WHAT'S IN THE WIND?

Col. McClure Intimates Something Has Happened in the Democratic Ranks.

PATTISON LEADS JUST NOW.

Randall Alive and in Health Could Not Have Been Re-Elected.

TARIFF REFORM TOO POPULAR.

A Disappointed Montana Statesman Analyzes Republica. ism.

MURAT HALSTEAD HAS MADE A MISTAKE

Colonel McClure, the veteran politician and editor, interviewed at New York, intimates that something has occurred in the Democratic ranks that makes Pattison's nomination probable. Tariff reform would have defeated Randall had he been able to stand for re-election.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, May 3.—An interested occupant of a Broadway car on Thursday morning was the handsome and genial Colonel A. K. McClure, editor of the Philadelphia *Times*.

"I like to take a Broadway car on such a lovely day as this," said the Colonel, "as one can see more life on Broadway than while being snaked over the house tops by the Elevated."

The Colonel looked brighter and in better physical condition than I have seen him for a long time, and he was just as chatty politically and socially as he is usually found. Perhaps no man in Philadelphia has a wider political experience or is a better judge of men and things than Colonel McClure. I asked him how the Gubernatorial campaign pointed now. He said:

"It looked very much in favor of Wallace until recently. Owing to the impossibility of Wallace securing the Philadelphia delegation his nomination for Governor is impossible. A little while ago it looked to me as if Wallace would be the man, but now I think Pattison is a little ahead. There are still indications, however, of a very lively fight when it comes to the convention."

RANDALL COULDN'T HAVE WON.

"Did the death of Randall have any influence upon the chances of Wallace for Governor?"

"No, I think not. Randall was eliminated from State politics long before his death. He never had any influence, so to speak, outside of national affairs. Of course, Randall would have been returned at the Congressional election while he was sick. As a well man, however, he would have been defeated in his own district and retired to private life."

I expressed my astonishment at this declaration.

"Yes," said the Colonel, "politics has been changing considerable in our part of Pennsylvania."

"In what respect, Colonel?"

"In respect to the tariff, I mean. Randall went to Congress again and again as a high protectionist. A large number of people in his district are not in favor of protection, and never were. They voted for Mr. Randall because he was a very able man and a representative man, and had the respect of everybody. They ignored his views as a great many other people ignore the views of the man who represents them, because of his national character, and because the majority of the party desired him to go there.

A TARIFF REFORMER WILL WIN.

"Of recent years these more liberal Democrats are increasing in number. People outside do not understand this as we do in some parts of Pennsylvania. The probability is that a tariff reformer will occupy the seat so long and creditably occupied by Mr. Randall. The protection Democrats of his district will be compelled to vote for such a man, the same as the others were compelled to vote for Randall, because he will be the party nominee. The feeling that we must have a reduction of import duties and general revision of the tariff laws is growing every day, and the party that ignores this fact makes a mistake. Tariff reform does not necessarily interfere with the principles of protection, much less does it mean free trade. The *Times* has steadily called attention to these facts, and they cannot safely be ignored."

The Colonel then went into a learned disquisition on the requirements of tariff reform, which I do not care to attempt to follow here, for fear that I might do him an injustice from deficient memory.

"What do they think here of Mr. Halstead's newspaper change?" inquired the Colonel, becoming in turn the interviewer.

HALSTEAD'S GREAT MISTAKE.

"I don't think the people of New York know much about Mr. Halstead's new venture, or care much about it," said I. "Mr. Halstead, to all intents and purposes, is lost to the world in the Brooklyn *Times-Union*.

"That is as I expected," said the Colonel, "Mr. Halstead made the greatest mistake of his life in continually meddling with politics, in view of elevating himself to public office. He should have let that alone. I told him so a long time ago. The greatest mistake that an editor ever makes is to put himself up for office, for in that act he loses sight of the true public sentiment, and loses at the same time his influence as a journalist. I have always believed that the editor of a metropolitan journal should stick closely to his own business, and leave himself free to criticise men and affairs in an unprejudiced way. Halstead's blunder in the recent Ohio campaign grew out of the fact that he was himself an aspirant for the Senate. The result was that he lost his standing as a journalist, lost his position on a great newspaper and didn't get the political position he was after. He is a very able man and a clever fellow, and one of the best editorial writers of his time, yet he might as well be in Camden, N. J., as in Brooklyn.

REFUSED A NEW YORK JOB.

"Halstad was thoroughly identified with the political interests, men and things of Ohio. For any journalist of reputation and prominence to come to New York is always a mistake. I was offered several years ago the editorship of a prominent New York journal at a very flattering salary. I refused it, and in doing so I told those who offered it that I was not worth the money to them, and I would also do a great injustice to myself to leave a city where I had made a name, and a State wherein I had some standing as a political writer."

The Colonel thinks that the *World* has a very serious libel case on hand in the Hilton matter. What the Colonel don't know about libel suits, I need not say, is not worth mentioning. At this point I had arrived at my jumping-off place, and I left the great Pennsylvania editor to continue his tranquil trip down Broadway.

A MONTANA STATESMAN.

I had an interesting chat yesterday with Major Maginnis, the bright Montana man who wore the toga at home and lost it when his case came up in the United States Senate. Unlike a great many other disappointed politicians, Major Maginnis is not disposed to do an injustice to his opponents. He said to me: "There is a large representative body of Republicans who conscientiously believe that we Democrats are enemies of the country. They are willing to recognize us as gentlemen, individually, and as honest men in our political beliefs, but really believe that our accession to political power is an actual damage to the interests of the country. I am sorry to say that there are some of them who will not go thus far, and do not even give us credit for honesty of purpose. This representative body, of which Mr. Speaker Reed is the leader in the House, honestly believe that any method by which we can be kept out of power is justifiable. Though you and I were soldiers, and a great many like us have been Republicans and are now Democrats, they will not give us credit for any motive which actuates them in politics.

ONLY SPURIOUS PATRIOTS.

"In other words, they are the true patriots, and all the rest are spurious. It is just this that led to the enactment of the force laws of the South. It is this which has led the present administration to indorse the design to strengthen those laws in order to seize upon the whole Southern section politically."

"Do you think, Major, that the recent move on the part of the President with regard to the Florida troubles, looking at it in a political sense, is a wise one?"

"I do not," said the Major. "On the contrary, I think that it is a political blunder, even worse that the first blunder, because there were some prospects at this stage of political affairs of breaking the Solid South. There is no such prospect following upon the recent movement in both branches of Congress and seconded by the administration. The result will be to cement the entire respectable elements of the South and make them of one political accord. By its act the administration destroys at a blow the good results of its policy since the Kuklux trials. Unfortunately for any advantage to be derived from a renewal of this persecution, the people to whom it appeals are ignorant, unable to read or write, and cannot be reached by the party press.

QUESTION OF POLITICAL OUTRAGES.

"I am not prepared to say," continued the Major, "that there are not political outrages in the South, but no one will attempt to deny that there are political outrages of another nature annually enacted in the North by our opponents. Everybody knows that.

"In the Moutana case we had no show from the beginning except in an honest judicial determination of the case. This, knowing as we do the methods of the Republican party, we had no right to expect. The policy of the Republicans is to hold the Senate at all hazards, no matter what becomes of the House of Representatives or the administration of the Government. The Senate is an effectual check upon any political movement designed by their opponents. In my opinion no stone will be left unturned to preserve Republican ascendency in the Senate. No scruples as to the use of power or money will be allowed to stand in the way." CHAS. T. MURRAY.

SCULL'S FRIENDS HOPEFUL.

THEY BELIEVE THAT HE WILL BE HIS OWN SUCCESSOR.

A Washington View of the Heated Congressional Contest—Quay is Not Interfering With the Fight—The Sudden Resurrection of Cessna.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

WASHINGTON, May 3.—A very lively fight is now on for the representation in Congress from the Somerset-Blair-Bedford district, and as Representative Scull has made a host of friends during his several sessions in Congress, the contest excites considerable interest here. Mr. Hicks, a young attorney of Hollidaysburg, has just been nominated as the candidate of Blair county after a heated contest with Hon. Benjamin L. Hewitt, formerly Speaker of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg.

Hon. John Cessna, who has not held office for a number of years and was almost forgotten outside of his county, bobs up as the leading candidate in Bedford county, for the purpose, it is said, of securing a vindication. He was defeated disastrously a year or two ago in his candidacy for a county judgship, and wants to prove that the people will stand by him.

It was announced some time ago that Representative Scull would not be a candidate for renomination, as he had been elected president of a bank in Somerset, and was expected to settle down into the condition of an elderly gentleman retired with honor from successful politics, with honorable and lucrative business associations occupying just enough of his attention to amuse him.

PLENTY OF ASPIRANTS.

Other ambitious aspirants came into the field for Congress, among whom was General Koontz, and none of those in the field seeming quite to fit the situation, Mr. Scull's old friends demanded that he submit to their judgment. Mr. Scull could not refuse and so he is in the field, and from all accounts will easily get the nomination in his own county, and then play a lively three-handed rubber with Hicks and Cessna, if the last names makes the landing in Bedford.

With two such old war horses as Scull and Cessna in the field, it is the opinion that Hicks will easily be driven to cover, and then the shrewdest political manager will capture the Blair county delegates. The only argument, apparently, used against Scull is that he has had enough honors and should now step aside and give the young ones a chance—young ones like the venerable John Cessna, for instance.

Of course, Senator Quay is reported to be taking a hand in the fight, but that is not evident to any but the gossip mongers. It will be remembered that the Senator was said to be using his influence in support of Reed's candidacy for Speaker of the House, and that he was displeased at Scull's support of McKinley, which support was said to have been given on account of Scull's friendship and possibly his business associations with a brother of McKinley, who is a citizen of Somerset county.

NO EVIDENCE OF IT.

After the episode Scull was placed in the very short catalogue of anti-Quay Congressmen from Pennsylvania, and it has been assumed by those who are always ready with sensational assumptions upon the slightest basis that Senator Quay would oppose the renomination and election of Scull. This may be true, but no evidence of it has come to light at this end of the line, and Scull's friends claim that Somerset is absolutely sure for him, and profess to believe that he, on account of his personal and political influence at home and record for faithfulness and good judgment in Congress, will as before, score a victory in the district. One thing that complicates the situation for both Messrs. Scull and Cessna is that at the primaries which will nominate for Congress, delegates will also be elected to the State Convention, and nomination will be made to county offices to the number of a dozen or so. This will give great chance for trading, and there is a remote possibility that it may seriously affect the result. Mr. Scull seems very confident of success in his county, so confident that he does not deem it necessary to go home to look after the condition of his fences.

FRIENDLY TO SENATOR QUAY.

The Primary Election in Armstrong County Goes in That Way.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

KITTANNING, April 3.—The Republicans of Armstrong county held their nominations to-day and at this hour it is impossible to learn the exact result. From the returns received from the districts that can be reached by telegraph it is safe to say D. B. Heiner will have a majority of at least 1,600 over his opponent, Joseph G. Beale, for Congress. Frank Mast and S. B. Cochrane will probably be the candidates for Assembly. The county ticket is so badly mixed owing to the number of candidates being in the field that it will take the official count to settle the result.

For State delegate, John F. Whitworth, a staunch friend of Senator Quay, will be elected by fully 1,000 plurality over the other three candidates, with J. R. Henderson, another friend of the Senator, second.

THE FIGHT IN LANCASTER.

A FIERCE CONTEST, WITH CHARGES OF BRIBERY.

The Martin Delegates Seem to Have the Advantage — Brosius Evidently Renominated for Congress—The Result of the Minor Struggles.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

LANCASTER, May 3.—The Republican primary held in this county to-day was the most exciting ever known here. A large vote was polled in every district, and, as the ticket is very large, containing 94 candidates, the returns are coming in very slowly and little can be learned to-night. In this city there was the usual amount of disorder, with fights at several polling places. A great deal of money was used, and men were bought singly and in bunches by all factions. The prices paid for votes ranged from $1 to $6, and at one poll a crowd of 20 was bought for $80.

Although most of the leaders stood by their combinations some are charged with treachery, while many of the workers disregarded the order of their bosses. There was a tremendous amount of cutting and cheating, and the number of short tickets polled was very great. The number of votes polled in this city will reach about 4,000. The meager returns that are in show that Brosius for Congress will have a large majority over Myers in the city, and the few county districts show that the former has polled a large vote. He has been renominated by a large majority beyond a doubt. W. W. Franklin the Hartman candidate for Assembly from the city, has been renominated by a majority of several hundred over B. Frank McClain, who had the support of both Mentzer and Sensenig. John Sides, for Sheriff, has a large majority in the city, and the county returns indicate his nomination. Hartman, for Prothonotary, will carry the city by a decided majority over ex-Mayor Stauffer, the next highest man. Returns from the county are in his favor, and his friends claim his nomination.

The vote between Richard Blickenderfer (Martin) and Dr. H. E. Muhlenburg (anti-Martin), for delegate to the State Convention, is close, ann both men claim to be elected. The Martin delegates in the county are supposed to have been elected.

Clinton County for Hastings.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

LOCKHAVEN, May 3.—Hastings has carried his native county, and from all appearances every precinct has instructed for him. Delamater's friends have given up the contest.

KILLED ON THE FT. WAYNE.

Ludwig Heintz Falls From a Freight Train—John Chalfant Injured by a Broken Flywheel—Others Who Met With Accidents Yesterday.

Ludwig Heintz, a German weaver from Wheeling, fell off a freight train in the Ft. Wayne yards and had both legs cut off. He died soon after the accident occurred. It is supposed he was stealing a ride.

John Chalfant, an employe at Shoenberger's mill, Sixteenth street, fell into a flywheel pit yesterday and broke his right leg. He was removed to his home on Spring alley.

Heinrich Friedrick, aged 23 years, employed at Price's Foundry, at the corner of Fifth avenue and Stevenson street, was brought to the Mercy Hospital yesterday afternoon suffering from lacerated wounds about the arm and legs, which he received by the bursting of an emery wheel.

John Kotiski, employed at the locomotive works on Beaver avenue, Allegheny, had his left foot severely crushed yesterday by a wheel falling on him. He was removed to his home at Woods' Run.

August Hetzell, a painter, was working on a ladder yesterday painting the front of Brace Bros.' store. Hetzell fell through the plate glass window. He wasn't even scratched.

Christian Borner was injured by a blast in Keeling's quarry in Brownstown.

Mr. Sloan, one of the Adams Express collectors, fell down an elevator shaft at the railway depot, corner Eleventh street and Penn avenue. He received a slight spinal concussion.

Daniel Sweeney, a workman on the Allegheny bridge, fell to the river shore yesterday and was badly hurt.

A VISITATION OF FLAMES.

The Wormser Glass Factory Destroyed and a Close Call for a R. R. Station.

Laughlin's station, on the Baltimore and Ohio road, caught fire at 11:30 o'clock last night, presumably by incendiarism, as there is no fire in or about the building. An alarm was sent in from box 94, and the fire was promptly put out, but the loss will reach $270.

Before the engines got away from the vicinity, a fire was seen in the factory of the Wormser Glass Company, near by. It is but a small chimney manufactory, and the flames spread rapidly throughout the building, so that it was impossible to check its progress and the place was wholly consumed. A loss of about $3,000 was entailed. It is the second time the place has been burned out in the past six months and it is supposed it was set on fire. Another fire in the vicinity was discovered at 1 o'clock by Officer Smith, who found the blacksmith shop of Peter O'Donnell on fire. The officer quenched it without sending in an alarm. All of these fires are said by the police to be of incendiary origin.

Smith Still in Ignorance.

Sheriff McCandless has not yet informed murderer Smith of the adverse action on his case by the Pardon Board, and he is still in ignorance of his fate.

TOWN TALK.

The Bargains at Thompson's New York Grocery.

15 lbs. granulated sugar	$1 00
16 lbs. clear white sugar	1 00
10 lb. pails home-made preserves	1 00
30 lb. pails jelly (all kinds)	1 25
30 lb. pails apple butter (choice)	1 35
3 lb. cans California white cherries	20c
3 lb, square cans asparagus	18c
3 lb. cans Bartlett pears	15c
1 lb. prepared cocoanut	15c
Choice sugar corn, per can	5c
Solid packed tomatoes, per can	8c
Choice peas, per can	6c
Choice string beans, per can	6c
Choice blackberries, per can	6c
Seedless raisins, per lb	10c
4 lbs. evaporated apples	25c
Choice apples, per can	6c
Choice table peaches, per can	15c
Fine table peaches in heavy syrup	18c
3 cans finest apricots	50c
1 can greengage plums	15c
Choice French peas, per can	10c
Extra fine French peas, per can	15c
6 lbs. sun dried peaches	25c
California peaches, per lb	10c
4 lbs. evaporated apricots	25c
5 lbs. Carolina rice	25c
7 lbs. rolled oats	25c
8 lbs. large lump starch	25c
12 boxes bag blue	25c
15 lbs. pearl hominy	25c
7 quarts green peas	25c
Sugar-cured hams, per lb. (large)	10½c
1 gallon good Orleans molasses	38c
6 lbs. 20-cent tea	1 00
5 lbs. 25-cent tea	1 00
3 lbs 40-cent tea	1 00
4 bottles home-made ketchup	25c

Goods delivered free to all parts of both cities. To those living out of the city will prepay freight on all orders of $10 and upward. Send for catalogue.

M. R. THOMPSON,
301 Market street, corner Third avenue.
Wholesale and retail.

NEW ENGLAND FARMS.

Thirteen Hundred Productive Ones Lie Idle in New Hampshire.

LANDS IN VERMONT DIRT CHEAP.

Tired Capitalists Are Looking Northeast for Country Homes.

BIG BOOM IN AGRICULTURE COMING.

Maine Farmers Are Making Enough to Buy Up Western Mortgages.

Frank G. Carpenter has been investigating New England farms, and thinks they are great investments just now. Those who are farming are making money, and a reaction after the Western fever is bound to set in.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, May 3.—The discussion regarding the mortgage-laden farms of the West calls attention to the vast extent of waste lands in New England. In New Hampshire, by actual count, there are 1,800 deserted farms, and in Vermont thousands of acres of unoccupied tillable land, containing fine homes and situated near railroads, churches and schools, are offered for sale at prices fully as cheap as the almost inaccessible lands of the West.

In this article I aim to give some idea of the extent and character of these New England farms. I have interviewed some of the leading Senators of these States at Washington, and have corresponded regarding them with the agricultural boards of the respective districts at their State capitals, and I find the story an interesting one. New England is virtually wrapped up in it. Vermont and New Hampshire have organized bureaus of immigration, and the matter has been discussed in the Legislatures of the other States.

NEW HAMPSHIRE FARMS FOR A SONG.

The Hon. N. J. Bachelleri the Commissioner of Immigration for New Hampshire, writes me that the abandoned farms of his State vary in size from 5 to 500 acres, and that they can be purchased at prices ranging from $200 to $5,000 apiece. These farms, he writes, have not been abandoned because the soil has become exhausted, and in most instances they will fully average with the occupied farms. They are located in all sections of the State, and many of them have lately been made more desirable by the building of new railroads, which are continually being extended in various directions. The price of these farms in many instances is less than the value of the buildings upon them, and they will be sold for little more than the land would be worth without buildings, for pasturage or for the growth of wood and lumber. There are today many thousands of cords of wood standing upon such farms which would afford the purchaser lucrative employment for many winters in marketing if he desired.

They will afford superior advantages to young, thrifty, energetic men with small means who desire to follow farming for a livelihood. The buildings upon them are ready for occupancy, the soil will liberally respond to good husbandry, the climate is unsurpassed, the educational advantages excellent and the home market made by our 600 summer hotels, accommodating 30,000 or 40,000 people, and by our scores of manufacturing cities and villages, is not excelled anywhere.

A LAND OF COUNTRY HOMES.

"The tide of emigration from New Hampshire," continues Mr. Bacheller, "has already been checked and during the next ten years we expect to see 75 per cent. of the now vacant farms of New Hampshire occupied. They will not all be held by farmers. New Hampshire has become within the past few years a noted summer resort for wealthy people, and there are many of smaller competency who annually spend a few weeks among our granite hills. Many of this class are purchasing such farms and spending much or little upon them, as their wealth and inclinations dictate, feeling more satisfaction and liberty than in our summer hotels and boarding houses.

There are in the cities and villages of the country a large number of people who have secured a competency and who desire to be relieved from the continuous and exacting demands of business life. These people want to pass the remainder of their lives in quiet, independent country life, and from these we are getting many inquiries and some purchasers. As to our farmers themselves, they are more satisfied to-day than ever before. Our farms are more intelligently cultivated, and such people as come to New Hampshire will find a live agricultural community interested in the districts in which they live.

SENATOR BLAIR BOOMS HIS STATE.

Senator Blair glows even more over the agricultural beauties of New Hampshire than he does over his educational bill, and he says that the New Hampshire farms are fast being taken up by rich New Yorkers who have large business interests in the metropolis and who want good places in which to rest. Said he:

"The wear and tear of money making has made the summer vacation an absolute necessity to the capitalist, and these farms of New Hampshire will add ten years to the life of any man who buys one. The lands can be had for from $5 to $20 per acre, including the improvements, and the dwellings upon them are comfortable and the varieties of forest trees which surround them are unsurpassed. There is no more beautiful scenery in the world than in the New Hampshire mountains, and you breathe champagne with every inhalation of mountain air. I own one of these farms myself, and I think they make the pleasantest homes in the United States."

The Hon. A. B. Valentine, the Commissioner of Immigration for the State of Vermont, writes me that the statistical information concerning the deserted farms of this State is comparatively meager, but he gives me letters describing the condition of the farming population in the various parts of the State. A letter from the town of Reading, in Windsor county, states that 4,000 acres can be purchased in that town alone, and that one-half of this is made up of farms of from 70 to 200 acres in size.

OPPORTUNITIES IN VERMONT.

Many of these farms have buildings and they can be bought with the improvements from $3 to $4 per acre. The remaining half of the 4,000 acres was formerly made up of good farms, which were deserted long ago, and which are now growing up in timber. The fences are not kept up, the buildings have fallen into decay and old cellar holes, stray chimneys and miles of stone walls are all that testify to the former cultivation of these lands. They are, however, capable of cultivation, and can be bought from $1 to $2 per acre. In Essex county there are more than 125,000 acres which are in unoccupied contiguous lands which are, or soon will be, open for settlement. These lands, the Essex county *Herald* states, will make good productive farms. They are well watered, have timber for home consumpsion and want nothing but energy, bone and muscle to clear them up.

My advices from Connecticut are that there are few vacant farms in that State. Senator Hawley says that the best land is in use, and that the most of it is very valuable. Said he: "I believe that the condition of Connecticut farms is in general a prosperous one. We have no committees of immigration, and we have not yet discussed the question of abandoned farms. If we have any they are in the hill country and off of the railroads."

SITUATION IN CONNECTICUT.

Mr. T. S. Gold, the Secretary of the Connecticut State Board of Agriculture, writes: "In one sense we have some vacant and deserted farms in Connecticut but in the real sense we have not. All of our lands except where there is some question of title or peculiar conditions of ownership are in some way fertilized, and such farms as are not under cultivation have been turned into pasture. Upon the pasture lands farm buildings may have been allowed to go to decay and some farms have been used for the growing of wood. The change in our farming methods from raising our own breadstuffs to dairy farming, requires larger farms with less labor for their cultivation. Location has more influence on the value of farms now than it had in the past. The farmer uses less and less of his own products. The modern conveniences of city and village life with their so-called social and educational advantages are drawing away the population to business centers and farm property is depreciating. It has now no certain and fixed value in New Hampshire. At a forced sale it will only bring the honest estimate of its worth and the conditions of its purchase are changed.

"I believe," continues Mr. Gold, "that there is no better place to bring up a child than on a Connecticut farm. The boasted high schools of cities and villages fail to give him that habit of foresight and that self-dependence so necessary to success. Many of the farms of Connecticut

HAVE NEVER BEEN SOLD

and they are still occupied by the descendants of those pioneers who cleared away the forests. Not only does sentiment give value to such farms, but well managed by a family trained to frugality they furnish means for liberal housekeeping, generous hospitality, education of the children, charity and the institutions of religion. The supply of village and city markets have largely enhanced the value of farms in some localities in Connecticut, and in other places not so well located there is no sale and there is a consequent depression of prices. The most of the money saving by our farmers goes into Western loans."

Representative Boutelle, of Maine, in speaking of the beauties of the scenery of his State and of the prosperous condition of its farmers, tells me that a large number of Western mortgages are held by them. He describes a Kansas man, who, in traveling through Maine, stopped over night with a farmer. The farmer had 160 acres of stony land, and the Kansas man asked him how in the world he could get a living off such barren soil. He replied that he did it by cultivating it and selling the products, and that he not only made a living, but had something each year to invest. He thereupon asked the Kansas man as to the value of certain property in the town in which he lived.

GROWING DEEDS OF TRUST.

He seemed to know all about Kansas bank stocks and Kansas mortgages, and finally opening a box in one corner of the parlor he took out a number of papers, which, upon examination, proved to be deeds of trust on the most valuable property of the county in which his visitor lived.

"These," said the Maine Yankee, "came out of that barren, stony ground, and you will find a dozen of my neighbors who have grown other seeds quite as valuable on no better soil."

Senator Frye, of Maine, tells me that such vacant farms as exist in his State are far from the railroads. "Our boys have left them and the old people are not able to carry them on. Some of our young men go West. Others are engaged in the manufacturing interests of the East and we have a few who stay at home. Maine is a far better State than it gets credit for. We have, in fact, some of the best farming land in the United States, and in the northern part of Aroostook county a man raised, last season, 748 bushels of potatoes on a single acre of land, and the wheat raised in that county is better, both in quantity and quality, than any grown this side of the Rocky Mountains. Our river valleys all contain fine farming lands, and ex-Governor Robie, who is President of the State Grange of Maine, lately made a statement in which he said that 75 per cent of the farmers of Maine are making money."

That these abandoned farms will be reoccupied and retilled within a few years seems sure beyond doubt, and the interest that has been awakened in the subject is already bringing to the leading men of these districts letters from all parts of the United States. FRANK G. CARPENTER.

AFRAID THEY'LL RUST.

Chief Brown Gives His Reason for Changing the Location of Firemen—A More Equal Division of Labor—Why Some Men Object.

J. O. Brown, Chief of the Department of Public Safety, proposes that none of the men under him shall rust, if he can prevent it. In pursuance of this resolution, there was quite a changing around of men in the Fire Department on the 1st of the month. Firemen located in Southside engine houses were sent to Glenwood, and men from the East End were brought to town, and vice versa. This change provoked some dissatisfaction, especially among the married men, who claimed that it prevented them going home to their meals, and they say they are afraid to move their families, because they do not know how soon another change might be made.

One or two of the more radical or suspicious members of the department insinuated that the move was for the purpose of forcing resignations from firemen who were unpopular with the heads of the department, but whom it would not be good policy to discharge.

Chief Brown was asked yesterday in regard to the matter, and said: "The changes made in the fire department this month are in the interest of discipline, and for the purpose of keeping the force up to the highest degree of excellence. The old system of leaving a fireman at the engine house to which he was originally detailed was bad for the men and worse for the department. In the outlying engine houses the men might have nothing to do for weeks, or even months, and when their services were no longer called for, in the event of a big fire, they were not as capable as men who were kept more constantly in service. On the other hand, the men in the downtown engine houses were often overworked, perhaps having to respond to one or more calls every night for weeks.

"This was not a fair division of labor. By changing the men around occasionally we expect to keep the efficiency of the entire department up to the standard. The firemen of Pittsburg are well treated, and they are the only employes of the city who receive pay for 36 days each year when they are not working."

SQUELCHING THE SPEAK-EASIES.

Inspector McKelvey, of the Southside, After Illegal Sellers.

Inspector McKelvey has mapped out a regular campaign against speak-easies, and last night commenced to follow Chief Brown's May edict on the upper Southside. Francis Meyer, of Brownsville avenue, was brought in by Detective Carrigan, and gave $500 bail on a charge of selling without license. Later in the evening the inspector walked into the station house with Mrs. Elizabeth Coxin, Sidney and Twenty-fifth streets. Up to a late hour last night she had not obtained bail. In the West End John Shay was arrested for selling without a license and gave $1,000 bail.

The inspector said last night that informations would be made out to-day for Bridget Laffey, proprietress of a noted resort at the head of Tenth street, and for George Swertzel, Twelfth street.

At about 11 o'clock last night the inspector and Detective Carrigan visited the place of Jacob Eichley and found things in full blast. He joined the others at the station.

The inspector said that he intended to arrest every one found selling illegally. He would much rather they would quit themselves and save being sent to the workhouse.

A Wreck Delays Railroad Travel.

The truck of a freight car jumped the track yesterday afternoon at Coultersville, on the B. & O., and struck the West Newton accommodation. A bad wreck was caused, which delayed travel, but no one was injured.

TAMMANY BOODLERS

In Bad Shape Before the Fassett Commission Investigation.

MAYOR GRANT PUT ON THE STAND

He Asked That the Fullest Light be Thrown on the Subject.

HE WAIVED COUNSEL'S PRIVILEGES

Ex-District Attorney Delaney States That Grant Was Not Implicated.

The feature of the day in the Tammany investigation at New York yesterday was the testimony of Mayor Grant. He waived even the privileged communion of counsel and client. Ex-District Attorney Delaney exonerated the Mayor from any complicity in the aldermanic boodling cases of 1884.

NEW YORK, May 3.—The State Senate Committee, Mr. Fassett in the chair, held another meeting to-day to investigate the working of the various city departments. Mayor Grant, being called on the stand, was the great card which drew a large number of spectators to hear him exculpate himself from the charges made by Patrick McCann.

Mr. McCann was again put on the stand and cross-examined by Mr. Cockran. He said that Mr. Croker owed him $3,000, incurred by supplying groceries to Mr. Croker's family. The debt had been growing for seven or eight years. It was incurred before he took the Mount Vincent restaurant, in 1885. That $3,000 had been wiped out when he purchased the restaurant. Since then a debt of $4,000 has grown and is still growing, for supplying Mr. Croker's family. He had kept a mourning goods store and had failed in 1879, but he did not include his full claim against Croker in his schedule.

The witness had seen Mr. Ivins at his (witness') house before giving his testimony before the committee, and had spoken to him concerning what testimony he could give, but did not tell him all he knew or what he testified to.

SOMEBODY HAD BEEN SEEN.

In half an hour or less Croker came down with the satchel still in his hand, and said he would not trust Adams. When Adams came down he hurried out without saying a word. Croker had said to him that there were two aldermen whom he wanted to reach, and Tom Adams knew them. Mr. Croker had subsequently said that he had seen these two aldermen and he understood that everything was satisfactory. "I knew," he said, "somebody had been 'seen.'"

The witness said he could make charges which he did not care to put forward voluntarily at present, and that "the less those gentlemen have to say, the better for themselves." When pressed by Mr. Ivins he admitted having a conversation with Grant about his connection with the Broadway Railroad bribery in 1884.

Mayor Grant here arose and said he wanted Mr. McCann to withhold nothing he knew concerning him.

Witness then told of a day when he (Mr. Grant) and Alderman Mooney had been to a lawyer's office together, and Mr. Grant, referring to the Broadway railway bribery and of his obligations to Mr. Croker, said: "If it had not been for his advice I'd have been in that deal with the other fellows," meaning, as witness explained, the aldermen who had accepted bribes. Grant, he said, subsequently repeated the same thing in presence of Mrs. McCann and Mrs. Croker.

Mrs. Croker and witness had a conversation in January or February, 1885, about the $180,000 Mr. Croker brought to his store about a month before. She told him that Mr. Croker had brought home a large sum of money about that time and that she sat up at night to guard it until he arrived at the house. Witness had heard nothing to show that it was the same money.

Senator McNaughton asked witness a number of questions presumably in explanation of his testimony, but no one except himself, McCann and Senator Fassett heard either questions or answers.

McCann's examination being concluded Mr. Cockran called as witness James H. Dunham, of Dunham, Buckley & Co., dry-goods merchants, who testified that he would not believe McCann under oath if he had any motive to testify falsely.

GRANT ON THE STAND.

In the afternoon the court room was still more densely crowded, and Mayor Grant, being called to the stand, was asked if he ever was a candidate for Commissioner of Public Works. He replied, "I was not."

"You did not go so far as to secure counsel to aid your appointment?"

"Secure counsel? No, sir."

"Did you not retain Colonel Bliss?"

"Oh, at the suggestion of Mr. Kelly I retained him—in this room to have an injunction restraining the Board of Aldermen from acting on the appointment of a Commissioner of Public Works."

The Mayor went on to say that Mr. Kelly had suggested Mr. Bliss' name, he believed, in consequence of an interview published about that time. Mr. Bliss had said the injunction could not be maintained.

Mr. Boardman said that without his consent Colonel Bliss, of course, could not give testimony as to what had passed between them as a counsel, and asked him if he would waive objection to Colonel Bliss testifying on the matter.

The Mayor said he would waive all objections. Colonel Bliss was at liberty to tell all that occurred. Asked about the disposition of the money he had given to Flossie Crocker, the Mayor said he had no personal knowledge of what was done with it, but he considered the money the child's still. He did not know that the money had been used to pay off the mortgage on his house.

Mr. Boardman here consulted with McCann, who sat behind him and asked the Mayor how long it was since he had seen Mrs. Croker, and he replied he had not seen her in about seven months, nor had he seen Flossie in that time. He still felt same interest and entertained same kindly feeling toward Mrs. Croker.

Senator Fassett questioned the Mayor about his candidacy for the Mayoralty, and was told he was nominated by Tammany Hall. He had contributed about $1,500. To Mr. Boardman's questions the Mayor said Mr. Newcombs had not attempted blackmail, nor had he (witness) said such a thing.

Ex-Assistant District Attorney Delancey Nicoll was placed on the stand, and declared under oath he had stated in a letter to Mayor Grant that in his extensive examination into the matter of boodle in the 1884 Board of Aldermen he never heard anything about Grant being a candidate for the office of Commissioner of Public Works. The committee then adjourned, subject to call. The next session, it is said, will be called for the 15th inst.

GOSSIP OF THE WHARF.

Excursionists Taking Advantage of the Fine Weather—Hanlan and Hosmer.

Yesterday was a brave day on the rivers, although the slightly cloudy condition of the sky betokened a fall of rain. At 4 P. M. the Wood street gauge showed a depth of 7 feet 2 inches and falling.

The Lewis A. Sherley packet came and went as usual yesterday. She carried a host of excursionists.

Hanlan and Hosmer had another pull upstream yesterday. It will be their last for some time, at any rate, on Pittsburg waters, as their company leaves town to-day.

Never have the wharves been so clean before. The edict of the wharfmaster has produced excellent fruit, and all the old dirt and disarray have vanished.

Rivers Above and Below.

CINCINNATI—River 28 feet 3 inches and stationary. Raining. Departed—Hudson, for Pittsburg.

LOUISVILLE—River rising; 10.7 in canal; 8.3 on falls; 24 at foot of canal. Business good. Weather partly clear and partly cloudy and sultry.

MEMPHIS, TENN.—River rose five-tenths.

NEW ORLEANS, LA.—Rainy. River falling.

EIGHT HOURS IN CHICAGO.

THE ARBITRATION COMMITTEE MAKES NOTABLE PROGRESS.

The Demands of the Strikers Practically Granted, and Work to be Resumed on Monday by as Many Carpenters as the New Association Can Find Employment For.

CHICAGO, May 3.—The arbitration committees of the Carpenters' Union and the Carpenters' Association met again this morning, and when a recess was taken for lunch it was announced that they had progressed so far in their efforts that it had been determined that work would be resumed on Monday by as many carpenters as the members of the new association could find employment for. The demands of the strikers have been substantially conceded. They are to work eight hours; none but union men are to be employed, and to have union foremen.

The secretary of the committee said but two points of difference remained, the price per hour to be paid and the government of apprentices, which will be submitted to the three judges who are acting as umpires. As to wages, the bosses think 30 cents per hour a fair compensation, while the men want 40 cents.

GAS MEN WILL GO OUT.

Incensed at the Singular Action of the Trust That Employs Them.

CHICAGO, May 3.—The employes of the Gas Trust will on Monday demand eight hours, and as there is little hope of their employers granting the demand, it is probable that Monday night will see between 600 and 700 gas men out. The trust laid their entire force off last Wednesday night, with instructions to be on duty Monday morning. They gave the men no explanation of the three days of idleness.

The men became incensed, called a meeting of the union, and this morning decided to have an eight-hour day or strike.

THE YOUNGSTOWN CARPENTERS

Assured of Support by Their Brethren From General Headquarters.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

YOUNGSTOWN, May 3.—All the carpenters are still out and there is practically no change in the situation from yesterday. A committee of contractors presented several propositions to-day, but the Carpenters' Union rejected them. The planing mill proprietors refuse to recognize the union and all their mills are shut down.

The carpenters received notice to-day from the general headquarters commending their action and stating that they would be given financial aid during the pending trouble.

THE BUILDING TRADES STRIKE

And Operations Are Suspended at Johnstown for Some Time.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

JOHNSTOWN, May 3.—The general strike of the building trades was inaugurated here to-day in accordance with the resolutions adopted at a meeting of workingmen last night. The strike is for nine hours as a day's work. It has caused a suspension of work on all buildings in course of erection in this city. The strikers have issued an appeal to workingmen in other places setting forth their grievances and asking them not to interfere.

Labor and Strike News.

THERE are strikes in the mines at Lincoln, Pana and Bloomington, Ill.

THE report that the Chicago carpenters would go to work Monday was officially denied at midnight.

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