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## AMUSEMENTS.

**TO-NIGHT.**  
 McCOMBICK HALL—North Clark street, corner  
 Knieble. Lecture at 8 p. m. by Prof. R. A. Proctor.  
 Subject: "The Mysteries of the Universe."  
 GROWING OPERA HOUSE—N. W. Madison  
 street. Lecture at 8 p. m. by D. B. Magruder. Sub-  
 ject: "Revolution in Louisiana."  
 NEW CHICAGO THEATRE—Clark street, between  
 Lake and Randolph. "Die Verlobte Prinzessin."

**TO-MORROW.**  
 ADOLPH THEATRE—Dearborn street, corner  
 Clark and LaSalle. The California Minstrels.  
 BOOLEY'S THEATRE—Randolph street, between  
 Clark and LaSalle. The California Minstrels.  
 McVICAR'S THEATRE—Madison street, between  
 Dearborn and State. "The Mystery of the  
 "The Mystery of the Mystery."  
 WOODS MUSEUM—Monroe street, between Dear-  
 born and State. Afternoon: "Little Bardsell." Even-  
 ing: "Devotion."

## SOCIETY MEETINGS.

LAFAYETTE CHAPTER No. 2, R. A. M.—Hall, 72  
 Madison-st. (Sister Convention) Monday evening, Feb.  
 14, at 7:30 o'clock, for business and work. By order of  
 the H. P. E. N. TUCKER, Sec'y.

ATTENTION, SIR KNIGHTS!—Special Conclave of  
 Chicago Commandery No. 19, R. T. M. Monday evening,  
 Feb. 14, for work on the R. T. Order. Visiting Sir  
 Knights cordially invited. By order of E. C.  
 CHAS. J. THORNBURG, Recorder.

## BUSINESS NOTICES.

DR. ADONIS, OF SAN FRANCISCO, WHO ENJOYS  
 a national reputation for his extraordinary success in  
 the treatment of Catarrhs, Asthma, Bronchitis, and  
 Consumption, can be consulted at the Grand Pacific  
 Hotel, Chicago, Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 15 and 16.

## The Chicago Tribune.

Sunday Morning, February 13, 1876.

At the New York Exchange on Saturday  
 greenbacks ranged from 88 1/2 to 89 1/2.

Well, if the indictment of Aldermen goes  
 on, it is barely possible that the Chicago  
 Common Council may some day cease to be  
 a jobbing mill for grinding out to order of-  
 fices, franchises, contracts, gratuities, and  
 perquisites, to be disposed of to the highest  
 bidder!

What is to become of the People's party if  
 all their Aldermen are to be grabbed by the  
 relentless arm of the law and made to ac-  
 count for their public transactions? It is  
 fortunate that that organization that some of  
 its political chiefs have been operating on  
 other than United States moneys, and may  
 therefore escape the toils which have gath-  
 ered about HILDRETH and CULLERTON.

A conversation is reported from Washing-  
 ton, in which Col. FRED GRANT is reported to  
 have disavowed in the most emphatic terms  
 any desire on the part of his father to serve a  
 third term, and in which he said that Gen.  
 Grant would not accept the nomination of  
 the Cincinnati Convention if it were tendered  
 to him. While young Mr. GRANT can scarcely  
 be regarded as his father's spokesman,  
 there is little doubt that he is well informed  
 as to the President's expressed purpose in  
 this regard. The younger GRANT is fur-  
 ther represented as saying that Mr. CON-  
 LISK, of New York, is "a statesman, a  
 good Republican, and the man for  
 President," and this has been construed  
 to mean that President GRANT will  
 favor Mr. CONLISK in the Convention. But  
 it has likewise been reported with equal  
 circumstantiality that President GRANT will  
 give Mr. MONTROIS his support for the nomination.  
 It has, moreover, been asserted by intimate  
 friends of both that Mr. WASHINGTON may  
 depend upon Gen. GRANT's good offices. It is  
 known, too, that Gen. GRANT and Mr. BLAINE  
 are on the most amicable terms, socially and  
 politically. The strongest probability is  
 that, Gen. GRANT having definitely deter-  
 mined not to be a candidate himself under  
 any circumstances, will leave the gentlemen  
 who desire the nomination free to fight their  
 own way, reserving all his good will and support  
 for the successful man.

The Chicago Times shows a somewhat un-  
 reasonable and suspicious desire to have Mr.  
 CHARLES H. REED prosecuted on some crim-  
 inal charge or other. Its latest effort in this  
 direction is a report explicitly setting forth  
 that an indictment had been found against  
 Mr. REED for implication in the whisky  
 frauds. The article containing this "infor-  
 mation" recounted with great particularity  
 that the Times reporter had actually, though  
 surreptitiously, got a sight at the indictment.  
 The fact seems to be that the Times reporter  
 wrote out a positive lie to conform to the  
 policy of his paper to have Mr. REED in-  
 dicted somewhere for something. Mr. REED  
 has not only not been indicted, but there is  
 reason to believe that no evidence has been  
 taken by the United States Grand Jury on  
 which such an indictment could be based.  
 When a newspaper thus prostitutes its col-  
 umns, and fills them with baseless fab-  
 rications simply to work out a personal  
 spleen, it is proper that it should be  
 exposed in terms befitting the  
 proceeding. Mr. REED is State's Attorney,  
 and in that capacity he has been frequently  
 called on within the past year or two to in-  
 dict the proprietor of the Times. For this  
 Mr. REED has attracted the Times' special  
 retortation. That paper has resolved that  
 REED shall be punished, and, if no Grand  
 Jury will indict him, it proposes to publish  
 him as having been indicted all the same.  
 This is the Times' conception of the functions  
 of journalism.

The Chicago produce markets were gener-  
 ally easier on Saturday. Mess pork was active  
 and irregular, closing 20c per lb lower, at  
 \$20.75 cash and \$20.87 1/2 for March. Lard  
 was active, and closed 7 1/2c for 10c per  
 lb lower, at \$12.50 for 2 1/2c and \$12.65  
 for March. Meats were quiet and steady, at  
 8c for boxed shoulders, 11c for do short ribs,  
 and 11c for do short loins. Highwines  
 were quiet and unchanged, at \$1.00 per gal-  
 lon. Flour was quiet and unchanged. Wheat  
 was less active and 1 1/2c lower, closing at  
 \$1.02 1/2 for February and \$1.01 1/2 for March.  
 Corn was dull and 1/2c lower, closing at 41c  
 cash and 41 1/2c for March. Oats were quiet  
 and 1/2c lower, closing at 31 1/2c cash and 31 1/2c  
 for March. Rye was steady, at 67c for 1c.  
 Barley was more active and 5/16c lower, closing  
 at 69 1/2c for February and 69 1/2c for March.

Hogs were active and firm, at \$7.75@8.25 for  
 packing grades. Cattle were quiet and steady  
 at Friday's quotations, —\$3.00@5.50 for com-  
 mon to choice. Sheep were inactive and  
 nominal. One hundred dollars in gold would  
 buy \$113.00 in greenbacks at the close.

It is reported that a desperate effort is to  
 be made by St. Louis to secure the location  
 of the National Democratic Convention in that  
 city. It is not our funeral, and Chicago is so  
 little Democratic in a partisan sense (especial-  
 ly since the People's party has become syn-  
 onymous with the Democratic party in this  
 city) that scarcely an effort will be made on  
 behalf of Chicago. We feel it to be our duty  
 to say, nevertheless, that, if the National  
 Committee consult the individual interests  
 and comfort of their delegates, they will se-  
 lect Chicago for their meeting-place. The  
 ease and inexpensiveness with which Chicago  
 can be reached from all points in the coun-  
 try, the unequalled hotel accommodations of-  
 fered to large gatherings; the interest which  
 the whole country feels in this city; the ad-  
 vantage of the Exposition Building for hold-  
 ing the Convention and an audience of 35,000  
 people besides,—these are some of the rea-  
 sons which should dictate the selection of  
 Chicago. In a political way, there is an ad-  
 vantage in coming to Chicago, which, being  
 a Republican city in a Republican State, will  
 seek to bring no local pressure to bear, but  
 leave all the delegates free to struggle for  
 their respective preferences.

The Catholic Telegraph is publishing a  
 "Little Catechism" relative to the Papal in-  
 fallibility, which is intended to elucidate the  
 doctrine for the benefit of the Catholic laity,  
 and is understood to have received the Pope's  
 approval. The ground is taken that the  
 Pope is infallible because he is assisted by  
 the Holy Spirit, as promised to Peter; and  
 his being at the same time the infallibility of  
 the Church, there can be no difference of  
 opinion between him and his Bishops, as the  
 Holy Spirit will also keep them from error.  
 It is held that other Councils may be called,  
 nevertheless, on the following account:

Councils may still be necessary for many reasons;  
 but the necessity can never be absolute, and it is proper  
 for the welfare of the Church that this should be the  
 case. In fact, before this definition, Pope said, when  
 the treatment of Catholic truth and doctrine is  
 without the aid of Councils. At the present day, above  
 all, when error spreads with such rapidity, it is a great  
 advantage that, in order to see falsehood condemned  
 and truth proclaimed, we need not, as in former times,  
 wait the reunion of a Council for the assent of Bishops  
 dispersed through the entire Church. It is not  
 sufficient that we hear the voice of the Vicar of Jesus  
 Christ, the universal Pastor and Doctor.

The Council of the Vatican, it is held, did  
 not invent the doctrine of infallibility, nor  
 change it, but merely recognized what had  
 always existed.

## CITY EXPENDITURES AND CITY TAXES.

The Citizens' Association have obtained  
 from official and authentic sources the fol-  
 lowing figures, showing the indebtedness of  
 this city and county:

County debt.....\$4,000,000  
 City bonded debt.....13,500,000  
 City floating debt.....1,500,000  
 Total.....\$9,000,000

This is 7 per cent, calls for an annual tax  
 of \$1,800,000 for interest, beside at least 10  
 per cent for cost of collection. The growth  
 of this debt has been a rapid one. At least  
 \$10,000,000 have been added to it since the  
 fire. Against this array of figures, the  
 Comptroller states that on Jan. 1 there were  
 then due, in various forms, to the city the  
 sum of \$9,900,000 of unpaid taxes; making  
 an allowance for unpaid county, park, and  
 State taxes, there were in all \$10,000,000 of  
 unpaid taxes due on Jan. 1, 1876. Against  
 this sum of unpaid taxes were the unex-  
 pended balances of the appropriations for  
 city, town, and county expenses up to  
 March 31, amounting probably to \$2,500,000.

What we wish to call public attention to  
 especially is, that before August, 1876, the  
 people of this city will have to pay \$10,000,  
 000 of tax, or over \$1,000,000 a month.  
 This important fact, having a direct bear-  
 ing upon the ability of the people to pay  
 their taxes at all, seems to be entirely over-  
 looked by those branches of the local Gov-  
 ernment which are clothed with the power to  
 tax, contract debts, and expend the public  
 money. The charter having changed the  
 time of beginning the fiscal year from April  
 to January, and the city having last year  
 made its appropriations for a whole year end-  
 ing March 31, 1876, the city appropriations  
 for 1876 will be for the nine months begin-  
 ning April 1 and ending Dec. 31.

The Board of Public Works, the Police  
 and the Fire Departments, and the Board of  
 Education, have made their estimates of ex-  
 penditures for the nine months of 1876, and  
 they have illustrated the truth that men in  
 office always settle down to the conviction  
 that Governments are instituted among men  
 for the purpose of spending money, and  
 that the primary duty of men in office is to  
 be liberal in spending other people's money.  
 Under the present financial circumstances of  
 the city and the people, some of these es-  
 timates are positively enormous, are wholly  
 unjustifiable, and ought never to be consid-  
 ered. Here they are:

	12 mos. ap- propriations.	Estimate for 9 months.
Police Department.....	\$67,740	\$52,187
Fire Department.....	\$50,135	\$39,607
Board of Education.....	\$97,653	\$73,729
Public Works.....	\$22,000	\$16,500
Board of Education.....	\$67,122	\$50,341
Totals.....	\$297,650	\$232,164

It will be seen that these four departments  
 ask \$246,567 for nine months of 1876, for  
 objects for which \$237,682 were appro-  
 priated last year for twelve months. The  
 increase for the next nine months over the  
 current twelve months' expenditure is nearly  
 30 per cent; and this increase, extended for  
 the whole twelve months, would make a total  
 in these four departments alone of \$1,200,000,  
 or 36 per cent per annum. Is there anything  
 in the existing condition of the city, or in  
 the financial circumstances of the people, to  
 warrant an increase of the taxes 36 per cent  
 over last year?

The Fire Department asks an increase of  
 10 per cent on salaries; asks \$102,000 for  
 additional lots, buildings, and apparatus, and  
 \$100,000 for new wires for the fire-alarm.  
 All these requests are excessive. The  
 addition of 10 per cent to the salaries of  
 the Fire Department of course means a like  
 addition to all the salaries under the City  
 Government. The appropriation for new  
 apparatus and engine-houses is extravagant.  
 The great increase in the water-supply and  
 the immense force to be added to the water  
 by the completion of the new works in July  
 next will enable the Department to success-  
 fully resist any serious conflagration in the  
 districts supposed to be hazardous, without  
 any additional apparatus. A single engine  
 might be purchased, to be ready for service  
 in case of an accident disabling one of the  
 present ones, but the expenditure of \$102,000  
 is extravagant and absurd. The same rea-  
 sons are applicable to the new wires and  
 boxes. This work does not require to be  
 done all at once, and can be as satisfactorily

accomplished by an annual expenditure of a  
 reasonable amount for the purpose. Last  
 year's appropriation should certainly not be  
 exceeded, which would give \$430,000 for the  
 support of the Department for nine months.  
 The police estimates include City Marshal,  
 \$4,000; Deputy Superintendent, \$2,650; 150  
 additional patrolmen, \$90,000; horses and  
 outfit, \$8,500,—which should all be stricken  
 out as a useless and wasteful expenditure  
 of money. The estimate includes an increase  
 of salary of the 565 policemen to \$1,200 a  
 year each. An increase of salary at this  
 time is utterly preposterous.

The estimate of the Board of Public Works  
 contains an appropriation of \$100,000 for  
 new sewers which may be well dispensed  
 with. Since the spring following the fire,  
 the city has appropriated over \$1,800,000 for  
 sewers, and the system is pretty heavily ex-  
 tended. It is no part of the duty of the city  
 to extend sewers out on the prairie for the  
 mere purpose of giving additional value to  
 unoccupied lots and blocks of land. The  
 city can well afford to wait until the frontier  
 districts are filled up, or until the streets are  
 paved by the owners of the adjoining prop-  
 erty. The estimate also includes \$442,000  
 for extension of water-mains. Last year  
 there was no appropriation for this pur-  
 pose, and this estimate is intended to  
 cover two years. The extension of water-  
 mains is now so complete that we are in-  
 formed that, with laying an additional 6-inch  
 pipe on Milwaukee and Blue Island avenues,  
 there is no inhabited part of the city which  
 will not, after July next, be amply supplied  
 with water, not only for ordinary use, but  
 for fire purposes. The water fund is self-  
 supporting to an extent that it can now an-  
 nually, out of its own earnings, extend its  
 mains to the full measure of the public need,  
 and taxation for that purpose is wholly un-  
 necessary. This is not a time to resort to  
 taxation for any construction purposes. No  
 new work should be authorized, and all man-  
 ner of expenditures should be reduced.

The Board of Education is not behind in its  
 demands. It asks for 25 per cent more than  
 last year.

As we said before, all these departments act  
 on the principle that the purpose of Govern-  
 ment is to expend money, and that their duty  
 is to accomplish that purpose to the utmost  
 extent. Retrenchment is never thought of,  
 and the condition of the people to pay taxes  
 is never considered. It is very easy for a few  
 officials to write out how other people's  
 money may be expended, and it is immaterial  
 to them what the other people think about  
 the matter. Nevertheless, as we started out  
 by saying, the people of Chicago have ten  
 millions of dollars of taxes now due, not in-  
 cluding any tax for 1876, to pay within the  
 next seven months, and these people, thus  
 to be swept clean, will not bear to have ex-  
 penditures and taxation increased over last  
 year 36 or any other per cent.

## THE COMING CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL.

The event in the ecclesiastical world to  
 which the public looks forward with special  
 interest, just at this time, is the meeting of  
 the Council of Congregational Churches, on  
 Tuesday next, at Plymouth Church, Brook-  
 lyn, N. Y. In size it exceeds all other Ad-  
 visory Councils ever called in that denomina-  
 tion; as 172 churches have been invited to  
 take part, besides twenty ministers without  
 charge. Should all attend (as each church  
 may send its pastor and a delegate) there  
 would be 364 members,—a number equal to  
 that of one of the Triennial National Coun-  
 cils of the Congregationalists. But as part  
 of the churches have voted not to attend, and  
 pastors and delegates from others will in  
 some cases be detained at home by necessary  
 cares, there will be an assembly of about  
 three hundred persons. Yet this will be  
 an imposing body, whose deliberations  
 will be awaited with great interest. It can  
 hardly be regarded, however, as fully repre-  
 sentative of the denomination in weight of  
 character. The churches invited are by no  
 means, on an average, those of prominence  
 and influence. Indeed, in some cities, those  
 weakest and least known have been selected,  
 while others, among the largest and ablest of  
 the whole fraternity, have been passed by.  
 Much amusing inquiry has been made why  
 "one was taken and the other left," in the  
 exercise of an elective sovereignty; and it  
 has been suggested that the selection may  
 have been made from the ministers who sub-  
 scribed for the *Christian Union*. At all  
 events, the knowing ones claim that they can  
 produce a personal reason, showing a prop-  
 erty as the public shall believe the Council  
 to have been carefully packed, will the moral influ-  
 ence of its proceedings be weakened, should  
 these favor Mr. BEZECHE. Mere numbers, or  
 the extent of territory from which they are  
 drawn, cannot compensate for prejudiced  
 opinions, or for the substitution of advisers  
 of young and unknown men for those in re-  
 pute for wisdom and experience.

And yet it must not be supposed that the  
 Council will lack the presence of men of  
 standing and influence. Though the Theo-  
 logical Department of Yale, before which Mr.  
 BEZECHE has lectured with such *et alia*, might  
 be thought by some to be mortgaged to his  
 interest, yet one need not fear the shrinking  
 of such men as Dr. LEONARD BACON, Presi-  
 dent PORTER, and Drs. DWIGHT and FISHER,  
 when they are called directly to face plain  
 duty. The same may be said of Drs.  
 POND, WOLCOTT, FAIRCHILD, CHAPIN, STRUB-  
 VANT, and others, and of not a few of the  
 pastors invited. Mr. MONTROIS has been  
 seen fit, according to the account of the  
 reporter, to criticize Dr. BACON (who has  
 protested against anybody's declining to attend) as if he were a tricky and  
 disingenuous character. But Mr. MONTROIS's  
 acquaintance with ministers has not been  
 large or encouraging, and he is probably  
 smarting under some of Dr. BACON's charac-  
 terizations of his peculiar guidance of Mr.  
 BEZECHE's affairs. Dr. BACON is not believed  
 to be tricky by any who know him well;  
 but he is often disappointing to those who  
 expect him to represent a certain side of a  
 case. He has a penchant for being on both  
 sides; or, as he would claim, on neither side.  
 He carries a free lance, and does a good deal  
 of fighting on his own hook. After pouring  
 broadsides into the enemy, he is seldom  
 content till he has discharged a heavy shot  
 or two among his friends. Hence it  
 will not do to rely too confidently upon his assistance in any  
 given controversy. And so it has proved  
 in this case. He has been, hitherto, a thorn  
 in the side of BEZECHE, and equally in that of  
 TURTON and MONTROIS. The friends of truth  
 and justice may be glad that he is to be on  
 the coming Council. He was the Moderator,  
 and largely the ruling spirit, of the famous  
 Brooklyn Council of two years since, called  
 by the churches of Drs. SPOONER and BUR-  
 ROUGH. He will assuredly be heard from in  
 the coming Council. It was not without mean-  
 ing that he published in the New York Trib-

une his appeal to the churches and ministers  
 invited not to decline attendance because of  
 any unpleasant impressions or suspicions,  
 since that would be sure, if anything could  
 have that effect, to make the Council a one-  
 sided affair. This would seem to indicate  
 that he means to attend in good faith, as a  
 representative of the true interests of  
 religion, to give to Plymouth Church the  
 exact advice which in this grave  
 emergency it needs. Dr. BACON under-  
 stands that the Congregational denomina-  
 tion, as well as Plymouth Church, is vir-  
 tually on trial before the public, and he will  
 be bold to defend general as well as special  
 interests. It would not then be surprising  
 were Dr. BACON to succeed in impressing  
 even this carefully-culled body with the  
 gravity of the situation, and in leading it to  
 give wise and discriminating advice. Or,  
 failing in this, he might see fit to head a  
 determined minority in a protest against any  
 false principles or evil measures favored by  
 the majority.

It should not be hastily assumed that this  
 Council can accomplish no good. Though it  
 labors under the disadvantage of the *ex-parte*  
 principle (beneath a proper outward method)  
 on which it was called, and though the main  
 case in which the public is chiefly interested  
 is not to come directly before it,  
 yet it will have abundant opportunity  
 for offering good advice to  
 Plymouth Church, in answering the ques-  
 tions submitted by the Letter-Missive. It is  
 indeed too large and unwieldy for any proper  
 purposes of examination and deliberation.  
 Common sense indicates that a few able and  
 impartial men would be more thorough, calm,  
 and judicial in their action. Yet the solemn-  
 ity of their position will do much to abate  
 the usual sensational temptations of so  
 numerous a body. For, in addition to the  
 serious aspects of the BEZECHE case prior to  
 the sending out of the Letter-Missive, and  
 the importance of the points which that letter  
 raises, the Bowen development has since oc-  
 curred, and the Council will sit under the  
 shadow of the fearful indictment which he  
 brings against Mr. BEZECHE as being "guilty  
 of the awful crimes of adultery, perjury, and  
 hypocrisy." That fact will not come offi-  
 cially before it, perhaps; but the power of  
 it will be felt, and the thought of it will go  
 far to neutralize the eloquent pleadings of  
 the pastor of Plymouth Church. Then the  
 action of the Church of Andover Theological  
 Seminary in directly requesting Plymouth  
 Church to unite with it in calling a Council for  
 the express purpose of trying Mr. BEZECHE  
 will have influence in suggesting the final  
 advice to be given. It may then be expected,  
 with reasonable probability, that, after mak-  
 ing a disposal of the questions of mere  
 church-order propounded, the Council will  
 proceed to discharge what is really its main  
 duty in the circumstances, viz.: to assure  
 Plymouth Church, in the name of the whole  
 Congregational brotherhood, and of on-look-  
 ing Christendom, that this scandal must be  
 investigated, until "the bottom facts" shall  
 be disclosed; and that it cannot do better  
 than to accept the proposal of the Andover  
 Church. Public sentiment is now so nearly  
 unanimous to this effect that the Council  
 cannot fail to represent and enforce it. This  
 secured, the Council will have justified its  
 own existence, and Mr. BEZECHE, if really  
 innocent, will have occasion to rejoice in an  
 act of true friendship.

## THE GREAT CITY OF LONDON.

No better idea can be got of the immensity  
 of London than from the weekly health re-  
 port of the United Kingdom, embracing Lon-  
 don and twenty other large cities in Great  
 Britain. This report includes the record of  
 births and deaths, with information of pre-  
 vailing diseases, comparative rates of mortal-  
 ity, etc. In London during the week for  
 which the report is at hand, there were 2,448  
 births and 1,626 deaths, which, allowing  
 for the increase of the population, was 150 births  
 less and 223 deaths less than the average  
 for the corresponding week during the ten  
 preceding years. At this rate there is one birth  
 for every four minutes during the year and  
 one death for every eight minutes in the City  
 of London. The annual death-rate during  
 three weeks was respectively 24.3, 27, and  
 22.8 per 1,000 in London, which is much less  
 than the average of many large cities through-  
 out the world, the last report of which made  
 the following showing:

The annual rate of mortality, according to the most  
 recent weekly returns, in Calcutta was 51; Bombay,  
 23; Paris, 19; Brussels, 20; Amsterdam, 27; Rotter-  
 dam, 27; The Hague, 26; Copenhagen, 18; Christiania,  
 41; Berlin, 20; Hamburg, 23; Bremen, 31; Munich,  
 31; Vienna, 23; Buda-Pesth, 39; Turin, 26; Brook-  
 lyn, 29; Philadelphia, 21.

For London, with four and a quarter  
 millions of people to care for, including the  
 inner and outer circle of its population, this  
 showing is certainly most creditable. The  
 health report also takes account of the condi-  
 tion of the water-supply, the sewerage, and  
 other adjuncts of city life affecting the  
 general health. It seems that the system  
 of private filtration of water has been  
 widely adopted with good results, a new  
 process having been tried which converts the  
 organic matter into ammonia, which is harm-  
 less. The metropolitan character of London  
 life is illustrated by the large number of  
 deaths from violence, of which there were  
 68 during the week referred to; 56  
 deaths were the result of negligence or  
 accident, 4 of infanticide, and 6 of suicide.  
 The street-accidents numbered 3 deaths and  
 29 cases of injury, many of which could prob-  
 ably be traced to the dangerous smoothness  
 of the large amount of asphalt pavement  
 used. There were 265 deaths from what are  
 called "the seven principal diseases of the  
 zymotic class,"—60 from whooping-cough, 83  
 from scarlet fever, 55 from measles, 30 from  
 different forms of fever, 8 from diphtheria,  
 20 from diarrhoea, and not one from small-  
 pox, which is remarkable as compared with  
 the ravages of this disease elsewhere.

The world is trying a great experiment on  
 the banks of the Thames. It is building up  
 there a city which is vast almost beyond  
 human comprehension. The population of  
 London (the city proper) will be almost ex-  
 actly 3,600,000 in the middle of 1876. But  
 even these well-nigh incredible figures do  
 not tell the whole story. The city is  
 surrounded by a ring of close-packed sub-  
 urbs, which, with their population of 800,-  
 000, are really part of it. They are officially  
 known as "Outer London." The whole  
 metropolis, therefore, can lay claim, accord-  
 ing to the London Times, to more than  
 4 1/2 million inhabitants! In 1790, fourteen  
 years after the thirteen colonies had declared  
 their independence, the United States had  
 less than 4,000,000 inhabitants, including  
 slaves, and London at that time only 600,000.  
 At present, the births in both Outer and  
 Inner London largely outnumber the deaths,  
 and immigration exceeds emigration. A  
 great city always acts like a sponge. It  
 sucks population from the surrounding  
 country. This process is going on all over  
 England, and yet the nineteen largest towns  
 in the provinces, from Liverpool, with its

521,544 inhabitants, to Plymouth, with its  
 72,230, have a smaller population together  
 than London has alone.

Facts like these show what a world of  
 knowledge is to be won by a study of the  
 metropolis of England. In forms of gov-  
 ernment, in methods of sewerage and drain-  
 age, in arrangements for extinguishing fires,  
 in the death-rate, in the prevention and pun-  
 ishment of crime, in the distribution of  
 wealth, in the homes of the poor, in rapid  
 transit, in water and gas supply,—in these  
 and many other fields of social science, Lon-  
 don can teach the world, doing so by failure  
 as well as success. But, allowing for the  
 enormous population, and comparing the re-  
 sults of the City Government there with  
 other cities of the world, there has been a  
 larger proportion of success than failure, and  
 London is still the marvel of the world.

## THE MAYOR'S ELECTION.

The Common Council of Chicago are the  
 legislature of this city. The new charter  
 will give to the city, at the April election, an  
 entirely new Government, the Mayor ex-  
 cepted. That officer, constraining the charter  
 for himself, decides that he is not subject to  
 the charter, and that he will continue to  
 hold the office a year longer than any of the  
 other officers elected at the same time and for  
 the same term with himself. There can be no  
 question as to the public sentiment on this  
 point. The revolution in the Government  
 of the city should include the Mayor as well  
 as the other elective officers.

There has been an appeal to the Courts for  
 a direction as to the law and duty of the City  
 Government on this subject of electing the  
 Mayor. By an unfortunate mischance, the  
 Supreme Court found itself unable to decide  
 the question one way or the other, and Jus-  
 tice SCOTT, speaking for the Court, announced  
 that the body would make "no decision,"  
 thus leaving the law and the facts undeter-  
 mined judicially, and just where they stood  
 before.

There being no judicial interpretation pos-  
 sible, it remains with the legislature of the  
 city to interpret the charter for itself. The  
 Mayor has no more authority to decide that  
 he holds over, than has the Treasurer, Col-  
 lector, or Attorney. The Common Council, how-  
 ever, is clothed with authority to make pro-  
 vision for the city elections, and to fix the  
 places therefor, and to direct the notices of  
 such election. It has therefore the authority  
 to say what officers are to be elected at that  
 election. This authority is necessarily inci-  
 dental to its general power in the premises.  
 Now, there is nothing in law or reason to pre-  
 vent the Common Council agreeing with one-  
 half the Judges of the Supreme Court in in-  
 terpreting the charter as requiring the elec-  
 tion of a Mayor to fill a vacancy existing in  
 that office