THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS.

Mr. Culberson Argues in Favor of the Establishment of a Distinct Organization.

Reasons why there should be a District court of appeals have been made very plain in the report of the House committee on the judiciary, written by Representative Culberson. It is as follows:

The committee on the judiciary have considered the bill (S. 1185) to establish a court of appeals for the District of Columbia and herewith report a substitute for the bill and recommend that the substitute may be passed and submit the following reasons for its passage:

Upon a thorough investigation by the committee of the results of the existing judicial system of the District of Columbia the committee believes that an imperative necessity exists for an increase of the judicial force of the District. The delays which attend the determination of civil and criminal causes have been for many years a cause for universal complaint.

This evil increases from year to year, as the business of the court increases, and unless removed a practical denial of justice by the courts must be the result.

The committee has been furnished with the following information, which will tend to show the importance of increasing the judicial force of this District:

Before the reorganization of the judicial establishment in 1863 the judiciary of the District of Columbia consisted of five judges, three of whom were assigned to the Circuit Court, one to the Criminal Court and one to the Orphans' Court. Criminal jurisdiction in minor offenses was also exercised by the mayors of the cities of Washington and Georgetown and by a number of magistrates. The population of the District at that time was 75,080, being 15,016 inhabitants to each judge.

At the present time, with a population of 230,-392, there are but six justices (two judges of the Police Court having succeeded to the powers of the magistrates in criminal cases, with increased jurisdiction), being 38,398 inhabitants to each justice of this court.

The total assessed value of the property within the District of Columbia in 1860 is estimated at about $48,400,000, which was about $9,680,000 for each of the five judges at that day.

Last published assessment of the private property within the district for purposes of taxation		$153,307,541
Amount of property not taxable (estimated by the Commissioners):		
United States property	$127,327,658	
Property of the District government	2,612,256	
Exempt property	7,334,107	
		137,274,079
Total amount		290,581,610

Which would show $48,430,268 for each of the six justices on the entire valuation and $25,-557.25 on the valuation for taxable purposes.

Since 1860 the operations of the general government have amplified to an amazing extent, and this increase is felt in a greater degree in this jurisdiction than in any other portion of the country. The population of the District of Columbia is larger than that of either of six state of the Union, and the amount of the assessed values in the District is greater than that in each of six of the states; and the entire valuation exceeds the assessed value of property in each of sixteen of the states.

Such an expansion of wealth and population would necessarily imply a corresponding growth in the amount of litigation; and the facts show even a greater proportionate increase in the business of the courts.

During the sixty years from 1863 to 1863 the entire number of equity suits brought was not less than 2,500. From 1863 to February 1, 1892, the number brought amounts to 13,690. Within the latter period more than 32,571 civil cases have been brought before the special term holding the Circuit Court, notwithstanding the extension of the jurisdiction of the justices of the peace in civil cases beyond $50, which withdrew from that court a large class of cases formerly contributing a considerable part of the business of the old Circuit Court.

Since 1863, 18,849 cases have been before the Criminal Court, although the Police Court has exclusive jurisdiction of many minor offenses, which during the past year numbered 18,069 cases, and for the last three years numbered 48,000.

For the twenty-six years before 1863 the number of administration cases before the Orphans' Court was 2,742.

From 1863 to February, 1892, the administration cases in that court numbered 8,651.

The guardianship cases during the first named period, before 1863, numbered 935, and since 1863 they amount to 3,030.

The increased values of the estates involved in the business in that court is very marked, as might be expected from the greater prosperity of the people.

Besides the great mass of prosecutions in the Police Court the number of cases disposed of in the Criminal Court of the District of Columbia exceeds in number more than one-fourth of the entire criminal business in all the United States courts of the country.

The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of this District is more extensive and varied than that of any court in the country, except the Supreme Court of the United States.

It is charged with all the powers and jurisdiction of the circuit and district courts of the United States and with all criminal jurisdiction (except in petty cases triable in the Police Court, many of which may come to the Criminal Court by appeal.) It is the only court authorized to hear appeals from the commissioner of patents, in patent cases, and it possesses all the extensive and varied common-law jurisdiction belonging to the highest courts in Maryland in 1801, by virtue of which it has cognizance of application for mandamus against officials of the government.

A large part of the litigation thus devolved upon this court is directly the consequence of its location at the seat of government and the immense business transactions connected with its operations.

The civil business brought before the Equity and Circuit Courts for the greater part is such as appertains to large cities and presents constant questions of difficulty in commercial law, frequently involving large amounts.

There are many other duties confided to the court besides these mentioned.

Since 1863 5,425 foreigners have been naturalized here, and 433 bankruptcy cases have been adjudicated.

In matters of extradition the chief justice, and in case of his absence or disability the other justices, exercise the powers and perform the duties of the chief executive of the state, and the court is frequently engaged in controversies arising out of the condemnation of real estate for public uses.

The plan of relief presented by this bill has been met and is combated in the main by a proposition to add three associate judges to the court as now constituted, and from the members of the judicial body thus increased to create a permanent general term which shall have the same appellate jurisdiction that it now exercises.

The proposed addition of three associate justices would make the Supreme Court of the District to be composed of a chief justice and eight associate justices, each having the same power and authority. Without further legislation the composition of the general term, which is in reality a court of appeal, would be left to be determined by the members of the court themselves, as they might themselves from time to time agree.

Those who appeared before the committee in opposition to the court of appeals bill did not urge that the designation of the members of the court who should sit in general term should be left to the determination of the members of the court themselves.

They advocate a bill (H. R. 6125) which provides for the appointment of three additional judges, and that the general term should then be composed of the chief justice and the two or three associate justices senior in service, and that as vacancies occurred in the general term their places should be filled by the selection or promotion of other members of the court according to the same system of seniority of commission.

Such a method of creating a general term or appellate court would take from the executive all power of direct appointment to what is in reality a court of last resort in respect of the greater part of the judicial business of the District.

It would make mere length of service the sole qualification for a seat on the bench in the general term.

It would effectually prevent the designation of a junior judge to sit in general term, no matter how conspicuous might be his especial fitness for the duties of that position.

It would place and continuously keep in the most important places in the judicial system those and those only who were nearest the period for retirement, and who, for that reason, might naturally be supposed to bring to the performance of their duties the least energy and vigor.

It would cause more frequent changes in the composition of the court because all of its members would at all times necessarily be of advanced age.

It is not believed that in the history of the judicial system of the United States any precedent can be found to justify such an extraordinary plan of organizing an appellate tribunal.

The increased salaries provided for by this bill can be defrayed without direct charge upon the government from the large sums paid into the treasury by the courts of the District of Columbia, arising from fees and forfeitures, &c.

These sums, derived from private suitors, are applied primarily to the payment of the expenses of the clerk's office, including the salaries of clerks, deputies and assistants.

The amount, net, paid into the treasury from this source annually amounts to a large sum. From the Police Court alone there has been paid into the treasury during the years 1889, 1890 and 1891 the total sum of $142,185.71.

This large sum of money is derived for the most part from the citizens of the District. Besides, the change of the law regulating the fees of certain officers of the District, already agreed upon by the House and Senate, will add to the receipts of the government, from court fees, &c., of the District, a sum sufficient, it is believed, to defray the entire expenses of the court contemplated by this measure.

By every consideration this District is entitled to a court of last resort which shall be equal in all respects to the court of last resort of any state of the Union.

NEWS FROM ROCKVILLE.

Subjects Discussed at the Farmers' Institute—General Notes.

Correspondence of The Evening Star.

ROCKVILLE, January 19, 1893.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Agricultural Society the following officers were elected for the ensuing term: John H. Gassaway, president; John H. Bogley, vice president; John J. Higgins, treasurer; John E. Muncaster, secretary. September 6, 7 and 8 were designated as the days for holding the next annual fair.

Mr. John Warfield has purchased of Mrs. Sophia Trundle a farm of 135 acres near Germantown.

Mr. Wm. W. Marquett and Miss Katie V. Harrison, both of Washington, were married at the Baptist parsonage, this place, on the 16th instant by Rev. L. R. Milbourne.

Miss Lee Chaste of Washington, a pupil at the school of Miss Lucy Simpson, this town, had one of her legs broken on Wednesday evening while coasting.

The following marriage licenses have been issued by the clerk of the circuit court during this week: W. E. Larman and Kate R. Thompson, W. W. Marquett and Kate V. Harrison, Wm. N. Martin and Laura L. Hickey.

Mr. John A. Warfield of this county and Miss Jennie Rider of Baltimore county were married on Wednesday in Eutaw Street Baptist Church, Baltimore. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. L. Lodge of Gaithersburg, assisted by Rev. F. M. Ellis, pastor of the church. The bride was dressed in cotille silk, with velvet trimmings and carried a bunch of La France roses. The ushers were Messrs. S. E. D. Stuart, Howard Rider, Harry Welby and Dr. H. B. Stevenson. The chancel was handsomely decorated with palms and flowers. After the ceremony the bride and groom came to their future home near Darnestown, this county.

The Farmers' Institute held at Barnesville Grange Hall on Tuesday was largely attended. The meeting was presided over by Worthy Master Ager of Eureka Grange, Prince George's county. The first speaker was Prof. E. W. Allen the government experimental station, whose subject was "Feeding Stuffs," after which Prof. Patterson read an essay on the "Dairy" by Allan Dodge, esq. At this point in the proceedings dinner was announced, and a fine repast was partaken of by all present. After dinner Prof. Patterson exhibited the "Babcock milk tester," and in a test of milk furnished by Mr. John W. Brown the same showed 9 per cent of butter fat. Addresses were afterward delivered by Mr. Robinson of Anne Arundel and Mr. Mainhart of this county.

In the circuit court for this county the cases of Jane Pugh vs. E. B. Prettyman, claimant, and the Metropolitan Southern Railroad Company vs. James E. Ray and others, exceptions filed by land owners have been set for hearing on the 25th instant.

Previous to adjournment the jury of condemnation on lands for the use of the southern extension of the B. and O. railroad made the following awards of damages: Richard Morgan, one acre, $1,500; Ignatius Belt, one and one-eighth acres, $1,750.

Miss Fannie Veirs of this place is visiting at the residence of Dr. Hammond, H street, Washington.

Herbert, son of Mr. Montgomery Clagett of Potomac district, left here this week for New Mexico, where he will be engaged with a mining company.

The Rockville Rod and Gun Club will hold its annual meeting for the election of officers on the 26th instant.

Blackwell Shelton, colored, of this place had a leg broken on Saturday by a large stone falling on it while at work on the railroad near Kensington. S. A. M.

LAUREL.

Correspondence of The Evening Star.

LAUREL, MD., January 18, 1893.

The religious revival which began in the First Baptist Church last Sunday is increasing in interest each night and will be continued as long as any good can be accomplished. Rev. Mr. Hatcher has charge of the meetings.

The court of appeals yesterday decided the case of Wilson & Poehlman against J. N. Herbert, which involved the title to the most valuable piece of property in this town. The property is situated at the corner of Main street and Washington avenue and was a few years ago rented by the plaintiffs, with, as they claimed, the privilege of buying it at a certain price. This was denied by Mr. Herbert, and since the value of the land has doubled he, of course, refused to convey it to them and they brought suit in the circuit court for title and being defeated there appealed to the court of appeals. Mr. Herbert will be compelled to accept the original purchase price claimed by Wilson & Poehlmann to have been agreed upon and in addition to refund the rents received and pay the costs of the suit.

The published statement that the Citizens' National Bank had declared a dividend at the directors' meeting last week is erroneous, as the bank can only declare dividends in February and August.

Mr. John W. Jackson has forwarded his resignation as justice of the peace for this district to Gov. Brown, stating that there was not business enough to justify his continuance in office. His successor has not yet been appointed.

THE SEVERE COLD SNAP.

Reports are received from the surrounding country that the severe cold has killed partridges, rabbits and birds in large numbers and those still living are starving to death. Cattle have suffered much and some few head have been frozen to death. There is much suffering among the poor people who have not warm houses and clothes. The lowest the thermometer has reached yet was 13° below zero, though it has reached zero almost every morning for the past week, and sometimes a little lower.

NOTES.

Dr. Evan T. Warfield and Mrs. Warfield of Glenwood, Md., are the guests of Dr. D. W. Snowden.

Miss Maggie Baldwin is visiting Miss Bettie Hopkins in Baltimore.

Mr. Wm. Bond is visiting his sister, Mrs. Wm. B. Todd, in Washington.

Mr. Wm. Keron of the Bank of Washington has been visiting his friend, Capt. C. C. Ivey of this place.

Mr. H. G. Dormey, who has been visiting the family of Mr. Edward J. Phelps, has returned to his home in Baltimore.

Dr. Frank Martin has returned to his home in Baltimore after spending a few days with his friends here.

Mr. William H. Strauss of Baltimore has been visiting here for several days past.

Dr. W. W. Gray has returned from Washington, where he spent several days with friends.

Mr. Richard Estep is visiting his aunt, Mrs. Ottomar Brehme, on Main street.

Mr. William Earnshaw of Washington and Mr. Clifton Silcott of Round Hill, Va., have returned to their homes, after spending several weeks here.

Miss Blanche Baldwin of Laurel and Miss Minnie Grimes of Langdon are visiting Miss Marion Byng of Georgetown.

Soil, Drain, Waste and Vent Pipes.

To the Editor of The Evening Star:

A short time ago a board of experts submitted a new set of regulations in regard to pipes and plumbers. I fail to see the sense of that portion which relates to the location of soil, drain, waste and vent pipes. They are to "be located inside of buildings" and be accessible for inspection. Pipes so placed in our houses would be a nuisance. They would take up room; every one knows that nearly all our houses are small and cramped. The sound from them on the first floor would be annoying and repulsive. It would be very hard to conceal them from sight and sound and have them accessible.

I do not think pipes need to be placed inside to keep them from freezing. They will not freeze if placed on the outside if the water is properly turned off and the flushing tank is not allowed to click, which it will not do if kept in good order. Any pipes will sometimes freeze in the house in the severest weather if no fire is kept at night. I have never had any pipes freeze yet. In cold weather I always keep my fires over night. I have noticed a number of drain pipes that have frozen up during this cold weather, and as far as I could see it was caused by the water not having been properly cut off. I think it would be a wise thing to have an inspector to visit every house occasionally to see that all pipes and plumbing are kept in good order. D. M. H.

WELCOMING FRANCES WILLARD.

London Methodists Do Honor to the Eloquent American and Are Rewarded.

Miss Frances Willard was royally welcomed by the Wesleyans of London shortly after her recent arrival in the British metropolis. The meeting was held in St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross. It was a unique gathering. The *Methodist Times* says: "We have been at many Methodist meetings at London and elsewhere, but never at such a one as this. Its brilliant success reflected the greatest credit on the Rev. J. Surman Cooke, the chief organizer. Considering the brief time in which everything had to be arranged the meeting was very fairly represented in common, though we missed some who would certainly have been present but for previous engagements. Dr. Stevenson, ex-president of the Wesleyan Methodist conference, presided, and a great many distinguished Methodists were on the platform and in the audience." After naming a number of these the *Times* goes on to say: "Dr. Moulton welcomed the distinguished guests in a speech of singular felicity and eloquence, but he and all the other gentlemen present must pardon us when we say that the honors of that memorable meeting belong to the other sex. Miss Willard, who had a magnificent reception, the whole audience rising, replied first to the address of welcome, and it is not too much to say that few, if any, of those who were privileged to be present ever heard a more powerful speech. In her quaint American accent, but speaking right out from her heart, Miss Willard accepted the welcome of English Methodism in a speech of singular pathos and of the most refined eloquence. She raised the meeting to the level of her own high character and that high level was maintained throughout. The most earnest address at a revival prayer meeting could not have been more intensely spiritual than was Miss Willard's speech. For pure and sustained, yet simple, eloquence we have seldom heard it equaled and never surpassed. And when she spoke with wonderful power on the deeper things of the soul many eyes were wet with tears. No one who was present will ever forget it."

The Meter Still Goes On.

To the Editor of The Evening Star:

Will you kindly invite the attention of the Washington Gas Company through your columns to the fact that for over one week my residence has been without a ray of light, and in addition to this fact without even a ray of hope? For the past three months we have not had sufficient light to enable us to read THE STAR. Notwithstanding this fact the meter continues to register, the tenants continue to pay and the Washington Gas Company continues to survive. The appeals to this company have been quite as numerous as those made to the Associated Charities, but, unlike those, no heed has been taken. The claim as to the number of gas stoves used in this city plays no parts Why not increase the pressure if the fault lie here? Hoping that your paper may be successful in correcting and giving to the citizens of Washington the much-needed light, I beg to sign myself, SUBSCRIBER,

1303 H st.

The Waste of Water.

To the Editor of The Evening Star:

In THE STAR of Tuesday is an account of cases brought before Judge Kimball involving charges of "wasting Potomac water," and two cases of complaint by Inspector McAvoy are cited which are worthy of comment. In one case the lady of the house had succeeded in partly thawing one of two frozen water pipes, and in order to finish the thawing process she suffered the water to run through the pipe for a little time and was caught in the act of so doing by this inspector. Now, this lady was doing no more than any other person would have done under like circumstances, and no more than what has probably been done by scores of persons in Washington during this unusually cold winter. Water pipes have frozen in every part of the city, and, if as yet thawed at all, the very process adopted by this lady is the one which alone has proved successful. There was no proof of any willful or careless waste of water, and there was no such waste.

The other was the case in which a housekeeper had turned slops into the waste basin of the water closet to be conveyed away to the sewer, and then, as is usual in such case, turned on the water to flush the basin. While in the act of doing this the door bell rang, and in her haste to answer the call she inadvertently left the water running perhaps for a minute. The caller chanced to be this inspector, who ought to have taken in the situation and have known that it did not furnish a case to justify complaint. This housekeeper was doing nothing more than what is done in every well-regulated house in the city in which there is a water closet. The slops are emptied into the waste basin, which is flushed by turning on the water. If this constitutes a "waste of Potomac water" we are all in for it, and Inspector McAvoy and his associates need have no concern about finding opportunity to earn their salaries. They may safely arrest and have fined or placed under bonds every housekeeper in the city. We all do it. But are not these so-called inspectors making unjust discrimination in their arrests or complaints? Do they enter the houses of the bobs and nabobs alike in their investigations? Or do they not, for the purpose of making a show of earning their salaries, make examples of those comparatively without influence, while the wealthy and influential, who waste ten times as much water and use ten times as much as many poor families, are never molested nor arrested for so doing?

N. W.

Fish Food in Plenty.

To the Editor of The Evening Star:

I have just come on from Newberne, N. C., where I have been sojourning throughout the entire cold term. Never before have the adjacent waters been so crowded with fish, chiefly sea trout and mullet, with some red drum, and the protracted cold weather has had the effect to render them torpid. They swarm into the Neuse river and up the Trent above the city in dense masses, so that they are scooped up with baskets, dipped with nets and picked up with oyster tongs. Seines dropped over the bows of fishing boats just below the city are hauled in full of fish. The quantities marketed by G. N. Eves, Watson & Daniels, E. W. Lane and the other heavy fish packers are numbered by the millions, and they wholesale at 10 or 12 cents apiece. A twelve-pound sea trout will retail at 22 cents. There are fish galore in Newberne, and if this part of the country is in danger of running short of food the remedy is to send to Newberne and replenish. Consignments leaving Newberne at 9 o'clock a.m. are scheduled to reach Washington at 11:10 the same night. The fish are large, fat and delicious, and in my opinion the opportunity now afforded is well worthy the attention of Washington city dealers. C.H.

The National Rifles and the National Guard.

To the Editor of The Evening Star:

It being a matter of public concern I ask the use of sufficient space to publicly request Mr. Geo. W. Evans to give me information that he has neglected to give me on my private application to him for it.

On the 10th instant you printed an interview with Mr. Evans relative to a bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. Chandler to prohibit the existence of unauthorized military organizations. Your reporter states that in that interview Mr. Evans said there was "reason to believe" that members of the National Guard had taken steps to compel the National Rifles to "either join the guard or disband."

In view of the publication of that interview I addressed the following letter to Mr. Evans. He has not replied to my letter, and I am, therefore, forced to publicly ask him to give me a public reply. I do not intend that accusations shall be publicly made against the men I have the honor to command and allow the accuser to shirk or evade responsibility for them. I propose that Mr. Evans shall either give to the public the facts on which he bases his assertion or publicly admit that he had no knowledge of any facts on which he based his assertion, or, by maintaining silence, leave the citizens of the District to draw their own inferences in regard to himself and his assertions:

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 11, 1893.

George W. Evans, Esq.:

Dear Sir:

* * * * * * *

"In THE EVENING STAR of yesterday I find the inclosed article, which publishes that you 'said' that there was 'reason to believe' that members of the District National Guard had taken steps to compel the National Rifles to 'either join the guard or disband.' The 'steps' referred to being evidently a bill, described in the beginning of the article, introduced in the Senate by Mr. Chandler.

"Presuming that you would not make such a gratuitous public assertion without knowledge of some facts on which to base it, I request that you will inform me of any facts of which you have knowledge that justify your assertion that the re is 'reason to believe' the allegations you publish, in order that I may officially investigate them.

"ALBERT ORDWAY,

"Brig. General, D.C. Militia."

SALVATION OIL cures headache and earache.

TENNYSONIAN PREJUDICES.

He Had No Love for "the Common People" and Spoke Disdainfully of Them.

Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, M. A.

At the bottom of Tennyson's jingoism, as of all jingoism, was dislike, or at least distrust, of the common people. In one of his poems he speaks of the common people as "the many-headed beast." Oh, sadly significant expression! Jesus Christ was absolutely incapable, under any circumstances, or for any purpose, of calling the multitude on whom he had compassion the "many-headed beast." And I venture to say that the true poet of the new year upon which we are now entering, the true poet of the twentieth century, will never speak of the people thus. In "Locksley Hall, Sixty Years After," Tennyson refers with derision and contempt to household suffrage. He expressed his horror and dismay that the rulers of the British empire had to take "the voices of the field" and "the suffrage of the plow;" but let us not unduly condemn Tennyson. If he had not exhibited this particular temper in relation to the poor he would not have been such a representative of culture in the Victorian age, as in truth he is. It would be most unreasonable of us to expect that Tennyson should be a man of his great grandchildren's time instead of being a man of his own time. His prejudice only proves that he simply represents the nineteenth century of his day, with all its peculiarities. And if he had not exhibited from time to time this anti-democratic scorn he would not have been the mirror of the Victorian age. He was, in truth, the very type of the Anglican and academic English gentleman of the nineteenth century. As the son of a country clergyman and the child of the University of Cambridge, he exhibited some of the manliest, noblest and most splendid virtues of his race. But he had the defects of his qualities. He belonged essentially to the old governing classes that have so long ruled England and the British empire, but who will not rule England much longer, unless they accept the new ideas of the new era which we have already entered. Every man who has eyes to see must realize that the twentieth century will be both democratic and socialistic. We must not be frightened by words, for the fundamental tenet of the century thus described will be the dictum of a Carpenter of Nazareth, who said that "a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." Channing, who knew the ethical mind of Christ a great deal better than most of those who are more orthodox than himself, pointed out long ago that the real cause of war, which still desolates mankind even in civilized countries, is contempt for the individual man. If those in authority recognized the dignity and sacredness of every human life there could be no war in civilized lands.

Flood the Fish Ponds.

To the Editor of The Evening Star:

Will you kindly, through your columns, ask the District Commissioners to have the ponds, provided Col. Ernst will give his consent, at the foot of 17th street flooded? I am sure the fire department will respond promptly, as they so willingly did a few years ago. The beach is a dangerous place for the ladies and children to skate on and the ice is in a poor condition, but an inch or so of water over the ice on the fish ponds will give them a surface like glass and be a safe place. Will Col. Ernst grant permission of the use of the fish ponds and oblige

HUNDREDS OF SKATERS?

A Ladies' Turn Verein.

The organization of a ladies' turn verein, to be known as Ladies' Section, Columbia Turn Verein of Washington, D. C., was completed Tuesday evening. It is to be an adjunct to the large national body, der Amerikanisher Turner Bund, the existence of which dates back more than fifty years. The ladies composing the new organization have been actively engaged in various ways in supporting the male branch, heretofore the only body, and have realized the advantages which ladies would derive were they similarly organized and a gymnasium class for ladies instituted. They felt satisfied that cultivation of grace, development of muscle and elegant carriage—the essentials to symmetry in growth and promotion of health—are as highly important for the young miss and budding woman as for the youth and young man. The club has set out with thirty-five charter members, and it promises a rapid growth, the present prospects indicating that in the near future it will have from seventy-five to 100 members. Applications for membership must have the indorsement of a member of the club and the applicant must be capable of readily conversing in the German language, the constitution providing that all gatherings and meetings shall be conducted in German. Of course Americans or persons of any nationality can be accepted as members provided they have the qualifications. As soon as is practicable the female gymnastic class will be opened and competent teachers engaged. Upon the older ladies will fall the duty of chaperoning at each of the gymnastic meetings. The male section, which owns the spacious meeting and gymnasium halls, ladies' parlors and other rooms, has extended the use of these to the ladies, while the funds of both sections go for the common good. The credit for the undertaking is due almost entirely to the efforts of Mrs. K. Abel. The officers elected for the first year are: Mrs. K. Abel, president; Mrs. E. Reuter, vice president; Miss H. Heitmuller, secretary, and Mrs. C. Blatzheim, treasurer.

OUTRAGE TO AN AMERICAN.

A Citizen of Boston Arrested in Hayti and Imprisoned Without Justification.

Frederick Mevs, the American who was under arrest in Port-au-Prince, Hayti, for alleged smuggling and afterward released, is in the employ of Green, Knaebel & Co. of Boston. Mr. Green states that what he learns of the matter is that Mevs went from his home, which is back in the town, to the water front, and purchased half a dozen shirts. When returning to his house he was arrested, charged with smuggling and thrown into prison, where he was confined twenty days in a filthy cell, as before reported.

The Haytians say, in excuse for Mr. Mevs' arrest, that he is an inveterate smuggler.

The arrest was ordered by Eugene La Victoire, an aid de camp to the president. There were witnesses present who offered to prove Mr. Mevs' innocence on the spot, but the police refused to listen to them.

When the assistant attorney general, after hearing the evidence of the witnesses, admitted that the charge against him was without foundation, Mr. Mevs' lawyer made a speech denouncing the false imprisonment and declaring that Hayti would probably be subjected to humiliation by a superior power.

President Hippolyte is greatly excited over this case. It is reported that he has even consulted the pope's special envoy, Mgr. Tonti, in the matter and is disposed to fight. The minister of foreign affairs says that Hayti is prepared for the worst.

The most serious side of this case is said to be the threat of expulsion, which means that if any foreigner dares to insist upon pressing a just claim against Hayti he will be punished by exile. The members of the diplomatic and consular corps all agree that their governments would refuse to permit Hayti to carry out such a policy.

A NUMBER OF SENATORS CHOSEN.

White in California and Davis in Minnesota Have a Close Call.

In addition to those mentioned in Wednesday's STAR's telegraphic reports the following have been elected to the upper house of Congress: Pennsylvania, Mathew S. Quay; Delaware, George Gray; Maine, Eugene Hale; Missouri, Francis M. Cockrell; Indiana, David Turpie; Michigan, Francis B. Stockbridge; Tennessee, Wm. B. Bate; California, Stephen M. White; Minnesota, Cushman K. Davis.

Senator White was born in San Francisco in 1853. He became a successful lawyer and was sent to the legislature. He was an opponent of Senator Stanford for the United States senatorship in 1890. He is one of the leading democrats of California.

The escape of Senator Davis from defeat Wednesday was the narrowest in the history of Minnesota politics. The anti-Davis men got a job Tuesday night which they thought would prove a sure winner. Tuesday, in the vote in separate houses, Mr. Davis received 87 votes in a total of 167, with Representative Holter of Wright county absent.

The balloting next day began amid much excitement, because it had become pretty generally known that Senator Gunderian of Anoka and Representative Christie of Albert Lea and Carlson of Minneapolis had concluded to desert Davis, as it would bring his vote down to 84, one short of a majority.

When the clerk of the house reached the name of Holter in calling the roll, however, that gentleman, supposed to be miles away in the country, stepped into the house and cast his vote for Davis, giving him 85 votes—just enough to elect him.

The result was closely followed and a hearty burst of applause greeted the result, which had been declared doubtful by the political and other opponents of Senator Davis. After the announcement of the result the joint session adjourned.

FOUR GREAT CARS.

They Will Carry the Krupp Guns to Chicago.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has brought to Baltimore from its shops at Altoona, Pa., the four ponderous cars that are to carry the big Krupp guns from that port to the Columbian exposition. The guns are still at the Krupp works in Essen, Prussia, but are expected here at an early date. They will be removed from the ship that brings them across the water at Sparrows Point, and there loaded in the cars. With one exception these cars are the largest ever built in the history of railroad construction. The flat car which was used in the earlier part of the Centennial exposition to transport the ordnance department's exhibit, the special field and coast pieces shown by the United States and foreign governments, and the private exhibitions of French, Russian and German gunmakers was slightly larger than either of these cars. The cars arrived over the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad a few days ago, and were hauled down to a switch on 5th avenue, Canton, where they will remain until the arrival of the guns.

In appearance they resemble a substantial bridge or a big gable truss on walking-beams. They are all painted a "bridge brown," with the weight of gun, bridge, car and total weights painted upon them in bright white letters.

The material used is heavy forged plates strongly riveted together, and big "jack-timbers" for the frames of the carriages. The largest car rides on thirty-six wheels. These wheels are not of the usual solid pattern, but are spoked and hubbed and resemble the high wheels of the English railway cars and carriages. The trucks beneath this car are numbered 5116 and 5117, and the wheels are cast with the words "gun trust," in raised letters. On this car is the following inscription: "Built by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, Altoona shops, 1892.

Weight of Krupp gun	270,000
Weight of bridge	47,000
Weight of car	64,000
Total weight	445,000

The second car is similarly marked, with the exception of the weights. The second in size of the Krupp guns weighs 140,000 pounds and the total weight of the car is 253,300 pounds. The trucks beneath this car are numbered 5114 and 5115. The wheels are of the solid type—that is, they are not provided with spokes. The two other cars are similar to the second car described in every particular, except being a trifle smaller. All the cars are fitted out with the latest brake appliances. They are attracting much attention among the residents of Canton.

A NEW TRIAL FOR COUGHLIN.

Two Jurors in the Cronin Case Who Were Ineligible.

Daniel Coughlin, the only man living of the three who were sentenced to pass their lives within prison walls for the murder of Dr. Patrick H. Cronin of Chicago, is probably a free man. The verdict which condemned him was yesterday set aside by the Illinois supreme court and his case was reversed and remanded for a new trial. Coughlin will now, in all probability, go free, because it will be practically impossible to convict him again.

The witness, Patrick Dinan, who swore that Coughlin hired from his livery stable the white horse which carried Cronin away to his death, died many months ago. His evidence was the main thing which led the jury to declare that Coughlin was guilty of conspiracy to murder.

Three of the four men who stood trial with Coughlin—John B. Beggs, Patrick O'Sullivan and Martin Burke—are dead. Kunz was to all intents and purposes acquitted and cannot be tried again. With all his alleged companions in the conspiracy out of the way the state's attorney declares that he can hardly convict one man of the conspiracy, and a direct charge of murder was not proven against Coughlin in the first place.

INELIGIBILITY OF TWO JURORS.

The reversal is based principally on the ineligibility of Bontecou and Clark, jurors. The justice shows by the examination of these two, which is given nearly in full, that they were prejudiced when summoned; that they had formed opinions, which, when juggled by the court and attorneys, were, to all appearances, found to be groundless or regarded as jurors' excuses.

There were forty-six errors claimed by the counsel for the defendants and of these the court did not think it worth while to consider more than the one touching the two jurors. The two men, E. J. Bontecou and Benjamin F. Clark, were not on the regular panel, but were brought into court on a special venire made by a bailiff especially appointed by the trial court for the purpose.

At the time they were called and examined as jurors Coughlin had exhausted the number of peremptory challenges allowed by law and could do no more than aver his objections to the sitting of the two men as jurors.

JURORS WERE PREJUDICED.

When Bontecou was examined by the counsel for the defense he testified that he had read newspaper accounts of the commission of the crime and had an opinion as to the guilt of Coughlin. Burke and O'Sullivan, but that his opinion would not prevent him from being an impartial juror. Bontecou testified that he entertained a strong prejudice against the members of Camp 20, Clan-na-Gael, and would refuse to believe them under oath, and most of the witnesses for Coughlin were members of that body.

Clark testified that he had an opinion as to the guilt of the accused men, based upon what he had read, but that he could render a fair and impartial verdict. On cross-examination he admitted that he had frequently expressed an opinion as to the guilt of the accused and said that he entertained a prejudice against the Clan-na-Gael.

The court held that the competency of these jurors was established and overruled the challenge for cause interposed by Coughlin. This proceeding, the supreme court declares, was an error, because the defendant had a right to a fair and impartial trial, and it was evident that he could not have had such a trial, when two of the men who condemned him had admitted before the trial began that they were prejudiced against him and against the men who gave the bulk of the testimony which he introduced in his behalf.

Two of the justices, Schofield and Magruder, dissented, Justice Schofield writing at the end of his opinion: "I dissent both from the reasoning and conclusions in the foregoing opinion."

Justice Magruder declares that because the men had read the newspapers was no reason why they were disqualified to act as jurors. In his opinion neither Bontecou nor Clark had expressed themselves in such a way as to disqualify them from acting as jurors.

The decision is 18,000 words in length and covers sixty-three closely typewritten pages.

Selling Worthless Degrees to Welshmen.

From the Methodist Times (London).

A correspondent of the South Wales *Daily News* has been investigating the list of Welsh graduates whose degrees have been received from a "Druidic Welsh University" in America. Nearly 100 names are published, and if the degrees were of real value the array of talent represented would be most formidable. It is needless to say that the gentlemen and ladies whose names are given do not feel particularly grateful for the publicity thus thrust upon them in the columns of the newspapers. There is a prodigality of D. D.'s, A. M.'s and Lit. D.'s. It would be cruel to suggest that Lit. D.'s may signify "Little Dunces." It is said that when a "Lit. D." once proffered half a crown for his parchment the astonished "Doctor in Letters" received change.

Died of a Horrible Disease.

Mrs. A. F. Wood, wife of a prominent pioneer citizen of Hardin county, Iowa, has just died at Union, Ohio, of what is said to have been leprosy in its most malignant form. She had been bedridden and utterly helpless for a number of years, her body finally becoming so shrunken, distorted and disfigured that she scarcely resembled a human being. Part of her face, her fingers, toes and portions of her lower limbs had been eaten away by the ravages of the terrible disease.

Suits Against Ex-Clergymen.

Mr. Arnold Morley, the British postmaster general, and his brother Samuel have brought suit against three ex-clergymen of the Church of England named Longhman to recover the sum of £140,000, which, it is alleged, they obtained by undue influence from Henry Morley, now deceased, a brother of the plaintiffs. Messrs. Arnold and Samuel Morley are executors of the will of their brother and the suit is brought by them in that capacity.

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