REID'S ALLY THE FORGER.

JAIL RECORD OF SMITH, ALIAS SCHULENBERG, ALIAS SCHOEPPE.

The New York Tribune's Weapon for Attacking Benjamin F. Tracy Last Fall Has Done Time in Joliet and Sing Sing for Forgery and Was Once Convicted of Poisoning a Woman—And Whitelaw Reid Knew It, Too.

The Hon. Charles W. Hackett, Chairman of the Republican State Committee, finished yesterday and handed out the papers in an investigation which, he said, would be read with more than ordinary interest by Republicans everywhere. It is the record of John P. G. Smith, alias J. B. Schulenberg, alias Dr. Paul Schoeppe, whom Whitelaw Reid, editor of the New York *Tribune* used last fall to stab Gen. Benjamin F. Tracy, the Republican candidate for Mayor. The investigation shows that Smith, under the name of J. B. Schulenberg, was convicted of forgery in Cook county, Ill., on April 30, 1874, and was sentenced to three years in Joliet Penitentiary. John P. G. Smith, the same man, was sent to Sing Sing for forgery on June 25, 1880, for a term of five years. Smith, alias Schulenberg, alias Dr. Paul Schoeppe, was, early in the 70s, according to R. W. McClaughry, Warden of Joliet Penitentiary, tried and convicted at Lancaster, Pa., for poisoning a woman. He obtained a new trial and escaped on a legal technicality.

Chairman Hackett requests all Republicans in the State of New York and elsewhere to remember that this convict was the man whom Whitelaw Reid, editor of the New York *Tribune*, took under his wing in the recent Mayoralty campaign, throwing open the columns of the New York *Tribune* to him and gave him full swing to attack Gen. Tracy and the Republicans interested in Gen. Tracy's canvass. Moreover, Mr. Reid knew very well the kind of tool he was using for this purpose.

On Oct. 30, the closing hours of the campaign, Mr. Reid, in the effort to demoralize Republicans and induce them not to vote for Gen. Tracy, allowed Smith, whom he knew to be a convict, free scope in the columns of the New York *Tribune* to declare on his unsupported word that in 1892 (Presidential year) a deal existed between Tammany Hall and Senator Platt whereby Thomas F. Gilroy, Tammany's candidate for Mayor, was to be elected and in return Mr. Gilroy was to appoint Charles H. Murray and Michael Kerwin as the Republican Police Commissioners. Smith was then and is now editor of the *Wine and Spirit Gazette*. Edwin Einstein was the Republican candidate for Mayor in 1892. It was the year of the Cleveland tidal wave. Cleveland's vote in New York city was 175,267; Gilroy's, 173,510; Harrison's, 98,967, and Einstein's, 37,927.

The idea of such a story as Whitelaw Reid allowed Smith to fill up the New York *Tribune* with was apparent to all political students. But Mr. Reid called to his side his convict ally at a time when his falsehoods were calculated to do the most harm. This was on Oct. 30, four days before election, when party and factional spirit were at their highest pitch. Chairman Hackett told at the time how Smith was introduced to the Republican State managers in 1891 by Whitelaw Reid's right-hand man, John E. Milholland, and that nothing then was known of Smith's record. Smith was put in charge of the *Wine and Spirit Gazette*. Whitelaw Reid was to be the candidate for Vice-President. Shortly after the Republican defeat in 1892 the Republican State managers were informed of Smith's record, and they dropped him. Whitelaw Reid was also at the time made acquainted with Smith's record. Smith dropped out of sight until Reid brought him to the front again on Oct. 30 last and engaged him to injure Gen. Tracy, the Republican candidate for Mayor. Mr. Reid and his convict ally were working for Seth Low, who resigned from the Republican party in 1888, and never rejoined it. Mr. Reid was angry at the Republican managers of Gen. Tracy's campaign because they had refused to indorse him for John Sherman's place as Secretary of State. Mr. Reid believed that President McKinley was to retire Secretary Sherman last summer and Mr. Reid and his friends worked day and night to bring about that result. They induced Secretary Alger of the War Department to come to New York and say to the Republican State leaders:

"If the President retires Secretary Sherman will you indorse Whitelaw Reid for the place?"

"No, sir, under no circumstances could we do that," was the reply. "New York has got Porter for France, White for Germany, Roosevelt for Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and Mr. Reid has been made special Ambassador to Queen Victoria's jubilee. Besides, if Mr. Reid's name was sent to the United States Senate he would be rejected just as Murat Halstead was rejected by the Senate after President Harrison had nominated him as Minister to Germany."

Chairman Hackett's investigation of the record of Smith, Whitelaw Reid's convict ally, begins with Smith's forgery in Cook county. Smith at the time was in the employ of the Chicago *Staats Zeitung*. He went under the name of J. B. Schulenberg. On Oct. 8, 1873, State Attorney Charles H. Reed went before the Grand Jury and had Schulenberg indicted for forging the name of Henry Biroth, cashier of the *Staats Zeitung*. Schulenberg's forgery was of a check, as follows:

No. — CHICAGO, July 23, 1873.
THE NATIONAL BANK OF ILLINOIS,
160 La Salle st., Chicago.
Pay to the order of Rev. E. Guntrum, Sec'y, Fifty — 00-000 Dollars. $50.00. HENRY BIROTH, Cash.

Schulenberg pleaded guilty and on April 6, 1874, Ernest J. Magerstadt, clerk of the Superior Court of Cook county, Judge Joseph E. Gary presiding, sentenced him to imprisonment for three years in Joliet Penitentiary.

The following is the Joliet record of Whitelaw Reid's convict ally:

"Illinois State Penitentiary, Joliet, R. W. McLaughry, Warden.

"J. B. Schulenberg, No. 8,184.—Received at Illinois State Penitentiary from Cook county for forgery, April 30, 1874. Sentence three years. Age given as 33. Nativity, Germany. Occupation, physician; Height, 5 feet 10 inches. Light complexion, brown hair, slightly mixed with gray; brown eyes.

"Large, ugly scar on left side head.
"Front of head bald.
"Black nail on middle finger left hand.
"Small scar over each eye.
"Slight scar above right knee.
"Two slight scars in centre of back.
"Discharged Nov. 4, 1876.

"Known also as Dr. Paul Schoeppe. Was tried and convicted at Lancaster, Pa., for poisoning a woman. Obtained new trial and escaped on legal technicality."

Schulenberg, under the name of John P. G. Smith, turned up in the First ward of New York city, and then was employed as a clerk and bookkeeper at Gilman's Depot, Sullivan county, New York State. He went to work on his old line of forgery. The record of Whitelaw Reid's protégé at Gilman's Depot in the Court of General Sessions of New York county is as follows:

"State of New York, city and county of New York, ss:

"Alfred Gilman of Gilman's Depot, Sullivan county, State of New York, being duly sworn, deposes and says that John P. G. Smith, now present, was employed by deponent as clerk and bookkeeper in deponent's father's store at the above said place from December, 1877, to July, 1878. That the checks marked respectively 'A' and 'B' attached to the affidavit of Alfred A. Isaacs are not in his handwriting; that the name Alfred Gilman thereon is not the signature of deponent nor of any person authorized by deponent.

"ALFRED GILMAN.

"Sworn to this 22d day of May, 1880, before me, B. C. WANDELL,
"Police Justice."

"State of New York, city and county of New York, ss.:

"Alfred A. Isaacs of 309 Grand street being duly sworn, deposes and says that on or about the 5th day of July, 1879, at the city of New York, in the county of New York, John P. G. Smith, now present, obtained from Edward Ridley & Sons the sum of $100 in cash by uttering and publishing as true, with intent to cheat and defraud said Edward Ridley & Sons, the annexed check marked 'B,' purporting to be drawn by Alfred Gilman on the National Bank of Port Jervis for the payment of the sum of $100. That deponent is informed and verily believes that said check is forged and of no value. ALFRED A. ISAACS.

"Affirmed to this 22d day of May, 1880, before me, B. C. Wandell, Police Justice."

"State of New York, city and county of New York, ss.:

"Alfred A. Isaacs of 309 Grand street being duly sworn, deposes and says that on the 23d day of April, 1880, at the city of New York, in the county of New York, John P. G. Smith, now present, presented to deponent, who is the cashier of Edward Ridley & Sons, the two annexed checks marked 'A,' purporting to be drawn by Alfred Gilman on the National Bank of Port Jervis for the payment of the sum of $25 each, and received from deponent $50 cash therefor. That deponent is informed that said checks were forged, and charges said Smith with knowingly uttering the same as true, with intent to cheat and defraud said Edward Ridley & Sons. ALFRED A. ISAACS.

"Affirmed to this 22d day of May, 1880, before me, B. C. Wandell, Police Justice."

The examination of Smith before Police Justice Wandell was as follows:

Q.—What is your name? A.—John P. G. Smith.
Q.—How old are you? A.—Thirty-five years.
Q.—Where were you born? A.—In Germany.
Q.—Where do you live and how long have you resided there? A.—Port Jervis, N. Y.
Q.—What is your business or profession? A.—I decline to state it.
Q.—Give any explanation you may think proper of the circumstances appearing in the testimony against you, and state any facts which you think will tend to your exculpation. A.—I am not guilty.

Benjamin K. Phelps, then District Attorney, went before the Grand Jury and secured three indictments for forgery against Smith. He was tried before Judge Cowing. The following is the record of Whitelaw Reid's political ally in Sing Sing:

"OFFICE OF THE AGENT AND WARDEN OF SING SING PRISON,
SING SING, Nov. 24, 1897.

"I hereby certify that the records of Sing Sing State Prison show the following concerning John P. G. Smith, who served a term in said prison, viz.:

"John P. G. Smith, sentenced in the Court of General Sessions of New York county by the Hon. R. B. Cowing, Judge, on the 23d day of June, 1880. Received in said prison on the 25th day of June, 1880. Term, five years. Crime, verdict of forgery in the second degree. Served three years seven months, and was discharged by commutation the 24th day of January, 1884.

"The above John P. G. Smith refused to tell the name he went by in Europe.

"It is further said he served a term in the Joliet Penitentiary, State of Illinois.

"O. V. SAGE, Agent and Warden.

"Description of John P. G. Smith.—Received from New York June 25, 1880. Sentenced June 23, 1880, five years. Verdict, forgery in the third degree. Judge, Cowing. Born in Prussia; age, 37; occupation, lawyer; complexion, light; eyes, brown; hair, light brown and gray; bald head; stature, 5 feet 10½ inches; weight, 197 pounds. Habits, moderate, uses tobacco. Protestant. Reads and writes. Single. Resided in Port Jervis, Orange county, N. Y., when arrested. Has fair height, smooth round forehead, full over the eyes. Eyebrows not very thick; has a small scar a little above and running down into centre of right eyebrow; has small mole above left eyebrow a little inside of the centre of eyebrow. Has small scar in left crown of head, and two smaller ones (on a line with one in crown of head) lower down on back of head. Has small scar on back of neck, right side. Has large curved scar from near left crown of head, running up to centre of head and around, nearly above left temple. Has prominent bump back of each ear; small mole on right side of face and a small one also nearly opposite left corner of mouth on left side of face. Has scar on back of forefinger of left hand between second and third joints. Has fair-sized nose, round full face. Has scar from shot wound on back of left shoulder. Has two moles, one red and one brown, back of left shoulder. Has small scar on back of left arm about two inches below the shoulder. Has two small scars near centre of back and to the left of backbone, about one and one-half inches apart. Has small scar a little above knee on right leg. Has small scar on outside of left kneepan."

Smith, Whitelaw Reid's political agent, a short time before he was to be released from Sing Sing, sent the following letter to Judge Cowing:

"*Hon. Rufus B. Cowing, Justice, Court of General Sessions.*

"DEAR SIR: In May, 1880, the Grand Jury returned three indictments against me charging forgery. On one of these indictments I was tried, and upon conviction by a jury sentenced by you to a term of five years in State prison. In passing sentence upon me, you prefaced the announcing of it with the remark that the District Attorney had agreed that no prosecution should take place on the two indictments yet standing, but that the latter would be taken into consideration in determining the length of sentence, and that my punishment would be a severe one. The sentence will expire on Jan. 24, 1884. The report has lately reached me that the two indictments yet pending are used as an instrument of threats against me by my enemies, and that they are considered by the private accuser as a convenient weapon to wreak vengeance upon me. Threats have been thrown out by the private accuser and the persons representing him that on my discharge from prison I would be subjected to further trouble and expenses by reason of those indictments. My resources are entirely exhausted, and I am unable to employ counsel in New York. Under such circumstances I trust I may be pardoned if I avail myself of the provision of law which confers upon the accused the right to conduct his own defence. I beg, therefore, to present to you, with permission of the Warden of the prison, a motion to have the two indictments yet pending against me quashed. A verbal argument is, of course, prohibited by my imprisonment, but I have prepared a short brief which I beg respectfully to submit to you. Due notice has been given by use of this motion to the District Attorney, which I ask you to consider in your judicial capacity, making a kind allowance for the unfortunate situation of a prisoner who is penniless. Hoping that you will be kind enough to apprise me in due time of your decision, I beg to subscribe myself, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"JOHN P. G. SMITH.

"Sing Sing Prison, N. Y., Sept. 24, 1883."

Smith's lawyer, Arthur C. Butts of Monticello, petitioned J. J. McKeon and Peter B. Olney, District Attorneys, to quash the two remaining indictments hanging over Smith. This aroused Alfred Gilman and his lawyer, Lewis E. Carr of Port Jervis, who sent the following letters to Mr. Olney:

"PORT JERVIS, N. Y., Jan. 19, 1884.

"*Peter B. Olney, Esq.*

"DEAR SIR: I am the complainant in the two indictments now pending against John P. G. Smith, whose present term of imprisonment will expire on the 24th of this month. The offence of which he was guilty was so aggravated and involved so many forgeries that I am not willing that he should be discharged from custody on the expiration of his term of imprisonment, and I hope that he may be retained in custody and tried on another of the indictments against him. I believe him to be a bad man and if released I have no doubt he will seek to rob some one else. The ends of justice will be promoted by his further prosecution and imprisonment. In addition to the charges against him on these indictments, it is believed that he has been guilty of others more serious than them. That fact, it seems to me, should be taken into consideration in determining as to his future trial. Please advise me what your intentions are with reference to this matter. Yours, &c., ALFRED GILMAN."

"PORT JERVIS, N. Y., Jan. 19, 1884.

"*Peter B. Olney, Esq.*

"DEAR SIR: I have been requested by A. C. Butts of Monticello, N. Y., who seems to represent John P. G. Smith, at present serving his term of imprisonment for forgery, to write you and be represented by the cashier of the bank in the prosecution concerning the other indictments against him. I have said to Mr Butts that the bank has no particular interest in these matters and it will be guided by the wishes of Mr. Gilman, who was the complainant in those cases. I understand that it desires that Smith should be tried and tried on another of the indictments. I have no doubt that the ends of justice will be promoted by such a disposition of the matter. Smith is no doubt an old offender and were he released from these indictments he would, in another place, continue his old practices. I do not assume to dictate to you what your course should be, but give you my judgment as to it, leaving you to determine with all the facts before you. Yours truly,

"LEWIS E. CARR."

However, a compromise was arranged, by which Smith got out of Sing Sing and was not prosecuted on the other two indictments. He was quiescent until 1891, when Whitelaw Reid's agents foisted him upon the Republican State Committee to help boom Mr. Reid for the Vice-Presidency. As Mr. Hackett said in an authoritative statement in THE SUN on Nov. 2 last:

"When Mr. Smith was introduced to the committee his record was not known, and he was vouched for by reputable men, one of whom was John E. Milholland. When Mr. Smith's character, as shown by his record, became known to the Republican State Committee, the committee had no further dealings with him."

Whitelaw Reid, editor of the New York *Tribune*, and his right-hand man, John E. Milholland, were fully aware of the reasons for dropping Smith from the employ of the Republican State Committee, and in view of this fact, Chairman Hackett desires all Republicans from Fanueil Hall to Golden Gate to remember that Whitelaw Reid, editor of the New York *Tribune*, called to his side in the closing and momentous hours of the Tracy campaign this convicted forger (whom he knew to be a convicted forger), and made him his chief ally to attack Gen. Tracy and the Republican party in Greater New York.

ANOTHER ITALIAN MYSTERY.

Delnicco Was Stabbed and He Is Dead, but the Cause of the Fight Is a Secret.

Angelo Delnicco died in the Brooklyn Hospital early yesterday morning of stab wounds in the throat and neck received in a fight in President street on Christmas night. He refused to give the police any information regarding the cause of the fight or the name of the person who had inflicted the injuries, but from information received Capt. Campbell has arrested Tony Deayous, 35 years old, of 494 President street, on a charge of committing the murder, and Joseph Maria, 35 years old, of 502 President street; Mariano Gosh, 28 years old, of 502 President street, and Gustav Parian of 501 President street as witnesses. The fight took place in front of Delnicco's home and the stabbing was done with a stiletto. The prisoners were arraigned before Justice Bristow in the Butler Street Police Court yesterday and were held for examination to-day. The cause of the fight is still a mystery.

Troy Overrun with Tramps and Beggars.

TROY, Dec. 26.—This city is overrun with tramps and beggars. They hang in groups around almost every street corner in the centre of the city, and circulate freely in the remote streets. Scores of them yesterday boldly stopped pedestrians and threateningly demanded money. Last night three tramps went into Alderman Brenner's place on River street and demanded Christmas drinks free of charge. One of the men flourished a razor and threatened to carve Mr. Brenner into mincemeat. Mr. Brenner seized an old sword and chased the men out into the street. Later he went to the Second Precinct station house, where he found the tramps fast asleep in the lodgers' room. He made a charge against them, and to-morrow the men will probably be sent to the penitentiary.

THE CANAL IMPROVEMENTS

WHY $7,000,000 MORE WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THEM.

State Engineer Adams's Report to the Canal Committee—The Increased Cost Due to the Fact That as the Work Progressed the Canal Wall Toppled Over Into the Canal.

ALBANY, Dec. 26.—As stated in THE SUN last week an additional $7,000,000 will be needed to complete the general improvements to the Erie, Oswego, and Champlain canals, which were commenced over two years ago. This is shown conclusively in a report made by State Engineer Campbell W. Adams and State Superintendent of Public Works George W. Aldridge to the Executive Canal Committee. This committee had much to do with the inauguration and prosecution of these canal improvements and represents in its membership the canal and commercial interests of the State. R. R. Hefford of Buffalo is the Chairman of the committee, and the report just made to him details the work already finished and that which remains to be completed. In this improvement is involved 454 miles of canal, the Erie and Oswego being deepened from seven to nine feet and the locks lengthened to double boat length, while the Champlain Canal is to be deepened from six to seven feet.

At the commencement of the work State Engineer Adams estimated its cost at $11,573,000, or $2,573,000 more than was appropriated for the work. In this estimate he figured that the materials excavated from the canal bottom could be used in raising the embankments. It has been found that the excavated material is unfit for use except to strengthen embankments, and that new material must be used in raising the embankments. This entails a double quantity of excavation, and if this feature could have been foreseen and the cost thereof added to the State Engineer's estimates, it would alone have covered all other discrepancies and brought the total appropriations needed to complete the work up to $16,000,000, the amount which it is now known will be required. As the work has progressed many unforeseen difficulties have arisen, precluding the carrying out of the improvements within the estimates. As the excavation of the canal bottom proceeded the canal wall, already dilapidated and weak, toppled over in hundreds of places, and in other instances the foundations of bridge abutments were weakened by the excavations and fell in. New canal walls and bridges have had to be constructed at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars, which expenditures had not been anticipated. The original estimates were prepared in almost total ignorance of the physical condition of the structures and walls along the canal and of the character of the materials to be excavated. Between Buffalo and Tonawanda an extra $150,000 had to be spent in protecting the canal bank, for as the excavation proceeded the old slopes began to slide into the canal, which developed a crack in the towpath a mile and a quarter long.

Another section of the work that has been prolific of increased cost over the estimates and of difficulties to be encountered is the "Jordan level," on the middle division, extending between locks 50 and 51. Bridge abutments along this section slid into the canal, simply from being relieved of the counterbalancing weight of the superstructure while attempting to raise the latter to the new required height. These have had to be rebuilt at considerable cost.

Since the water has been withdrawn from the Champlain Canal a piece of the towpath about 1,000 feet in length, but near which no work has yet been done, has broken away of its own weight, and about half the towing path and the walls for the distance stated have slipped into the canal. The present condition of affairs is simply due to the old age and forces beyond the control of any one. The features of the work involving additional quantities or extra items prevail to a greater or less degree throughout the length of the canals.

The major portion of the cost of the improvement work is not involved in the necessary excavations, but in the repairing and rebuilding of walls and structures in order to make them conform to the new conditions. For instance, if the additional depth be attained by lowering the canal bottom two feet, it then becomes necessary to extend the walls to the same depth and prepare a new foundation therefor. Otherwise they will surely topple over into the canal.

A fair idea of the great cost of the vertical walls can be obtained when it is known that twenty miles, one side only, will consume a million dollars, and that the whole work involved is 454 miles long. The old slope walls constitute another of the important features involving additional cost, as these walls must be rebuilt in many places. New culverts have had to be constructed, and the old aqueducts were found to be in a condition physically. The Crane Brook aqueduct on the middle division will have to be rebuilt before the opening of navigation next spring. There will be quite a number of places where there will be but eight feet of water after the improvements are completed. These are not the aqueducts, where it is not absolutely necessary to do any work to obtain eight feet of water, and they are therefore planned to be left in their present shape for a few years more, until the necessity for rebuilding them will offer the opportunity of making them conform to the nine-foot standard.

On the Erie twenty-eight locks remain to be lengthened. Of these, sixteen are at Cohoes, close together, and five at Lockport. Each of these two sets of locks is to be replaced with a single steel lifting lock. The locks at Cohoes are scattered along a distance of over three miles and follow a tortuous, dangerous side-hill route. To lengthen these locks and improve the levels between them will cost $1,800,000. An exceptionally advantageous alternative route is offered at this point, which, if adopted, would effect a saving in construction of $600,000, and an annual saving in operation of $40,000. In closing, the report says:

"It has been sorely disappointing to those charged with the conduct of this great work that it has been found impossible to confine its cost to the limits of the first appropriation. The fact that only those few contractors who were equipped with the best plant and organization have been able to glean any profit from their work and that most of the others are poorer when their contracts are finished than when they were begun should be sufficient evidence that the State is not being robbed.

"Of the 454 miles of work involved, 307 are now under contract. Of this amount 259 miles is on the Erie, 22 miles on the Oswego and 26 miles on the Champlain Canal. The whole work has been divided into 125 contracts, for which the engineer's estimates call for $14,448,402, which is divided between the three canals as follows: Erie Canal, $11,631,125; Champlain Canal, $1,999,074; Oswego Canal, $1,458,203. Seventy-three of these contracts have been awarded for $7,127,812. Eleven of these contracts are completed and have cost $701,094, which is $90,481 in excess of the engineer's estimates.

"The contracts already let cover what are believed to be the most difficult portions of the proposed improvement, which will require $7,000,000 to complete. With that sum available we believe the entire improvement can probably be completed at the opening of navigation in 1899. What steps shall be taken to complete the work must, of course, be determined by the Legislature, but that its prompt completion on the lines on which it has been begun is a necessary, wise, and expedient undertaking cannot be gainsaid."

HUNGER AMID PLENTY.

A Man Found Dying in Troy of Starvation and Consumption on Christmas Day.

TROY, Dec. 26.—A woman rushed excitedly into the jail last evening and told Jailer Loomis that a man was dying in Read's alley. Loomis ran around into the alley and found lying on a squalid bed a man apparently in the agony of death. There was neither light nor fire in the bare room. As soon as light and fire had been obtained City Physician Dickson was summoned.

"I don't think there's any hope for him, Loomis," said Dr. Dickson, as he bent over the unfortunate man and administered a strong stimulant.

Presently the action of the stimulant was felt, and the man was able to talk. He said that his name was John Waldron, and that he was 50 years old.

"I have been in this room for two weeks," he said with much effort, "and during that time I have had but little or no attention from any one. I am dying of hunger and consumption. Two weeks ago I became too ill to go about, and I laid down on this bed. I have been here ever since. Some of the neighbors, and God knows they are as poor as I am, have come in here now and then with a crust or two of bread. I have not had any doctor, and I'm dying."

When the ambulance arrived to take Waldron to the hospital it was apparent that death would soon release him from his woes. Waldron is a German, who has always been highly thought of by those who knew him. He was a man of superior education and much refinement. His pride kept him from making known his condition and appealing to the authorities for aid.

CHURCH 100 YEARS OLD.

The First Reformed Presbyterian Church Celebrates Its Centennial.

The First Reformed Presbyterian Church was 100 years old yesterday, a venerable age in this country, and consequently there was an elaborate celebration of the event. The interior of the edifice, on Twelfth street, near Sixth avenue, was decorated with flags, palms, and potted plants. Prof. David Steele, D. D., of Philadelphia, father of the pastor, preached the morning sermon. In the evening the Rev. James Dallas Steele, Ph. D., who has been pastor of the church since 1891, made an interesting address.

In 1789 the Rev. James Reid, Commissioner from the Reformed Presbytery of Scotland, came to this country and preached in the house of John Agnew at 9 Peck slip. There Mr. Agnew's two children, William and Mary Ann (afterward the wife of the Rev. Alexander McLeod, the first pastor of the church), were baptized. Agnew was an Irish covenanter, who had been driven from his home in Belfast because of his sympathy with the struggling colonies in America. He was a moving spirit in the society which was formed at his house in 1790. Other recruits from Ireland and Scotland arrived, and on Dec. 26, 1797, the First Reformed Presbyterian Church was organized with fifteen members. The first communion was celebrated in August, 1798, in a schoolroom on Cedar street. The Rev. Alexander McLeod, D. D., was installed as the first pastor on July 6, 1801. He hesitated about accepting the call of the church because there were slaveholders among the members. The church considered the matter and decided to purge the rolls of those slaveholders already admitted to membership, and forever after to exclude others from the congregation. This was a radical movement at such an early period of the anti-slavery movement.

The meetings of the new church were first held in Cedar street, but later a frame building was erected on Chambers street on the site now occupied by the American News Company's building. In 1818 a larger and more commodious brick structure was built on the same site. During the war of 1812 Pastor McLeod, who was a true patriot and an eloquent preacher, addressed large audiences on the necessity of maintaining the independence and dignity of the Union. In June, 1830, a second congregation for uptown members was established, but there came a division in the church in 1833 over the civil government of the organization. There was considerable litigation as to the ownership of the Chambers street edifice. During this trouble the Union Presbyterian Church building, at Prince and Marion streets, was purchased and used by the members of the original congregation.

On Jan. 14, 1833, the Rev. John Neil McLeod was called to the pastorate after the death of his father. He continued in this relation until 1874. Since then the church has had two pastors, the Rev. William Wylie, 1874-1885, and the Rev. John M. Stephens, 1887-1889, besides the Rev. Mr. Steele, the present incumbent. The removal to the Twelfth street building took place in 1849 to meet the demands of the uptown members, and the church is contemplating another move still further north. The largest membership has been between four and five hundred.

The centennial celebration will be continued on each evening this week until Thursday, and will include a "guests' night," a missionary meeting, and an entertainment by the young people of the society.

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH.

The Rev. Mr. Wick Gives His Idea of It and Introduces a Poem.

The Rev. Robert K. Wick, pastor of the Wayne Street Reformed Church, in Jersey City, preached last night the fifth of his series of sermons on "What People Think." Some weeks ago Mr. Wick sent out six questions to 200 men, and he is taking the answers as the text for his sermons. The sermon last night was based on the answers to the question, "What can the churches do to lessen the amount of vice and crime?" In the course of his sermon Mr. Wick said:

"It is the Christian's duty to insure the election of good men as lawmakers and executive officers. This can only be done by his being loyal to Christ and conscience at the primary and the ballot box. Principle must always come before party. It is to be feared that such is not always the case. One of my advisers evidently thought so, as he sent me a little ditty, which runs in this way:

Along in November, when chill was the weather,
Two ballots were cast in a box together.
They nestled up close, like brother to brother,
We couldn't tell one from the other.

"The poet then declares that they were both rum votes, and that they 'sanctioned the license plan.' He continues:

The one was cast by a jolly old brewer,
And one by a Sunday school man.

The Sunday school man, no man could be truer,
Kept busy all summer denouncing the brewer,
But his fervor cooled off with the change of the weather,
And late in the autumn they voted together.

The Sunday school man had always been noted
For fighting the saloon except when he voted.
He piled up his prayers with a holy perfection,
But knocked them all down on the day of election.

The foxy old brewer was cheerful and mellow;
Said he, "I admire that Sunday school fellow.
He's true to his Church, to his party he's truer;
He talks for the Lord but he votes for the brewer."

"Inconsistency like this will never bring the new Jerusalem down out of heaven and establish it on the earth.

"A banker advises, 'Keep the churches open seven days in the week and offer counter attractions to the saloon,' and an unknown friend counsels the establishment of an institution similar to the People's Palace connected with the Jersey City Tabernacle. A minister says, 'Expel the evil by overflowing in the good.'

"This is all very well as far as it goes. Every church should have a roof garden, a gymnasium, an assembly hall, and all the other features of an institutional church if possible, but it isn't enough to be even the best-equipped institutional church only. Its ministers must be so imbued with the spirit of God that they will be aggressive enough to carry Christianity and its healing and life-giving influences out into society and even into the lowest haunts of sin."

CONVERTS TO CATHOLICISM.

Names from the List for 1897 Compiled by the Paulist Fathers.

Among the recent converts to the Roman Catholic Church, according to the record of such conversions compiled by the Paulist Fathers, are the following:

In England, the Hon. Albert E. Bingham, a son of the Earl of Lucan, and Mrs. Albert Bingham; Mrs. Herbert Rowbotham, wife of Herbert Rowbotham of the British South African Company; Robert E. Dell, an Oxford graduate and editor of the *Surrey Mirror*; the Hon. Mrs. Moore Smith and the Viscountess Canterbury, sisters of the Earl of Oxford; in France, Mrs. Terry, formerly Miss Sibyl Sanderson, the American opera singer.

The recent converts here include Dr. Grewer, wife and seven children, Scranton, Pa.; Miss Marion Gurney, a graduate from Wellesley College; Dr. Luke Robinson, San Francisco; C. E. Allen and Frederick Long of Cleveland; Dr. Richard Ralls, San Francisco; Miss Bessie Livingston Webb, matron of the Meriden Hospital, Meriden, Conn.; Clarence Whitaker, Colorado; Henry Augustine H. Hoyer, formerly a Presbyterian minister in Chicago, now a student at St. Joseph's Seminary, Yonkers; the Rev. E. L. Buckley, former rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, Newport, R. I., at present engaged in study in Europe for the Roman Catholic priesthood.

The Weather.

The bright skies of Christmas were obscured early yesterday morning. There was a storm just off the coast of the Carolinas, moving northeastward, causing rain as far north as southern New Jersey and snow above that latitude. A second storm was central over Lake Huron, moving northeast into Canada. This depression was causing some snow in the lake regions. West of the Mississippi the weather was generally fair and colder. It was warmer in the extreme northwest and in all the Atlantic states.

There is no very cold weather in sight. The winds were increasing in force on the coast, with considerable fog. Danger signals for high northeast winds were displayed from Delaware to Massachusetts.

In this city there was the heaviest snow so far this season, with light fog over the rivers and bay; average humidity 90 per cent.; wind shifted from southwest to northerly, average velocity 12 miles an hour; highest official temperature 33°, lowest 26°; barometer, corrected to read to sea level, at 8 A. M. 30.00, 3 P. M. 29.80.

The thermometer at the United States Weather Bureau registered the temperature yesterday as follows:

	1897.	1896.		1897.	1896.
9 A. M.	28°	21°	6 P. M.	32°	30°
12 M.	26°	29°	9 P. M.	31°	31°
3 P. M.	31°	26°	12 Mid.	30°	29°

WASHINGTON FORECAST FOR MONDAY.

For New England, generally fair, preceded by light snow in northern portion; colder, northwesterly winds.

For eastern New York, eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, and North Carolina, fair and colder; northwesterly winds.

For western Pennsylvania, western New York, and Ohio, fresh westerly to northwesterly winds.

SNOW IN SANTA'S WAKE.

FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS SEASON WINTER'S SEAL IS ON US.

A Three-Inch Fall Furnishes Fairly Good Sleighing and Makes Walking Difficult and Unpleasant—A Holiday Scene on the Avenues Most Frequented by Horsemen.

For the first time this season Winter set the seal of his royal presence on this city yesterday. There has been snow earlier in the season, but it was of an evanescent sort, and melted as soon as it reached the earth. This snow was the real thing, however, the kind you can make snowballs of or coast on with a sled if you are young enough; the kind that you pay to have shovelled off the sidewalk if you are older and have responsibilities. It was even thick enough for sleighing, and the jingle of bells was heard on other turnouts than those of the few erring horsemen who scrape their sleighs over miles of all but bare cobblestones from a misbegotten ambition to be "the first cutter on the road" each year.

Sunday morning slumbering New York had not waked up when the snow began to fall at half past 7 o'clock. In great, soft, wet flakes it came, not perpendicularly, but taking slanting lines under the impulsion of a moderate breeze, and the whole prospect was a whirling dazzle of white. Where it fell it lay, not melting, but forming a basic layer for the many other layers of flakes to come. By church time it was still coming thick and fast, and umbrellas were the order of the day for churchgoers, but before noon there was a considerable let-up, and when it stopped, dying away in a final flurry at half past 1, there was a three-inch thickness on the ground to show for the six hours' downfall.

Now, on any other day but Sunday that much snow would have been a serious inconvenience to business and traffic, and the Street Cleaning Department would have ordered out its snow contractors with all their men and wagons to clear off the more important thoroughfares as soon as possible. As it was, nobody seemed to care. The American Transfer Company, which has the contract for removing snow, had its men in readiness at 1 o'clock, waiting for orders from the Street Cleaning Department. Only the street car lines suffered from the snow. So heavy and sticky was the snow that it banked up solidly when pressed by a plough, forming eventually an awkward barrier. One Third avenue cable car was derailed and so battered that it was removed from the track. Then the company sent out one of its big rotating sweepers. All the lines where car horses are used were behind their schedules, and there was more or less trouble on every line.

On the Brooklyn side street walking was by no means an unalloyed joy. Trampled by many feet, the snow soon degenerated into slush and water. Turned-up trousers were much in vogue for the male populace, and in feminine attire skirts were worn high and cautiously. To the small boy the snow was a boon direct from Santa Claus, a bonus of post-Christmas extra, thrown in quite unexpectedly, and the youngster who had got a sled in his stocking exulted loudly over him whose mainstay was a drum. Brand-new sleds of various design and make were to be found everywhere where there was the slightest suggestion of a hill. That other sport of urchindom, snowballing, was also much in evidence, wherefore it behooved the man with a silk hat to keep an eye out when approaching a corner and hold himself in readiness to dodge. On the whole, there is nothing else quite so satisfactory to throw snowballs at as a silk hat, because even if the hat is missed, it is likely to fall off when the man dodges. There was a royal snow fight in City Hall place, the Park street gang versus the Five Pointers, which was finally terminated by the police after several of the combatants had been so rude as to inclose stones in their snowballs.

In Central Park the light sleighs were out as early as 9 o'clock, but they found it pretty poor going, and what satisfaction they got was derived less from the sleighing itself than from the philanthropic consideration that they were making the roads better for those who should come after. By the middle of the afternoon many of the roadways were in pretty good condition, and as the New Yorker who owns a turn-out on runners has too few opportunities for displaying it to let any go by unused, there was quite a gathering of the sleighing clans on upper Seventh avenue, where the Harlem horsemen turn out. For the livery stable keepers the snow meant good business, as there was a demand for cutters. It was a sad blow to Corydon to have Phyllis take a notion to go sleigh riding yesterday, for it meant the utter ruin of a $10 bill, and the Corydon who has both a Phyllis and a $10 bill to spare the day after Christmas is considerable of a rarity in this locality. Still, the liverymen must live, and they will explain to you in extenuation of the prices they ask that all the sleighing time in the season hardly pays for the storage room required for a cutter during the rest of the year.

The gentleman with the hoarse voice and the iron shovel who desires nothing in the world so much as to clean off your walk for a quarter, unless it is to do the same job for 50 cents, was very much in evidence as soon as the snow fell stopped. The music of his shovel as its iron edge shrieked horribly against the pavement was heard in every street. The Bowery lodging houses were full last night of those one-day laborers, who slept with bunches of quarters clasped in their blistered hands less peacefully than had they not been oppressed with that fear of robbery which is one of the drawbacks of wealth. What with a free dinner on the day before and remunerative jobs yesterday, the prospect was of intermittent toilers was playing in distinguished luck.

While they slept, another gang of laborers worked all night. These were the snow removal men who went to work 1,200 strong about 6 o'clock yesterday evening. Mr. Hess, who is in charge of the snow contracts, had all his lieutenants in readiness early in the afternoon, and when at half past 6 the first orders came from Col. Waring the work of getting the men was at once commenced.

"To-night we shall work in the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth districts," said Mr. Hess. "That is, generally speaking, we shall clean the principal streets between the Battery and Fifty-ninth street on both sides of the town. By to-morrow morning I think we can have those districts pretty well done, though we may have some difficulty in getting carts, owing to its being Sunday. As soon as this part of the city is done we shall move further uptown."

HENRY GEORGE MEMORIAL.

Contributions of $18,000 Acknowledged and More Subscriptions Called For.

William L. Strong, Chairman, and George Foster Peabody, Secretary and Treasurer of the committee having charge of the Henry George memorial fund, make this report:

"That more than $13,000 has already been subscribed, but this sum ought to be largely and promptly increased. The recognition of the genius, public spirit, and self-sacrifice of Henry George has been universal and most gratifying, but we would again remind the public that the sacrifice made by Henry George was a real one. It involved his renunciation of wealth and prosperity; and the general appreciation of this fact ought to be evidenced by widespread contributions to the fund in honor of his memory and for the benefit of his widow from all classes and conditions of men. Sub