HILL TALKS TO LABOR MEN.

HE VIGOROUSLY DENOUNCES BOSSISM IN POLITICS.

Says There Is No Excuse for the Toleration by Any Party of a Boss, Usually Ignorant, Corrupt or Arrogant—What Is Meant by the Expression, "The Dignity of Labor."

TROY, Sept. 3.—Former Senator David B. Hill addressed several thousand people at a big labor demonstration here to-day. His appearance on the platform was received with manifest approbation, showing that he had a number of friends in former Senator Murphy's own bailiwick. He was a guest of Mayor Daniel E. Conway, an anti-Murphy Democrat, during the day, and also attended a dinner party at the Troy Club given by former Judge L. E. Griffith. Mr. Hill's speech was punctuated freely by applause. He began by referring to his official connection with the establishment of Labor Day as a legal holiday in this State, and in the course of his address he spoke as follows:

"That labor is honorable goes without saying. When we work, whether with our hands or brain, we are but fulfilling the scriptural injunction to earn our bread by the sweat of our brows. It is the natural lot of man to work, and it is well that it is so. There can be nothing more worthless in a community than an idle man. Idle men are, usually, the drones of society, the do-nothings who invent nothing, accomplish nothing, live for nothing. Every honest occupation may well be regarded as a post of dignity. Much has been said and written concerning the dignity of labor, and it is desirable to understand exactly what is meant by the expression. Dignity does not exclusively mean elevated rank nor high office, nor mere exaltation, nor grandeur, but in its better sense and more acceptable and broader adaptation means the state of being worthy or honorable, and includes true worth, excellence and high character. In the latter sense every honest, intelligent and worthy workingman may always stand upon his own dignity and 'crook the pregnant hinges of the knee' to no one. In this country ours, where all people stand upon an equality before the law and at the ballot box, it is high character which constitutes true dignity and establishes one's proper rank in the world. I am reminded of the fact that one of the great political parties of the country in its recent national platform has adopted a plank which cannot fail to meet your approbation, and which, if also approved by the electors and Congress, would aid materially in advancing the cause of labor and adding to its importance and dignity. It is as follows:

"'In the interest of American labor and the upbuilding of the workingmen as the cornerstone of the prosperity of our country we recommend that Congress create a department of labor, in charge of a Secretary with a seat in the Cabinet, believing that the elevation of the American laborer will bring with it increased production and increased prosperity to our country at home and to our commerce abroad.

"A Secretary of labor affairs in the Cabinet of an American President would indeed be an innovation. I believe there is no precedent for the creation of such a department in any Government in Europe, but the United States can well afford to establish its own precedent. Under no other Government is labor so free, so important, so worthy of official recognition. The proposed experiment is worth trying; it may be productive of much good.

"The desire of men to be rich is natural and commendable, and there is no objection to riches when they are fairly and honorably obtained. I respect the self-made man who has honestly acquired his millions in the business activities of life where equal facilities have been afforded to all. He is entitled to enjoy his wealth according to his own tastes and in his own way, doing no injury to others, and there is no occasion for jealousies of his good fortune nor any propriety in opposition or criticism. Every man with right impulses wants to better his condition in life, wants to accumulate something of this world's goods, wants to own his own home and wants the respect and confidence of his neighbors. If this constitutes ambition, then every man is naturally ambitious. But while all this is true, it is equally true that wealth acquired by questionable means, by suppressing competition, by legislative favors, by extortion, corruption, oppression or politics, is neither entitled to our respect nor to legal protection. The intermixture of business with politics, whereby political influence is sold for money and official actions are controlled by business considerations, constitutes one of the growing evils of the times, demanding for its condemnation and suppression the vigorous action and united efforts of the honest citizens of all parties.

"It is suggested in this connection that no class of citizens are more vitally interested in good government than workingmen, and for the promotion of that object they should associate themselves with some of the political parties of the country. In the absence of kings or queens to rule over us, the people in this country, under our free institutions, rule themselves by and through political organizations. Political parties cannot well be based upon a single idea, nor should they be composed exclusively of one class of people, or one nationality, or one color, or one religion, or one occupation, but they should be founded upon broad and liberal lines and include all classes and conditions of people, and their divisions should be upon great questions of public policy and not upon minor things. Our best citizens should take an active part in political primaries, and not leave the direction or control of party affairs in the hands of toughs and mercenaries, which is too often the case in large municipalities.

"Political leadership there must always be, but it is essential that it should be clean, unselfish, incorruptible and fearless. It should be intelligent enough to formulate policies and to discover, appreciate and follow an enlightened public sentiment. There is no excuse, however, for the toleration anywhere and in whatsoever party it may be found of what is known as political bossism, usually ignorant, corrupt and arrogant, which tolerates no criticism, knows no prudence, and accepts no suggestions, which first dominates wards, then cities, and afterward reaches out for the control of States, and governs its cringing sycophants through patronage and the cohesive power of public plunder; and they, in turn acting under the rule of 'addition, division and silence,' blindly follow whatever they are ordered to do without the exercise of any reason, judgment or discretion. Political parties are a necessity in this country, but offensive and corrupt bossism in party affairs is an excrescence on the body politic, and sooner or later it must be shaken off or the party which tolerates it will be destroyed. Opposition to bossism and commercialism in politics may soon become the 'paramount' issue before the people.

"The needs of the hour are honest partisanship, and political organizations based upon principles and not spoils, organizations devoted to the public service and not to private emolument. Workingmen should beware of those political trusts which seek to monopolize and control their independence and their manhood. We need public officials who own themselves, whether in high or low station, whether in States, municipalities, Legislatures or common councils, who will vote for what they believe to be right and not merely as they are told. It is a painful truth that the representatives in our Legislatures who dare promise their votes for a measure, even non-political in its character, because it is right, or against it because it is wrong, without approval of the so-called 'organization' of their party, are comparatively so few that they can almost be counted on the fingers of your hands. This is a situation or abuse which has grown up within very recent years, and cannot long be continued with safety to the State."

In closing, Senator Hill took up the topic of "Government by injunction," and referred to his efforts while in the United States Senate to pass a measure amending to provide "A remedy for the evils and opportunities for injustice afforded under the existing practice in contempt cases." He declared that it was difficult to discover why these just and humane provisions, applicable to all crimes like larceny, which are substantially the same in all the States, should not be extended and applied to all proceedings for direct contempts in State and Federal courts; and why a workingman proceeded against in civil cases for contempt of court on the charge that he has said or done something in violation of an injunction of the court preventing interference with the property or privileges of a railroad corporation should not be entitled to the same protection to his legal rights as the man who is charged with stealing a few paltry dollars. He further said that an intelligent and aroused public sentiment will sooner or later correct the evils complained of.

Mr. Finehout's Candidacy Handicapped.

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., Sept. 3.—The announcement made by Elmer J. Finehout of Canajoharie that he is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for State Treasurer is not favorably received by the Democrats of Fulton and Hamilton counties, who say that John Judson of Gloversville is a candidate for State Comptroller and that it is nonsense to suppose that two State nominees would be selected from this locality. Mr. Judson's friends say that inasmuch as their leader is a follower of Croker and Croker delegates were sent to the State convention under the leadership of Judson, Mr. Judson stands a pretty good show of being nominated for Comptroller, providing Mr. Croker dictates matters at the State convention, which is quite probable.

PROSPERITY IN FULL FLOOD.

Farm Mortgages Paid Off and Banks Full of Deposits.

The Republican National Committee, in order to secure some up-to-date facts of interest relative to financial conditions in the great agricultural sections of the United States west of the Alleghany Mountains, sent out letters to several hundred business men in the large cities and in country towns of these sections.

They were asked how the bank deposits of their communities compared with four years ago; to what extent there had been improvement in the credits of their municipalities or townships; and what betterment, if any, was noticeable in the condition of the borrowing classes. Of the returns the committee says:

"The business men to whom letters were sent were selected without any reference to and without knowledge of their political affiliations. In several instances extremely interesting replies came from bankers having a national reputation in Democratic party circles, such as John R. Walsh, President of the Chicago National Bank, who says that he never knew a time when commercial paper was paid more promptly than to-day.

"The general substance of the replies shows that savings and commercial deposits have increased from 50 to 100 per cent. since 1896; that municipalities are able to borrow money at a rate averaging more than one-half of one per cent. less than in 1896; that farm values in most sections have almost doubled; that about 50 per cent. of farm mortgages have been paid up and the remainder renewed only with 'prepayment' privileges and at lower interest rates; and that from 20 to 25 per cent. of the debtor classes, to whom Bryan four years ago vainly appealed with his dishonest propositions for cutting in two the value of money legal tender in payment for debts, are now actually lending money in competition with the business men writing these letters.

"Out of all the answers thus far received the only note discordant with a story of remarkable prosperity among all interests and in every community has come from a banker in Deadwood, S. D. The principal business there is gold mining, and the complaint is that gold is worth no more than it was four years ago, while coal, coke, iron and copper have doubled in value. Of course, this interesting instance only goes the more to prove the utter absurdity of Bryan's talk of four years ago to the effect that the gold standard was making 'gold go up' and 'man,' incidentally with commodities and wages, 'go down.'

"Some of the strongest replies have come right from Bryan's own State of Nebraska. The prosperity there has been so wonderful that Bryan can have had no excuse for being unobservant of it. The town of Lincoln, in which Bryan is a taxpayer, now has 4 per cent. bonds selling at a premium, whereas four years ago it experienced difficulty in floating loans at 6 per cent. Adlai E. Stevenson as a taxpayer has also had a chance to see evidences of prosperity right in his own town, for the city of Bloomington, Ill., has recently sold its bonds on a basis of 3.40 per cent., which is lower than any municipality in the United States could get in 1896."

The letters will be published as a campaign document.

STONE'S COMIC COLONIZERS.

Imported Into West Virginia by the Democratic Candidate for Elkins's Seat.

Senator Scott of West Virginia said yesterday that the story told by ex-Gov. Stone of Missouri of a colonizing scheme the wicked Republicans were going to work in West Virginia, was a very humorous story.

"The former Governor of Missouri is a little bit late in hearing of this colonizing," said Senator Scott. "Now, the facts are, as everybody in the State of West Virginia knows, that ex-United States Senator Henry G. Davis, who is a Democrat and a candidate for election to the Senate against his son-in-law, Senator Elkins, is building a railroad to connect the Central Railroad of West Virginia's terminus at Elkins, with the Chesapeake and Ohio. He has been at work on it for a long time, and is employing a large number of men. He has not been able to get as many laborers as he wants in West Virginia, so he sent to an employment agency somewhere to get them for him. These are the negroes who were seen on the train, I suppose, by Gov. Stone's distinguished friend in the United States Senate. Now, it may be that ex-Senator Davis is importing Republican negroes into the State of West Virginia in order to defeat himself for the United States Senate, but nobody down there has suggested that he was likely to do such a thing. Of course, you can't tell what will happen in politics, and Gov. Stone may know."

At the Republican National Headquarters it was recalled that some years ago ex-Gov. Stone was a passenger on a railway train which was held up by robbers between St. Louis and Jefferson City. After the holdup the ex-Governor said that he had carefully counted the robbers and that there were seven of them. The law-abiding citizens of the communities near which the hold-up occurred sent out posses after the robbers and finally succeeded in rounding up the band, which consisted of one lone robber. Gov. Stone's friends have always contended that this robber was so active and moved around so fast that the Governor was justified in believing that he was seven.

Senator Elkins came to town yesterday and had a long talk with Senator Scott. Senator Elkins said that the Republicans in West Virginia were hard at work for the ticket and that the campaign was progressing very favorably.

BRITISH ARE FOR BRYAN.

President King of the Merchants' Association Talks Politics.

President William F. King of the Merchants' Association of New York, who has just returned from a visit to the British Isles said yesterday when asked for his views of the political situation in this country:

"I have just returned from a short visit in the British Isles. I found there a great deal of discontent and dissatisfaction caused by the Boer war, and if it were not for the present Chinese agitation this feeling would become more extreme. British manufacturers are seeking to develop their own markets more than ever before. Realizing as they do that a country's prosperity depends largely upon the number and extent of its foreign outlets for manufactured goods, they are at loss to understand the anti-expansion feeling, and they are watching the result of the coming election in this country with much interest. That 'trade follows the flag' no one knows better than the English. They believe that wherever floats the American flag there will follow American ships and American products. Therefore, from their selfish standpoint, the election of Mr. Bryan would be regarded with satisfaction in England.

"The present Administration should be continued in power four years more so that it can complete the work begun, and so that the wheels of commerce shall not be held back by a want of confidence. It is my firm belief that any change in the Administration at this time would set back the American people not less than ten years. I believe that the sound common sense of the American workmen, especially those of the great Middle West and South, where development is most pronounced, will protest most emphatically, irrespective of party, against any overthrow of the maintenance of the present prosperous conditions."

GEN. WHEELER'S ATTITUDE.

He Denies a Report That He Will Take the Stump for McKinley.

CHICAGO, Sept. 3.—Gen. Joseph Wheeler will take the stump for McKinley at Carbondale, Ill., on Sept. 13, the day after he retires from the regular army, according to an official announcement to-day from the Republican State headquarters. According to Gen. Wheeler himself, he will not do so. In answer to a question he said positively this afternoon that he will be hundreds of miles from Carbondale on Sept. 13 and that the story that he will take the stump for McKinley is absolutely without foundation.

"The date announced for Senator Cullom at Carbondale, Sept. 12, has been changed to Sept. 13, at which time Gen. Joseph Wheeler will speak with Senator Cullom at that place," is the wording of the announcement from Republican headquarters. Inasmuch as a rumor that Gen. Wheeler would come out for McKinley upon his retirement was circulated about six weeks and was denied by the ex-Congressman, inquiry was made to learn on what authority the bulletin was written. No one at the State headquarters would reveal the authority, although it was said to come from the National Committee.

Orators Report Maine All Right.

A number of the campaign orators who have been stumping the State of Maine came to town yesterday. Among them were E. P. Brown, Oscar F. Williams, ex-Consul-General to Manila, who went last night to West Virginia, and Charles L. Jewell, who is on his way to his home in Indiana. All of them reported that Maine was all right. They said that great enthusiasm was displayed for the Republican ticket and that they expected to see a big vote polled there at the State elections on Sept. 10.

THE REAL ESTATE BOARD OF BROKERS are using THE SUN as an official authority on all matters appertaining to Real Estate. A more comprehensive and detailed form of general news information is not to be found in any other publication.—*Adv.*

A SONG FOR THE TWENTY-SEVEN.

Number Thirteen Lisps in Numbers and in a Rich Soprano.

At the meeting of the Plaza Twenty-seven held yesterday for the purpose of arranging the details of the convention which will be held to-morrow in Carnegie Hall to nominate candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, Number Thirteen delivered an address on the necessity of a campaign song.

"It has been borne in upon me of late," said Thirteen, "that we cannot expect to arouse a deep popular feeling unless we appeal, in some degree, to the love of music which is inborn in all creatures. Our appeals to the intellect of the masses, I regret to observe, are oft times ineffectual, for the reason that there are but few of the voting population whose minds are sufficiently cultivated to comprehend our arguments. To this, I attribute a large part of our non-success in getting our names in the papers. It has occurred to me that we might arouse the interest of the lower classes if we had a song distinctively our own, of chaste, but not too classical, composition. This thought induced me to compose a few verses. I have submitted them to Two and Eight, who have been kind enough to say that they have some merit. With the consent of the Twenty-seven I will sing them."

Number One suggested that Thirteen should procure a street piano to accompany him, but the chairman, Twenty-five, ruled that a street piano was undignified. One appealed from the decision of the Chair, but it was sustained after a spirited debate in which Twenty-two, Five and Ten took part. Thirteen sang in a rich soprano voice:

Air—"There's nothing like leather."

At this time there is also a remnant,
In the lump of the people a leaven.
Though not ten in Gomorrah and Sodom
There were righteous, yet here twenty seven.
Is the nation in bonds of complaining?
Is the burden of ruling past bearing?
Call on us, we will lift it and bear it.
We are here, we are fit, undespairing.

CHORUS—So forward, sing forward, my boys
And never a one need ask whether
His name's in the paper or not;
We are it and there's nothing like leather.

As the ball from the hands of the player,
So the world through the outlying heaven
With a swerve whirls its way to the future;
'Tis the curve pitched by us twenty-seven.
Lo! the dust that the chariot raises;
Lo! the wheels and the noise of their spinning;
Ours the wheels, ours the dust and the movement;
We the Fly, we the lit—it's our inning.

CHORUS—So forward, sing forward, my boys,
And never a one need ask whether
His name's in the paper or not,
We are it and there's nothing like leather.

The Twenty-seven applauded heartily. Thirteen explained that he had not been able to polish the poem as much as he wished, and that he contemplated several radical changes.

"Is it not a little—ah, bald?" asked Twenty.

"That is because it is so young," Thirteen hastened to say.

The committee voted, 14 to 13, to adopt the poem as the national anthem, and to advocate the enactment of a law requiring that it be sung each morning in all private schools.

BRYAN'S VOICE WEAKENED.

Never Recovered From the Strain of the 1896 Campaign—He May Lose Nebraska.

LINCOLN, Neb., Sept. 3.—The announcement of Chairman Jones of the National Committee that Mr. Bryan will not deliver more than two speeches a day occasions no surprise in Lincoln. Mr. Bryan's voice is in bad shape. Primarily the cause of the present weakness of his larynx lies in the strain of four years ago. The long rest that followed only imperfectly mended the trouble. The first symptoms of danger came on his trip to Topeka. Hoarseness and a metallic ring to his voice marked the close of that speechmaking tour. For two days his voice did not regain its usual clearness. It worried Mr. Bryan considerably, and the fact that he has been warned by specialists that he must be careful has caused him much uneasiness. It was this fact that led him to plan to speak at only a few large meetings during the campaign, but his desire to talk to the people has impelled him to run the risk of a permanent impairment. Mr. Bryan has told the National Committee where he wishes to speak, and the committee has simply arranged for the trains, the receptions and other details.

While Mr. Bryan is away the Republicans of Nebraska, under the direction and with the aid of the National Committee, are preparing to burn down a few of his carefully erected fences. The scattering polls received by the State Committee give every hope of carrying the State for McKinley. The National Committee was appealed to and upon the presentation of the facts regarding what is truly a remarkable change in political sentiment in this State it agreed to make extra exertions here. In furtherance of this promise it is proposed to send some of the best campaign speakers in the country to the State. Senators Foraker, Burrows, Spooner, Fairbanks, Beveridge, Wolcott and Dolliver have agreed to come, and the first meeting will be held in Mr. Bryan's home city either Sept. 8 or 12, with four of these men as speakers. Later Roosevelt will come.

STATES SLIPPING FROM BRYAN.

Canvass in the West Discloses a Revulsion of Feeling.

The Republican National Committee has in preparation a statement which will be ready for publication within a few days showing the conditions existing to-day in the States in the West which went for Bryan in 1896. The statement is based upon a careful canvass which has been made by the committee's agents and it will be very gratifying to Republicans everywhere. The Republican campaigners confidently expect to carry Nebraska, Kansas, South Dakota, Utah, Montana, Washington, Colorado, Idaho and Wyoming in November. These nine States all went for Bryan four years ago, and according to the information which the Republican National Committee has received the revulsion in feeling has been almost incredible. Senator Scott received a telegram yesterday from a resident of Nebraska who has been most conservative throughout the canvass, and whose information is the result of a personal investigation in the State, in which he declared that there was no question as to how Nebraska would go. Senator Scott believes that when Bryan returns to Lincoln he will find that there is no hope of his carrying the State, and Kansas is regarded as carried for the Republicans already. The Republican City Committee of Denver, Col., is making a canvass now which will be, if the present ratio of votes is kept up, very surprising to Mr. Bryan.

HUGH M'LAUGHLIN.

His Friends Think He Will Make No Fight for Comptroller Coler.

Hugh McLaughlin was at the Willoughby street auction room in Brooklyn yesterday for a couple of hours. There were only a few visitors and none of them of the weighty caliber with whom Mr. McLaughlin is accustomed to discuss political problems. All attempts to discover what his final instructions would be to the sixty-one delegates who will represent the Kings county organization to the State convention were fruitless. "I haven't a word to say on any of these subjects," was his invariable reply to all questions with a political bearing. The general impression among persons who have come in close contact with the veteran leader, both during his sojourn at Jamesport, L. I., and since his return, is that he is strongly opposed to any break with Richard Croker and Tammany in the interest of Comptroller Coler.

MALLONEY ADDRESSES UNION MEN.

The Socialist Labor Party Candidate Makes a Labor Day Speech in Syracuse.

SYRACUSE, Sept. 3.—Joseph Francis Malloney of Massachusetts, candidate of the Socialist Labor party for President, addressed the union laborers of Syracuse to-day at their picnic on Onondaga Lake. Ten thousand people heard him. Among other assertions made by Mr. Malloney were these:

"Both the Republican party and the Socialist Labor party are revolutionary. The Republican party seeks to give to the rich the wealth of the land and let the producers suffer. It proposes to hitch to the tail of the United States millions of Filipinos, the most ignorant people of the world, to compete with us.

"The Socialist Labor party is revolutionary. It stands for the doing away of the small fry shops and the middlemen and for the concentration of the powers in the hands of the people. The Democratic party is a party without a mission. It stands for nothing but Billy Bryan and Perry Belmont and Richard Croker."

Woodruff Attends an Outing of the Patrons of Industry.

SARATOGA, Sept. 3.—Lieut.-Gov. Woodruff accepted the invitation of Senator Brackett to attend an outing of the Saratoga branch of the Patrons of Industry at Saratoga Lake to-day. The Lieutenant Governor's voice was troubling him, however, and he was unable to deliver an address, though he was present. His place was taken by Congressman George N. Southwick of Albany.

POWERS WISH MORE TIME.

NO REPLIES TO RUSSIA'S PROPOSAL TO WITHDRAW FROM PEKIN.

Unofficial Advices Show That There Is a General Distrust of Russia by the Powers—The United States Desire the Powers to Agree to Remain in Pekin Until Terms of Peace Are Accepted by the Chinese Government.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.—At the Department of State it is said that no replies have been received from any of the Powers to the notification made last week by the United States in its response to Russia's proposition to withdraw from Pekin and none is expected for several days at least. Unofficial advices received from the representatives of several of the Powers show that these countries desire some time to consider the question and to consult with their officials in Pekin before making any reply. These same reports show that there is generally distrust of Russia among the European Powers. That this lack of confidence is shared by the United States is admitted here. Russia's reason for proposing a withdrawal of troops at this time was declared by one official to-day to be that she would be in a better position six months or a year from now to dictate alone to China than at this time. If Russia could get the Powers to withdraw from China it would be to her advantage, because of the close proximity of Russian troops at all times. Russia, according to this official, is in no hurry to bring about a settlement, because she will always be in a position to demand one whenever she wants to. In refusing to accede to Russia's proposition the United States adhere to a policy described as follows:

"If the United States Government was alone in demanding peace and reparation from China it would not give up Pekin pending the reestablishment of the Government, but would stay right there and say to the Chinese officials, 'You can have your city when you have accepted our terms.'"

What the United States desire is that the Powers agree to this plan, as it is considered the best and quickest way to attain peace. While declaring the purpose to bring the American troops away from Pekin unless there is an agreement to remain, the President and his Cabinet have not so committed themselves, however, that they cannot return to Pekin from Tientsin should the Powers finally reach an agreement after the withdrawal of Russia from Pekin. It is pointed out that should Russia withdraw her troops pending a decision by the Powers, the United States, to be consistent with the answer to Russia, would necessarily follow, but if subsequent developments should cause Russia to recede from her course and there should be perfect harmony, the American troops would again go to Pekin.

To a great extent Germany is looked upon to take the step that would cause a modification of Russia's proposition. One motive for Russia's action has been to head off the arrival in Pekin of the German troops. If Emperor William should refuse to stop his troops at Tientsin and should let it be known definitely that he intended to have his army under Count Waldersee go to Pekin, it is thought by officials here that Russia would soon want to return to Pekin and see to it that Germany did not gain any undue advantage because of its large military force. Count von Waldersee is now on his way to China, and as Germany is one of the countries asking for time, it is believed that Germany will await his report from China before making any answer.

Meanwhile there is another probable way out of the present difficulty, which may come from the Chinese Government itself. The latest report from Minister Conger said that Prince Ching, who is President of the Tsung-li-Yamen, was expected in Pekin. Other reports say that Prince Ching has been deputed by the Empress to go there and begin negotiations for a settlement with the foreigners. His arrival in Pekin, if followed by immediate advances on his part looking to a return of the Chinese Government, might so affect the situation as to bring about a settlement before Russia carries out her intentions of retiring from Pekin. This Government is watching with much interest China's greatest diplomatist, Li Hung Chang. He is not above suspicion among the officials in Washington, and some go so far as to intimate that he is responsible for the Russian proposition for the troops to withdraw from Pekin. It is certain that in his interview with Li Hung Chang, Mr. Rockhill called attention to the desire of the United States for an immediate determination of the status of foreigners in China, and indicated that his Government intended keeping troops in China until this was brought about. It is the belief here that Li Hung Chang is playing for time, evidence of which is found in his failure to reply to the last memorandum from this country on the question of an international conference.

Instructions to Gen. Chaffee sent a week or ten days ago told him to be prepared to leave Pekin at a moment's notice. This step was taken before Russia had even indicated that it intended to send a proposition for withdrawal. It was learned to-night that it was really based on information which pointed to a probable disagreement among the Powers, and the United States was and is determined to avoid any clashing with the other Powers on any subject whatever. It is declared that should the American troops leave Pekin before a settlement has been reached it will be solely to avoid any disagreeable result of a lack of unity among the Powers.

DR. HILL RETURNS TO WASHINGTON.

He Is Now Acting Secretary of State in Place of Mr. Adee.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.—Dr. David J. Hill, First Assistant Secretary of State, returned to Washington this morning from Massachusetts, and is now the acting Secretary of State. Dr. Hill went at once to the White House and had a long talk with the President. He then proceeded to his office and Mr. Adee who had been acting Secretary, turned over the direction of State Department matters to him.

Dr. Hill said he was unable to give his views of the status of the Chinese question, not having had a chance to look over the late telegraphic correspondence in the matter. He appeared to take a rather optimistic view after consulting with the President.

Asked if Secretary Hay was expected to return within a few days, he said that he was not advised that Mr. Hay would return immediately.

Wires From Shanghai to Chefoo Working.

Announcement is made by the Western Union Telegraph Company that the line between Shanghai and Chefoo has been restored, but it is still working slowly.

Homeliness—not positive ugliness—but mere plainness, often passes for beauty when crowned with a halo of beautiful hair.

In scores of cases the secret of beauty is Ayer's Hair Vigor.

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LEAGUE OF REPUBLICAN CLUBS.

New Officers Chosen—Hearty Support Pledged to National and State Candidates.

SARATOGA, Sept. 3.—An enthusiastic meeting of the State League of Republican Clubs was held to-day in the ballroom of Congress Hall. The occasion was the second biennial convention of the league. Besides adopting resolutions indorsing the National and State Republican administrations the convention elected new officers of the league for the ensuing two years. Frederick Easton of Albany, the President of the league, called the convention to order. Alderman Clarence Slauson of Binghamton and Supervisor Moses D. Ruben of Syracuse were named as tellers.

After routine business had been disposed of Theodore Cox of Yonkers was nominated by F. Astley Atkins of that city for President of the league and he was chosen by acclamation. Gen. Francis V. Greene and Charles A. Hess of New York city were named as Vice Presidents at Large. E. E. Powell of Binghamton was elected Treasurer. The President was authorized to appoint the Secretary of the league. The name of Cornelius Vanderbilt was mentioned for the office of Treasurer, but some of his friends advised against it. Mr. Vanderbilt enters politics this year as a delegate from New York city to the Republican State Convention, which meets here to-morrow. The following resolutions were adopted:

"We, the members of the Republican League of the State of New York, in convention assembled, renew our confidence in the established doctrines of the Republican party and at the beginning of the national campaign pledge ourselves to renewed zeal in that party's cause. We believe in the doctrines and policies laid down in the national platform adopted at Philadelphia, and we indorse and pledge our hearty support to the candidates there selected—William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt.

"We registered our conviction that the maintenance of national honesty at home, the dignity of American citizenship and the honor of the American flag, for which our fathers fought, can only be maintained by a victory for these candidates at the polls. The Administration of William McKinley during the last four years has been glorious in its achievements. It has conducted a righteous war to a victorious end. It has adopted and enforced policies under which the high-water mark of prosperity has been reached. It has added to our domain and has brought new opportunities and given new value to American citizenship. It has met and is solving more serious problems than have confronted an Administration since the close of the Civil War. We have entire confidence in the wisdom, integrity and patriotism of the American people to grasp those problems and so solve them that the blessings of American civilization will extend to the far-distant islands that came to us unsought; while the American flag assumes now a more glorious meaning among all civilized people.

"We indorse the Administration of Theodore Roosevelt and his associates in the conduct of the government of this State during the last two years. It has been wise, patriotic and honorable. Every branch of it has been honestly and capably conducted, and even its bitterest foes have found no scandal on which to assail it. Candidates for State officials are soon to be named by the Republican Convention. We tender in advance our hearty support to those chosen to be the standard bearers. Believing in the Republican policies and glorying in the party achievements in the past, we appeal to the young manhood of America, and for ourselves we resolve to do our utmost to achieve victory at the polls in November."

The Hon. George I. Green of Binghamton, a former President of the league, said that retiring President Easton was to be congratulated on his work in keeping the league alive during the two off years of his incumbency in that office, declaring that it was an easy matter to arouse the interest of Republican clubs in a Presidential campaign.

"We should have a Republican club in every hamlet in the State," said Mr. Green, "and I think we have elected a set of officers to-day who will be a great aid to the State Committee in arousing the believers in Republican principles throughout the State. Some one said to me that our new President was too young to hold such a responsible office. I remarked that I did not think he was young enough. The league could adopt no better slogan than its new one 'no apathy.'"

Dr. Mayer Kupfstein of the Hungarian Republican Club of New York city addressed the delegates on behalf of the Hungarians and the following resolution offered by him was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The present Administration has served to elevate the status of our country in every department of civil and political life; and,

Whereas, The principles permeating the Government tend toward expansion within and prosperity without our land; and,

Whereas, The Republican party has again proven that it stands for the noblest ideals in man, liberating and liberalizing the human kind wherever and whenever opportunities warrant its execution; and,

Whereas, The stability of our Government depends upon the comprehension of honest and true citizenship, unadulterated by shallow phantasism and unwarranted fanaticism; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Republican League pledges its full support to the present Administration; and that the issues advocated by the Republican party are imbued with both the spirit of honesty and justice and are paramount to the principles held by the founders of our nation.

The President was authorized to name an Executive Committee to comprise one member from each Congress district.

Mr. Cox, who to-day was elected President of the League, is only 26 years old. He was born in New York city and is a nephew of the late Gen. J. D. Cox, former Governor of Ohio and Secretary of the Interior during Grant's Administration. Mr. Cox was President of the American College League from 1894 to 1895. He is a member of the Young Men's Republican Club of Westchester county. He entered Wall Street in business in 1896 and was a member of the Stock Exchange, but sold his seat in 1899 to enter the firm of Hatele & Cox, Mr. Hatele being the board member. He is also a member of the Union League Club.

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BULLER CROSSES THE CROCODILE.

Boers Retire as He Advances to Lydenburg—Supply Train Wrecked.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Sept. 3.—The War Office publishes the following despatch from Lord Roberts, dated Belfast, Sept. 1:

"Gen. Buller marched with his force to-day from Helvetia on his way to Lydenburg. He is now encamped on the north bank of the Crocodile River. The enemy's rear guard is retiring before him without opposition.

"Paget reports that a small column of Baden-Powell's force, under Col. Plumer, despatched by him, drove off a small commando under Gen. Pretorius east of Pienaar's River. Plumer captured 1,000 head of cattle, thirty-one wagons, twenty-six prisoners and ninety Martini rifles. The families who were with the commando are being taken care of in our camp.

"The enemy managed to derail another supply train five miles south of Klip River early this morning. Two men were killed, one was wounded, and thirty-five were taken prisoners. The engine was blown up and thirteen trucks were burned.

"A party of Brabant's Horse, on duty at the Klip's River bridge, followed the enemy, as soon as the report of the accident reached him, into the neighboring hills and recovered all of the prisoners.

"Over 1,700 of our prisoners have come into camp. Half of these have been sent to Pretoria, and the remainder go to-night."

Another despatch from Lord Roberts, sent Aug. 30, says:

"Major Brooke, commanding at Kerai Railway station, reports that with 100 men, he attacked the Boers who were holding a kopje about 500 yards from the railway on Aug. 27. The Boers were completely routed and left on the field five dead, including Lt. Pretorius. Our only casualty was one slightly wounded.

VAAL RIVER BRIDGE REBUILT.

Trains Crossing Again at Vereeniging—Futile Effort to Catch Theron.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

From THE SUN'S Correspondent at Johannesburg.

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 31.—The great Vaal River railway bridge at Vereeniging, which was dynamited by the Boers last May, has been restored. The first train crossed to-day. The task was completed in six weeks by the railway pioneer corps.

The North Staffordshire and East Lancashire regiments and 300 irregular troops, including the railway pioneer corps, went to the south and the west to-day in an effort to corral Commandant Theron, but he eluded them in the fog after a skirmish in which the British lost four killed and several wounded. One Boer was killed and two were captured.

A census of Johannesburg is about to be taken.

ANNEXATION OF THE TRANSVAAL.

Greeted With Cheers in the Cape Assembly—Roberts Announces It.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

From THE SUN'S *Correspondent at Cape Town.*

CAPE TOWN, Sept. 3.—In the House of Assembly to-day Sir John Gordon Sprigg, the Prime Minister, formally announced the annexation of the Transvaal by Great Britain. The announcement was greeted with cheers by the supporters of the Ministry, but the members of the Opposition maintained a dead silence.

LONDON, Sept. 3.—In a despatch to the War Office, dated Belfast, Sept. 1, Lord Roberts says:

"Under the provisions of her Majesty's warrant, dated July 4, I have this day issued, at army headquarters, Belfast, a proclamation announcing that the Transvaal is henceforth to form a part of her Majesty's dominions."

Pope Compliments American Catholics.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ROME, Sept. 3.—The Pope, receiving Bishop Burke, of Albany, N. Y., to-day, spoke enthusiastically of Ireland and of the devotion of American pilgrims.

Training Ship Hartford at Gravesend.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Sept. 3.—The American training-ship Hartford arrived at Gravesend this morning and fired a royal salute, which was returned by Tilbury fort.

Theodore Suppes Drowned.

ALBANY, Sept. 3.—Theodore Suppes, about 35 years of age, and a party of nine others, who were coming across the Hudson River from the baseball grounds this afternoon, were thrown into the river by the overturning of a rowboat. Suppes could not swim and was drowned. His wife and two children are now in New York city visiting friends.

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