

NOTES FROM GOTHAM.

THE PROBLEMS FOLLOWING THE "TIGER HUNT."

How Tammany Failed to Meet a New and Difficult Situation—New York was Europeanized—How Shall the War on Vice be Waged.

Special New York Letter.

The campaign of 1894 against Tammany Hall—the "tiger hunt," as the local press delights to call it—will go into history as one of the liveliest political serimmages this town has ever seen. It is a sufficiently notable vic-



Mayor Elect Strong.

torious against machine politics to render it forever memorable. Up to within three weeks of the election, there was apparently good ground for the confidence of the Tammany leaders that the power of the historic organization could not be overthrown. It was dissensions within the organization that paved the way for Tammany defeat. Like other political machines built up by the spoils system, the Tammany organization is strong only when successful. The effect of the Lexow investigation was to weaken the prestige of the organization with many of its most respectable members. Mayor Gilroy became in a measure the head of this faction of purists, who desired to rid Tammany of the elements that had brought it to disgrace. This led to an intense civic conflict in the face of the enemy, and with the knowledge that the organization was divided against itself there set in a considerable stampede among the rank and file. Many lesser candidates proceeded to make deals with the object of saving themselves, and so the great political machine that achieved a notable victory last fall went to pieces this year like a panic-stricken army.

Mayor-elect Strong has an opportunity presented to him for useful public service that no citizen has ever before had in New York. So many and such important questions of public improvement and reform are awaiting solution that a man of real genius for municipal government could scarcely fail to achieve fame. The control of great cities is becoming a science by



John W. Goff.

itself, and is likely in the near future to be treated entirely as a separate branch of politics. It is a great responsibility that faces the new Mayor, as the chances for blunders are quite as large as the opportunities for usefulness. The causes of public dissatisfaction with Tammany did not relate entirely to questions of misgovernment. It is generally conceded that the recent city government has been able and successful in many directions. New York, however, has in recent years become the home of thousands of the most oppressed and indigent human beings in the whole world. The problem of assimilating this vast mass of indigestible European wretchedness has not been successfully met by Tammany. It has been a festering sore in the body politic, productive of popular vice, and gradually involving the police department in the degrading influences that have emanated from it. I think it can be fairly claimed that the wretchedness and crime that have made certain portions of our city cesspools of vice and debauchery is not of local origin. It has been transferred here almost bodily from Europe. The very system of police tyranny and corruption is of foreign origin. The overthrow of Tammany is, therefore, a direct blow at methods that have tended constantly to make the government of this city foreign rather than American.



Rev. Dr. Parkhurst.

The influences with which Tammany failed to successfully cope remain to be dealt with. It is a deep and treacherous problem. It demands a system of moral and legal treatment that is rather experimental in any case. While the Police Department has kept down anarchistic sentiment, it has been by winking at or catering to the vices that are natural to degraded natures. Yet European governments have nearly always pandered to vice as a means of diverting the poor and wretched from uprisings. Tammany has really dealt with a European problem by European methods.

The problem is not new. The gov-

ernment of London is even now being shaken by it. What is claimed to be the best system of municipal government in the world (the London council) has not been equal to settling the question of decent streets and decent amusements.

Some of the shrewdest Tammany officials expect to see the new administration make a failure of its attempt to purify the city. We shall see. Recorder Goff will certainly be able to attend to the criminal part of the programme. While Rev. Dr. Parkhurst instituted the war upon vice, it is generally agreed that the success of the attack has been due to the genius and indefatigable labor of John W. Goff.

It is probable that the new city government may wisely conclude that some evils are capable only of regulation, and proceed to those larger questions that build up civic virtue by promoting order, thrift and local improvement. It is very certain that more good can be done by reforming the tenement system of this city than by pursuing the miserable victims of poverty with the severity of the law. The success of the reform movement now depends upon scientific rather than upon Puritanical methods.

MILTON S. MATHREW. NEW YORK POLITICS.

Official Changes That May Result From the Political Revolutions. Special Albany Letter.

Everybody here is discussing the coming political changes. The Republican victory has been so complete that it is now in the power of the Republicans to secure nearly every office under the State government. The burning question is whether the new administration will observe the spirit of the civil service law or make a clean sweep. The Republican "boys" are certainly in favor of turning out every Democrat who can be reached.

The executive clerks and appointees of the Governor number about twelve, and charges are expected in this office. Gov.-elect Morton has been so prominent as a financier and statesman that



Hon. Levi P. Morton.

he necessarily has his own faithful assistants and followers, whom he will wish to reward.

The Lieutenant-Governor has no important appointments in his own right but in connection with the Governor and Speaker of the Assembly, he controls considerable patronage, among which is the Superintendent of Public Buildings, who has a salary of \$3,600 and has 300 lucrative places to give out. Senator Saxton, who will succeed Lieutenant-Governor Sheehan, is an active and popular politician, and will no doubt wish to look after his followers.

The most important changes will be made by the Governor and Senate. The following offices now held by Democrats will probably be changed:

Superintendent of Public Works, salary \$6,000; patronage about 300 employees.

Superintendent of State Prisons, salary \$5,000; patronage includes about thirty people.

Bank Superintendent, \$5,000; patronage amounts to about forty employees. Dairy Commissioner, salary \$3,000; patronage about thirty people.

Commissioner of New Capitol, salary \$7,500; patronage about 2,000 people.

Society in Albany will welcome Gov. Morton with much cordiality. It is expected that the Executive Mansion will be the scene of a generous hospitality during the coming administration. Mr. Morton's great wealth, and the charming social graces of his wife, it is believed, insure a social renaissance during the coming winter. W. L. O.

Persons Who See Ghosts.

Have you ever seen a ghost? Such in simple words, is the extremely interesting question addressed by the Society of Psychological Research to some 17,000 persons, male and female. The results are included in "A Report on the Census of Hallucinations," published in the latest edition of the proceedings of the society. The question, of course, was framed in much more elegant and detailed form than the somewhat abrupt inquiry into which most people will translate it, but whether we call "the spook" a "living being," or "inanimate object," it comes to pretty much the same thing, so long as there is no external physical cause to account for the phenomenon. And now for the results. Out of the 17,000 persons interrogated, 15,316 answered in the negative, leaving only a meagre 9 per cent. of people who had been favored by extraordinary experiences.

This is at least consolatory for those who still believe in the sanity of the human race. But the relative proportion of men and women who saw visions and dreamed is still more remarkable. Only 655 males answered in the affirmative, but as many as 1,029 females. And yet there are some people who get angry if it be asserted that women are more credulous and hysterical than men. Clearly there is some work for the "New Woman" to do in the conversion of her neurotic sisters.—London Telegraph.

He Probably Saw Her.

"Did you tell Mr. Gettner I was not in?" said Miss Dukketta. "I did, mum," said Bridget. "What did he say?" "He said, 'Well, tell her to come down as soon as she is in.' He's in the parlor."—Rare Bits.

A New Way of Putting It.

Penelope—Do you notice anything striking in this room? Staylate—No. Did I look as though I did? Penelope—I didn't know but that you might have heard the clock.—The Million.



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