GRAVE.

The President and Party Visit Lake Placid in the Adirondacks.

PLATTSBURG, N. Y., Aug. 11.—At 9.45 this morning, in the midst of a heavy downpour of rain, President and Mrs. McKinley, Vice-President and Mrs. Hobart, Mrs. Alger, Mrs. Baley, Miss Alger, the Hon. S. M. Weed, the Hon. and Mrs. G. S. Weed, Murat Halstead, Frederick Alger, and C. B. Pike, accompanied by O. D. Seavy, manager of the Hotel Champlain, J. N. Stower, general manager, and W. W. Connoughty, superintendent of the Chateaugay Railroad, boarded a special train, consisting of the parlor cars Lake Placid and St. Regis and coach No. 5, for a trip through the Adirondacks to Lake Placid and John Brown's grave. Conductor T. F. Long was in charge of the train, with Engineer Edward Hewitt at the throttle of the engine Mirror Lake.

The first stop was made at Cadyville, by which time the rain had ceased. The depot was handsomely decorated with flags and bunting, and the large crowd in waiting cheered the President to the echo, he acknowledging their greeting by appearing on the rear platform and shaking hands with every one present. No stop was made at Dannemora, much to the disappointment of the large crowd which filled the platform of the depot.

At Lyon Mountain a stop of five minutes was made, and apparently every res