Charlotte Daily Observer.

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JUDGE PARKER TO LEND AID.

TO VISIT HEADQUARTERS OFTEN.

A Story Emanating From the Reform Club Demonstrates the Faith the Party Has in Its Leader—A Bitter Fight Expected in the James Case, Before the Supreme Court—Mr. Vance Impressed With the Work of the Campaign—Harmony Reigns in New Jersey—Congressmen Van Duzer's Views of the Outlook,

BY W. A. HILDEBRAND.

Special to The Observer.

New York, Sept. 20.—While Democratic leaders generally are devoting their undivided attention to the gubernatorial situation at Saratoga, Judge Alton B. Parker, the Democratic nominee for President, has arranged to make another stay in this city at once to consider matters of national import. The writer has had a talk with Delancey Nickoll—of the big four, Taggart, Belmont and Nickoll, who are directing the destinies of the Democracy at headquarters, regard the probable movements of Judge Parker during the next few weeks. Mr. Nickoll said that Judge Parker would return to New York at once for another short stay, and from now and until the campaign closed, would doubtless spend a part of each week here. It was Judge Parker's original idea to do this, said Mr. Nickoll, and he knew of no reason for a change of plans. This would appear to be authentic and final and means that the Democratic candidate will aid his managers in the details of the conflict. Democrats generally are pleased to have it so, for every man in the party hereabouts has a large fund of faith in the managerial and executive bility of the party leader.

THE REFORM CLUB LIST.

A story emanates from Reform Club circles which demonstrates this fact: This club, which has a large membership that is generally friendly to Judge Parker, has a list of the names representing the electorate of this and adjoining counties. The list gives the political affiliations of the thousands of voters recorded, and in some instances a foot-note is made after the names, whenever the voter happens to be a man of prominence. This list was recently sent to Judge Parker, who is said to have taken an evening off for the purpose of looking the document over. The judge quickly ran down the list to Ulster, his home county, to see how the Reform Club sleuths had sized up his own friends and neighbors. As he ran his finger down the list he came to the following: "Hansbrouck, G. H. D.—R., the slickest politician in the county since Parker went on the bench." It is being told at Rosemount that the laugh that went out from the judge's library roused Mary Jane from her uneasy slumbers and caused apples to fall from the trees. Anyway, the story serves to establish the fact that the most people have an idea that Judge Parker knows a thing or two about active politics.

MR. VANCE IMPRESSED.

Mr. Charles N. Vance, of North Carolina, a son of the late ex-Senator Zebulon B. Vance, who was the Confederate war Governor of the Tar Heel State, and also Governor after the reconstruction period, was at headquarters yesterday. Mr. Vance is a practicing attorney in Washington, but preserves his voting residence in his home State. Mr. Vance said he was much impressed by the hard work being done by the officers and staff of the national committee, and he believes the work is of the kind that will tell, and tell strongly by the time the voters reach the polls. He looks to see the South more solidly Democratic than it has been in recent years, and everything appears excellent here in New York.

HARMONY IN JERSEY.

Congressman C. D. Van Duzer, of Nevada, who has just returned from a speaking tour in New Jersey and Delaware, was a visitor at Democratic national headquarters yesterday afternoon. Referring to the situation in New Jersey, Congressman Van Duzer said: "I was present in the State convention in New Jersey and for the first time in 12 years tht Democrats held a harmonious convention. The factions of the party are thoroughly united, and are ready and anxious to work hard for the election of the national and State tickets. The principal local issue is the fight against the railroads, and C. C. Black, the Democratic nominee for Governor, is just the man to lead a fight on just such lines. The people are determined to make the railroads and other large corporations pay their just share of the taxes, and when the subject is mentioned at mass meetings the audiences almost go wild. This shows that is a matter in which they are deeply interested.

"In Delaware the split between the regular Republicans and the Union Republicans is growing wider daily, and many of those who are opposed to Addicks will unquestionably vote the Democratic national ticket. For months the Republicans have been colonizing negroes in Delaware, but notwithstanding this I believe there is an excellent chance of carrying the State for Parker. In both States I find the people bitterly opposed to Roosevelt, and ready to become enthusiastic in their support of the Democratic candidates.

"Of the far Western States, I think that Montana, Nevada, and Colorado can be carried on the irrigation and labor issues. The people are thoroughly aroused on these questions and as it has been demonstrated that they can expect no relief from a Republican administration, they feel that they have no alternative but to vote for Parker and Davis, and thousands of them will do so. While I cannot predict at this time that Idaho will be found in the Democratic column, when the votes are counted, I do know that it is very good debatable ground, and if the proper amount of work is done the State can be carried."

THE JAMES CASE.

A bitter fight is expected in the special term of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn, when the application of Mrs. Florence Robertson James, for alimony and counsel fee pending the decision in her husband's action for divorce, is heard on September 26. The case was called yesterday, but adjourned for a week, when it will be heard. John Frank James, Jr., who is one of the richest real estate dealers in Brooklyn, will vigorously resist the application, and in doing so, will present a lot of new evidence to supplement that which was secured by his detective, who worked up the case in North Carolina. It will be recalled that Mr. James followed his wife to Asheville in August and captured his five-year-old son from her. Trouble occurred between the couple and the detective at Swannanoa station, but Mr. James got away with the boy, and all the New York papers referred to the affair as a "kidnapping." Later the couple came here, and when Mr. James and the detective broke into Mrs. James' room at the Hotel Normandie, they discovered the woman with a man of the name of Williams, who claimed to be her brother. Mr. James says now that his five-year-old son will be among the witnesses against his wife, particularly as to things that happened during Mrs. James' stay at a cottage, two miles out in the country from Asheville. It is said here that Mrs. James was formerly a member of the Joseph Jefferson company, and that she frequently gave dramatic readings for charity.

SISTERS LET TRAIN KILL THEM.

They Wrapped Themselves in a Bed Spread and Waited Three Hours for Their Lives to be Crushed Out.

Bucyrus, O., Sept. 20.—The bodies of Mary and Lizzie Keherer, who lived alone on a small farm near here, were found to-day by section men on the Ohio Central Railroad. The women wrapped themselves in a bed spread and laid down on the track last night and were killed by a passenger train. They had frequently declared that they were tired of the struggle for life and wanted to die. A few years ago Mary contracted a disease which had been pronounced incurable. Since then she has brooded over her illness and her melancholy was shared by her sister. Their lives had been happy and useful up to that time. The question of committing suicide was often discussed with neighbors, who discouraged such an end to life. The elder sister, however, remained steadfast in her determination to kill herself and it is believed that Lizzie soon began to agree with her that such a proceeding was justifiable. It is believed they waited for nearly three hours for a train to come along and crush out their lives. The two women laid their heads together on the track on the fireman's side of the engine, evidently with the hope of evading being seen by the engineer. Their mangled bodies were scattered along the track for hundreds of yards.

A CRANK AT OYSTER BAY.

Said He Had Been to Heaven in an Automobile and Wanted to See the President on Important Business.

Oyster Bay, Sept. 20.—A man who is regarded by the secret service officers and the officers of Oyster Bay as a dangerous crank was apprehended here shortly before noon to-day. He is J. E. Reeves, a medium-sized, roughly-attired man, about 40 years old. He was making his way to Sagamore Hill, when he was arrested. He told Officer Tyree, who apprehended him, that he wanted to see the President on important business. Believing from the man's manner that he was insane, Officer Tyree took him before Justice Franklin for examination. To the Justice Reeves said that six years ago he died in a Jersey City hospital and went to heaven in an automobile. While there he received an important message for President Roosevelt, which he was directed to deliver personally. He refused to say what the nature of the message was, as he declared he could communicate to anybody but the President. He declared to the justice, however, that he had written a book on his experience in heaven, which he desired to have published, as he was satisfied millions could be made out of it. The President, he said, undoubtedly would join with him in securing the publication of the work and that was one reason why he wished to have a talk with him Reeves had no weapons.

M'CUE PLEADS NOT GUILTY

Former Mayor of Charlottesville Breaks Down in Court—Motion to Quash the Indictment to be Considered.

Charlottesville, Va., Sept. 20.—Ex-Mayor J. Samuel McCue, accused of wife murder, was arraigned before Judge Morris, of the Charlottesville Corporation Court, to-day and entered a plea of not guilty. The prisoner's council moved that the indictment be quashed on the ground that one of the nine special grand jurors has not been a resident of Charlottesville a proper length of time. The court adjourned until to-morrow morning to consider this point. When McCue entered the court room, where he had so often followed his law practice, he broke down and wept bitterly. The immense crowd inside the court room and on the court green was orderly and no guard other than the jailer and a deputy accompanied the accused from the jail to the court house.

KILLED BY UNKNOWN MAN.

Ralph Wells, a Traveling Salesman, Dies From Injuries Received at Clyde.

Asheville, Sept. 20.—A special to The Citizen from Clyde, N. C., says that Ralph Wells, a traveling salesman, who died at Columbia, S. C., to-day from the effects of blood poison received his injuries at Clyde from a bottle thrown by an unknown man with whom the deceased had quarrelled. The fight is said to have taken place several days ago. Mr. Welles was the son of H. N. Wells, a prominent physician of Murphy, and had relatives living in Asheville, who state that they have received no details of the manner in which the deceased met his death. He leaves a wife and two children.

Supplies Taken by the Japanese.

Tokio, Sept. 20, Noon.—Field Marshal Oyama, commanding the Japanese forces in Manchuria, telegraphed today as follows: "An investigation of the trophies captured by us, made since our last report, shows the number of Russian buildings occupied by us in the neighborhood of Liao Station to be 353 houses and 214 warehouses, covering an area of 58,000 square yards. We also seized 79,360 bushels of barley, rice, wheat, and millet; 1,300 cases of kerosene, 1,800 cases of sugar, 166 tons of coal and much cordwood. The amount of coal captured by Keneral Kuroki will be reported later."

Former Tax Collector Short in His Accounts.

Mobile, Ala., Sept. 20.—A special to The Register from Montgomery says: "Assistant State Examiner Sedberry, who has been in Mobile for the past two weeks examining the tax books of 1899, filed his report with the government this afternoon. The report states that former Tax-Collector John Case is indebted to the State $8,868.91. Case, who is now chief of police of Mobile, said he had nothing to say for publication."

The national Populist committee announces that it will have presidential electors for Watson and Tibbles in every State in the Union with the possible exception of two.

SMITH-WHALEY A BANKRUPT.

OWES OVER A MILLION; HAS $1,200.

He is the Senior Member of the Wm. B. Smith-Whaley Company, of Boston, and Was the Promoter of Several Cotton Manufacturing Enterprises in the South, Notable at Columbia and Other South Carolina Points—His Attorney Says the Obligations Are Distributed From New York to South Carolina and the Failure is Not so Bad as It Looks.

Boston, Sept. 20.—Owing over a million dollars, with assets of $1,200, William B. Smith-Whaley, the financial supporter of several cotton manufacturing enterprises in the South, filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy in the United States District Court today. Mr. Whaley was the senior member of the Smith-Whaley Company, of this city, and is a resident of Newton. For some time he has been interested in raising funds for textile industries in the Southern States, particularly in South Carolina, which have not resulted favorably. Mr. Whaley's total liabilities are $1,114,155. The secured claims amount to $1,087,951, and the unsecured to $26,174.

In his petition Mr. Whaley states that his only assets are personal property valued at $1,100, real estate worth $100, and household goods. There are 91 creditors. The individual claims range from $500, the lowest, to $175,000, the highest. Among the principal secured creditors are the Merchants' National Bank, New York, $175,094; the Draper Company, Hopedale, Mass., $107,000; Fales & Jenk, machine manufacturers, Pawtucket, R. I., $107,000; Baltimore Trust and Deposit Company, Baltimore, $45,000; J. C. Sheehan, Baltimore $25,000; Carolina Loan & Trust Company, Charleston, $30,000; Carolina National Bank, Columbia, S. C., $63,050.41; Carey, Bayne & Smith Company, Baltimore, $20,000; Bank of Columbia, Columbia, S. C., $17,000; Merchants' National Bank, Camden, S. C., $15,000; People's National Bank, Charleston, $10,024; Merchants' National Bank, Baltimore, $10,000; Orangeburg Manufacturing Company, Orangeburg, S. C., $10,000. The largest unsecured claim is for money advanced by the Olympia Cotton Mills, Columbia, S. C.

F. L. Norton, Mr. Whaley's counsel, said to-night in regard to the petition: "While nominally it appears to be a large failure, it is not nearly so bad as it looks. The obligations are distributed from New York to South Carolina. Mr. Whaley was interested simply in financing these Southern mills, and in a measure they have fallen down."

CROP CONDITIONS.

The Weather Bureau's Weekly Summary Says Complaints of Shedding Are Still Received—The Staple Opening Everywhere Save in North Carolina.

Washington, Sept. 20.—The Weather Bureau's weekly summary of crop conditions says: Complaints of cotton shedding are still received from the eastern section and the northern portion of the western section of the cotton belt, but reports of rust are not so general. Except in North Carolina, the staple is opening rapidly in all districts, in some localities prematurely, and picking is general, although delayed by rain in portions of Texas from which State as well as from Georgia, scarcity of pickers is reported. Dry weather is causing injury to late cotton generally in the central and eastern sections and a light or no top crop is indicated in the central and western districts while worms and caterpillars are causing injury in Oklahoma, Louisiana, Alabama, and South Crolina. In Texas the boll weevil is damaging in southwestern parts, and a number of northern districts as advancement of the season advances.

Progress has been made in cutting, housing and curing tobacco and a large proportion of the crop has been secured in good condition. Late tobacco is still in good condition in Virginia, and only slightly injured by the storm of the 14th.

STILL EATING THE BOLL WEEVILS.

Reports About the Guatemalan Ants Denied—The Experiment to Continue.

Washington, Sept. 20.—The Secretary of Agriculture has approved the plan for further studies of the "kelep," the boll weevil-eating ant. O. F. Cook, who discovered the ant in Guatemala, and three assistants are now in Texas making preparations to establish the colonies for the winter. Two assistants will be sent to Guatemala to observe the habits of the ant during the coming winter and to send more colonies if the latter are required. It is during the winter season in this country that the cotton crop in Guatemala is grown. The Secretary states that of the 89 colonies already imported only one has been lost and that through an accident. The statements that the ants have died off or have been killed, it is announced is erroneous. The ants are vigorous and are still active in destroying boll weevils and all of the colonies have increased in numbers since they were liberated.

NO EVIDENCE OF A CLUB.

Trial of Negroes Charged With Connection With a "Before Day" Organization Results in Their Dismissal.

Talbotton, Ga., Sept. 20.—The trial of the alleged members of the negro "Before Day Club" to-day before Judge Raines at this place took place this afternoon. After a careful examination of numerous witnesses the negroes were given their freedom.

It appears from the evidence that the report was given out by the negro woman in a fit of jealousy and was not reliable. From careful inquiry it does not appear that there are any "Before Day Clubs." It is probable some threats have been made in a spirit of bravado, but there does not seem to be any grounds for apprehension over the matter.

ANXIOUS ABOUT PORT ARTHUR

GENERAL ATTACK ON THE FORTS.

St. Petersburg Learns From Foreign Sources That the Japanese Are Again Trying to Take the Stronghold—Reports From Shanghai That Some of the Forts Have Fallen Not Confirmed—Fear Regarding Port Arthur Overshadows Sensational Announcement That Gen. Kuroki Has Crossed the Hun River.

Port Arthur is again the center of interest as regards the war in the far East. A general attack by land and sea is regarded as likely to follow the Japanese assault upon the redoubt protecting the water supply of the fortress and town and participation of the fleet under Admiral Togo is looked for. In this latter event it is expected that the remnant of the Russian squadron in the port will sally forth to engage the Japanese ships. Eight and possibly nine Japanese divisions are reported to be advancing on Mukden and another battle between the armies under General Kuroki and General Kuropatkin is imminent. St. Petersburg has heard that the Russian Baltic squadron has been reinforced by four warships purchased from Argentina.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 20, 10:15 a. m.—Interest is again concentrated upon Port Arthur owing to the receipt from foreign sources of news that a general storming of the fortifications there has begun. A few belated telegrams from General Stoessel, the commander at Port Arthur, published Tuesday afternoon recording the repulse of the Japanese and continued attacks, strengthen confidence in the ability of the defenders to hold out despite the furious onslaughts being made on them. The last attack mentioned by General Stoessel took place the night of September 14, and was directed against redoubt number 8, which protects the water supply of the city. The redoubt is about two miles beyond the line of the permanent forts and the attack upon this shows that the Japanese were not then within striking distance of the main fortress. Reports from Shanghai that some of the defenses had fallen into the hands of the Japanese as a result of a general assault on September 20, are not confirmed from Russian sources.

The telegrams brought to Chefoo by Prince Radzi will have not yet reached the War Office. It is understood that these dispatches contain details of the landing of the strong Japanese reinforcements at Dalny.

The sensational announcement that General Kuroki has crossed the Hun river unopposed and that the whole Japanese army is advancing upon Mukden is overshadowed by anxiety for Port Arthur. Moreover, the announcement relative to Kuroki does not receive complete credence here, as being in direct contradiction of official news issued by the general staff. General Kuropatkin announced only two days ago that there was not a single Japanese east of Bentsia Putze. A strong guard has been placed at the Fushan mines, which General Kuropatkin will not give up without a struggle, as the loss of the mines would involve the cutting off of the coal supply for the whole of the Manchurian railway. Nevertheless it is considered more than doubtful that General Kuropatkin will make a decisive stand south of Tie Pass.

GEN. STOESSEL'S REPORT.

Tells of the Repluse of the Japanese at Port Arthur Last Week. Supplies Taken by the Japanese.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 20.—Lieutenant General Stoessel, commanding the Russian military forces at Port Arthur, reports by telegraph that on the night of September 16 the garrison repelled two attacks on the redoubt protecting the water-works. The text of General Stoessel's dispatch is as follows:

"Port Arthur, Sept. 16.—The enemy continues daily to bombard the forts and batteries inside the fortress, but still without showing any great activity. The wounded are recovering and eagerly resume their places in the ranks. They are heroes. The troops are in excellent spirits.

"At about 3 o'clock this morning, (September 16) at least one Japanese battalion attacked the redoubt protecting the water-works. The garrison of the redoubt repulsed the attack, but the enemy received re-inforcements and renewed the attack after half an hour. The garrison again repulsed them with rifles and machine guns, supported by artillery. The Japanese sustained great losses and did not again attempt to take the offensive. Sub-Lieutenant Philippoff chiefly distinguished himself, showing the greatest bravery."

Japanese Position Strongly Held.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 20.—The following dispatch has been received from General Kuropatkin: "The reconnoissance made September 1 has established the fact that the Japanese position at Bentsia Putze is strongly held by a bridge with guns. There was no enemy east of Bentsia Putze, but Japanese reinforcements arrived September 18 in the vicinity of that village. Large Japanese forces from Liao Yang have already crossed to the right bank of the Taitse river. A Cossack patrol attacked a Japanese convoy, west of Bentsia Putze and captured 30 horses with their loads."

Battle Imminent at Mukden.

Mukden, Sept. 20.—A battle is imminent. The Japanese are advancing with eight and possibly nine divisions. The crops of tall millet have nearly all been harvested affording a better field over which to fire on the flat plains. The river Hun is the direct front of the Russian army.

Japs Capture Two Important Points.

Shanghai, Sept. 20.—The general attack on Port Arthur which began yesterday, and in which the Japanese fleet is co-operating, was resumed this morning. The Japanese captured two important forts on either side of Sulesze-yinfi, north of Port Arthur.

Four New Warships for Russia.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 20.—It is reported here that four warships purchased from Argentine have arrived at Libau.

The finance committe of the Richmond council last night decided to recommend that the city give $1,000 and a site for the proposed monument to Jefferson Davis.

GROUT MEN CLAIM A VICTORY.

ALL IS YET IN DOUBT, HOWEVER.

The Democratic Nomination for Governor of New York Apparently Still as Far From a Decision as Ever—McCarren Says: "I Think We Have Votes Enough to Nominate Grout"—The Convention Met at Noon, Formed Temporary Organization and Adjourned Until To-Day—No Contesting Delegation Reported.

Saratoga, N. Y., Sept. 20.—At 11:30 o'clock to-night the Democratic nomination for Governor was to all appearances as far from a decision as ever with some indications of complications along new lines which threatened the much desired unanimous action in the convention. Before 11 o'clock Senator Hill said something in the way of an announcement might be made very late to-night. He emphasized the word very. For some moments Senator McCarren stood in Senator Hill's ante-room, telling the newspaper men, "I think we have votes enough to nominate Grout."

All through the Grand Union Hotel, where this was taking place, the Grout people were unequalifiedly claiming to have won. As one of them said: "While the rest of them were discussing the welfare of our beloved party, McCarren was out getting delegates." All this time, the lobbies and corridors were filled with Grout talk and most of the delegates appeared all but convinced that the battle was practically won by McCarren for Mr. Grout.

On the other hand a few minutes before 11 o'clock Wm. F. Sheehan said: "Any guess made to-night as to the nominee may prove wrong in the morning. I am hoping for a harmonious decision to-night."

"With Tammany in?" asked some one.

"With Tammany in," replied Mr. Sheehan.

All this time conferences were in progress wherever a leader had his headquarters and always there came at the end the same answer "Nothing settled."

Senator Hill, Mr. Sheehan, Senator Murphy, August Belmont, Wm. S. Rodle and Chairman Cord Meyer, talked for a long time in Mr. Hill's room. When they came out they all said there was nothing to say. The question was still undecided. It was after this meeting that Mr. Hill said something definite might be expected very late to-night. Such talk as eddied around the edges of these conferences before midnight was all to the effect that Grout would be the nominee.

The convention effected preliminary organization to-day and took a recess until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock. Wm. B. Hornblower, of New York, was temporary chairman and addressed the convention at length. The temporary roll was perfected and referred to the committee on credentials.

Former Senator George Raines was selected as chairman of the committee on resolutions which will prepare the platform. A. McLean, of Orange county, was made chairman of the committee on permanent organization. An impassioned speech was made by J. J. Fitzgerald, withdrawing in the interest of harmony, the contest in the seventeenth district of New York, although he charged that his faction had been defeated "at the point of the revolver" and otherwise by outrageous methods. The withdrawal of the contest was received with cheers, especially upon Mr. Fitzgerald's declaration that this was the first Democratic convention in 20 years without a contest. Charles N. Bulger, of Oswego, evoked a cheer by moving to lay on the table "indefinitely with the thanks of the convention," the resolution providing for a committee on contested seats.

Mr. Hornblower, in his speech, criticised at length the Republican policies in the Philippines, the extravagant management of government finances, and the tariff among other things. He continued: "To re-elect the present incumbent of the presidential office would be to condone grave offences against our form of government and would be to sanction similar acts in the future. We believe that to prevent disaster to our liberties and to preserve our form of government intact for future generations, the American people must, and will, elect in place of Theodore Roosevelt the candidate whom we have presented, Alton B. Parker."

In the earlier hours of to-night the situation with reference to the candidate for Governor became more absorbing and interest increased in intensity as the hours wore on, with the feeling that any moment might develop a decisive move on the part of the leaders.

At a late hour two candidates held the attention of the great majority of the delegates Edward M. Grout, of Brooklyn, the candidate of Senator Patrick H. McCarren and the Kings county people, and Edward M. Shepard, also of Brooklyn. The headquarters of former Senator David B. Hill, former Lieutenant Governor Wm. F. Sheehan, Senator McCarren, Tammany Hall, Assemblyman Palmer and E. M. Shepard, the last named, opened for the first time this evening, were thronged.

The centre of the gubernatorial problem at 10 o'clock to-night lay almost entirely in the attitude of Senator McCarren, who was pressing with undiminished urgency the candidacy of Comptroller Grout, and who had succeeded in impressing upon a large number of delegates a belief in Mr. Grout's ultimate nomination. His followers said openly that his nomination was settled. Quite as marked as his support of Mr. Grout appeared Mr. McCarren's opposition to Mr. Shepard. It has been clear for many hours that strong influences were behind Mr. Shepard's candidacy, even though there had been no great showing of delegates in his behalf. It was hinted that Mr. Sheehan desired his nomination in the belief that it would be acceptable to Judge Parker, though he gave not the slightest intimation to that effect. The greatest interest was displayed in the attitude of Senator Hill in the matter, but the veteran leader made no sign, although it was generally felt that it lay within his power to say the decisive word. The men to whom rumor has at different times to-day accorded the probability of nomination are: Edward M. Grout, Comptroller of Greater New York; Edawrd M. Shepard, of Brooklyn; Assemblyman George M. Palmer, of Schoharie county; Supreme Court Justice D. Cady Herrick, of Albany; Wm. B. Hornblower, of New York; Mayor George B. McClellan, of New York; former Secretary of War Daniel S. Lamont, of New York.

The candidacy of Comptroller Grout is the one which has been most discussed during to-day and to-night. Even the people most interested in the other candidates admit that Senator McCarren has made a strong impression in his advocacy of Grout.

As to the candidacy of Mr. Shepard, his name came into every discussion and he appeared to be the only candidate of whom all the others were so to speak, afraid. Shepard signs began to appear in the hotel lobbies tonight.

Mr. Palmer's position also attracted a great deal of attention and this evening it was said by some of his friends that he was beginning to be very confident of securing the nomination, having pledges from an increasing number of delegates. The name of Justice Herrick was coupled, by rumor, with that of Representative Francis Barton Harrison, of New York, for the Lieutenant governorship. Justice Herrick was spoken of most frequently as a compromise between Shepard and Grout.

The talk of Mayor McClellan has not been very serious. The opposition of Leader Murphy of Tammany Hall, was generally regarded as placing a final quietus upon any possibility of McClellan's nomination.

The name of Mr. Hornblower as a possible candidate made its first appearance immediately after the convention had taken recess and it had a brisk circulation. It originated during a visit by Representative Cockran and Senator Dowling, of Tammany Hall, to former Senator Hill. There was an early end, however, to the serious consideration of Hornblower, for it became known that he would not be approved by Senator Hill.

The platform will not be ready in its final form until just before the convention meets at 11 o'clock to-morrow morning. The sub-committee of the committee on resolutions worked late to-night upon the platform and will continue their work in the morning before the full committee meets. Tammany Hall has asked for a plank endorsing not only the platform but the resolutions adopted at the St. Louis convention, so as to include the reply sent by the convention to Judge Parker's "gold telegram." They also desire a plank demanding a large measure of home rule for the cities of the State.

Judge Parker Keeping Up With the Convention.

Esopus, Sept. 20.—Judge Parker today has been in close touch with political advisers who are in attendance upon the State convention at Saratoga. Every few minutes messengers were to be seen climbing the hill from the telegraph offic to the judge's house. The operator who handles Judge Parker's personal telegrams was busy most of the day, but in spite of many messages the candidate found time to issue orders to his men concerning the harvesting of the crops.

There were no political callers at Rosemount to-day and the judge took a long horse-back ride.

Conference After Midnight.

Saratago, N. Y., Sept. 21.—Senator Hill, Mr. Sheehan, Charles F. Murphy, Cord Meyer, National Committeeman Norman E. Mack, Victor J. Dowling and W. S. Rodle were in conference early this morning. George Foster Peabody and Senator McCarren were also present throughout the conference. Thus all interests were represented. The conference was held in former Senator Edward Murphy's apartments.

When the conference broke up, inquirers were referred to Mr. Sheehan, who said: "The conference has adjourned until 9 o'clock this morning." "Was ther any decision arrived at?" He said, "Nothing was

FAIRBANKS IN BALTIMORE.

Declares Fire Loss Not as Bad as the Temporary Overthrow of Republican Principles.

Baltimore, Sept. 20.—Senator Chas. W. Fairbanks was the chief speaker at a Republican mass meeting held in this city to-night, the event being the formal opening of the Republican campaign in Maryland. In his speech Senator Fairbanks declared that the losses of Baltimore in the conflagration of this year were not so large as those sustained by the city during the last Democratic administration as a result of the temporary overthrow of Republican principles. He declared that during the Cleveland administration business in this and other large cities was checked, pay rolls were reduced and the wage-rate diminished. On the subject of protection he said:

"The Republican protective system is an issue in the pending campaign. The Democratic party, true to its traditional policy of hostility to it, has declared protection to be 'robbery.' Its triumph would be a direct and positive blow to the protective system which has so splendidly vindicated itself. What would the ultimatt overthrow of the protective system mean to Baltimore and to the State of Maryland? What would it mean to the vast industrial establishments found throughout the State? What would it mean to the vast capital invested in them? What would it mean to the large army of workingmen who are now engaged at renumerative employment and who walked in idleness during the last Democratic administration. The overthrow of Republican policies to-day must bring similar results to those that followed their overthrow in 1892. Strike down the protective system to-day and we will eat the bread of repentance to-morrow."

TWO DEATHS IN IREDELL.

Mrs. George Shook and Mrs. J. L. Kurfees Answer the Last Summons—Daughters of the Confederacy Meet.

Special to The Observer.

Statesville, Sept. 20.—Mrs. Geo. Shook died last night at her home in Shiloh township of typhoid fever, aged about 40 years. Her husband and several children survive.

Mrs. J. L. Kurfees died last night at her home on Stockton street, aged about 40 years. She is survived by her husband and two children. Funeral services were conducted in the First Baptist church this afternoon by her pastor, Rev. C. G. Wells, and the interment was in Oakwood Cemetery.

The local chapter of Daughters of the Confederacy will hold a bazaar in Statesville during the first week of December. Fancy articles and refreshments will be on sale, the proceeds to go to the Confederate monument fund.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Virginia Coal and Coke Company held at Bristol, Va., yesterday the old board of directors was re-elected. The directors will meet next week.

A fire broke out in Wingate's boarding house about 12 o'clock last night at Gardiner, Me., and extended to the Coliseum containing one of the largest roller polo rinks in Maine. The building was entirely consumed.

SHOULD NOT BE FREE TO WED

CORBIN RECOMMENDS NEW ORDER.

The Adjutant General Thinks No Officer Should be Permitted to Enter the Marriage Relation Until He Has First Secured the Permission of the Secretary of War and Satisfied That Official of His Ability to Support a Family—Gen. Corbin Favors the Re-Establishment of the Canteen.

Washington, Sept. 20.—That no army officer be permitted to marry until he has first secured the permission of the Secretary of War and satisfied that official that his income is sufficient to support himself and family and that he is entirely free from debt is the recommendation made by Major General H. C. Corbin, Adjutant General, commanding the Atlantic division and Department of tht East, which was issued at the War Department. Regarding marriage in the army General Corbin says:

"Marriage of army officers who have made no proper provision for assuming the responsibilities therefor is hurtful both to the army and to the officers themselves. To this broad statement there are, of course, exceptions, as there are to all broad statements, but the general fact remains that our army is 'over-married.' The pay of a subaltern officer is barely enough for his proper support and the expenses of his equipment and uniform. If to this is added the inevitable expenses attached to a family it is not only probable, but almost certain, that when an officer strikes his balance at the end of the year he will be behind if he has no income but his pay. I am firmly of the opinion that no officer should enter the marriage relation without first getting the authority of the Department and that as a necessary condition thereto that his income after marriage will be sufficient to support himself and family and above all if he is to live on his pay, he should state on honor that he is free from debt."

General Corbin favors the re-establishment of the canteen, and recommends the enlistment of colored men in the artillery or their transfer to that corps from the cavalry and infantry believing that colored soldiers in the artillery corps will aid that branch of the service by giving to it men who would "by their aptitude and love of the service, commend themselves to the artillery officers just as they have to the officers of the cavalry and infantry."

M'CRARY-TATUM WEDDING.

Prominent Young Lawyer of Thomasville Wedded to a Virginia Belle—To Take an Extensive Bridal Tour.

Special to The Observer.

Danville, Va., Sept. 20.—At 11 o'clock to-day Mr. John Raymond McCrary was married to Miss Mary L. Tatum, of Stuart, Va., the marriage took place at the home of the bride. The ceremony was read by Rev. J. F. Carey, of Danville, assisted by Will A. Lambeth, of Thomasville. Immediately after the marriage the couple came to Danville, where they are stopping at the Barton Hotel. To-morrow they will leave for Washington. After spending a week there they will visit other Northern cities and return to their future home in Lexington about the 1st of October. In Lexington they will live in Mr. McCrary's new house. This house is one of the most beautiful residences in Davidson county. Mrs. McCrary is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Tatum, of Stuart, Va. She therefore belongs to one of the prominent families of Virginia. She is just now only 19 years of age, but she is considered one of the prettiest girls in Patrick county. Mr. McCrary is one of the most prosperous and successful young lawyers of North Carolina, being the senior member of the firm of McCrary & Ruark, of Lexington. As Mr. and Mrs. McCrary saw fit to conceal their intentions until yesterday, the news of their marriage will no doubt be a pleasant surprise to their friends in Virginia and North Carolina.

SIGN OF A SETTLEMENT.

Fall River Mills Endeavoring to Lay in a Supply of Cotton.

Fall River, Mass., Sept. 20.—The first intimation of a settlement of the strike in the cotton mills in this city, which began in July 25, came to-day when it became known that one of the manufacturers had bought a large quantity of raw cotton to be delivered the latter part of October and that other manufacturers were trying to place similar orders. It is the general belief that any settlement of the strike within the next two or three weeks will be in favor of the operatives.

The cotton market is stronger, the stock of manufactured goods is low, there is a continuous demand for textiles and the finished stock will command better prices, thus enabling the manufacturers to operate the factories without reducing the wages of the employes. The strikers still report their determination not to return to work until the wage reduction of 12½ per cent., which was the cause of the strike, is revoked. The leaders of the strikers say that the only condition under which the operatives will return to work is the tearing down of the notices of the wage reduction which were posted in all the mills affected by the strike. There is a little talk of compromise. Both sides realize that the strike so far has been merely a skirmish and that the crisis is yet to come. With the approach of winter the strikers will find it more difficult to earn a living outside the mills and the manufacturers also will lose a large and profitable amount of business unless the mills can be operated. The strike-leaders claim that all propositions for a conference or a compromise will have to come from the manufacturers.

Supreme Grove of Druids in Session.

Richmond, Sept. 20.—The Supreme Grove, United Ancient Order of Druids of the United States, met in bi-ennial session here to-day. Speeches of welcome were made by John S. Eggleston, on behalf of Virginia; Mayor McCartley, on behalf of Richmond, and acting noble grand arch B. H. Hudson, on behalf of the Druids of the State and an appropriate response was made by supreme Arch C. R. Painter, of New Orleans. The election of officers is to come up to-morrow. It is generally conceded that Deputy Grand Arch J. T. Martinne will be elevated to supreme arch, and that Supreme Secretary Freudenthal, of New York, will be re-elected. San Francisco probably will be chosen as the next meeting place. The report of the secretary shows that the order has made great strides numerically during the past two years.

Three miners were crushed to death at the Old Andover Iron Mine, at Hibernia, N. J., yesterday, another was so badly injured that he will probably die and two others were seriously hurt. Nearly twenty tons of rock fell on the men.