PITTSBURG DISPATCH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9.

The Little Band of Men Who Surround and Counsel Grover Cleveland.

And Quiet but Influential in the Field of Political Action.

GIANTS

IN BUSINESS

A POWERFUL CIRCLE,

W. C. WHITNEY'S RAPID PROGRESS.

How Pan Lamont Has Fixed Fimself Nicely in a Financial Way.

OTHERS CLOSE TO THE EX-PRESIDENT

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.] NEW YORK, Oct. 6 .- William Collins Whitney, ex-Secretary of the Navy, stands as the personal representative of Mr. Cleveland in the present campaign. Mr. Whitney is in many ways a remarkable man. His first meeting with Mr. Cleveland was quite out of the ordinary run.

It was at the State Convention held in Utica and which nominated Cleveland for Governor. Mr. Whitney was present as a delegate, but before the assembling of the convention he received a telegram informing that his wife was ill and requesting his instant return to this city. Before responding to this message he hastened



to the room of the late Daniel Manning to confer with him as to the best means of defeating the nomination of Roswell P. Flower, the gubernatorial candidate of Tammany Hall. As he entered Mr. Manning's room he saw a gentleman seated near the door. Passing him with a bow he went up to Mr. Manning. and after informing him that imperative necessity called him home, he outlined the situation as it seemed to him, and concluded by advising Mr. Manning to unite with the County Democracy of New York in defeating Flower by "nominating that man Cleveland from Buffalo."

Mr. Whitney Introduced to the Governor Mr. Whitney left Utica at once, but Manning took his advice, and Cleveland was nominated and elected. When Cleveland was inaugurated Governor Mr. Whitney was introduced to him, and discovered much to his surprise that the man who had been sitting in Manning's room when he announced his desire for the nomination of Cleveland, then comparatively unknown, was Cleveland himself. Thus began a friendship that has had a most potential bearing on the political history of the last

William C. Whitney and David B. Hill are the most conspicuous disciples of the late Samuel J. Tilden now in public life. Both were highly esteemed by that master of astuteness and subtleness, and both have made splendid use of the training which he gave them. Whitney, who is now a little past 50, was bred among the hills of Massachusetts, and came to New York from Yale College. Aristocratic in his tastes and surroundings, polished and courteous in his bearing, patient, subtle and acute, and with an abundance of self-confidence, he early achieved brilliant social and pro-



fessional success, and won the friendship of Tilden, who, always wise and cautious in his choice of lieutenants, found in the brainy and rising young lawyer a man after

his own heart.

What Whitney Owed to Tilden. At the instigation of Tilden, Whitney was appointed corporation counsel. This is the law officer of this city, and the position offers unequaled advantages to the man who seeks advancement in the practice of his profession, especially in its more profitable branches. In this office Mr. Whitney found branches. In this office Mr. Whitney found free scope for the ambitions which swayed him, not the least among which was the desire for great wealth. His marriage to the daughter of one of the richest men in Ohio aided him greatly in the accomplishment of this desire, and with the financial prestige which this alliance gave him he has since acquired a fortune which now amounts to many millions of dollars.

Mr. Whitney's course as corporation counsel placed him in the front rank of his

profession, and the adroit and conspicuous part which he took in the successful revolt against Tammany, led by Tilden, showed clearly that he was a man who must be taken into account in all future combinations of his party managers. It was in 1880 that Mr. Whitney first attracted national attention. At the Democratic National Convention held in that year Mr. Whitney sought to prevent the renomination of Tilden, and the nomination instead of Henry B. Payne, his father-in-law. He succeeded in the first part of his enterprise, but failed in the latter part because of unexpected opposition in the Ohio delegation. Still his work on this occasion showed the clever work on this occasion showed the clever



E. Cornelius Benedict.

things of which he was capable in the larger and more complicated field of national pol-itics, and greatly increased the respect in which he was held by the astute politicians of this city.

His Street Railroad Manipulations. Between 1880 and 1884 Mr. Whitney took Between 1880 and 1884 Mr. Whitney took only a passive interest in politics. A commercial scheme, which is just now being brought to completion and which will place the control of nearly all the surface railroads of New York in the hands of Mr. Whitney and his friends, in the main occupied his time and attention during these years. This enterprise, requiring for its conduct the very highest order of talent, promises golden returns, surpassing in volume and regularity those of the famous Comstock lode.

At the Chicago Convention of 1884 Mr.

Whitney again came to the front, and had Whitney again came to the front, and had much to do with securing the nomination of Cleveland. He did more to turn the Ohio delegation into line for Cleveland at the moment when their votes would have the greatest effect than all the other Cleveland leaders combined. In the exciting and historic campaign which followed, Mr. Whitney took a quiet, but for that reason a most effective part. He led in the work of supplying campaign funds when they were most needed, and had much to do with laying out the plan of battle by which Cleveing out the plan of battle by which Cleve-land was elected. Whitney's appointment as Secretary of the Navy was somewhat of a surprise to the general public, but not so to the men familiar with the inner history of the campaign.

As Secretary of the Navy. Mr. Whitney was in many respects an ideal Cabinet officer. He was



Charles S. Fairchild.

active, intelligent, modest official, who dis-charged with vigor and impartiality the ob-ligations and responsibilities which his office laid upon him. In a word, he was a distinct and conspicuous success, and the triumphs scored by him and his accom-plished wife in the social world at Washington were also memorable and splendid. Following his retirement from the Cabinet, Mr. Whitney again devoted his time and attention to his large and increasing business interests in this city, but also took care to maintain and strengthen the valuable and important alliances he had formed while in Wachington.

while in Washington.

Mr. Whitney's political course during the past year has been thoroughly characteristic of the man. While Grace, Fairchild and other friends of Cleveland were child and other friends of Cleveland were manifesting their opposition to Senator Hill in various ways, Mr. Whitney did not appear in the foreground, and it was stated by those who enjoyed his confidence that he was out of politics. For some time preceding the convention at Chicago he was absent in Europe, but returned in time to take personal charge of the movement for the renomination of Cleveland. His work at Chicago last June was brilliant in the extreme. He outwitted the enemy at every point, discovered and instantly took advantage of every opportunity that presented vantage of every opportunity that presented itself, and from start to finish showed that he possessed the political generalship that never falters and never makes mistakes.

Might Have Bad Harrity's Place.

Might Have Had Harrity's Place.

He returned from Chicago, aside from Mr. Cleveland, the most conspicuous member of his party, and could his party associates have had their way he would without division have been made Chairman of the Democratic National Committee. The disadvantage and annoyances of the position, however, impelled him to decline the position, but he has from the first taken a very active part in the campaign and is almost daily at the headquarters of his party. The effect of the greater part of the work performed by Mr. Whitney at the present time does not appear upon the surface, but it is pevertheless adroit, well timed and of

machine, the scope of whose influence, though exerted quietly and secretly, includes every voter in the land. He is strategic and resourceful and as a fighter is perhaps at his best when on the defensive. His self-control is perfect and he is always cool without being cold. He possesses, moreover, what Tilden never had, the power of making friends and winning popularity without provoking animosity. He knows, too, how to be gentle without appearing to be vaciliating, and he can when occasion demands say no in a way that leaves no sting behind it.

Whitney and the Court of St. James.

Such, briefly sketched, is the man who stands as the personal representative of Mr. Cleveland in the present campaign. In appearance Mr. Whitney is tall and erect, with a haudsome, well-carved face and an air that suggests health, vigor and good spirits. His manner is always genial and cordial, and impels respect while repelling familiarity of any kind. His inture, should Mr. Cleveland be elected, suggests some interesting probabilities. It is well known that he does not desire to again serve in the Cabinet. He regards a Cabinet position as little better than a clerkship, and by no means the road to take in order to reach the higher goal which he now doubtless has in his mind. It is stated on good authority that should Mr. Cleveland be the next President Mr. Whitney would like to be our Minister at the Court of St. James, a position for which his wealth and social gifts brilliantly equiphim.

When Franklin Pierce made James Bu-chanan Minister to England in 1852, by taking the latter out of the field of actual taking the latter out of the field of actual polities at a trying and critical period, he paved the way for Buchanan's nomination and election to the Presidency, and it is within the range of possibilities that Mr. Cleveland may perform a similar service for Mr. Whitney. At any rate, the latter is now regarded as Mr. Cleveland's political legates and, though it is a far cry to 1896, the opening of the next Democratic Convention will probably find Mr. Whitney's name heading the list of possible Presidental candidates. How Dan Lymont Helped Cleveland.

Mr. Whitney has done Mr. Cleveland many a good turn in the past ten years, but none greater than when he advised Cleveland at the opening of his term as Governor to make Colonel Daniel S. Lamont his private secretary. Lamont supplied just the qualities which Cleveland lacked, and never did a subordinate render chief better or more timely service than the ex-President for nearly eight years received from Colonel Lamont. The latter was in his early days a newspaper man, and a very good one, too, and there is not today a man better informed on State and

national polities than he. During the early part of Cleveland's public career Lamont's discretion, shrewdness and experience saved him from many serious and perhaps fatal blunders, and when Cleveland removed from Albany to Washington he insisted that Lamont should accompany him, and from his own pocket paid him annually a sum equal to the salary which he received from the Government as private secretary to the President. Lamont enjoyed Cleveland's confidence in fullest measure, but he never abused it nor used it to his own adnever abused it nor used it to his own advantage. Those who know the inner political history of the early months of 1888 have long ago been aware that but for the advice



which Lamont gave Cleveland at a critical and trying moment, and which the latter with some reluctance finally accepted, his nomination would have been rendered im-

possible.

When he left Washington Colonel Lamont became identified with Mr. Whitney's Metropolitan Traction Company, from which he now derives an income of some \$30,000 a year. He has been for some months at Aixles-Bains in France seeking to recover from

the effects of overwork and insomnia, but were he at home he would no doubt be found taking an active interest in the for-tunes of his former chief, as the warmest friendship still exists between the two men. Lamont is now about 36 years old, of slen-der build and diplomatic temperament. Mr. Cleveland's Old Law Partner.

Aside from Whitney and Lamont, Mr. Cleveland has a small coterie of personal friends, all of whom are interesting and some of whom are remarkable men. Included in this list is Wilson S. Bissell, of Buffalo, Mr. Cleveland's former law partner. Years ago Mr. Bissell was a law student under Mr. Cleveland and he has ever since hear one of the ex-President's student under Mr. Cleveland and he has ever since been one of the ex-President's most devoted admirers. It was upon the advice of Mr. Bissell that Mr. Cleveland became a candidate for Mayor of Buffalo, and it was Mr. Bissell who managed the canvass for the gubernatorial nomination which rendered possible Mr. Cleveland's nomination for the Presidency. Mr. Bissell is one of the leaders of the bar of Western New York, a man of fine intellect and resolute and forceful character. He married the college chum of Mr. Cleveland's wife and the relations between the two men have all along been close and confidental.

I asked Mr. Bissell not long since what

have all along been close and confidental.

I asked Mr. Bissell not long since what he regarded as the secret of Mr. Cleveland's success, and he promptly replied: "His untiring industry and energy, allied to unflagging honesty and an abundant stock of hard common sense. His mind is eminently impartial and he would have made a splendid judge. As a lawyer he prepared himself thoroughly for the trial of a case, and once enlisted in a cause he carried the battle to the end. He never belonged to the class of money making lawyers; he met the poor client and the rich one on the same footing, and he often gave his services to those in distress without the expectation of compensation. To younger members of the bar he was always most generous and helpful. I think it can be truthfully said of Mr. Cleveland that never in his life has he slighted any task he has undertaken." he slighted any task he has undertaken." Elected to Office Without Knowing It,

Another of Mr. Cleveland's warm personal friends is Cornelius Benedict. Mr. Benedict is senior partner of E. C. Benedict. & Co., bankers and stockbrokers of Wall street. He has been a member of the New York Stock Exchange for 30 years and is a man of large means. He resides at Greenwich, Ct., and though essentially a business man has found time to take an occasional hand in politics, and in a quiet way has often exerted a strong influence in the councils of his party. He has never been an office seeker and the only public position he has ever held was that of ware den of the town of Greenwich. To this office, strange to say, he was nominsted and elected while on a Western trip and the control of the town of Greenwich. To this office, strange to say, he was nominsted and elected while on a Western trip and the control of the town of the town of Greenwich. To this office, strange to say, he was nominsted and elected while on a Western trip and the control of the town of the town of Greenwich. To this office, strange to say, he was nominsted and elected while on a Western trip and the control of the town of the town of Greenwich. To this office, strange to say, he was nominsted and elected while on a Western trip and the control of the town of the town of Greenwich. To this office, strange to say, he was nominsted and elected while on a Western trip and the control of the town of the town of Greenwich. To this office, strange to say, he was nominsted and elected while on a Western trip and the control of the town of the town of Greenwich. To this office, strange to say, he was nominsted and elected while on a Western trip and the control of the town of the town of Greenwich. To this office, strange to say, he was nominsted and elected while on a Western trip and the control of the town of the town of Greenwich. To this office, strange to say, he was nominsted and elected while on a Western trip and the control of the town of the to

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HOW IT FEELS TO DIE.

The Experience of a Skater Who Was Drowned Beneath the Ice, but Was Brought Back to Life—The Sensation Not Half as Bad as Breaking an Arm,

A recent number of the proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research contains some remarkable experiences by contributors who claim to have been at least emporarily dead. In both cases they alege that they passed into a new and conscious after-death existence. The following is from the Pall Mall Budget:

One day while skating on a lake I plunged through a bit of thin ice and was carried on

One day while skating on a lake I plunged through a bit of thin ice and was carried on unner the thicker ice beyond. The first thing I knew was that I found myself plunged suddenly into ice-coid water and struggling for my life in skates and winter clothes against chill and drowning. I went down its lead. When I came up again it was with my head against the solid ice. I was numbed with the cold and sunned with the suddenness of the unexpected ducking, so instead of looking for the soft place by which I had got in, I tried ineffectually to break the thick ice over my head by bumping and butting against it, and was soon completely numbed by the cold. I gasped and swallowed a great deal of water. I feit my lungs illing. A moment of suspense, during which I knew perfectly well I was drowned and dead. I knew it then and I have never since for a moment doubted it.

Just before I died, however, I noticed—deliberately noticed—for I am psychological by nature—that my whole past life did not come up, as I had been given to understand it would, in a single flash before me. On the contrary, I felt only a sense of cold and damp and breathlessness, a fierce will strungle, a horrible choking sensation, and then all was over. I was taken out stonedead. Unless extreme remedies had been applied I would have remained stone-dead till the present moment. After a while they brought me back; I began to breathe again, But I call it absurd to speak of my condition mean while as one of "suspended animation." The phrase is unscientific. I was dead and nothing else. Mere theological theorists may talk about something they call the soul not having yet left the body. I know nothing of all that, though I don't see how they can tell so confidently whether in such a case as mine the soul, if any, does not leave the body at once and then come back again. For all I know to the contrary, it may have gone meanwhile to the hypothetical place of departed spirits—always unconscious. So far as consciousness goes, I was then and there dead, and I never

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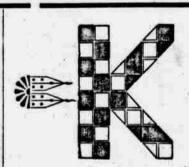
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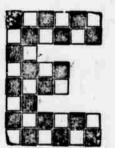
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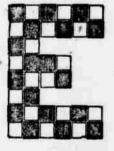
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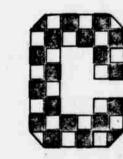


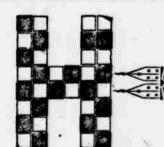
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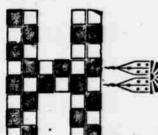
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