ITALIA.

Popular Feeling About the Unredeemed Provinces.

MACCHIAVELLIAN DIPLOMATISTS

Great Catholic Congress at Modena.

The press and the diplomatic bodies of Europe may to the best of their ability strive to conceal the fact, but the truth is that in Italy affairs stand in a rather complicated condition. Whoever has closely studied the histories of the European States will readily understand that every popular agitation will in more or less time engender some radical political change. The party known as the Italia Irredenta has usually been underestimated both as to its numbers and its influence. Nothing, however, can be more unsafe than to deal lightly with any political organization which has its root in national feeling. The Italia Irredenta is the lineal and legitimate offspring of the earlier Italian party called Giovane Italia, which, under the leadership of Mazzini, could be crushed by no tyranny and which laid the inviolate foundations of Italian unity. As the primitive party assimilated to itself all the young intellectual vigor of the time, so the Italia Irredenta has now gathered in its ranks all those bold and resolute spirits who are the springs of revolution. The association reckons among its members the most popular names in the country—professors in the various universities, poets of very enviable reputation, and publicists of the broadest ideas. It is regularly organized, and earnestly works in all the principal cities of the peninsula. The Italia Irredenta includes the men who, in 1860, under the generalship of Garibaldi, conquered the kingdom of Naples; who, in 1866, wrested from Austria the almost impregnable passes of the Tyrol; who, in 1867, without weapons worthy the denomination, almost captured Rome; who, in 1870-71, rushed to assist republican France, and, opposed to an overwhelming force of Prussians, won the only battle of the war. And, indeed, these and their younger brethren, who crave for military glory, are not enemies to be despised.

"RES ITALICÆ."

Colonel Haymerle was right when, in his pamphlet, "Res Italicæ," addressed to his government, he signalized this association as a powerful agent likely to sooner or later imperil the peace between Italy and Austria. Time alone will prove, however, whether the diplomatist erred in declaring that his government would never renounce its right to possess any of the provinces now under its control. The elder Metternich had already described Italy as a "geographical point" and nothing more, and affirmed that "Venice and Lombardy were the inalienable inheritance of Austria;" and yet both of these provinces became a few years later part of the Italian state. In 1859 Count Giulay said, as he threw upon the floor a bottle of champagne, that thus he would crush the Piedmontese army. But the bottle did not break and the battle went against the boaster. Later on Monsieur Rouher from the tribune of the French Assembly pronounced his famous "Jamais," and yet the Italian troops occupied the Eternal City, and there is no sign that Italy will ever lose its new capital. The principal result of Colonel Haymerle's pamphlet has been to stir to its profoundest depths the national feeling of the Italians. The agitation in favor of "redeeming" the Tyrol and Trieste is no longer a matter exclusively concerning the Italia Irredenta. All Italy more or less openly protests against the insinuations of the Austrian attaché. Even the conservative journals of the peninsula have with one accord repudiated, though in a moderate way, his pretensions. Such organs as the *Gazzetta d'Italia* and the *Opinione* have characterized his views as a stultification of the modern principles of nationality as an apology for bayonet rule. The Italian army, though highly flattered in Haymerle's pamphlet, is far from being pleased with his theories. Even for the more moderate and cautious it is a mere matter of opportunity.

ARE THEY DREAMS?

The aspirations of the Italian youth cannot be relegated to the realm of dreams. War between Austria and Italy may not be imminent. The disputes between the two nations may be settled by no hotter warfare than that of words. But events may arise in connection with the Eastern problem which may favor the aspirations of Italy. A recent occurrence at Naples affords an instance of the warlike tendencies of Italians. We allude to the untimely breaking up of the Peace Congress which but a few days since was convened within the shadow of Vesuvius. Since Plato every age has had its apostle of Utopias, who has sought after universal peace, as though men were a flock of lambs. The Middle Ages produced Dante, who fancied that this object might be obtained by instituting a universal monarchy. Our own times have produced a Ferdinand Lasalle and a Théophile Gautier, who were among the foremost in advocating general disarmament. A few years ago some well known philanthropists gathered at Geneva and founded what was known as the League of Peace. Italy contributed largely to its numbers. The Italian members recently held session at Naples, but the occasion was ill-chosen. To speak of peace, when Colonel Haymerle had challenged the forbearance of the country, was a miscalculation. Not only the exterior populace wildly protested against the reunion, but discord set in among the members of the latter, and the whole proceeding ended in a riotous fiasco. And this is not an isolated fact. At Pisa, Sienna, Bologna, Trieste—indeed, in all the principal cities of Italy—demonstrations almost daily took place in which, in the hottest of terms, the participants asserted the right of the Italian kingdom to the provinces now under the Austrian yoke. The walls of the streets were nightly covered with such inscriptions as "Abbasso l'Austria," "Viva il Trentino," "Viva il Re," just as in 1859-60 and 1870 was done in connection with Lombardy, Venice, Naples and Rome. Another fête has occurred at Rome, which bespeaks anything but a renunciation of the claims now in question. On the Janiculum, at the foot of the Villa Pamphili, has been inaugurated the tomb of Ciceruacchio. This patriot was formerly a popular idol, who was barbarously shot in 1848 at Ferrara by the Austrians. Everything passed quietly, but the demonstration was an imposing one and evidenced anything but friendly feeling toward the trans-Alpine foe. Among the leaders of the Peace League in Italy, it may be added, there are men of the highest social and political standing. It may be sufficient to mention the names of Pasquale Mancini, perhaps the greatest living juris-consult in Italy and the most eloquent speaker of the Italian Parliament, who has several times acted as a member of the Cabinet, and that of the venerable patriot Joseph Ricciardi, for the last thirty years a prominent member of the Italian Parliament. To the league also belonged the late Count Sclopis, president in the celebrated Geneva arbitration.

Italy is not isolated. Italian diplomatists are still the disciples of Macchiavelli; they believe in doing things quietly and secretly. Whatever the result of certain alliances which of late have seemingly been concluded, Italy is prepared for all emergencies, and some startling disclosures might come to light in the event of external wars which might provide her with the chance of improving her condition.

THE FIFTH CATHOLIC CONGRESS AT MODENA—THE POLICY OF ABSTENTION ENDED—ADHESIONS FLOCKING IN FROM ALL QUARTERS—A DELUGE OF PROPOSITIONS WHICH MEET WITH ENTHUSIASTIC APPROVAL.

The elevation of Leo XIII. to the supreme authority in the Holy See marked the close of that policy of abstention which the late Pope had advised his universal flock to follow. Catholics have at last begun to realize that to refrain from an active interest in the politics of their respective countries would be to destroy their long political prestige without hope of ever regaining it, and accordingly they now display the strongest activity in every line of popular interest. The opposition in France to the new law of M. Ferry, the Minister of Public Instruction; the reactionary movement in Germany, which has compelled Prince Bismarck to lean toward the ultramontanes, and, more recently, the session of the Catholic Congress at Modena, in Italy, are undoubted evidences of the awakening of Catholics to such a political life as may powerfully influence the course of future events. The Catholic Congress at Modena was opened in the last days of October, and assembled through many long and pompous sittings in the Church of Paradise, which had been magnificently decorated for the occasion, the flower not only of the Italian clergy and the aristocracy devoted to the Holy See, but also many representatives of the foreign ultramontanism and the Catholic press of Europe. The galleries were always thronged with elegantly clad ladies, Italian and foreign, who seemed as enthusiastic in regard to the proceedings of the Congress as the most active members of that body. The Archbishop of Modena opened the Congress with a prayer, and then delivered an address, which won general applause from the gallery without distinction of party, as his words were moderate, conciliatory and grounded upon the broad principles of absolute morals rather than partisan spirit. The Congress was next addressed by the Duke of Salviati, the famous leader of the Catholic party of Rome, and also the actual President of the Congress. In his eloquent speech he surveyed what the late Pope had done in behalf of the Church, and consoled himself in going over the performances of the present Pontiff. He was likewise very prodigal in his eulogy of the Permanent Committee of the Catholic League for its untiring exertions toward propagating the ancient faith. The Secretary then read an immense number of letters of affiliation from cardinals, patriarchs, archbishops and bishops, the delivery of which occupied the remainder of the first sitting. An eulogistic telegram was despatched to Leo XIII., the answer to which arrived a few hours later, over the signature of Cardinal Nina, Secretary of State, and which was conceived in terms most flattering to the Congress. To record the various speeches which were delivered during the several sittings would fill many columns. Every member had some proposition to advance, and he was not slow to lift his voice in its behalf. Almost every motion was adopted by acclamation.

THE SPEAKERS AND THE SUBJECTS.

Among them we should mention the proposal of instituting Catholic clubs for workmen, with measures to insure their practical utility. Another concerned the means of improving the moral and economical conditions of the agricultural class. Another, by a Jesuit, advocated freedom of instruction, and violently attacked the Italian government for the exclusion of the clergy from the public schools. A speaker, starting from the recent victories of the Catholic party in the municipal elections of Rome and other cities, discussed the advantages that must accrue from strong internal union in action as well as faith, and from voting in a body for Catholic candidates. The subject of pilgrimages could not be overlooked. The amusing feature in this part was that a certain speaker demanded that the Congress should pass some enactment to promote and multiply pilgrimages, and that the Congress did actually do so. Another orator shortly afterward pointed out that the scarce attendance at pilgrimages was chiefly due to their increasing number. He accordingly advocated that Congress should recommend a suitable retrenchment, which proposition was likewise passed amid unanimous applause. A German prelate strove to impress upon the audience the importance of studying sacred music, and in eloquent terms recalled the names of those composers who elevated this kind of music to its sublimest expression, and ended in a strong appeal in behalf of general training in Church music—not losing, however, the opportunity of stigmatizing to the best of his ability the music of the theatres.

The most important speeches were those delivered by Baron D'Ondes Reggio, the Abbé Léon Esseyra, of Friebourg, Switzerland; the Marquis Sassoli, and by Professor Balan on "Peter's Pence." D'Ondes Reggio, in the early days of the Italian Parliament, was, with Cantu, the strongest representative of the Catholic party. He gave up his seat from scruples of conscience, and has since retired to private life and devoted all his energies to the preservation of religious feeling among the Sicilians. He is a venerable old man, whom even the most radical liberals cannot fail to respect. He had prepared a long address, which, though he was present at the Congress, was delivered by his friend, Baron Ravignani. Its length was such that it could not be delivered in one sitting. Professor Balan's speech on "Peter's Pence" had quite practical results. His appeal to the Congress to give the example by generous offerings was readily responded to. In a few minutes over $1,000 were deposited on the bench of the Presidency. The Marquis Sassoli undertook to treat the agricultural question in connection with religious feeling. He framed a glowing view of the sufferings of the working classes, and eloquently spoke of the duties of capitalists, ending his oration by a poetic appeal to Christian women, in which he solicited their example in behalf of the improvement of the workingmen. The Congress was closed by an address to the Pope, and the audience dispersed amid a tumult of applause.

RUSSIAN CRUISERS.

WHAT RUSSIA IS DOING TO PREPARE HERSELF FOR A POSSIBLE WAR WITH ENGLAND.

[Russian correspondence of the Newcastle Chronicle.]

Very considerable stir is being occasioned in Russian naval circles in regard to the contemplated development of the cruiser fleet. It is stated that for some weeks past the Russian Admiralty has been receiving from every part of the Continent and from America specifications for the construction of swift steaming privateers, and these are now undergoing examination at the hands of the special committee, presided over by Admiral Lesovsky himself. If America secures the leading contract England will gain nothing from their victory, but if the native firms are successful much of the machinery will be obtained from this country. Of the two, the Tyne firms are more in favor than those on the Neva. The Russian cruiser fleet is already of respectable proportions. It consists of the Moscow cruiser squadron, the Atlantic cruiser squadron and the regular cruisers of the Russian navy added during the last four years. The Moscow consists of the Russia, the Moscow, the Petersburg, the Nijni Novgorod and the Yaroslavl. The Russia is an ex-steamer of the transatlantic fleet, and is 348 feet long, 39 feet broad; displacement, 3,200 tons; engines indicated 2,200 horse power; speed, 14 knots; coal supply for steaming 4,700 miles; cost $300,000; built at Greenock. The Moscow cost $300,000, and is the sister ship to the celebrated cruiser Cimbria. The Petersburg is a little smaller, and cost $200,000. The Nijni Novgorod (formerly the Saxonia, of Glasgow) cost $15,000, and is now stationed off the island of Saghalien. The other vessels are either in the Black Sea or at Marseilles, and are being fitted out for permanent service in the Pacific. Up to last November, when the latest report of the Moscow Committee was issued, the expenses involved by the privateers were 3,333,600 rubles. The committee had then in hand 1,082,525 rubles, which has since been raised by subscriptions to over 2,000,000 rubles. A few weeks ago the committee ordered the construction of the Yaroslavl at the works of the Forges et Chantiers at Marseilles, the price of the engines and hull being fixed at $500,000. The meetings of the committee, which includes some of the leading officials of the Russian Admiralty, are held at the Anitchkoff Palace, frequently under the presidency of the Cesarevitch himself. The hero of the fabricated victory of the war steamer Vesta over the Turkish iron-clad in the Black Sea—Captain Baranoff—is commodore of the fleet.

AMERICAN MODELS.

The committee has published as a handbook for the guidance of its officers the "Cruises of the Sumter and Alabama." In this the imaginations of cruiser captains are fired by the circumstance that the Sumter, a steamer of 500 tons and furnished with a crew of 10 officers and 96 seamen, captured in six months 18 vessels, burned 7, and released, after receiving a heavy indemnity, two others, "experiencing not a single unpleasantness on any occasion." This was in 1861. The next year, the Sumter being worn out, Captain Semmes hoisted his flag on the corvette Alabama, of 1,000 tons (length 220 feet, breadth 32, engines 600 horse power, speed 14 knots and a crew of 18 officers and 108 men), a steamer which the committee consider immeasurably inferior to their own. Yet in two years the Alabama destroyed 65 vessels and extinguished the mercantile marine of the United States. What a single Confederate did with scanty means and two inferior vessels the committee believes can be surpassed by its "magnificent resources, its fleet of five rapid steamers and its brave officers and seamen, the pick of the Russian navy." The Atlantic Cruiser Squadron is sometimes mixed up with the Squadron of the Moscow Committee. They are, however, wholly distinct. The Moscow cruisers, which are private or semi-official property, are chiefly designated for service in the Pacific and in Australian waters. Those of the Atlantic squadron which are government steamers are intended for cruising on the American coast. The squadron comprises the Cimbria, the Europe, the Asia, the Africa and the Zabiaka. The particulars of the Asia will give a good idea of this class of cruiser. It was formerly the Columbus, built by Cramp, of Philadelphia, in 1874, and was bought by Russia for $275,000. The cost of converting it into a cruiser was $375,000. It is 275 feet long, 35 feet broad, 15 feet deep; displacement, 2,500 tons; engines, 225 nominal or 1,200 indicated horse power; speed, 12.5 knots; coal capacity for 800 tons or for a mileage of 12,500 miles, covered in thirty-five days. Her armament consists of three six-inch rifled guns on revolving platforms, four three-pounders, and torpedoes and torpedo boats. The Zabiaka is the only vessel which materially differs from the rest, being specially constructed for privateer service from the designs taken to America by Captain Semetchkin, of the Russian Admiralty, in the autumn of 1878. It is 220 feet long, 30 feet broad; displacement, 1,200 tons; engines, 200 nominal horse power; speed, 14 knots. It has been estimated that the cost of these five vessels, with their armaments, &c., has exceeded £1,000,000 sterling. All of them are now at Cronstadt, and form the "irregular" branch of the Russian navy. It is believed that the Asia, and perhaps one or two more of her consorts, will shortly proceed to the Pacific for a cruise and then return to the Atlantic, being stationed off the French or the Spanish coast.

COMPOSITION OF THE FLEET.

The regular cruiser fleet of the Russian navy consists of three iron-clad frigates and ten clippers and corvettes. Russia has other vessels which might do service in the Baltic, but none that she would send to the ocean to scatter English shipping. The three iron-clad frigates are the Menin, the General Admiral and the Duke of Edinburgh. The former vessel leaves the Mediterranean in a day or two for the Pacific. She is 285 feet long, 48 broad, 4,800 tons displacement, engines, 6,300 indicated horse power, speed 13 knots, armor 6 inches thick and armament four 12½-ton and two 7-ton guns mounted *en barbette*. All three vessels are the same, all have a large spread of canvas and all are cruisers in the very best sense of the term. The General Admiral is being fitted out at Cronstadt and the Duke of Edinburgh is still in the builder's hands. Both will be ready for service by next summer. The clipper fleet consists of the Kreutzer and Djigit (both at Vladivostock), the Jemtchong (at Sveaborg), and the Rasboinik, Naezdnik Plastoon, Stelok, now being completed at Cronstadt. All have been constructed since 1875, and are designed for the Pacific fleet. They are 214 feet long, 33 broad, 14 feet deep, displacement 1,334 tons, engines 250 nominal or 1,500 indicated horse power, speed 13 knots, coal supply for 14 days; guns, three 6-inch of Krupp construction on a revolving platform on the upper deck, and a number of four-pounder carronades. Three corvettes, very similar to them in construction, the Vsadnik, Bayon and Gaidamak, recently returned to Cronstadt from the Pacific, and are being fitted out for a second term of service. These ten corvettes, three iron-clad frigates, five Atlantic cruisers and five Moscow privateers constitute the entire cruise force of Russia. Russia has no mercantile fleet to furnish other vessels, and the steamers of the Black Sea Company are unfitted for further ocean service. All the same, Russia is very strong in her cruiser arm and the additions the Grand Duke Constantine proposes to make to it will render Russia a powerful antagonist to England the next time war breaks out. It is significant that the development of the cruiser fleet has no other object in view but the sole and exclusive one of injuring the mercantile shipping of the English nation.

FOREIGN NOTES.

The monks of the Gothard Hospice state that during the year ending September 30 they have relieved 11,101 indigent wayfarers of all nations, among whom they have distributed 45,966 rations. They have also granted hospitality to 132 persons suffering from the effects of exposure.

London *Mayfair*:—"There is a strange story going round that a Russian peasant who formed one of a party of pilgrims to the Holy City the other day, begged, during her sojourn in Rome, for an audience with the Pope, alleging as an excuse that she had a weighty secret to impart. His Holiness, acting under advice, declined the proffered honor. The peasant, however, before leaving, confided to one of the priests of the Vatican that she was bidden by her mother on her deathbed to acquaint the Pope that a huge treasure (some 6,000,000 gold rubles) had been hidden in the city of Moscow by Napoleon I. during his stay there in 1812, and that the whereabouts of this treasure was known only to the pilgrim. What truth there is in the statement remains yet to be seen, but report says that the Holy Father is much exercised in mind."

Don Carlos has not, as alleged, been expelled, but his been told that if he continued to travel about France for the purpose of demonstrations he will incur that penalty. He therefore repaired to England, but this was under a previous arrangement, and he returns to Paris in a few weeks, when he will doubtless show that he has profited by the warning. Meanwhile the *Gazette de France* represents the government as inconsistent in taking no notice of Señor Zorilla or Mr. Gladstone, "implacable and violent enemies of the Spanish and English governments and Cabinets," and it regrets that, "instead of the English, Italians, Swiss and Badeners who rule France," there is not a Turk who would restore the traditions of Louis XIV.'s reception of the Pretender and would imitate the Sultan's refusal to give up M. Kossuth to Austria.

London *Mayfair*:—"I am sorry to hear that Lamartine's villa in the Bois is to be demolished. It has been sold, and the Paris Municipality decided that the purchaser should pull it down. Such was the fate of Rossini's villa, which once stood near it. Both the houses were historical, and I cannot but think that the demolition of these old landmarks is becoming too common in Paris nowadays. A house in which such a poet as Lamartine lived and died, and in which his widow, the romantic English girl, dispensed such noble hospitality and charity, is to me something of a sanctuary, and should, I think, share a better fate than to make way for a new ornamental garden or stucco fountain. Such is France, however, and the spirit of the age seems to be wholesale demolition. The Commune began it, and the Republic seems only one whit less ferocious in its levelling propensities."

A few days ago one "Amicus" declared in the St. Petersburg *Vedomosti* that "the women of Germany undoubtedly hold the lowest place among the women of the Continent, not only in beauty, but in wit and wisdom also." "What," demands the *Novoe Vremya*, "does this 'Amicus' (which we take to be Latin for 'ass') know of the world beyond his own nose? Not to mention a thousand names of beauties and wits that crowd upon our memory, where, we ask, will you find a grander ideal of a constitutional sovereign than in Queen Victoria, a greater diplomat than in Catherine the Great, or a more lovely female than in Marie Antoinette? The theory is too ridiculous to deserve even investigation, and its originator should be immediately arrested as a lunatic at large." English society journals are indignant that Queen Victoria should be thought to be a German.

A curious tragedy was recently enacted at Littowk, on the Russian frontier, if we may credit the Austrian journal the *Fremdenblatt*. It appears from that newspaper's story that two Jews, father and son, had long lived on bad terms, and at last the son hired a peasant for twenty-five pieces of silver, "to facilitate the departure of the old man from this vale of tears." On the day fixed for the execution of the crime the peasant repented, and, going to the intended victim, confessed all that had passed. The father made him promise to pretend to his employer that the crime had been committed, and he then went to the Rabbi Joseph Beer, before whom he laid the matter. After due deliberation the rabbi determined to see the son and to inform him that his murdered father had appeared to him in a dream, and he asked his murderer whether he would appear before a terrestrial or celestial jury. The son, quite overwhelmed, chose the former tribunal, which was accordingly formed and consisted of ten influential parishioners. The father was placed behind a curtain. The prisoner having been placed at the bar, the judges rose, and the rabbi solemnly invited the spirit of the dead man to bring forward his accusation. Hardly had the son recognized the voice of his father when he was seized with terror and fell down dead. The procurator of the province, on learning what had passed, at once caused the rabbi and the other members of the court to be arrested.

CAPTAIN WILLIAMS' TRIALS.

The hearing of the complaint made by Mr. Whitchurch against Captain Williams, which was to have been resumed yesterday by the Police Board, was postponed until Friday at half-past nine A. M.

The criminal trial, which was to begin to-day in the Court of General Sessions, has been postponed until Tuesday next.

The answer to the summons and complaint served by Messrs. Morris & Pearsall, counsel for Charles W. Smith in the latter's civil suit against Captain Williams and Patrolman Fleming for $10,000 damages was filed yesterday afternoon. The suit will be placed on the calendar of the January term of the Supreme Court, when it will be tried before Justice Pratt. Mr. William C. Whitney, who appears as counsel for the defendants, signs the answer to the complaint as "Counsel to the Corporation, defendant's attorney." This peculiarity was commented upon by Counsellor Pearsall, yesterday, as something unusual in official practice as it was not essential that he should use the title of "Counsel to the Corporation" in the case at issue. On Monday the counsel for defendants applied to Mr. Smith's counsel for an extension of time wherein to file their answer. The request was denied, as ex-Judge Morris believed they had had ample time to properly prepare their answer. The replies are general denials of the matter of the complaint.

POLICE BOARD MEETING.

The Board of Police Commissioners held a meeting yesterday and transacted business of a routine nature. Mr. MacLean moved that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment be requested to transfer the sum of $6,666 from the "police" fund to the fund for the payment of the clerks' salaries, and thereby to augment the fund for the present year to $40,000. Mr. Wheeler wanted to know how the balance was going to be economized, and Mr. MacLean remarked that that could be accomplished by reducing the clerical staff. The motion was laid over until the next meeting. On motion of Mr. MacLean the first deputy chief clerk was instructed to notify his subordinates and the telegraph operators that the appropriation for their salaries was exhausted.

Bills for the Street Cleaning Bureau for the month of October, amounting to $41,000, were passed by a unanimous vote.

Complaint was made by the Pilot Commissioners that the scows of the Street Cleaning Bureau were not being discharged at sea during the flood tide.

Patrolman Thomas F. Regan, of the Seventh precinct, was dismissed the force for being off post. The following were appointed patrolmen:—John Hogan, James Harris, William H. Wilbur, Thomas Cookley, William J. Norton, John Carr, Thomas Hyland, William J. Foster, John Jennings, and John Kennedy.

ALDERMAN CROWLEY'S DEATH.

The mysterious death of ex-Alderman Michael J. Crowley, of Long Island City, yesterday was made the subject of an investigation by Justice Smith in the Yorkville Police Court. The post-mortem examination revealed that a spinal injury was the cause of his demise and Henry Newman, the proprietor of the saloon at No. 614 Third avenue, was called to the stand to furnish information relative to the manner it was received. He testified that Crowley came into his place in an intoxicated condition and staggered to the bar. He was so stupefied by liquor, the witness said, that he could hardly walk and the witness refused to give him any more to drink. He seemed angered at this and made his way over to a man named John D. Black, in whose face he spat without receiving any provocation. Seeing Crowley's condition Black did not resent the insult, and the man tottered over to a table and sat down upon it, when it tilted under his weight and he fell heavily to the floor. Then two men who were in the place helped the witness to remove him, and when they got him out of doors they left him sitting on the adjoining doorstep.

John D. Black was next called and he corroborated Newman's version of the affair, as did John White, who had also been in the store at the time of its occurrence. A. M. McDonald, of Long Island City, who was an intimate friend of Crowley's, said that during one of the lucid intervals of the deceased, while he was lying in a ward at Bellevue Hospital, he had stated that he had been struck on the back of the neck by the inmates of the saloon. As talking was likely to be injurious the doctor in attendance forbade him to speak, and he expired with his story of his mishap untold.

John Turner, who had been arrested for having a hand in Crowley's death, was next summoned. He is an old employé of P. T. Barnum, and lives at No. 242 West Forty-first street. He was closely questioned, but in his answers gave no cause to suspect that there was anything in the case beyond what the other witnesses had detailed. Justice Smith then declared that the evidence warranted his discharge, but told him to hold himself in readiness for a further examination at the Coroner's inquest.

CHARGES OF BLACKMAIL.

AN UNPLEASANT COMPLICATION INTO WHICH TWO OLD FRIENDS WERE PLUNGED BY THE MARRIAGE OF ONE OF THEM.

A charge of an attempt to levy blackmail was brought against Dr. Theodore H. Sayre by a former clerk and associate named Edward E. Pray yesterday before Justice Smith at the Yorkville Police Court. Sayre keeps a drug store at Sixth avenue and Forty-sixth street and Pray, who has married into a wealthy family, is now organizing a mining company to work certain claims in Colorado Territory. About thirty-seven years ago both were born at Northampton, Mass., and as the children of intimate neighbors grew up together as friends. When they had stowed away such a fund of information as the village school could offer both made up their minds to leave home and seek a more extended field for their abilities. Sayre came to New York, studied medicine, learned the drug business and became the owner of a prosperous establishment. Pray had gone to California, and most of his years were spent in prospecting and laying out claims. About five years ago he came to New York penniless and broken down in health and spirits, with nothing gleaned from his years of toil but experience and an insight into mining affairs, which he might make of avail if the chance offered.

REUNITED.

The two schoolmates met and at Sayre's cordial invitation Pray went to live with him. He still expresses his grateful remembrance of the kindness with which he was treated there. To provide the waif from the Pacific with employment the druggist used his influence with the Seventh Avenue and later on with the Third Avenue Railroad Company to secure him a conductor's place. Afterward when he was taken ill with pneumonia he provided him with money to take him home, and gave other evidences of his generous interest in him. A report of the convalescent's engagement to the daughter of a wealthy gentleman at Taunton, Mass., soon came to this city, and was followed by the reappearance of Pray, who for a while discharged the functions of an assistant in Sayre's establishment. There his services were found to be of considerable value, owing to his popularity with the customers, and the druggist, with an eye to this and the prospects of the other's accession to wealth through his marriage, proposed to him a partnership. Pray, however, did not feel disposed to confine himself to any such prosaic calling, and at the time he was giving his whole attention to his present wife, the daughter of General Locke. His suit was successful, and soon he announced to his friend that in view of his impending marriage with the young lady he would give over the business and adjust their accounts. Before leaving he admitted owing Sayre $474, which he had borrowed from him, but as he had drawn no salary while serving in the store he thought his account pretty fairly balanced. The druggist, however, did not regard this settlement as sufficiently ample, and demanded what was due him at once. The pair separated, however; but Pray avers that Sayre has been persecuting him ever since, and threatening to make known the contents of certain love letters he formerly received unless he was paid $1,000. The suitor could ill afford to have such a tender topic broached at so critical a moment, and, in order to silence the other, he now says he gave him under protest a note for $474. Soon his marriage was solemnized, and in the sense of security which he derived from that event he boldly refused to recognize the note, and told Sayre to do his worst. To assure himself of the proper course to pursue he consulted his lawyer, and was advised to take the aggressive and call Sayre to account for his menaces. The latter waived examination when he was taken to the Fifty-seventh Street Police Court and elected to be tried at the General Sessions. He says that he has already begun a civil suit against Pray for the recovery of the sum due him.

REGULATIONS FOR PILOTS.

THE USE OF STEAMBOATS FORBIDDEN BY THE NEW YORK COMMISSIONERS—MOVEMENT TO REDUCE PILOTS' FEES.

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Pilots was held yesterday, with President Ambrose Snow in the chair. On Friday last the Board addressed a letter of advice to the pilots, calling attention to the existing rates of pilotage and suggesting that some action should be voluntarily taken by them to secure a reduction. The Commissioners were, they said, actuated in making this proposition by a regard for the pilots' interests as well as for those of the port. They say that the feeling among merchants and shipping men is that the pilotage charges are too high. In response to the document a committee from the pilots appeared before the Board yesterday and expressed their willingness to meet the shipowners and merchants in a conference on the subject of reducing the pilotage charges. It is their intention to confer with the committees appointed by the Chamber of Commerce and the Shipowners' Association.

Some time ago the steamship companies comprising the North Atlantic Conference made a proposition to pay an annual salary to pilots for their services, and many of the latter were anxious to accept the offer and had already taken steps to have a steam pilot boat built for their use. The Commissioners, however, put a stop to the movement yesterday by a resolution which passed the Board unanimously to the effect that until it be established judgment of the Board the introduction of steam into the pilotage service will add to its general efficiency, and until the Board shall by general regulation authorize the use of steam vessels in the pilotage service no steam vessel shall be used as a pilot boat by any of the pilots, and that any pilot violating this rule shall be punished by suspension for such period as the Board shall determine, or by a revocation of his license.

The New Jersey Pilot Commissioners having expressed a wish to learn the action of the Board as to reduction of charges and steam pilot boats Secretary Nash sent them a copy of the above letter and resolution.

An amendment was adopted to the bylaws providing that any pilot against whom charges of intoxication or conduct unbecoming a pilot, either when on or off duty, shall be proved, shall be punished by suspension or the revocation of his license, at the discretion of the Board. The Commissioners postponed the investigation of the cause of the steamer Fulicka grounding on Oyster Island on November 6, and the pilot in charge will be tried on Tuesday next.

PRICE AND PURITY OF MILK.

The meeting yesterday of the milk committee, in room No. 24 Cooper Union, drew together many milk dealers, dairy farmers and gentlemen interested in the various movements which have been set on foot for the purpose of securing the distribution of pure milk in this city. Among those present were:—Messrs. John Jay (who presided), Dr. Heath (President of the Farmer's Club), Henry Bergh, T. Mortimer Seaver, W. Wilson, General John Cochrane and Mr. Decker. The committee of the Bedford Farmers' Club of the American Institute submitted several interesting points for discussion. Mr. W. Wilson gave it as his experience that those dealers who distribute milk in sealed glass bottles have been most successful. He thought families would readily pay from ten to twelve cents a quart for good milk, while the prevailing price never exceeds eight cents. Mr. Decker contended that there was great rivalry in the business, but upon the whole good milk was generally sold in this city. He believed good milk could be sold here for eight cents. The chairman wanted to know whether milk in sealed vessels could be bought at four cents a quart from the farmer and sold in town at eight cents. Mr. Seaver had a friend who milked 400 quarts a day and distributed it at five cents a quart, but was unable to make money on it. A resolution was adopted whereby the committee was increased to five members, and authorized to learn what further legislation in regard to the adulteration of milk was needed. The committee—which now consists of R. H. Pellaw, Robert Hoe, Jr.; Mr. Wood, J. A. Whitney and General John Cochrane—received instructions to report at the next meeting on Tuesday, the 25th inst. Several gentlemen were of opinion that the old open forty quart can was the best vessel in which to convey milk from the country, as the exposure of a considerable area of its surface to the air tended to preserve its purity. After the adjournment of the committee the Farmers' Club met, under the chairmanship of Dr. A. S. Heath. The milk question was again brought under consideration and discussed, as in the previous meeting. It was announced that the American Institute had offered two silver medals as first and second premiums for the two best dairy cows to be exhibited at the international dairy fair on December 8. Several rules as to the food and water to be given to cattle were adopted.

INTERNATIONAL DAIRY FAIR.

The Executive Committee of the International Dairy Fair Association held a meeting yesterday afternoon in the rooms of the American Exchange, No. 309 Greenwich street. Mr. N. Folsom, Jr., presided and Mr. F. M. Seaver acted as secretary. The reports of the secretary and treasurer and a number of communications were read. One was from Professor Alvord, of New England, advising an enlargement of the classification, so that a greater number of producers could take part in the exhibition. Another was from the American Institute, offering certain premiums for the best milch cows. Mr. F. B. Thurber stated that the President and Cabinet and the Governors of all the States were to be invited to be present at the coming fair. Intimations had been received from several that they would attend. The fair would begin on December 8 and last two weeks, being held in the American Institute building, at Sixty-fifth street and Third avenue. It was decided that Governor Foster be invited to speak. Then a resolution was read and approved inviting ex-Governor Seymour to open the fair, as he had been identified with the agricultural interests of the State for the greater part of his life. A communication to the Treasury Department at Washington was read, asking that the American Institute building be made a bonded warehouse during the continuance of the fair. The reply was that the department wished to know exactly what was required, and then, if possible, the request would be granted. Mr. Root, of Gilbertsville, requested that a premium be offered for the best fancy shapes of cheeses made in the United States. Mr. Thurber requested that a premium be offered for soft cheeses made in America. These motions were referred to the Committee on Premiums. Mr. Seaver gave notice of a meeting of the Board of Managers to arrange for the selection of judges, to be held this afternoon, at half-past three. The meeting then adjourned.

FELL AMONG SHARPERS.

A RUSTIC CLERGYMAN VICTIMIZED BY AN OLD FASHIONED CONFIDENCE GAME.

The simple, unaffected and truthful manner in which the Rev. James R. Page told his story in the Court of General Sessions yesterday, before Judge Gildersleeve, provoked smiles even in the jury box. The reverend gentleman is pastor of a Presbyterian Church in Rushville, Ill. He was in this city visiting some friends, and on the 28th of last month strolled through Canal street, where he was met by a man who claimed to be a nephew of Mr. Rae, one of the clergymen's parishioners, and led him to a saloon at No. 404 Canal street. There he showed him some specimens of tea in which he claimed to deal. Just at this important crisis a very tall, lank man swaggered into the rear apartment, and, saluting the man who called himself Rae, said in a careless tone, "I've just come from Tennessee and sold my mules for $1,300." To make good his word he drew out a huge pile of what seemed to be greenbacks, and said he had lost $300 the night before in gambling while on a spree, at the same time producing three cards to explain how he lost the money. "Ah," said the generous tea merchant, "sit down, and I'll show you how they cheated you." Down sat the big fellow from Tennessee to learn the mystery. The tea merchant was "short" and requested a temporary loan from the clergyman. Two five dollar bills, one ten and one twenty were innocently handed over and rapidly disappeared into the capacious pocket of the Tennessee man. Suddenly the barkeeper rushed into the room exclaiming, "Stop this at once or I will have you arrested for gambling." All hands disappeared, and Mr. Page had been swindled by an old confidence trick. A detective found the tea sampler to be James Lynch, and on McDermott, the barkeeper, were found Mr. Page's $40. When arraigned for trial yesterday by Assistant District Attorney Rollins McDermott made a general denial. The jury, however, found him guilty of grand larceny. Lynch pleaded guilty, and both were remanded for sentence. The mule trader from Tennessee has not yet been found.

EARNINGS OF THE "L" ROADS.

PASSENGERS CARRIED IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, FOUR MILLIONS, NINE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-SIX.

The following report of the traffic of the consolidated "L" railroads for the month of October is given to the public:—

The receipts of the several lines were:—

Third avenue road	$201,069 52
Sixth avenue	148,037 60
Ninth avenue	24,067 87
Total	$373,174 99

The operating expenses were:—

Third avenue line	$74,990 54
Sixth avenue line	61,813 61
Ninth avenue line	15,876 12
Total	$152,680 27
Excess of receipts over expenditures	220,494 72

The percentage of operating expenses to earnings on the Third avenue line was 37 per cent, on the Sixth avenue line 41 per cent and on the Ninth avenue line 65 per cent. The large percentage on the Ninth avenue line is due to the reconstruction of the line on Greenwich street and Ninth avenue.

The Third avenue line carried during the month 1,268,887 passengers at ten cents fare and 1,481,948 at five cents fare, a total of 2,750,835. The Sixth avenue line carried 1,073,541 passengers at ten cents fare and 797,322 at five cents fare, a total of 1,870,863 passengers. The Ninth avenue line carried 139,374 passengers at ten cents fare and 197,824 at five cents fare, a total of 337,198 passengers. Grand total of passengers carried, 4,958,896.

The increase in earnings above those of September on the Third avenue line was $16,333 40; on the Sixth avenue, $23,219 78, and on the Ninth avenue, $2,463 02, a total increase of $42,016 20, while the operating expenses on all the lines show a reduction.

AN "L" CHARTER NULLIFIED.

DECISION OF THE COURT OF APPEALS ADVERSE TO THE BROOKLYN STEAM TRANSIT COMPANY.

A telegram was received yesterday from Albany by Corporation Counsel W. C. De Witt informing him that the Court of Appeals had affirmed the judgment in the case of the Brooklyn Steam Transit Company against the city of Brooklyn. The decision nullifies the charter of the company. The charter of the company in question was passed by the Legislature in 1871. One of the original ideas of the company was to open a boulevard direct from the bridge to Flatbush avenue and construct a rail