Brooklyn Daily Eagle

WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 30, 1881

This Paper has the Largest Circulation of any Evening Paper Published in the United States. Its value as an Advertising Medium is therefore apparent.

The High Tariff Men in Council.

A considerable number of manufacturers interested in the maintenance of a high protective tariff are now assembled in New York, holding what they term a "National "Tariff Convention." The particular object these gentlemen have in view, at this time, is variously stated by themselves. In opening the proceedings of the convention, Mr. Houston, of Pennsylvania, declared that "the call "is not for an organized movement to multiply and further increase the imports upon "either the luxuries or the necessities of the "people, but rather for an effort to reduce those "that are now onerous, and as speedily as pos"sible release the business of our country "from the excise taxes now levied and col"lected by the internal revenue system." In this statement there is a self evident contradiction. If protection is a good thing, it is difficult to conceive of its being onerous in any quarter, and we may be sure that there is no attempt made through the convention to reduce the imports upon a single article of either luxury or necessity. The representatives of the "protected" industries cannot afford to quarrel with each other. The combination through which the existing tariff was made possible in Congress will not be disturbed by the National Tariff Convention. The protected manufacturers are very well satisfied with the present situation, and the demonstration in New York is intended to impress upon the free traders and revenue reformers, and all others whom it may concern, that it will not be safe to attempt to disturb it. The country is exceedingly prosperous at this time. The revenues of the government are far in excess of its expenditures. It is feared that an attempt will be made by the Congress which is now about to assemble to reduce taxation, and the manufacturers are determined that this shall not be done by reducing the duties upon imports, which enables them to charge higher prices for what they have to sell than they would do otherwise. Up to this time the protectionists in Congress have contrived to get rid of the surplus revenue without reducing the public burdens at all. In the Forty-second Congress the protectionists were strong enough to carry through a resolution directing the Committee of Ways and Means—against its judgment—to report a bill for the removal of the duty upon tea and coffee. In this way the public revenue was reduced by about twenty millions of dollars annually, but the cost of these two articles to the consumer was not reduced at all. The more intelligent advocates of the policy of protection knew this would be the result, and they were not disappointed by it. Their object was accomplished in dissipating the income of the Government to this amount. They looked upon a surplus revenue as a temptation to the "revenue reformers," and they were determined to put it out of their way, as far as possible. The various pension arrearages bills, under which at least a hundred millions of public money have already been expended, had their chief strength, not in a disposition to reward those who had suffered by the war for the Union, but in a determination to make it appear that the revenues of the Government were not in excess of its needs, and that, therefore, it would not be safe to reduce the Custom House duties upon anything. It is now feared by the friends of the "American workingman" that this important personage has waked up to a realization of the fact that he cannot possibly profit by extravagance and recklessness on the part of the government under which he lives, and to whose support he contributes so largely, and hence some other method must be resorted to for removing the difficulty the advocates of protection find in a surplus and growing revenue. In the interest of protection, an organized movement will be made in the next Congress to get rid of the system of internal taxation altogether. Congressman Kelley, of Pennsylvania, no doubt stated the real object of the National Tariff Convention in meeting at this time, when he said in his address yesterday that "the time had "come when we must determine whether "our system of internal taxation shall" be "abolished or perpetuated. If these taxes are "to be perpetuated, the present Congress, or "its immediate successor, *must revise our "entire revenue system.*" Mr. Kelley, as a protectionist, does not desire it to be revised or interfered with, and hence he favors the abolition of our internal revenue system altogether. This would decrease the present revenue of the Government probably by the amount of about one hundred and fifty millions dollars per annum, and nearly two-thirds of this amount is collected from the tax on spirits and tobacco. The movement in favor of the abolition of the internal revenue system of taxation will be far stronger than the strength of the protectionist interest. The Southern representatives in Congress may be counted upon to favor it with entire unanimity, not because they favor protection, but because the South is largely interested in the production of whisky and tobacco. There are many sincere advocates of revenue reform who would not be unwilling to postpone the possible adoption of their views in order to reduce the influence of the office holding classes in the Government, for this influence is regarded by all thoughtful men as a menace to free institutions themselves. There are many citizens who regard with contempt Mr. Kelly's argument in favor of protecting those who labor by taxing them, who will be disposed to agree with him in what follows, in favor of the abolition of the internal revenue system:

> To refuse to abolish, at the earliest practicable day, our whole system of internal taxes, except the tax on sodas other than alkaline, would be a flagrant act of disregard of the teachings of the fathers and the cherished traditions of the people. The demand for reform in our civil service is of a far more fashionable kind, but the expression of a profound and growing conviction. It unites with constantly increasing force in the condemnation of the bureau by which the internal tax laws are administered. There were on the rolls of this bureau during the last four years 5,000 persons employed at a cost of collecting the taxes for that year was $5,663,330. To relieve the Government from the annual expenditure of $5,000,000, or thereabouts, it is proposed to turn 4,000 people from the service and remand them to private pursuits would certainly be a long stride in the direction of civil service reform.

Perhaps the most important contribution to the proceedings of the convention was made by Mr. Secretary Blaine, in a brief letter, which closes with this suggestive paragraph:

> I wish I could speak with the same confidence in regard to the prospects of American shipping. But I confess to some discouragement when I see the American Minister to Brazil at this moment on his way to Rio Janeiro, compelled to reach his post by going first to England or France in order to avail himself of a line of steamers. The trade of Brazil is annually more than $40,000,000 in gold coin to settle the balance of trade against us. Brazil in turn sends this money to Europe to pay for the manufactured articles we supply in part at least, to furnish her. It is easy for the merchants of Brazil to reach England and France. We have never been able with all our efforts to induce any considerable number of these same merchants to come to the United States. So long as we fail to do this the balance of trade will annually increase against us. It is idle to think of enlarging the area of a man unless you first induce him to come into your store.

It must not be understood from this that Mr. Blaine desired to offend his protectionist friends. On the contrary, he says he experiences great satisfaction in the fact that "the principle of protection" is now stronger than ever before with the masses of the American people, and Mr. Blaine sums up with great force the logical result of the application of the principle—and without intending to do so, either. Mr. Blaine believes that if the United States Government would make it possible for private parties to run a line of steamships to Brazil, by paying them large subsidies, then we might hope for a larger share of Brazil's trade. This would be to induce that country to "enter into our "store." It may be asked: What is the use in asking a man into your store, if in advance you make it impossible for him to trade with you? "Uncle Sam" goes into the Brazilian store to purchase coffee, and he pays for it in money. Brazil desires to purchase manufactured articles of various kinds which "Uncle Sam" has got to sell, but Brazil desires to pay, in part, for what it wants, say in copper and wool. "Uncle Sam" cannot take either article, for he has chosen to prohibit their import into his own country by a law of his own devising. Brazil cannot trade with "Uncle Sam" except to a very limited amount. "John Bull," on the other hand, takes the wool, and copper and coffee of Brazil in return for the things Brazil buys into various utensils, and having bought the material which enters into these articles on the most advantageous terms possible, he can afford to undersell "Uncle Sam" in any market in the world. In order to protect himself, he not only does not induce John Bull "to enter his store"—to use Mr. Blaine's language—but he shuts the store door in his face and in that of pretty much everybody else.

The Decision of the Rapid Transit Commissioners.

We publish in another part of the EAGLE the report of United States District Attorney Tenney, Edmund Driggs and General John B. Woodward, who were appointed some months ago by the Supreme Court as commissioners to take evidence and report upon the petition of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company, commonly known as the Flint-McLean Company, for permission to construct an elevated railroad on Fulton street and Myrtle avenue and several subordinate thoroughfares. The law provides that if the consent of a majority of the property owners cannot be obtained in such cases the consent of the Supreme Court, given after due inquiry, in view of all the facts and in the belief that the public interest would be subserved by it, may stand in lieu thereof. The consent of the property owners could not be obtained in this case, but, on the contrary, there was violent and almost unanimous opposition, as there had been to previous schemes of the same kind; hence the appeal to the court. By way of further explanation it should be said that in the event of the court giving permission it is still necessary to secure the assent of the local authorities, that is of the Common Council and the Mayor. It is a notion prevalent that, because the company under consideration applied to the court before appealing to the Aldermen, the law had been changed. Such however is not the fact. Under the law it is immaterial in what order these respective warrants for action are secured. The reason why in this instance the court was first resorted to was because experience of the Bond Company taught that to expend money on the Aldermen, and then find their grant made of non effect by a judicial decision was not business like, and that the more discreet mode of procedure was to get the legal obstacles out of the way before "arguing" with the patriots who perform as city fathers. With this much explained, the reader is now prepared to consider the report of the commissioners, which is against the petition. They do not, however, report against rapid transit on the thoroughfares named. On the contrary, they say that despite the protestations made by the property owners they are convinced that a properly constructed railroad would greatly enhance the value of the property along the route, in addition to benefiting the whole city. Their objection is confined to the kind of road proposed. The plan was to run on one side of the street, instead of spanning it from curb to curb, as in New York. That is to say, whereas in New York the whole thoroughfare is covered, here it was proposed to obstruct only one-half of it, the other line of supporting pillars being in the middle of the street or avenue. This is what the commissioners object to and this all they object to. By a process of reasoning much clearer to themselves, no doubt, than it is to the EAGLE they reach the conclusion that travel and traffic would be more obstructed by having half the channel of travel bridged over than, if it were all darkened, the one point in support of this being that a row of pillars between the car tracks would do the mischief. This question we shall not discuss at present, though admitted there is nothing in it. It is well that for any reason they have decided against the petitioners. Whether the reasoning is good or bad, the conclusion is sound. Brooklyn does not want and cannot afford an elevated railroad in its chief business street. It might not do any harm, it might do good, and then again it might do irreparable injury to the business interests of the entire city. The trick is altogether too great to take. The commissioners, it will be seen, base their opinion about the good we would reap upon the results in Third and Sixth avenues, New York. If they could show that Brooklyn and New York are shaped alike, have their business and population similarly distributed, they would speak to the purpose. As it is there is no analogy. New York has several business streets—we have but one; New York cannot change her main lines of travel—our travel might be dissipated in fifty directions. In any event, there is nothing in the condition of the city that would justify us in taking this risk. Rapid transit if really required can be got in other ways. This, it is hoped, will definitely close discussion about rapid transit on Fulton street. The property owners are entitled to relief from the harassment to which they have been so long and so often subjected. They are against it to a man almost, and there is nothing in the case that justifies any one in saying that they are fools who do not understand their own interest. They ought certainly to be as good judges as any person bent upon profiting himself by putting their interests in jeopardy.

Brooklyn does, we assume, need rapid transit, and will, no doubt, obtain it. But it is not to be accepted at the sacrifice of the chief business street, nor will it be submitted to anywhere except upon terms of justice to the humblest person whose property may be injured.

Much Ado About an Unimportant Point.

The conferees on the subject of local Democratic reorganization seem to have reached a substantial agreement last night. The plan adopted is to have an enrollment take place in the various wards and country towns under the supervision of a committee of one hundred and fifty, who are to be chosen by the presidents of the Regular committee, the Jeffersonians and the Young Men's Club, subject to the approval of these bodies. It is further provided that in this committee each ward and town is to be represented, and that no person who is a member of the Jeffersonian or Regular organization shall have a place on it. We see no objection to this plan other than that the number agreed upon is perhaps too large, and that by excluding all the members of the two rival organizations, difficulty may be experienced in finding men who are at once known to the people, and prepared to undertake the duty. If these difficulties prove imaginary rather than real, the plan is not open to any valid objection. In the meantime, it may be remarked that there has been a vast amount of time wasted in discussing this question. It is really of the least importance by whom the committee is appointed, if the end aimed at be accomplished, namely, the full enrollment of the Democrats of the county, and that any person can now profit by preventing such a consummation is to the last degree improbable. It is eminently foolish business to talk and talk about such a matter. It is as if a man, anxious to get to Chicago, should decline to take either of the great railroad lines until he had come to an understanding with the company about all the details of its management. What people of common sense do in such cases is, having assured themselves that they are on the right line, to get aboard.

What Democrats want is a full enrollment, to the end that there may be fair primaries, representative conventions and vital ward associations. Whether the process by which this is reached shall be supervised by a hundred, or a hundred and fifty gentlemen, or whether the young men or the old men shall have most to say in their appointment, is not a question of any practical importance. Let the work go on.

It will be found that the number of men who will decline to assume this duty is much larger than the number of those anxious to discharge it. No man can gain anything for himself by having a hand in it. The more efficiently the work is done the more completely will the influence of the enrollers be effaced. If the EAGLE is not mistaken considerable effort will be required to induce the right kind of men to act on the committee.

For years the administration of the municipal affairs of the City of Philadelphia has been in the hands of a ring of Republican spoilsmen. As they also controlled the machinery of the Republican organization, and were thus enabled to name their own candidates for office, the extent and exact character of the frauds perpetrated have never been fully disclosed. The partial overthrow of the ring at the last election led to an investigation, which has progressed it reveals the existence of a system of plunder which can only be compared with that established by Tweed and his confederates. The Almshouse, the offices of the city solicitor and sheriff and the controller's department are all, apparently, involved. Preparations are making to bring the matter before the courts, and Philadelphia may yet transfer some of her political celebrities from the precincts of the Union League Club to the Moyamensing Prison.

The Presidency of the Aldermen, Etc.

There is some talk of a possible combination by which the Democrats may be enabled to elect the next President of the Board of Aldermen. Inasmuch as this cannot be done without dishonor, the Democrats cannot do themselves a better service than to make an end of the scheme, if they have entertained it. The city is sick of tricky rogues who, under any pretense, misrepresent the political views of the people who elected them. Moreover, the Mayor is entitled to have a Republican chosen to the presidency, since that officer acts as Mayor in the absence of the Mayor. It ought to be a settled rule, and it would be, if gentlemanly spirit were dominant in the board, to elect to the presidency one who is in political affiliation with the Mayor. Had this been done, no such scandal could have been created as we had when Ray undertook to usurp the appointing power during the sickness of Mayor Howell.

The Republicans, on the other hand, ought under any circumstances to reject with contempt any motion to put them in the mean position of acting, as if the appointment of a janitor or a clerk were a party question, and in particular at the present time, when we are to have a mayor pledged to conduct the city's affairs on business principles. They must credit the average taxpayer with a short memory, or little intelligence if they mean, after turning efficient subordinates out of office for political reasons, to appeal for support next year on the plea that local elections should not be determined by any other than local considerations. Even in politics it will be found in the long run, that honesty is the best policy. Nothing is plainer than that no man of self respect, or who feels bound by his promises to the public, can, after supporting Mayor Low, dream of giving the weight of his official influence to a mere partisan scramble for offices that have no earthly political significance.

Guiteau's Trial.

Yesterday was perhaps the most most interesting day of the trial of the assassin Guiteau, for the prisoner himself was put upon the stand in his own behalf, and told the wan and saddening story of his life. It is not surprising that the auditors in the court room listened to this strange recital with rapt attention, and only once or twice broke into laughter at some of the absurd and whimsical speeches to which he gave utterance. The pathos of the narrative cannot have been studied. It was natural and unconscious, and the poor fool who sat blinking and grinning at his counsel as he dwelt upon the varied incidents in his career seemed hardly to realize that the shadow of the gallows rested on him, and that the only chance he had of escape from its evil significance lay in the very statements that he considered most creditable to himself. That his testimony had been carefully rehearsed by the lonely friend who is his sister's husband seems to be pretty clear, but it was drawn out of him with the skill of a master, and fell upon the audience word by word like a plea for pity and commiseration. The American public, much as it may loathe the criminal and abhor his crime, can hardly refrain from pity as it traces his blighted boyhood under the wild system of training that he underwent. A sadder story of a wasted life was never told, either in fiction or before a court of inquiry, and it is not the least miserable feature of it, that pitiable and melancholy as it is, and preparatory as it is for the horrible act which has made his name a byword, there is nothing yet told that stands between the murderer and the fate that the law imposes as a punishment for his deed.

Unconsciously the wretched slayer of a kindly man unfolded the weird influences which warped his mind. He lost his mother at an early age and fell under the domination of his father's distracted creed. The incomprehensible religious belief which was impressed upon his brother descended upon him. The father had an undoubted twist in his moral and intellectual faculties, for, as Guiteau says, he believed that the head of the Oneida community was a copartner with Deity itself, and that the infallibility of Mr. Noyes' doctrines was a subject of profound and essential faith. At the age of 18 years this miserable lad, whose moral nature had been utterly untrained, while the religious element had been developed beyond all reason, was thrust into communion with a horde of fanatics, who lived a narrow and objectless life, based upon a superstition not less preposterous than the worship of Juggernaut. His mind, as he says, was filled with zeal for the faith that was in him; his moral nature then and before was so utterly untutored that even Noyes was shocked at his baseness.

Neglectis urenda filix innascitur agris

says the Latin poet. The tares of impulse and of unchecked appetite which choke the wheat of moral purpose grew with tropical luxuriance in a mind but one corner of which had been put under cultivation. And that is the picture which this distressing autobiography presents.

One other circumstance the defense brought out, which will doubtless play its part in the final summing up, namely, that the forlorn and hated assassin received a physical as well as a mental misdirection. The spiritual man in Guiteau was deformed, and distorted by the folly of his father's fanaticism. In addition to that radical injury he suffered a blow on the head with a stone in early life which laid him senseless, and of which he bears the scar to-day. "I can "stick my little finger into it half an inch," the prisoner rather gloefully exclaims. How much this cerebral concussion affected him in later years no expert can tell; and yet upon the authority of the first experts upon insanity, it is stated that at least fifty per cent. of the incurable cases that come under their inquisition can be traced to some injury to the brain by a fall or other accident in childhood.

What most impresses one with this unique and mournful history of mental and moral perversion is that Guiteau's sanity was doubted by but few of the many people he met in his wild and inconsequent career. So bright a man as Mr. Charles Reed, of Chicago, into whose professional life as the State's attorney in Chicago the question of mental and moral responsibility must have intruded itself every week of the eight years of his two terms, did not hesitate to certify to Guiteau's fitness as a lawyer when he applied for admission to the bar of Illinois. Scores and perhaps thousands of people who knew Guiteau regarded him as "queer," without pausing to ask whether his eccentricity was or was not due to radical infirmity of mind and body, so careless, after all, are we of one another.

That his mind is deranged, or, as one witness expressed it, unarranged, nobody who has carefully followed the testimony so far can avoid believing. But that the leak in his intelligence is sufficiently large to obscure it—that his insanity comes within the definition of the law—has not been proved, nor do we see any probability of. Mr. Scoville's demonstrating it. Guiteau may have been what is colloquially termed "cracked," but he knew what he was doing when he murdered the President; he did it, doubtless, with a vindictive motive; he understood the full criminal measure of the act, and is, therefore, legally sane enough to hang. That he will be executed, however, nobody will be rash enough to predict.

An Operatic Marriage.

The announcement that Miss Kellogg is, at the ripe and mellow age of 39, ready to offer herself up at the matrimonial shrine to a Philadelphia gentleman has naturally piqued public curiosity very much as to who this fortunate individual could be. A shrewd and enterprising reporter of the St. Paul press had the good fortune to find the charming songstress at her hotel in that city, and at once proceeded to inform himself through her as to Mr. Whitney's good qualities and the state of her feelings toward him. Miss Kellogg, we are happy to state, feels kindly disposed to her future husband, and recognizes in him all the perfections which a lover ought to possess. It must be equally gratifying to him also, to see in print that he is the sole lord of her heart. "Mr. Whitney," she says, "is the only man whom I could by "any possibility call my fate." She really

CURRENT EVENTS.

The anniversary dinner of the St. Andrew Society will be given at Delmonico's this evening.

The Atlanta Exposition will close the last day of December.

Postmaster General James and party are in Atlanta, Ga., after a pleasant trip through Florida.

The Board of Education in Hoboken, N. J., have directed the vaccination of all pupils in the public schools. The expense is to be borne by the freeholders.

A convict in the Penitentiary at Nashville, 35 years of age, beat a fellow convict to death with the box of a wheel yesterday. The person killed was an old man.

Steamers which arrived yesterday at New York reported unusually stormy passages, and several steamships are overdue. Some of the incoming vessels met with terrible hurricanes.

The total amount contributed in New York for the Michigan Relief fund is now $140,218.66, and several thousand dollars additional will be added as soon as the Thanksgiving day contributions are all in.

A number of medical experts watched Guiteau yesterday while in the witness chair, and noted his mental and physical peculiarities. It is said that his voice is unsteady, lowering perceptibly at regular intervals, showing great nervous debility.

The New York Historical Society celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary last evening at the Brick Church (Mr. Bevans') in New York. President White, of Cornell University, lectured. "American Influence on the French Revolution."

The Irish National convention met in Chicago to-day. Many of the Eastern delegates are Catholic clergymen. Father Sheehy and Mr. Healy, Member of Parliament, arrived there yesterday. There will be 1,200 delegates in attendance.

E. A. Clabaugh, the well know turfman, died at Hagerstown, Md., yesterday. He was president of the People's Bank of Baltimore, and was much respected. He was 57 years old.

Mr. Sullivan—Is the enrolling committee should take place under the auspices of a body which will have the full confidence of the people. I am in favor of making progress, but before you exclude all the members of the Central Association you exclude every citizen who has opposed the methods which have prevailed in relation to the appointment of the committees of both organizations. I am in favor of it; if not, then I oppose it. I don't think the General Committee has any right to appoint anybody.

Justice Keans (interrupting)—I don't desire to say anything calculated to reopen old wounds, but I think it is neither good policy nor fair to the Central that the General Committee has no ward organizations. I should like to see the rolls of the ward organizations of the Jeffersonians.

Mr. Hendrix—We can show them.

Justice Keans—Then I think we should bury the dead past, and not revive it. I trust that we will all find it in better taste and better policy to drop all allusions to the past. Let us, then, proceed with our work in harmony and good humor.

A motion to table Colonel Carroll's motion having been voted down, that motion was finally prevailed by a vote of 9 to 5. It provides that no member of existing political organizations shall belong to the body to select the assistant committees which will take place.

Mr. Chapin—I move that it is the sense of the committee that the enrollment be conducted under the auspices of one hundred and fifty gentlemen.

Mr. Hall—I amend that the number be limited to one hundred.

Mr. Quintard—I second that. I think that so large a body as one hundred would be unwieldy and inefficient.

Mr. Hendrix—I move that a committee of one hundred and fifty gentlemen would be a comparatively small one to actually supervise the work of enrollment.

The motion to declare it the sense of the committee that the enrolling body should consist of one hundred and fifty gentlemen was adopted, the Central Association representatives voting in the negative.

Mr. Howlett moved that the enrolling body consist of five representatives of each ward and town.

Mr. Chapin suggested that geographical considerations should not necessarily enter into the composition of the body.

Mr. Howlett—I think the Sixth Ward would feel it an insult if our primaries should be supervised by gentlemen from other wards. Colonel Carroll knows that on boys down there could fool any stranger, and the enrolling committee should take place under the supervision of some one who knows them.

Colonel Carroll—I certainly think that locality should have a great deal to do with it.

Mr. Shepard—The fallacy that underlies Mr. Howlett's proposition is that they would not have the same Democratic population. I think that if we limit the number of representatives of each ward we should have a very disproportionate representation. This matter can safely be left to those who make the selections.

Mr. Walsh—I move as a substitute that the matter be left to the discretion of those who make the appointments.

Mr. Chapin—I move that it is the sense of this committee that the selection of the Enrolling Committee there shall be a representation of each ward and town, such representation, however, not to be limited or prescribed.

This motion was agreed to.

Mr. Hendrix—We have now come to the important point as to how the enrolling body shall be constituted. We propose that one-half of the committee shall be appointed by Mr. Hewitt, Merchant in conjunction with the Young Men's Democratic Club.

Colonel Carroll—I amend that the members of the body be appointed by Mr. Marshall, Mr. Jacob L. Morgan and the president of the Young Men's Democratic Club, every name to be

SATISFACTORY TO ALL GENTLEMEN.

Mr. Hendrix—I don't see any objection to that plan. Colonel Carroll's amendment is unfair to the Central. The appointments shall be submitted to and approved by the three organizations.

Mr. Chapin—The plan suggested by Colonel Carroll is an excellent one. If the selection is contingent upon general consent then there can be no distinction or illiberal objection.

Mr. Hendrix moved as a substitute that the appointments be made as suggested by Colonel Carroll, with the promise that such appointments be ratified by each organization.

Mr. Shepard—I think the enrolling body should be appointed by the General Committee and the Central organization themselves. Our club does not desire to participate in the work, except in the character of citizens.

Mr. Chapin said that his colleague, Mr. Shepard, was not speaking for him in taking exception to Colonel Carroll's plan. He (Mr. Chapin) approved of it cordially.

Mr. Hendrix—I am well pleased with the plan and perhaps its best feature is that it will force the obliteration of factional lines.

Mr. Peabody—I should certainly oppose that our club should be represented in this matter at all. If a third gentleman is considered desirable then I think an outside citizen should be chosen.

Mr. Waterbury—I shall amend that the appointments be made by the chairmen of the two organizations. We don't desire that the club shall participate in this work directly. I amend that the reference to the President of the Young Men's Democratic Club be stricken from the motion.

The amendment was lost, the Young Men's committee favoring it, with the exception of Mr. Peabody.

Mr. Hendrix—Now, in order to clearly define the question before us I offer the following:

Resolved, That the committee of one hundred and fifty shall be selected conjointly by the presidents of the three organizations represented here subject to the approval of each of the organizations.

The resolution was adopted, the representatives of the Young Men's Democratic Club recording themselves against it, with the exception of Mr. Chapin, who was excused from voting.

The Committee of Nine Whole then rose and adjourned without reporting to the committee proper so as to give the Young Men's committee an opportunity to get at its conclusions of work. The conference will be resumed on Monday evening.

ASSUMPTION FAIR.

In the Assumption Young Men's Hall, York street, near Jay, a fair has been in progress for the past three weeks in aid of the Assumption Church, and, notwithstanding it is near a close, there have been a number of contributions made during the past two days. The voting for the gold headed cane last evening stood as follows: St. James, 50; Assumption, 112; and St. Ann's, 85. Checks were received from the following gentlemen: Colonel Thomas Carroll, $25; Mr. H. Haggerty, $50; Joseph H. Gardiner, $50; James Gardiner, $25; William Stackpole, $25; E. Small, jr., $10; Joseph Nichols, $10, and James Kerns, $25. A good deal of t[illegible] is owing to the efforts of George H[illegible] has manifested great [illegible] a the beginning of the [illegible]

The Philadelphia authorities find that frauds have been committed in any number of public offices and that the losses to the city cannot be estimated. It has been discovered that thousands of dollars have been stolen in the sheriff's office, and that the almshouse has been so managed as to make rich a number of swindlers. The Board of Guardians have lived off the city, it seems, and have openly appropriated property for their personal uses that belonged to the city.

New York trade organizations held a meeting last night in the Fifth avenue Hotel to take steps to urge upon Congress the enactment of a uniform national bankrupt law. A resolution was passed that the best interests of all classes of the business community demand the enactment of a uniform national bankrupt law, and an urgent appeal was made upon Congress to take immediate action upon it. A second resolution said that a bill based on a plan similar to the Lowell bill would form a proper basis for the best practical construction of a suitable law.

Miss Bessie Hamilton Morgan, a daughter of Mr. Edward Morgan, of Fifth avenue, New York, and the late August Belmont, jr., were married yesterday afternoon in the church of the Incarnation, Fifth avenue. The bride wore white satin brocade and lace veil, and her chief ornament was a magnificent diamond pendant sent to her by Baron de Rothschild, of Paris. The display of flowers at the church and at the house was superb. The couple sailed to-day for Europe and will spend the Winter on the Nile in company with a party of friends.

An explosion occurred in the Palmer fireworks factory at Rochester, New York, yesterday morning, and five men were severely burned. James Palmer, jr., it is though will die. He and his brother, who are the owners of the factory, were testing, in company with several other persons, a new light to be used in theatrical performances, when the mixture ignited in an explosion occurred. The clothing of the men was soon a mass of flames, and it was with great difficulty that the fire was put out in time to save the lives of the five sufferers.

The ninth convention of the National Butter, Cheese and Egg Association is in session at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Delegates are present from nearly every State in the Union. The show is larger than has ever been exhibited at any fair in the United States, and the collection of dairy implements, machinery and appliances are in great abundance and show immense progress in labor saving and butter and cheese perfecting arrangements, which are interesting and instructive to all identified with dairy interests.

The destruction of articles of virtu and of books was not so great at Morrell's warehouse in Fourth avenue, New York. Persons who supposed their property lost, at the time of the fire, were agreeably surprised to receive notice of the safety of many articles. Fully 500 cases of valuable books and many valuable manuscripts were saved, and all the official and personal correspondence of President Buchanan in the original manuscripts are among the things saved. A number of caskets containing jewels and gems and miniatures, and fine plaques, flasks and bronzes are in the assortment awaiting owners.

The annual meeting of the New York, Lake Erie and Western Railroad Company was held in New York yesterday. President Jewett cast all but 2,000 of the 872,982 votes cast at the election of the directors, so that he practically had things as he wished them. The gross earnings of the road and its branches for the fiscal year were $20,715,635.18; the expenses were $13,-977,536.06, leaving the net earnings from traffic, $7,459,-375.12. The income from other sources increased this sum to $8,383,681.08. A six per cent. dividend was declared on preferred stock, and it was voted to pay the coupons on income bonds.

Tracy R. Edson, the founder of the American Bank Book Note Company, and who has been for years identified with the telegraph and telephone interests of New York, died yesterday in that city. He was a remarkable business man, and while he was president of the company, he secured the contracts with the Government, and the company is now the largest of the kind in the world. To his energy and wonderful business ability is due its success. Later he became interested in telegraphy and organized the Gold and Stock Telegraph Company. Mr. Edson advanced the greater part of the capital necessary to enable Mr. Edison to perfect his experiments in the system of electric lighting. He had great faith in Mr. Edison's inventions, and devoted much study to them. At the time of his death Mr. Edson was president of the Celluloid Manufacturing Company, and had amassed a fortune from his investment in it. Mr. Edson had been for fifty years a member of Grace Church, and at the time of his death was treasurer of the society. He was unmarried, and was 73 years of age.

MOTHER GOOSE IN CHURCH.

An Operetta and Tableaux Given at the South Congregational Church, Last Night.

A Mother Goose operetta and tableau entertainment was given last evening in the lecture room of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, under the supervision of the organist, Mr. A. F. Walsh. The attendance was very large, the limited capacity of the lecture room preventing many from obtaining admittance; consequently the entertainment will be repeated to-morrow evening. A small platform had been erected, beautified and decorated in artistic style, by Japanese screens and Chinese lanterns, the variegated lights from which illuminated the stage.

Professor Walsh presided at the piano, and Miss B. Mafoy was critical pianist. The programme was pleasingly arranged, comprising a medley of Mother Goose melodies, interspersed with recitations, and the tableaux were gotten up with a dramatic effect which was a happy relief from the characteristic monotony of the ordinary church entertainment. The opening address was made by Master Gilbert Barnett, who rendered "The Baron's Last Banquet," in a manner which did him great credit, as it evinced his elocutionary ability notwithstanding his youth. Master Charles Walsh sang "The King's Highway," and elicited hearty applause from the little folks. Master Van Wyck rendered "Curfew" in the regular school sing song style. Miss J. Hicinbotham rendered the "Smile of Innocence." Miss Nellie Walsh sang "Bity a Broom." She possesses a sweet and strong voice for a child, and her rendering of the solo won for her hearty applause. The choir of Master and Miss Lambert were the chief events of the evening, and they were encored four times. They manipulated the instrument with grace and freedom, and the many peculiar positions they assumed while playing proved that their ability, notwithstanding their age, was beyond that of the ordinary violinist. A duet entitled "German Courtship," participated in by Miss and Master Lambert, which kept the children in a roar of laughter, brought the entertainment to a close. The tableaux were all thoroughly enjoyable, and among those who exhibited the various characters were Misses Nellie Walsh, C. Summer, N. Bamber, C. Bostwick, J. Prentiss, A. Jowad, M. Earley, Masters B. Moorehouse, A. Jowell, J. Mairs, A. Moorehouse, J. Bamber, H. Hannahs and Bostwick.

A WEDDING.

Charles T. Henry and Martha W. Low.

There were music and dancing and a laughing, joyous gathering of young people in evening dress at No. 155 Hart street last evening. The occasion was the marriage of Charles T. Henry to the charming Martha W. Low, at the residence of her sister, Mrs. James N. Manna. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Foote, pastor of the Troop avenue Presbyterian Church. The bride was dressed in simple, fashionless taste. There were many appropriate and valuable presents. Messrs. Alonzo Crowder and Charles O. Bailou were the groomsmen. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Hiram and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. James Agar, Mr. Robert Sullivan and family, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McJudge, Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Derrick, Miss Henry, Miss Florence Sylvester, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Millott, Mr. and Miss Chamberlain, Mr. and Mrs. J. Neal, Mrs. J. Walsh, Mr. J. Drummond, Mr. Matthew Henry and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Wm. Pearsall and others. The happy couple left this morning on a brief Southern tour.

CONFERRING.

The Committee on Democratic Reorganization.

Agreeing in Committee of the Whole that an Enrollment Shall Take Place Under the Auspices of a Body of One Hundred and Fifty Gentlemen to be Appointed by the Presidents of the Three Organizations Represented—The Committee from the Young Men's Democratic Club Objecting to Have that Organization Participate Directly in an Enrollment.

The committees appointed to confer with the view of bringing about a reorganization of the Democratic party of Kings County held a meeting in the Hamilton Building last evening, Mr. A. C. Chapin occupying the chair and Mr. E. B. Dickenson keeping a record of the proceedings. Before the meeting was called to order the secretary distributed copies of the plan under which the Democracy of the County of New York was reorganized.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and approved, the committee went into committee of the whole to further consider the question of reorganization, Mr. Dickenson assuming the chair.

Mr. Shepard moved that the committee now consider the plan of reorganization under which the enrollment should take place under the auspices of a body which will have the full confidence of the people. I am in favor of making progress, but before you exclude all the members of the Central Association you exclude every citizen who has opposed the methods which have prevailed in relation to the appointment of the committees of both organizations. I am in favor of it; if not, then I oppose it. I don't think the General Committee has any right to appoint anybody.

Justice Keans (interrupting)—I don't desire to say anything calculated to reopen old wounds, but I think it is neither good policy nor fair to the Central that the General Committee has no ward organizations. I should like to see the rolls of the ward organizations of the Jeffersonians.

Mr. Hendrix—We can show them.

Justice Keans—Then I think we should bury the dead past, and not revive it. I trust that we will all find it in better taste and better policy to drop all allusions to the past. Let us, then, proceed with our work in harmony and good humor.

A motion to table Colonel Carroll's motion having been voted down, that motion was finally prevailed by a vote of 9 to 5. It provides that no member of existing political organizations shall belong to the body to select the assistant committees which will take place.

Mr. Chapin—I move that it is the sense of the committee that the enrollment be conducted under the auspices of one hundred and fifty gentlemen.

Mr. Hall—I amend that the number be limited to one hundred.

Mr. Quintard—I second that. I think that so large a body as one hundred would be unwieldy and inefficient.

Mr. Hendrix—I move that a body of one hundred and fifty gentlemen would be a comparatively small one to actually supervise the work of enrollment.

The motion to declare it the sense of the committee that the enrolling body should consist of one hundred and fifty gentlemen was adopted, the Central Association representatives voting in the negative.

Mr. Howlett moved that the enrolling body consist of five representatives of each ward and town.

Mr. Chapin suggested that geographical considerations should not necessarily enter into the composition of the body.

Mr. Howlett—I think the Sixth Ward would feel it an insult if our primaries should be supervised by gentlemen from other wards. Colonel Carroll knows that on boys down there could fool any stranger, and the enrolling committee should take place under the supervision of some one who knows them.

Colonel Carroll—I certainly think that locality should have a great deal to do with it.

Mr. Shepard—The fallacy that underlies Mr. Howlett's proposition is that they would not have the same Democratic population. I think that if we limit the number of representatives of each ward we should have a very disproportionate representation. This matter can safely be left to those who make the selections.

Mr. Walsh—I move as a substitute that the matter be left to the discretion of those who make the appointments.

Mr. Chapin—I move that it is the sense of this committee that the selection of the Enrolling Committee there shall be a representation of each ward and town, such representation, however, not to be limited or prescribed.

This motion was agreed to.

Mr. Hendrix—We have now come to the important point as to how the enrolling body shall be constituted. We propose that one-half of the committee shall be appointed by Mr. Hewitt, Merchant in conjunction with the Young Men's Democratic Club.

Colonel Carroll—I amend that the members of the body be appointed by Mr. Marshall, Mr. Jacob L. Morgan and the president of the Young Men's Democratic Club, every name to be

SATISFACTORY TO ALL GENTLEMEN.

Mr. Hendrix—I don't see any objection to that plan. Colonel Carroll's amendment is unfair to the Central. The appointments shall be submitted to and approved by the three organizations.

Mr. Chapin—The plan suggested by Colonel Carroll is an excellent one. If the selection is contingent upon general consent then there can be no distinction or illiberal objection.

Mr. Hendrix moved as a substitute that the appointments be made as suggested by Colonel Carroll, with the promise that such appointments be ratified by each organization.

Mr. Shepard—I think the enrolling body should be appointed by the General Committee and the Central organization themselves. Our club does not desire to participate in the work, except in the character of citizens.

Mr. Chapin said that his colleague, Mr. Shepard, was not speaking for him in taking exception to Colonel Carroll's plan. He (Mr. Chapin) approved of it cordially.

Mr. Hendrix—I am well pleased with the plan and perhaps its best feature is that it will force the obliteration of factional lines.

Mr. Peabody—I should certainly oppose that our club should be represented in this matter at all. If a third gentleman is considered desirable then I think an outside citizen should be chosen.

Mr. Waterbury—I shall amend that the appointments be made by the chairmen of the two organizations. We don't desire that the club shall participate in this work directly. I amend that the reference to the President of the Young Men's Democratic Club be stricken from the motion.

The amendment was lost