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REPRESENTATIVE
MEN OF NEW YORK

A RECORD OF THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

"And their distinction has lent lustre to the State."—IRVING.

VOLUME I.

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REPRESENTATIVE MEN OF NEW YORK.

EDITORIAL INTRODUCTION.



FROM the heights whence Niagara pours her thundering flood to where the Hudson weds the sea is spread out a land as fair as e'er inspired poet's dream. Here are reared the lofty peaks of the everlasting Adirondacks; there lies the fertile valley of the Mohawk; on the one hand roll the crested billows of the broad Atlantic, while on the other ripple the unsalted seas. Nature, truly, has bestowed her bounties with a lavish hand, yet forests and fields, mountains and plains, do not constitute a Commonwealth—they but deck the stage on which is enacted the great drama of human existence. Scenery and soil hold but small place on the pages of the world's history, and not even Nature's most beneficent smiles could alone have given to New York her well bestowed title of the Empire State; whatever of pre-eminence she can proudly boast is owed to the efforts of the indomitable men who have made their homes within her borders and by their intuitive intelligence and enthusiastic enterprise have reared to Progress a temple at whose shrine the whole world worships.

The recorder of events recalls the acts the ages have seen in the world's wide theatre; the wars and conquests, the rise and fall of dynasties, the shifting bounds of States and Nations. These are the pages of the past, records that deal with deeds; but the narrative of the present must tell of men, for biography is the soul of history, and he who would write the tale of to-day must guide the pen of the one who seeks to chronicle the careers of those the sum of whose endeavors, when woven together with

the dispassionate judgment of the historian of the future, will constitute the story of the State.

Already on the shining shaft that history reared are graven the deeds of those who possessed the God-given courage to embark their fragile fleets and dare the dangers of the unknown waste of Western waters; of the hardy pioneers who penetrated the depths of New York's tangled forests and faced the fangs of savage beasts and the darts of hostile redmen; of the heroes who later plucked the priceless pearl of freedom from the crown of the oppressor and placed the brightest shining star in the azure folds of Old Glory; who swept the minions of foreign despots from many a bloody field, who crushed the hideous serpent of disunion—their memory will endure when earthly monuments crumble to the dust. Beside these the future will write the names of their worthy sons who to-day are battling under an equatorial sun that despotism and tyranny shall no more rear their heads on the continent their forefathers, by their blood, have consecrated to freedom.

But it is not by wars and armed battalions that a nation's might is measured. Mines and mills, fields and factories, after all, are the only basis of a prosperity that will long endure, for the arts and the sciences cannot truly thrive in soil fresh watered by the blood of its possessors. As deeply carved on the arch of fame, then, as are the names of her immortal warriors are graven the achievements of those to whom it is owing that on the broad bosom of our great harbor float, to-day, the commercial navies of the world, and of those others who, in the fruitful fields of civil life, have done so much to make imperishable the name and fame of the Empire Commonwealth.

Since the theme of these volumes is to be the men who, whether on the glorious field of battle or in uneventful but not less important walks have brought grand old New York to its present proud pre-eminence in the sisterhood of States, the background may well be a brief consideration of the aims and accomplishments of their predecessors; a text, seemingly, particularly appropriate to the prefatory portion of a work whose purpose it

will be to hand down to the generations into whose care the greatness of the State will one day be committed the story of the ambitions and achievements of those of its citizens whose energetic efforts have made memorable these closing days of the Nineteenth Century. Appropriate not only because the past offers examples by which the present may be justly judged, nor yet by virtue of the influence that shining deeds wrought in bygone days may exert upon our present endeavors, but because REPRESENTATIVE MEN OF NEW YORK, if not a continuation of the narrative of the progressive prosperity of the State, and if it does not supply to the future historian material for important contributions to the archives of the Commonwealth, fails in the fulfillment of its high purpose.



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THE STORY OF THE STATE.

BEFORE THE REVOLUTION.



THE IROQUOIS, the conquering aborigines of America, were making their home within the boundaries of what is now the State of New York, when, on the third day of September, 1609, Henry Hudson, an Englishman in the service of Amsterdam merchants, guided his little ship, the "Half Moon," into a broad estuary and, in a vain effort to discover a western passage to India, sailed up the river which has since borne his name. The Iroquois were in every respect superior to the other natives and readily perceived the many advantages of soil and geographical location which the region afforded. They lived in houses, had great fields of corn, beans and tobacco, made earthenware, baskets and ropes, and the five tribes composing the nation, the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onandaguas, Cayugas and Senecas, were joined in a rude republic, with their principal habitation in the Mohawk Valley and central and western New York. Their neighbors to the north were the Algonquins, who had long, but unsuccessfully, waged war against them, and had finally succeeded in obtaining the aid of French adventurers and traders. Champlain, who has been called the father of New France, had been persuaded to enter with the Canadian tribes in a campaign against the Iroquois and, on a July morning, a few months before Hudson's landing, the Indians of New York were first startled by the roar of gunpowder. The victory which followed was an easy one for the French, but, without knowing it, they had made lasting enemies of the fiercest warriors on the continent, and solidified them into an impenetrable bulwark against their later attacks on the Dutch and English colonies. Indeed, it may be truly said that

this ill-starred campaign of the French had much to do with the after success of New Netherland and of the settlement when it had passed under the dominion of the British.

The "Half Moon" followed the course of the Hudson for over a hundred miles, but perceiving the nature of the stream from its rapid shallowing, turned back, and after having spent about a month in the river and bay, sailed away, never to return. Still looking for a Northwest passage, Hudson Bay was entered on his next voyage, but a rebellious crew set him and his little son adrift in an open boat and they perished. The fame of the wonderful harbor which had been discovered soon spread among the Dutch, however, and they sent hither ships laden with traders to barter with the savages for the spoils of the chase. The first of these traders was Adrien Black, a Hollander who came in 1611 and again in 1613, the latter time with Capt. Hendrik Christiaensen. They brought with them, in the "Tiger" and "Fortune," a number of veterans as settlers, together with a cargo of merchandise for trading purposes, and erected a redoubt containing four small houses on the site on which is now built No. 39 Broadway. About the same time that Manhattan was settled, the adventurous traders, seeking to penetrate the heart of the fur trade, built a fort on Castle Island, below the present site of the City of Albany. These ventures proving successful, other settlers were added from time to time to the little colony, the merchants who bore the original expense of the enterprise organizing themselves into the United New Netherland Company, and subsequently procuring from the States-General of Holland a charter granting them a monopoly of the trade, which was chiefly in furs, between the 40th and 45th parallels, north latitude. This organization was more widely known, perhaps, as the Dutch West India Company.

What matters it, then, that the Italian, Verrazani, may have entered the bay a hundred years in advance of Henry Hudson's gallant crew, or that Champlain preceded the Dutch upon the soil of interior New York? As the Norse discovery of the Western Hemisphere yielded naught to the world, and their prior

advent has not dimmed the lustre of Columbus' name, so the fame of Hudson is none the less, since it was his discovery that brought about the occupation of the territory and its settlement by the white man.

Jamestown was weak and struggling; the "Mayflower's" passengers had not yet set foot on Plymouth Rock; far amid the ice and snow of Nova Scotia were the camps of French traders; all between was mountain, plain and forest, uninhabited save by ferocious beasts and scarcely less savage men, when, on a fertile island, called by the Indians Manhattan, and lying in a sheltered bay, the Dutch built their first storehouses and forts. But cabins and stockades do not really make a settlement; they are shelters, not habitations, and it was not until fifteen years after the discovery by Hudson that thirteen families of persecuted French Protestants came to the new world—the first white people who made New York their home. A number of these families settled on Manhattan Island, while the remainder scattered themselves over the surrounding country; a little company of them founding, at the same time, the City of Brooklyn. These settlers were sent out by the Dutch West India Company, which really ruled the colony, although the States-General of Holland nominally retained supreme authority. Many other families followed these French exiles until, by the year 1626, the settlement had grown to such proportions that the company bestowed upon the region the name of New Netherland, with Peter Minuet as its first Governor, while the settlement on Manhattan Island was given the name of New Amsterdam, Minuet having purchased the island from the savages for 60 guilders, or about \$24 of our present money. Henceforth emigrants came pouring in, encouraged by the company, which furnished cheap transportation, gave free grants of land and established universal religious toleration.

During the almost four decades following, the Dutch ruled the Province with Minuet, Van Twiller, Kieft and Stuyvesant as Governors. All of them did a great deal for themselves and their masters, but none of them accomplished much for the

people. History records that Governor Van Twiller, in his covetousness and his desire to make all possible from his position, erected a brewery. With Kieft, who succeeded Van Twiller from 1638 to 1647, a striking anomaly is presented in the statement that he built the first distillery and tavern in the colony as well as the first church. The characters of the four have been summed up in the statement that Minuet was a self-willed and self-seeking adventurer, Van Twiller a drunken and indolent fool, Kieft a conceited and tyrannical bankrupt, and Stuyvesant a despotic and passionate autocrat.

During the first twelve years the colony was ruled by Minuet and Van Twiller, the former of whom was accused of favoring the patroons and was recalled. The patroons were settlers who had taken advantage of the company's ruling that gave the right to any one who would establish a colony of fifty persons to hold a tract of land fronting sixteen miles on the water and running back indefinitely, provided, always, that the rights of the Indians thereto were purchased. Van Twiller, shallow to the extreme, was succeeded by William Kieft, who was as hasty and rash as his predecessor had been slow and inefficient, and to his other faults dishonesty was added, and during the decade that he ruled, the colony was brought to the verge of ruin. Previous to his administration the settlers had sought to make friends of the red men, but the greater part of Kieft's violent energy was spent in warfare against the natives. The fur trade was the basis of the colony's prosperity, and for the success of this traffic, peace with the Indians was necessary. The Governor's actions, however, incited them to a bloody battle upon the outlying farms and villages, and made him almost as many enemies among the colonists as in the ranks of the aborigines themselves. Finally, after a thousand natives had been slain and the very life of the settlement endangered, peace was made through the medium of the still friendly Iroquois and the colony began a new era of prosperity.

When Minuet came to be Governor, New Netherland had a population of but two hundred people; twenty years later, at the

close of Kieft's administration, this number had been increased ten-fold, living on the lower end of Manhattan Island, at Pavonia, a settlement on what is now the New Jersey side of the river, Brooklyn, Fort Orange and Fort Good Hope, while farms spread over parts of the present counties of Albany, Rensselaer, Westchester, Richmond, Kings and Queens. In the latter days of the Dutch rule it is estimated that New Netherland had eight thousand inhabitants, of which the future metropolis of the nation contained one-fourth. Although the Dutch West India Company ruled the Province, these eight thousand people were by no means all from Holland; in that early day as now, no other American settlement had so varied a class of inhabitants as had New York, which seems always to have been a "city of the world," and even then the persecuted of England, France, Germany, Bohemia and, indeed, of all the countries of Europe, and be it sadly said, slaves from Africa, made up its population.

The most energetic portion of the community came from New England; some induced by the superior soil, others fleeing from the persecution of the zealous Puritans. Among these were many Quakers, and brave and hardy men so necessary to the making of a prosperous State, but such citizens as these would not submit to misrule. Many bitter complaints were sent to Holland, and finally resulted in the recall of Kieft and the appointment of Peter Stuyvesant, the last and perhaps the best of the Dutch Governors.

While it was the policy of the Dutch to buy from the red men the land which the settlers sought to occupy, during the latter years of the first epoch in New York's history many disputes with the natives arose, and with French to the north of them, Indians in the interior, English to the east and Swedes to the south, New Netherland was in an almost constant state of strife, finally culminating in the territory's passing under the control of the British Crown.

England, during the years of the colony's progress, was spreading her dominions to the north and south, and the Dutch,

knowing what a very acquisitive country it was, and what little excuse the New Englanders, then becoming quite numerous in Massachusetts, would require to pay them a hostile visit, neglected nothing in the way of fortified readiness for such an emergency. In fact, England, at a period far anterior to this, had laid claim to Manhattan Island, alleging that its purchase for five pounds sterling was a swindle and a hollow mockery, and if she did not send an armed force to protect the aborigines from the greed of the Dutch, it was because she was too much occupied in other quarters. Peter Stuyvesant, the last Governor of New Netherland, had become well acquainted with the English in the West Indies and mistrusted them. He therefore fortified New Amsterdam as well as his means permitted and, not satisfied with that, concluded it would be good policy to clear his outskirts of neutrals or doubtful friends.

In 1638 the Swedes had planted a colony on the Delaware River and re-inforced it from time to time until, in 1655, Governor Stuyvesant proclaimed that his masters, the Dutch West India Company, had a prior right to the territory and assembled a naval and military force of about a thousand men and, attacking the Swedish force, put an end to any dreams that might have been entertained by Queen Christiana as regarded a New Sweden in North America.

In the absence of the expedition against the Swedes, however, a thousand Indians attacked the town, killed one hundred of its defenders, captured one hundred and fifty others and did a good deal of pillaging, burning and murdering. The expenditure of blood and money involved in the expedition against the Swedes and in repelling the Indians so weakened the colony that it invited an attack from the English, who had never yielded up the title they claimed to the Hudson River territory by virtue of the early discovery of the region by Cabot, in 1497, and who now and then by way of reminder, had entered formal protests against its continued occupancy by the Dutch.

In 1664, having previously obtained a grant of land from his brother, Charles II, the Duke of York sent out a fleet,



P. Bayezany

which seized it, subject to negotiations between the British and the Dutch governments. The brave old Governor Stuyvesant, answering the summons to surrender, said that he would rather be carried out dead, and prepared to give battle; but his people, dissatisfied and persecuted by the greed of the West India Company, chafing under the high taxes, and seeing, moreover, the futility of resistance to so imposing a force, gave up the forts, and the Dutch garrison marched out with all the honors of war. The old Director-General retired to his farm, on what is the present Bowery, where he lived in quiet dignity for eighteen years, and died universally respected. His body now lies in a vault in St. Mark's Church, in New York City.

Although the Colony, during this epoch, produced few great men, the general character of the people was of the highest order; they were thrifty and industrious, and, under the guidance of their first minister, Bogardus, and the pioneer schoolmaster, Roelandsen, did much that was substantial in the growth of the State, although, amid the changes and rapid progress of events, we are fain to lose sight of the origin of many customs which date from the earliest history of the Colony. To the Dutch, however, we certainly owe the high principles of commercial integrity and far-sighted business policy which are the foundation of our greatness, and which have done so much in making the Metropolis the foremost city of the Western World.

UNDER BRITISH RULE.

A company of English Puritans, forced to flee their native land because of their religion, went to Holland soon after Hudson's discovery of New York, and sought leave from the Dutch authorities to settle in the new country. The Company, however, feared that through them the colony might eventually be brought under British rule, and refused the desired permission. Sailing for English soil, the exiles then landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620. The future showed how good a basis the West India Company had for their apprehension, for these men of New England, and their sons, by emigrating from Massachusetts

to New Netherland, and there instilling the leaven of dissatisfaction into the breasts of the Dutch, helped to accomplish the almost bloodless capture of the Province by the British Crown, and realized the fears which had, years before, prompted the authorities to refuse them leave to settle within the boundaries of the Colony.

Under its new owners the Province was named New York, in honor of the Duke, as was also the settlement on Manhattan Island. The new English Governor was Colonel Nichols, who appointed Thomas Willet first Mayor of New York City, which was then incorporated after the fashion of English towns. The grant of the Duke had been the land between the Connecticut and the Delaware and a quasi title to all the land between Cape Cod and Cape May. Connecticut, however, had no intention of giving up her settlements on eastern Long Island or those on the west bank of the Connecticut River; but, rather than quarrel with Nichols, they agreed to leave the disputed boundary to a Commission, which finally awarded to New York all of Long Island, and gave to Connecticut about its present limits on the mainland.

Unknown to Nichols, the Duke had in the meantime given to Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret the land between the Hudson and the Delaware, to which caprice the State of New Jersey owes its existence. William Penn, later, bought extensive tracts of land, and New York was thus reduced to almost its present boundaries, with the addition of the territory which now comprises the States of Vermont and New Hampshire. What was left of the Duke's grant was quite enough, however, to worry Nichols, and as the work was hard, the cares many, and the pay small, he soon obtained his recall, being succeeded by Lord Lovelace, who, though popular in the English Court, soon incurred the dislike of the people of the now thriving settlement. Lovelace, whatever may have been his failings, — and they were manifold, — was certainly progressive, and soon after his advent purchased Staten Island from the Indians, and established a monthly mail route between New York and Boston. He also



Handwritten signature

founded the Merchants' Exchange, and, although arbitrary in his rule, effected many substantial improvements.

During his management of the colonies a fierce war broke out between England and the Netherlands, and, during the Governor's absence in Connecticut, a Dutch fleet, passing through the Narrows, besieged the city. Captain Manning, who was in charge of the post, called on the citizens for aid; but, with a return of that fickleness they had displayed nine years before, they spiked all the cannon within their reach, and gathered militia, to the number of four hundred, to assist the invaders. After a short action the fort was compelled to surrender, and New York was thus temporarily returned to the rule of the Dutch, with the pompous Captain Colve in the executive chair.

He had ruled the colony for some months, and had planned an elaborate form of government for the settlement, when news arrived from Holland that the nation had made a treaty of peace and finally ceded New York to the English, who thus secured an uninterrupted and undisputed coast line from Maine to Georgia, and made possible our great republic.

It was in November, 1674, that New York finally re-passed to the English, to remain for a century a British province. Once more in his hands, the Duke of York sought to tighten his grasp on the Colony, and, to remove all doubt as to his rights to the territory, secured a new grant from the King. New Jersey he again gave to Carteret, and sent Major Edmund Andros to New York as Governor. For ten years Andros gave the settlement an active and businesslike administration, penetrating into the far west of the unsettled Mohawk Valley, viewing the fertile flats and making friends of the Indians, and, assuming that New Jersey was still under his control, even went so far as to arrest Governor Carteret. The old boundary contest with Connecticut was also renewed, but fruitlessly.

Governor Dongan, who succeeded Andros, it has been said, was the first Governor of New York who had the breadth of brain and trueness of heart to make a statesman, and it was at his hands that the common man of the Colony first received his

rights, the executive studiously ignoring the petty quarrels at home and with neighboring provinces, but fiercely combating the encroachments of the great enemies to English rule—the French. In 1686 the new Governor granted the Dongan Charter, which has ever since been the basis of New York City's municipal rights. This document conferred upon the municipality jurisdiction over the entire Island of Manhattan, to low-water mark of the bays and rivers around it, but vested, or rather retained, in the hands of the Governor the appointment of many officers who are now elected by the people.

But Governor Dongan was too upright a man to make a fit tool for the Duke of York, who had now become King, with the title of James II, and one Nicholson was sent to New York to be Lieutenant-Governor under Andros, who had been made Governor over the combined northern colonies, with the exception of Pennsylvania.

The colony was on the verge of a civil war between the adherents of rival factions, when news came that the English people, after three years of rule by King James II, had welcomed William of Orange into Britain and forced James into exile. In the meantime the people of Massachusetts had imprisoned Andros, and the colonists were undecided whether or not to obey the weak-willed Nicholson, since he was an officer of the deposed monarch. In this crisis, Jacob Leisler, a man of the people, was persuaded to lead in an effort to take the fort from the control of the adherents of Nicholson, who had proven himself far too vacillating to cope with the strained situation, and who, on the threat of trouble, had sailed for England. The Governor having fled, Leisler entered the stronghold, styling himself Lieutenant-Governor. The new Executive had the interests of the colony thoroughly at heart, and proved himself earnest and active in carrying out the duties of the position. An army was sent against the French, who were again leaving a trail of desolation through the Mohawk Valley, and he entered into a joint expedition with other New England colonies for an attack on Canada by sea. A fortress at New York was made, and at

the foot of what is now Broadway six guns were planted, marking the place, and giving the name to the modern park, the Battery. Broad and liberal in his views, seeing far beyond his times, he early perceived the need of colonial brotherhood, and was the first man to propose a convention of American provinces. Professor Hendrick, in his history of the Empire State, speaks of him as a man a century ahead of the people.

After two years of Leisler's capable rule, Sloughter, the new Governor appointed by King William, arrived in New York, and assumed the duties of his position without resistance. Captain Richard Ingoldsby, in charge of Sloughter's troops, however, had reached New York long before the new Governor, and had demanded the fort. This was refused, since he had no authority to govern the Colony. Ingoldsby laid siege, but Leisler defended his post even at the cost of bloodshed, all the time maintaining, however, that he was ready to give up his position when the new Governor should appear and present his credentials.

No sooner had Sloughter arrived, and taken charge without resistance, than the enemies of Leisler caused his arrest, and, in their bitter hatred, got the Governor's signature to a death warrant after the Executive had been plied with wine at a supper. Two days later, while Sloughter was still lying in a drunken stupor, Leisler was executed. Before the waning century was done, however, his body was raised, and lay in state, the ruling Governor of the Province did honor to his memory, and the British Parliament relieved his family, and exonerated his able administration. Sloughter's drunken habits brought about his death a few months after the hanging of Leisler, and he was succeeded by Benjamin Fletcher, a poor Governor but a good soldier—one who moved his troops so rapidly up the Hudson, to oppose the French, that the Indians named him Great Swift Arrow. In his efforts to establish the Church of England in the colony, he founded Trinity Church, still one of the landmarks of lower New York.

During the seven years following 1690 the colony was in almost constant war with the French and their Indian allies, the

active control of the English and Colonial troops being entrusted to Peter Schuyler. The outrages of pirates, among them the famous Captain Kidd, having become so bold, and the Governor being suspected of sympathy and complicity with them, he was recalled by the English government, and his place taken by the Earl of Bellomont who, while a member of Parliament, had defended Leisler and now promptly identified himself with the Leislerian party and speedily inaugurated a thoroughly democratic administration. Liberty seemed to be making rapid progress in the colonies when Bellomont died and was succeeded by Lord Cornbury, a thorough aristocrat, whose rule was so tyrannical that it soon won the intense hatred of the people and he is to-day remembered as the first of the grasping Governors of New York who eventually drove the peace-loving community to join in a war of revolt against the mother country. One thing, however, Cornbury's greed really succeeded in accomplishing, and that was that it solidified the two warring political factions in undying opposition to him, and during his administration the people thereby advanced more rapidly towards freedom than even under the rule of Bellomont.

The administration of Cornbury, too, is a chapter of unjust deeds, and when he was recalled from office by his cousin, the Queen, he was thrown into prison for debt and remained incarcerated until released by a timely legacy. This was about the beginning of Queen Anne's War, and after a short time, in which several others tried their hands at the helm, Robert Hunter became Governor of the colony. He was by far the ablest of the English Governors and his grasp of the situation led him to write home the startling prophecy: "The colonies are infants at their mother's breasts, but such as will wean themselves when they come of age." How truly he recognized the certainty of ultimate rebellion, the history of the nation proves.

The opening of the new century found the colony with twenty thousand inhabitants, and by 1725 the number had been doubled; at the half century New York contained eighty thousand people, and in 1775, at the close of the English rule, the

population had again doubled and settlers had filled the Hudson Valley, spreading over Orange and Ulster counties, and further north were looking longingly to the land where the Mohawk would easily carry them. In this valley Schenectady, for fear of the French and their Indian allies, was long the last town, but nothing could long restrain the settlers' desire to till this rich low-lying land, and a fort was built at the mouth of Schoharie Creek and named after Governor Hunter. The latter, however, soon became discontented with the colony's outlook and, obtaining his recall, was succeeded by William Burnet, whose name may be added to the short list of liberal-minded and public-spirited foreign Governors in the colony. He made many efforts to convince the King and colonists that it would be to their mutual advantage to preoccupy the banks of the Ohio and Mississippi with a line of English forts. The King was thousands of miles away, however, and did not realize the situation, while the colonists were so fearful of taxation that they frowned upon the project. Burnet, however, left no stone unturned to defeat the schemes of France. Among his most important acts was the calling of a Council of Colonial Governors to meet at Albany, which was the first of many conferences held at that place with the Six Nations, the five tribes of the Iroquois having been joined by the Tuscaroras, of Virginia, the confederation henceforth bearing the title of the Six Nations. But Burnet, too, finally incurred the dislike of a number of the prominent citizens, and a combination of influences brought about his removal to Massachusetts.

Burnet's successor having died within a few months, Rip Van Dam, the oldest member of the Council, acted as Governor until the arrival, in 1732, of Colonel William Cosby, an overbearing tyrant who did much to stay the upward course of the colony. Cosby died in 1736 and George Clarke, a favorite of the aristocracy, became acting Governor, and by representing to the powers beyond the Atlantic that the place was ill-paid and beset with troubles, he kept charge of the Government for seven years. It was during his term that the disgusting negro panic,

which is almost a parallel of the witchcraft delusion of Salem, occurred.

The city now held ten thousand people, at least a fifth of whom were negro slaves, and rumors of an uprising filled the air. Thirty years before, the negroes were charged with conspiring to burn the city, and on very meagre evidence nineteen of them were hanged. Since then the people had lived in fear of an uprising, and under the law, when three negroes were found together they might be given forty lashes on the bare back. The winter of 1741 had been one of the most severely cold the colony had ever experienced, and there was much suffering in consequence. A few small fires occurred about this time, probably of incendiary origin and for the sake of plunder, but in this the cowardly of the citizens saw a negro plot to burn the city and murder the whites. The people were seized with a panic and many fled the city. One ignorant girl, arrested on suspicion that she knew the secret of the plot, in her fright invented wild tales which were eagerly believed; others, to save themselves, added fresh details to her story, seeking this as the wisest way to escape imprisonment. Informers became plentiful and the sheriff and hangmen were busy. Wilder and more maddened the people grew, and by the time the fury had finally spent itself, nearly two hundred people, mostly negroes, had been imprisoned, many of the blacks hanged, more transported to the West Indies, while fourteen suffered the barbarous death by burning. Four whites also were hanged, among them a Catholic priest.

Soon after this Lieutenant-Governor Clarke closed his administration and gave way to Cosby's successor, Admiral George Clinton. About this time came the struggle known as King George's War, filled with raids by the Canadians over the Champlain route, and with great expeditions planned and equipped by the English, but never carried through. During this strife the French came within forty miles of Albany, burned Saratoga, murdered many and carried terror to the frontier.

Nominal peace came in 1748, but France used it in fortifying itself along the frontier and encroaching on the boundaries

of the State. The dispute smouldered until 1755, when war opened in earnest and continued for five years with almost unbroken successes for the French until 1759, when after a purely American force had won some victories, Sir William Johnson captured Niagara and the French deserted Ticonderoga and Crown Point to concentrate about Quebec, where, on the Plains of Abraham, the brave Wolfe conquered the no less brave Montcalm, both died on the field of battle and New York and her sister colony at last had needed rest. There was no question now as to the northern boundary of New York, but the war left the colony with a debt of a million and a half of dollars, a heavy burden for those days on a sparsely-settled province. This struggle, however, brought to notice and opened up to settlement many square miles of the richest agricultural lands in the State, hitherto uncultivated for fear of raids by the French and the Indians.

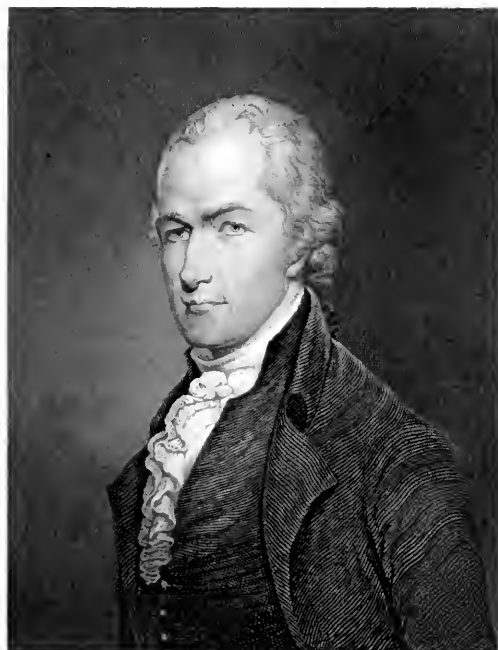
By the time the final war with France was over, and peace came to the distracted province, New York was no longer a colony of scattered settlements, but was fast taking on the form of a State, its peopled territory at that time being the valley of the Mohawk at the one extreme and Long Island at the other, with the Hudson Valley as a connecting bar. Long Island was divided into counties, and was settled, in the main, by emigrants from the New England provinces who had, in a great degree, preserved their Puritan ideas and manners; in Queens County the Dutch element was predominant, for lower New York was not so crowded, nor was the ferry passage safe or rapid enough to greatly assist in the growth of the settlement of Brooklyn, then but a small and unimportant village. The Dutch settlers largely devoted their time to market-gardening, principally in Kings County, while what is now Richmond County had but a few settlers. Manhattan, with Bedloe's, Governor's and Blackwell's islands, were comprised in the boundaries of the City of New York, but that town itself was then only about one mile long and a half mile broad, its crooked streets extending as far north as the site of the present City Hall. The number of people

then in New York is estimated as somewhere between twenty and twenty-five thousand, comprising only one-seventh or one-eighth of the total population of the State, though in later years the population of the city has been to that of the State as one to four or five.

The Dutch ministers still preached in their native language, but to ever diminishing congregations; for the people, even those born to the Flemish tongue, spoke the language of the ruling classes fluently and were beginning to show a marked preference for the English preachers. Besides its eighteen churches, New York had few public houses. There was an almshouse, a City Hall, two stories high, an exchange and a hospital, the small beginning of the vast array of public and charitable institutions which now abound in the great city. Kings, now Columbia College, was the only other notable building within the limits of the future metropolis. This institution was founded to teach a sentiment of submission to England, but how it failed of its purpose is shown by the fact that among its first pupils were such boys as Gouverneur Morris and Alexander Hamilton, two of the most ardent of the Revolutionary heroes.

The Harlem of those days was a small Dutch village, while just beyond lay Westchester, settled mostly by the descendants of the advance guard of Connecticut Yankees. Across the Hudson lay Orange County, which then included Rockland and reached to the State line. Northward, Ulster County was an immense tract joining Albany County on the north and running back to the Delaware River and the Indian country. Along the course of the magnificent Hudson were a number of typical settlements of Dutch, Irish, French, English and Scotch, the principal village north of Manhattan being Kingston, with less than a thousand people.

On the other side of the river Dutchess County began at Westchester, included the present Putnam County and reached to what is now the line of Columbia County. Poughkeepsie and Fishkill were its two principal villages, although then they were but small and straggling settlements. The rest of the



Alexander Hamilton

State of New York was known as Albany County, the present State capital, with its three hundred and fifty brick houses, being the most characteristically Dutch in the colony, although to the west Schenectady, too, clung closely to the manners and customs of the original settlers.

THE PRE-REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD.

Towards the middle of the Eighteenth Century the people began to regard the Governors with an intense and growing animosity, for which reason the position was little sought after, and changes were frequent. While Virginia had twenty Governors in the century before the Revolution, Massachusetts twenty-one, and Pennsylvania twenty-five, New York underwent thirty-three changes in executive authority, and from the administration of Admiral Clinton to Tryon, the last English Governor, the colony for much of the time was in charge of Lieutenant-Governors James DeLancey and Cadwallader Colden. Eight Governors died in office, one, despondent at the opposition he found after only a few days' residence in the colony, committing suicide by hanging.

As the first century of English rule in the Empire State was drawing to a close, the people were beginning to consider themselves Americans, and the English began to treat the colony as part of one great Province. Determining to have a fixed revenue from their trans-Atlantic possessions, partly to pay the war debt, but more largely, perhaps, to pay the salaries of the Judges and Governors, and thus render these offices independent of the hostile legislative assemblies which, for many years, had been a source of almost constant annoyance to the rulers, an internal tax was finally levied by the British Government, taking the form of stamps, which they required should be placed on newspapers, almanacs, pamphlets, marriage licenses, mortgages, and all legal papers. "The spirit of resistance," says Bancroft, "was nowhere so strong as in New York," although open opposition was not attempted until the colonists, in addition to their already almost unbearable burdens, were required to

furnish the standing army with quarters, candles, wood, soap, and drink. Then the people gathered together in secret societies, and planned desperate deeds, parading the principal streets of the city, bearing a copy of the hated stamp act fastened to a death's head, and inscribed with the words, "The Folly of England and the Ruin of America."

The Sons of Liberty, the leading patriotic society in New York, at this critical juncture suggested the formation of Committees of Correspondence with the other colonies, for the separateness of the various provinces was an almost insuperable hindrance to unity of action or joint resistance to oppression. The other settlements at once fell in with this idea, and soon came to a mutual understanding, which eventually resulted in the calling together of a Colonial Congress, which met in New York City.

The stamp act was to go into effect on the 1st of November; the Congress met in October, and the representatives of New York and the eight other colonies which were represented therein adopted a firm declaration of rights, a statement to Parliament of the situation, and a petition to George III, who had just ascended the English throne. When the morning of the 1st of November, 1765, came, the streets of New York were deserted, the shops were shut, the bells tolled, flags were at half-mast, while throughout the town were posted notices threatening death to all who distributed or made use of the stamped paper. People, however, soon came pouring in from the surrounding country, menacing crowds gathered in the streets, and the frightened stamp collector hastily resigned his place.

The citizens gathered courage with this success and attempted to seize the stamps which had been, despite opposition, landed under the guns and put into the fort. The following night was filled with rioting, and effigies of Acting-Governor Colden and of the devil, together with the Governor's carriage of state, were burned on Bowling Green. When the next morning came Colden wisely proclaimed that he would not allow the stamps to be sold and turned them over to the Mayor

of the city, a man in whom the people had confidence. A second stamp distributor resigned in terror and the frenzied excitement of the people cooled down into quiet determination.

When Parliament heard of these things and learned that similar events had occurred in the other colonies, they recognized the failure of the tax and repealed the act. The news of this action reached the city in the early days of the summer, and on the King's birthday, in June, the men gathered in the Fields and erected a Liberty Pole, inscribing on it "The King, Pitt and Liberty." For to the King they were steadfastly loyal; while Pitt, long the earnest and eloquent champion of American rights, was their ideal. To them, as yet, the word liberty had no suggestion of independence.

But a reaction soon set in, for while the stamp act had indeed been repealed, the right to tax the colonies, without permitting them to have representation in the English Parliament, was steadfastly maintained, and the almost equally obnoxious quartering act was constantly and offensively suggested by the insolent soldiers who lazily strolled about the streets of the city. Many collisions between the troops and the people occurred, the red-coats having several times cut down the Liberty Pole which the citizens had erected in the Fields.

In the meantime, Parliament was preparing to place duties on tea, glass, paper and paints brought to America, and the citizens, in opposition, formed non-importation societies to discourage the use of these articles. This idea originated in New York, already, with the possible exception of Boston, the chief commercial city of America, and many letters were sent from colony to colony urging joint resistance. The settlers, and especially the Dutch of New York, were inveterate tea drinkers; but, patriotically, and in their determination to resist this oppressive taxation, they even denied themselves this seeming necessity and further evidenced their devotion to the principles for which they were struggling by beginning to wear homespun. So universal did this become that the colonists soon began to look with suspicion upon any one dressed in fine clothing. By

such means the importations from England were greatly decreased and the London merchants began to beseech Parliament for relief.

But the English law-makers were growing angry under the refusal of the New York Assembly to provide supplies for the troops, and finally they voted to suspend the power of the Legislature to pass any law until it had voted a supply bill. The Assembly promptly declared this action unconstitutional and went on with its business. It was thereupon promptly dissolved by the Governor, but the new Assembly, elected in 1768, was equally determined not to yield, and was likewise soon dissolved. Reaction again set in and the next year, when a new legislative body was chosen by the people, it showed its sympathy for England by voting supplies for the standing army. This called forth a storm of indignation from the discontented people and led to a mass meeting in the Fields, where the Assembly was roundly denounced for their betrayal of their country.

Shortly after this the soldiers added their part to the ill-feeling by again throwing down the Liberty Pole. The usual mass meetings followed, knots of citizens and bands of soldiers gathered and fights were common. The tumult at last culminated, on the 1st day of January, 1770, on Golden Hill, now John Street, where some soldiers and citizens chanced to meet. A battle of fists, canes and cart-stakes on one side were met with bayonets on the other and, although there were no immediate deaths, blood flowed freely. This fight may be truly considered as the initial battle of the great Revolutionary struggle, happening, as it did, two months before the Boston massacre, for here, in defense of freedom, the first American blood was spilled.

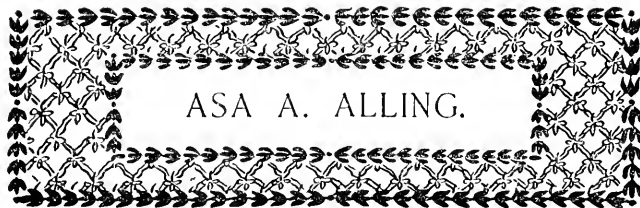
Parliament, in the meantime, had taken away the duties on all imports to America with the exception of tea. New York, which had proposed the non-importation agreement, alone had been true, thereby losing about five-sixths of its foreign trade, while New England and Pennsylvania had surrendered but one-half of their traffic and some of the colonies had even increased their importations.

The quiet times were followed, in 1773, by the news that the tax on tea had been reduced to six cents a pound, and as it could then be bought cheaper in the colonies than in England, Parliament thought that an ingenious plan had at last been found for inducing the Americans to enlarge their tax burdens through the medium of increased importations; but the colonists saw through the trick, and at New York City organized a society of Mohawks to prevent the landing of the tea ships, and while a similar party at Boston were throwing over a shipload into the harbor, the Mohawks of New York in vain waited for the storm-tossed vessels. When the first ship finally arrived in port it was not allowed to land, although another boat later succeeded in getting a number of chests to the dock, whence, in broad day, they were dumped into the harbor by the now thoroughly aroused people. Thus, in all the colonies the final attempt of England to enforce taxation failed.

Then it was that Parliament again changed its tactics, determining to reduce one colony thoroughly by force, and afterwards subdue the rest. Massachusetts was first singled out, the port of Boston was closed, and the Revolutionary struggle was indeed begun, although this was but the beginning of the closing chapter of a long series of contests for political freedom, having their initiation at the presentation of the first petition for a charter, and running through the Leislerian uprising against the aristocracy, the struggle for the honest use of the revenue, the defeat of the stamp act and the non-importation agreement.

ARTHUR T. ABERNETHY.





ENERGETIC and thoroughly imbued with the progressive spirit which animates the business life of New York, it is not strange that Asa A. Alling has been so frequently entrusted with the legal affairs of some of New York's large financial institutions and private banking houses. Corporations whose interests involve large amounts cannot afford to and do not place their business in the hands of men who are not thoroughly alive to the necessity of force and persistent effort, and no higher tribute could be paid to a comparatively young attorney than to say that he stands high in the ranks of the corporation lawyers of the city.

ASA A. ALLING was born in the City of New York, in 1862, and comes from thorough American stock, his ancestors having been pioneers and founders of one of the oldest families in this country. His father was J. Sackett Alling, a prominent merchant and a member of what was known as the Hudson River branch of the family. Mr. Alling's descent from Roger Alling (Allen), 1637, Treasurer of the Colony of New Haven, is direct, and his ancestors were among the first English settlers in the Connecticut Valley. All their connections have been thoroughly patriotic, and during the Revolutionary conflict took the American side, and furnished many public-spirited citizens in the government and affairs of the new Republic. Asa A. Alling's mother was Anna E. Bertine, a descendant of Pierre Berton, a French Huguenot, whose people settled first in the Carolinas and then upon the shores of Long Island Sound, and gave the names to many towns and villages in the region, among them New Rochelle, in



Ben A. Wang

memory of the sunny France that they had left behind in their exile.

Asa A. Alling acquired his early education in the public schools in the city, passing through the successive grades and afterwards preparing for a course in Cornell University at the Chappaqua Mountain Institute, in Westchester County, New York. Upon completion of that preparation he entered Cornell, and, after pursuing his studies there, was graduated in 1883, with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy. Then, as now, his eloquence was noteworthy, as is evidenced by his selection as the Ivy Orator of his class and his winning the prize for oratory offered by General Stewart L. Woodford, late United States Minister to Spain, this latter being the highest of Cornell's academic honors. Mr. Alling was one of the founders and the first editors of the Cornell *Daily Sun*, the leading organ of college news, and while in this famous institution he became a member of the Alpha Sigma Chi Fraternity, which was afterwards consolidated with the Beta Theta Phi organization. At college Mr. Alling was also a member of various literary societies, and took a deep interest especially in the debates, in which he gained experience that has been of much service to him since his entrance into the legal profession.

After his graduation from Cornell, Mr. Alling took a two years' course in Columbia College Law School, under Professor Dwight. During these years he delivered lectures on Daniel Webster, Alexander Hamilton and other distinguished Americans, and contributed largely to the public press. In 1885 he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, and in the same year was admitted to practice at the Bar.

For a year after his graduation Mr. Alling practiced his profession in the office of and in conjunction with Judge Daniel W. Guernsey, after which he went with the firm of Platt, Gerard & Bowers. In 1889 he formed a partnership under the firm name of Kenneson, Crain & Alling. Of his partners, Mr. Kenneson is a graduate of Harvard University and of Harvard Law School, while Mr. Crain is ex-Chamberlain and Treasurer of the City of

New York. The firm does a large practice in corporation and litigation business, having among its clients many large companies and business houses and banking and brokerage firms identified with Wall Street and the financial and commercial affairs of the metropolis.

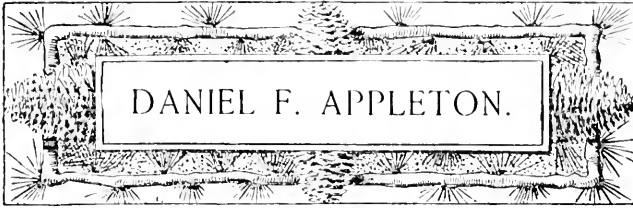
Mr. Alling is an ardent and enthusiastic Democrat and has been a Delegate to most of the County and State conventions of his party, while in campaign times it has been his custom to make political speeches in the Eastern and Middle States on behalf of the National and State Committees. He is a member of the Democratic Club, of which he has been Governor and Chairman of its House Committee. Mr. Alling is also a member of the Metropolitan, Reform, and Manhattan clubs, the Bar Association, on the roster of which are most of the prominent lawyers in the city, the Alumni Association of Cornell University, the Dutchess County Club, the West End Association, the National Sound Money League, the New England Society, the New York Historical Society, the Pontiac Club, the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, and is Governor of the Democratic Business Men's Association. Among the corporations for which Mr. Alling is attorney is the Colonial Trust Company, which was organized by ex-Governor Roswell P. Flower, John E. Borne and others, while many other corporations and financial organizations in the city avail themselves of his services.

Mr. Alling was married in June, 1894, to Miss Louise Floyd-Smith, who is a descendant of an old American Revolutionary family. Mrs. Alling is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and of other social, patriotic and charitable organizations, and with her husband takes an active part in the social life of the metropolis.





DANIEL F. APPLETON.



O American product is more widely known or used more extensively throughout every portion of the civilized world than are the timepieces manufactured by the American Waltham Watch Company, in whose progress and wonderful development the subject of this review has been as largely instrumental as has any other man. Thorough and painstaking to the last degree, Mr. Appleton has ever insisted that the product of the great Massachusetts works should be as perfect as possible, and the high reputation and wonderful sale of the Waltham watch is a standing tribute to the judgment that prompted their excellence. For over a half century he has been a most conspicuous figure in New York's commercial as well as social life.

DANIEL FULLER APPLETON, of the American Waltham Watch Company, and of the firm of Robbins & Appleton, New York and Boston, was born in Marblehead, Massachusetts, in 1826, and is the son of Gen. James Appleton and Sarah Fuller, his wife. Gen. James Appleton, the father of the subject of this biography, removed from Marblehead to Portland, Maine, in 1833. He became actively interested in political affairs, was several times the candidate for Governor of the old Liberty Party, the forerunner of the Republican organization, and was a conspicuous advocate of anti-slavery and of temperance. He was an especially determined advocate of prohibition as applied to the liquor traffic, and was the first man anywhere to propose and propagate that principle—first by petition to the Legislature of Massachusetts, in 1831; and afterwards, in 1837, by a report to the Maine Legislature, of which he was then a member.

Daniel F. Appleton was educated in the public schools of Portland and, what was best of all, in his own home. His is the old story of a young man leaving his home at the age of twenty-one, with an ambition to do the best he could to rise in the world and make as much of fortune as the opportunities of the great city of New York would afford. Although he was without money and had no friends there who could assist him, he had not much trouble nor many difficulties in getting a start.

After employment for a few months with a concern that soon went out of business, he answered the advertisement for a clerk of Royal E. Robbins, an importer of watches, by whom his application was at once accepted. His connection with Mr. Robbins has continued from that day to the present time, he having been admitted after a few years to a partnership in the business, forming the firm of Robbins & Appleton, who, in 1857, became the owners of the then young and small watch-works at Waltham, Massachusetts. The firm soon after organized and established the American Waltham Watch Company, which business they have conducted continuously ever since. To the advancement and success of that business Mr. Appleton has given his constant and active attention, and it is a remarkable incident that he, with Mr. Robbins and his younger brother, Henry A. Robbins, have continued together in the same business actively for fifty years. It is to be noted that Mr. Appleton was content to begin and continue in the business of a watchmaker, in which he was brought up in the store of his elder brother, James, in Portland; and that he sought to enlarge and develop it until his concern became by far the greatest watchmakers in the world.

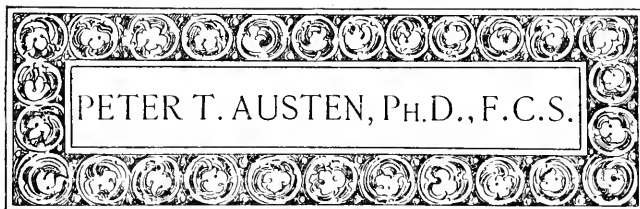
Mr. Appleton, though he never sought office, has been at times active in the councils of the Republican Party, to which he came by evolution from the old Liberty Party. He was a member of the first National Convention of that organization, held in Philadelphia, in 1856, when General Fremont was nominated for the Presidency, and has ever since given to it his active and earnest support.

Of all the many New England boys who have come to New

York to seek their fortune, and have contributed so much to the welfare and glory in many professions of the great city of their adoption, not many have attained a more prominent social position or a higher commercial standing than the subject of this sketch. He has been Vice-President of the Union League Club, a member of the Century, the Metropolitan, the Grolier and various other club organizations and associations, and served as President of the New England Society of the City of New York in 1878 and 1879.

Mr. Appleton has been twice married; first in 1853, to Julia Randall; and, second, in 1889, to Susan Cowles. He has three sons and two daughters: Francis Randall, Randall Morgan and James Waldingfield Appleton; Mrs. Gerard Livingston Hoyt, of New York, and Mrs. Charles S. Tuckerman, of Boston.





THE career of this prominent scientist represents the record of a busy life devoted to the science and applications of chemistry. Both of Dr. Austen's grandfathers were well known men. Peter Townsend was one of the first large iron-masters of the United States. At his furnaces at Sterling, New York, was produced the huge iron chain which blocked the Hudson River during the Revolution. David Austen was one of early New York's most prominent business men. David's son, John H., was for fifty years the well known dry goods auctioneer of New York.

PETER TOWNSEND AUSTEN is a son of John H. and Elizabeth Townsend Austen, born September 10, 1852, at Clifton, Staten Island, educated at Isaac Holden's private school there, and was graduated Ph. B. Chemical Course, at the Columbia School of Mines, in 1872. Professor Austen also holds the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Zurich. After graduation at Columbia he studied for three years at the University of Berlin in the laboratory of the renowned chemist, A. W. Hofmann. As a member of the Faculty of Rutgers College, he was a member of the Peithosophian literary and Beta Theta Pi secret societies; the Rutgers Athletic Association; President of the Rutgers Phi Beta Kappa; organizer and President of Raritan Lodge, No. 6, Ancient Order United Workmen. At the School of Mines he won the Torry prize for best qualitative analysis work, and assisted Professor C. F. Chandler on the "American Chemist." Since graduation he has been chemist to the Richmond County (N. Y.) Board of Health, the Newark Aqueduct Board, Jersey City Board of Public



Peter T. Austin

Works, New Brunswick (N. J.) Board of Health, Newark (N. J.) Board of Health, New Jersey State Board of Agriculture, New Jersey State Chemist, and Presiding Officer of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society. He is, or has been, a member of the American, French, German and Russian Chemical societies; the American Association for Advancement of Science; New Jersey State Sanitary Association; English Society of Chemical Industry; the Alumni Association of Columbia College, Manufacturers' Association of Kings and Queens Counties, New York; Chemical Expert to the Brooklyn Board of Public Works; General Manager of the Ledoux Chemical Laboratory; Civil Service Examiner in Chemistry to the City of Brooklyn, and President of the Chemical Department of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

Even as early as 1876, in a letter to a friend, Professor A. W. Hofmann, of Berlin, wrote the following: "Mr. Austen combines with a perfectly sound and greatly extended knowledge of physical and chemical science a remarkable experimental skill and dexterity. His indomitable energy and undaunted perseverance know no difficulties."

On his return from Europe, in 1876, he became Instructor in Chemistry at Dartmouth; in 1877 Professor at Rutgers College and the New Jersey State Scientific School. His papers, which include nearly fifty titles, have appeared in leading journals here and abroad. He has also published "Kurze Einleitung zu den Nitro-Verbindungen" (Leipsic, 1876); Pinner's "Organic Chemistry," translated and revised by him (New York, 1893), and "Notes for Chemical Students" (1897). During the last ten years, also, a number of articles in the *North American Review*, and other journals. The article entitled "Chemists as Leaders" has been extensively quoted and re-published.

When University Extension was taken up by Rutgers, he was asked to introduce it, and gave courses of illustrated lectures on chemistry at Middlebush, Millstone, East Millstone, New Brunswick, Paterson, Neshanic, South Orange, Elizabeth, Mount Vernon and Kearny, awakening much enthusiasm.

As expert chemist, Dr. Austen appeared in the case of the City of Newark vs. City of Passaic, for the complainant, and demonstrated, by experiment, that the pollution of the Passaic River at Passaic would extend to Newark. He also officially examined and condemned the Passaic River as a source of water-supply for the City of Newark, in the face of political and other pressure, and brought to an end a contention of several years, whereupon the City sought and obtained a new water-supply. He has had wide experience in connection with city water-supplies.

In the fall of 1893 he accepted the position of Professor of Chemistry in the new Chemical Department of the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. The rapid and successful development of this department was an evidence of his skill and experienced ability as an organizer.

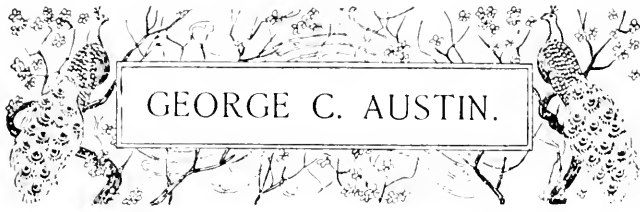
In the spring of 1897 he was chosen by American capitalists to visit and report on the Pegamoid industry of England and France, and, on July 1st, he retired from the Polytechnic Institute and accepted the position of Chief Chemist of the Pegamoid industries, in which position he has entire control of the scientific interests of this large industry. His research and technical laboratories are finely equipped and he is assisted by a corps of capable chemists.

As chemical expert and adviser he has been retained by many large manufacturing interests. His services as chemical expert are in continual demand in court, and he has given expert testimony of the highest order in many of the great cases. The originality of his mind has enabled him to produce valuable inventions for which he has been granted patents.

Dr. Austen is a member of the Hamilton Club, of Brooklyn, and of the Century, Knickerbocker Athletic and "Aschenbroedel," of New York.



George E. Austin.



ANY of the young attorneys in the State of New York have won deserved success at the Bar, and among the number are to be found some of the most earnest citizens in the Commonwealth. It seems only natural in a great many cases that those having evinced an aptitude for the profession of law, with all its ramifications, have likewise an innate ability to shine in the legislative assemblies in their State, and George C. Austin, of whom this sketch is written, is a notable example of this. Still a comparatively young man and far short of the meridian of life, he has won recognition both in the political field and at the Bar, and has served two terms in the lower branch of the State Legislature, as the Representative of the Twenty-first Assembly District. Because of this, and of his success as a practitioner of law, he has attained a position of prominence in the community, and is recognized as one of the city's most progressive citizens.

GEORGE CURTIS AUSTIN was born at Saluvia, Fulton County, Pennsylvania, on the 19th day of July, 1863. His father, Rowland Austin, was descended from the earliest families of Scotch-Irish settlers of the famous Cumberland Valley of Pennsylvania. His mother, Elizabeth Bohn, was of German extraction, and came of that sterling stock which has made the interior of the Keystone State famous the world over as a centre of progress coupled with solidity and strength. Mr. Austin was prepared for college at the Cumberland Valley State Normal School, and after completing its course, in the fall of 1881, he entered Lafayette, pursued his studies there with the same determination and vigor as formerly, graduating and receiving the degree of Bachelor

of Philosophy in 1885. While a student at this institution he was a prominent member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity and of the Washington Literary Society. To his experience as a debater gained in the latter, indeed, he probably owes much of his success as a pleader before the Bar, on the stump and in the State's legislative halls.

After leaving college his ambitious energy led him to come to New York City, where he obtained a subordinate position in the law office of Russell, Dennison & Latting, under whose guidance he commenced the study of law. Soon after, however, he entered the office of Booraem & Hamilton, with whom he continued the study of the statutes. He graduated from Columbia Law School in 1887, taking the second prize of \$150 for general proficiency, and soon after was admitted to the Bar. He then entered the law office of Turner, Lee & McClure, but became a member of the firm of Seward, Guthrie, Morawetz & Steele, attorneys at law, in 1893, but soon determined to open an office on his own account, and during the past few years he has engaged in practice alone.

Mr. Austin is a young man, and exceptionally well learned in the law, and certain it is that he soon took his place side by side with New York's leading attorneys, and has gathered about him a practice which is the envy of many of his less successful brethren. He has been instructor in contracts at the New York Law School, is a member of the New York Bar Association, of the Colonial, the D. K. E., the West Side and the Riverside Republican clubs, Secretary of the Lafayette Alumni Association of New York, and of the Dwight Law Association, a member of the Presbyterian Church, the Masonic fraternity and the Red Men.

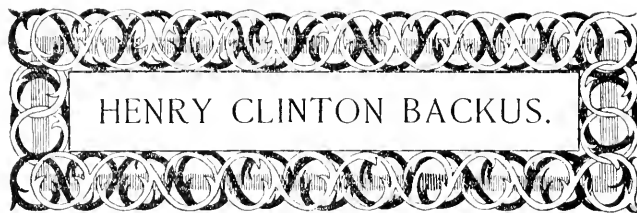
Mr. Austin was elected to the Assembly of 1896 as a Republican by over 1,500 majority, and was appointed by Speaker Hamilton Fish, to be Chairman of the Committee on Affairs of Cities, and a member of the Claims Committee. His action while representing his district in the Halls of Legislation so thoroughly met with the approval of his constituents that he

was promptly re-elected in the fall of 1896, by over 4,000 majority, and was again appointed Chairman of the Committee on Affairs of Cities, besides holding membership on a number of the other most important committees of the Legislature. In the Legislature of 1896-97 Mr. Austin introduced the Greater New York Charter, bills for the extension of Riverside Drive, New Hall of Records, Appellate Division Court House, incorporation of New York Law School, New York Public Library, for \$10,000,000 for public schools, and \$2,500,000 for high schools.

Mr. Austin is married to Miss Harriet J. Newman, and they have one child, Wilhelmine N. Austin.

When Mr. Austin began his canvass for re-election the New York *Press* editorially published the following tribute: "No young man in politics has made more rapid progress than George C. Austin, who represents the Twenty-first Assembly District in this city. In his first year in the Legislature he strode to the front and was honored with the Chairmanship of the Cities Committee, a position second in importance only to that of the Speakership. It is through this Committee that all legislation affecting all the cities of the State must pass. At the last session it was Mr. Austin who was entrusted with the parliamentary direction of the bill which embodied the charter for the Greater New York. It was Mr. Austin, also, who had amended the Public Library Bill so that the library formed by the Tilden, Astor and Lenox foundations will have not only circulating departments, but will be open to the public on every evening in the week until 10 o'clock. This will make it a public library in the best sense of the term, and not a mere literary museum."





HENRY CLINTON BACKUS.

ONE of the best known members of the New York Bar is the subject of this article. While, with remarkable clearness of vision, sound common sense, unwearying application and, above all, the courage of his convictions, he has forged his way to the front as a clever and skillful lawyer and a wise and discreet adviser in the courts he has also found time to take a deep interest in whatever of public occurrence pertained to the governmental affairs of his State and Nation and he holds an especially high place in the regard of his fellow Republicans who have bestowed upon him many marks of their appreciation of his probity, character and ability.

HENRY CLINTON BACKUS was born in Utica, New York, on the 31st day of May, 1848; but became a resident of New York City in 1850. He is the son of Charles Chapman Backus and Harriet Newell Baldwin. His paternal ancestors were Puritans—the first in this country, William Backus, having come from England and made his home at Saybrook, Connecticut, about the year 1635. He and his son Stephen were among those who, twenty-four years later, founded Norwich, Connecticut: and to William Backus was accorded the distinction of conferring upon the new settlement its name. The early records show that in 1700 William's grandson, Stephen, settled Canterbury, Connecticut. His son, Timothy Backus, engaged with success in a keen theological contest which lasted twelve years and caused much dissension in all New England in the middle of the Eighteenth Century. His son, Elisha Backus, great-grandfather of Henry Clinton, was among the brave soldiers led by the



Charles C. ...
... ..

gallant General Putnam at the battle of Bunker Hill and was later a major in the American Revolution. Upon the close of the memorable struggle for independence Major Backus removed to Onondaga County, New York, and settled the village of Manlius. His son, Elisha, was a colonel in the War of 1812 and, after its close, owned and operated the stage-line—one hundred and fifty miles long—which connected Utica with Watertown and Ogdensburg, New York; and he thus opened up the central and northern part of the State to settlement and development. Charles Chapman Backus, his son, was a prominent citizen of Utica where for several years he was a member of the book publishing house of Bennett, Backus & Hawley, the largest publishing concern in central New York at that time, and issued the *Baptist Register*, since become the *Examiner* of New York City, then and now widely known and recognized as the leading Baptist publication in the country. Removing to New York City about 1850 he engaged actively and most efficiently in the formation and advancement of the American Express Company and subsequently in other important enterprises. His wife, Harriet Newell Baldwin, was the daughter of Edward Baldwin and Anne Lewis who both came to this country from Wales in 1800 and married and settled in the then mere hamlet of Utica, New York, in 1805. Edward Baldwin quickly became and remained long prominent in the evolution of that city until his death in 1871.

During the War of the Rebellion our subject, Henry Clinton Backus, commanded a company in a regiment called the "McClellan Grays" and organized for the defence of the national capitol in case of sudden or dangerous attack upon it by the rebels: and this regiment stood ready for any other great and urgent emergency of the National Government. The regiment was made up of youth in the public schools of New York City who were under age for legal enlistment yet were inspired by patriotic fervor. During this period he also gathered and taught in the Sunday School of one of the fashionable churches in New York City, for two years, a class of colored children—an

act which at that time required no little moral as well as physical courage on his part.

He received his early education in the public schools of New York City, at private schools and under the guidance of private tutors. He prepared finally for college with Professor Wentworth, at Phillips Academy, in Exeter, New Hampshire, and then entered Harvard University, at Cambridge, Massachusetts, from which he was graduated in 1871. Having been graduated from the Columbia University Law School in 1873 he was immediately thereupon admitted to the New York Bar. At first Mr. Backus was connected with the office of Sanford, Robinson & Woodruff; but, a year later, with that of Beebe, Wilcox & Hobbs. The latter firm had at that time the largest admiralty practice in the United States courts and Mr. Backus gained valuable experience in this department. He has acted as counsel in many important cases requiring adjudication of the municipal and civil law of the land. The management of several estates exacts of him careful and conscientious attention. His thorough knowledge of constitutional history and of constitutional and international law is frequently invoked for litigants and by others. While not making a specialty of criminal practice, in the noteworthy case of the State of Kansas *vs.* Baldwin Mr. Backus undoubtedly saved the life of an innocent man. Sentence of death had been passed upon the defendant without the adducement of any properly incriminating evidence and in response to an unreasoning local clamor for a conviction for the assumed murder of his sister: and the Supreme Court of the State refused to rectify the wrong. Mr. Backus prepared an elaborate brief; and caused the publication and distribution throughout Kansas of editorial articles in *The New York Tribune*, *The New York Sun* and *The Albany Law Journal*, thereby creating a counter current of public opinion which impelled the Governor of Kansas to investigate carefully and ultimately to grant the application for absolute and unconditional pardon.

Mr. Backus is a Republican; and was chosen a Delegate to the Republican County Committee of New York annually for

over ten years, during five of which he served upon its Committee on Resolutions and gave clear, forcible and attractive expression to its declarations. The passage of an amendment to the constitution of the County Committee, whereby twenty-five voters in any Assembly district were empowered to compel the polls, at any primary election, to remain open twelve instead of six hours, was due to his efforts while in that committee. In December, 1890, he was chosen chairman of the delegation from his Assembly district to the Republican County Committee and leader in the district for 1891 but was confronted in the following month with a most bitter, protracted and memorable contest, lasting five months, for the delegation's seats. In the end, however, Mr. Backus prevailed: and soon a peace, unknown for years in the district, was induced among the warring Republican factions. This year Mr. Backus was placed upon the Executive Committee of the Republican County Committee. In the following year he declined continuance in the position of chairman and leader when urged upon him. He is now the chairman of the delegation from his Assembly district in the Republican General Committee, having joined in the movement to lift the party out of the corrupt practices which have nearly throttled it and much diminished its strength locally at the polls lately. Frequently he has represented his district in County and State Conventions. He has refused nominations for the Assembly thrice, for Judge of the City Court and for Surrogate. In 1893 he was nominated at the head of the delegation to represent the Seventh Senatorial District in the Constitutional Convention of New York State and, although the district was overwhelmingly Democratic and his immediate opponent was William C. Whitney, Mr. Backus polled the highest vote given for any candidate on the Republican ticket in that district at that election. Mr. Backus is a speaker who is interesting in style, pellucid in statement, forceful and cogent in logic: his evident sincerity and frankness arouse a sympathetic credence in his hearers.

He was a member of the committee upon the erection of

the grand and stately monument on Riverside Drive, New York City, to the fame of Ulysses S. Grant.

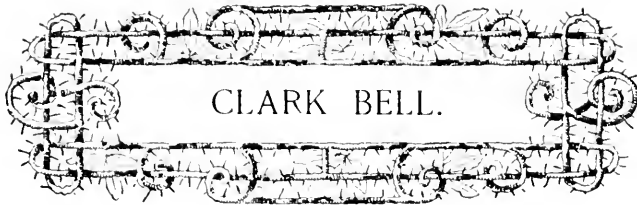
Mr. Backus is a member of the Round Table Club; the Chelsea Republican Club; the Republican Club of the City of New York; the Dwight Alumni Association; the Harvard Club of New York City; the New York City and New York State Bar Associations; a Fellow of the American Geographical Society; and an honorary member of the Railway Conductors' Club of North America.

He married, in 1890, Miss Hattie I. Davis, a lady who is an active member of the Board of Managers of the New York Colored Orphan Asylum and is well known in the charitable and benevolent circles of New York City. Of two children born to them one, a son, Clinton D., is living.





Wm. Bell



CLARK BELL.



THE great field of medico-legal jurisprudence has no more noted nor able exponent than him of whom this sketch is written. A thorough lawyer in every branch of that most exacting of professions, he has devoted his life and acquired his reputation principally by combining his knowledge of the statutes with a deep insight into the principles of forensic medicine, of which he has made a special study.

CLARK BELL was born in Jefferson County, New York, March 12, 1832. He received a preparatory education at Franklin Academy, New York, and at seventeen was prepared for admission to Yale College, a consummation which was unhappily denied him because of his delicate health. His tutors were Guy H. McMaster, of Bath, New York, and Rev. J. Merrill Manning, of Boston. A course of outdoor exercise prescribed by his physicians, however, soon produced for Mr. Bell a robust physique. His strength and vigor returning, he began the study of law, and, when twenty-one, was admitted to the Bar, beginning practice at Hammondsport, New York, where he succeeded the late Morris Brown, his former preceptor. On the retirement of Lieutenant-Governor Robert Campbell, Mr. Bell removed to Bath, New York, and became one of the members of the firm of McMaster & Bell, which at once entered upon a large and lucrative practice; our subject soon being retained by the promoters of the Union Pacific Railway Company as their attorney and general counsel, this position compelling his removal to New York in 1864. Mr. Bell had charge of the company's legislation before both Houses of Congress, and he prepared the text of the

act which passed both bodies and got the authority under which the road was constructed. Mr. Bell was also attorney for the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and for various corporations, and was head of the law firm of Bell, Bartlett & Wilson, of this city. His associate, Edward T. Bartlett, is now a member of the Bench of the New York Court of Appeals. One of the most widely known of his cases was that of the defence of George Francis Train, before Chief Justice Charles P. Daly and a special jury. This trial occupied several months, and in it prominent insanity experts were examined, Mr. Bell securing the release of his client.

In 1870 Mr. Bell became a member of the Medico-Legal Society. Since that time, he has, more than any American, rendered important services to the great cause of medical jurisprudence, and that this organization has recognized his eminent services is proven by the fact that Mr. Bell was honored with its Presidency for twelve years, besides holding many other of the most prominent places in its administration. He made the first collection of books for the use of the Society and is, in fact, the founder of its extensive library. It was his active zeal as much as any other cause that brought the Medico-Legal Society of New York into deserved prominence not only with the profession of law and medicine, but with the public at large, giving it both national and international reputation. To Mr. Bell more than to any one person in this country, therefore, is due the praise of bringing the professions of law and medicine into more intimate social, scientific and friendly relations.

He is a prolific writer on a variety of subjects. His published works are entitled "Bell's Medico-Legal Studies," which have already reached five volumes, and the sixth is now in the press—covering nearly every branch of forensic medicine. Among his best known earlier productions are the following: "The Coroner System and its Needed Reforms," "Suicide and Legislation," "The Rights of the Insane," "Madness and Crime," and "Shall We Hang the Insane Who Commit Homicide?"

Mr. Bell was President of the International Medico-Legal

Congress of 1889, held in the City of New York; of the same body held in Chicago in 1893, and of the Medico-Legal Congress of 1895, held in the Federal Court building in the City of New York. His measure of usefulness, too, in the department of the profession to which he has devoted so much of his attention, was much enlarged when, in 1883, he was elected to the editorship of the *Medico-Legal Journal*, then just founded, and the last fifteen years have found Mr. Bell still occupying this responsible post.

Mr. Bell is an honorary member of the Medico-Legal Society of France, of the Société de Médecine Mentale de Belge, of the American Association of Physicians and Surgeons; of the National Association of Railway Surgeons; of the Netherland Society of Psychiatry; of the Portuguese Neurological Society; of the Medico-Legal societies of Massachusetts, of Rhode Island, of the City of Chicago, of the City of Philadelphia, and of the City of Denver; a corresponding member of the Italian Society of Freniatriy; of the Russian Society of Psychiatry; of the Belgian Society of Anthropologie; of the Paris Society Medico-Psychologique; of the New York Academy of Anthropology, and of many other bodies, and is in correspondence with scientific men of all countries on current medico-legal questions. He was also a member of the International Committee representing North America in the conference held at Antwerp, September, 1885, to consider the best basis for international statistics regarding the insane.

Mr. Bell is a man of remarkable mental activity, besides possessing a physique so sturdy that it renders him capable of an almost unlimited amount of intellectual labor. He seems never to spare himself, no matter in what engaged, but works without stint or intermission, until his work is accomplished. He is full of vigor and energy, and may reasonably look forward to a long career of active usefulness. He has the degree of Doctor of Laws, conferred by Rutherford College and by Taylor University.



IT is probable that no branch of scientific investigation, during the past quarter of a century, has made more rapid strides or exerted a more beneficent influence over humanity than the art of healing. From a position where the results of its endeavors were, to say the least, problematical, it has, within a comparatively few years, advanced until to-day it may properly be regarded as an almost exact science. In bringing about the progress that has attended the investigations into this most humane of fields, few physicians of the Empire State have done more or have more justly won the appreciative applause of the public than Dr. Joseph N. Bishop, of whose career this sketch is written.

JOSEPH NORTON BISHOP, of New York City, was born in Algonquin, Greenville County, Ontario, May 30, 1844. His father was William James Bishop, the descendant of a prominent family of Litchfield County, Connecticut, and one whose ancestry were ardent "loyalists" during the Revolution. His mother was Mary E. Barton, whose lineage can be traced to one of Holland's sturdiest families. Until the subject of this review had reached the age of twenty, his education was acquired principally in the public schools of the district in which he lived. Here he early developed marks of a strong character and a man of more than ordinary comprehension. He was scarcely of age when he passed a stringent examination, and was himself commissioned to teach. On the morning following his twentieth birthday, Dr. Bishop started for Ogle County, Illinois, where he worked upon his uncle's farm, soon after securing a position as instructor in the



J. U. Bishop

neighboring school, in which he taught five months. With the money he had saved he then entered Wheaton College, near Chicago, pursuing his studies and teaching alternately, by the latter course being enabled to defray the expenses of his tuition. From Wheaton he went to Hathaway Academy, Chicago, where he continued his course of studies and acted as assistant teacher. In 1869, while there, he was commissioned as Assistant State Superintendent of Education of Mississippi by order of General O. O. Howard, of the War Department of the United States Government. He remained in this post and fulfilled the duties of the position with satisfaction until 1871, when he was made Superintendent of Education in Lowndes County, Mississippi. So successful was he that, in 1875, he was re-appointed and served until he resigned and removed from the State. In 1869 the Governor of Mississippi appointed him to be Trustee of the Franklin Academy. In connection with his educational works in the State, he acquired an enviable reputation as an active business man, and took a keen interest in commercial affairs.

In 1875 Dr. Bishop removed to Orange County, Florida where he had purchased about two hundred acres of timbered land six miles from Sanford, lying on Lake Monroe, at the head of the St. Johns River. This land he surveyed and divided into lots and blocks, and established the town of Paola, where he has at present over fifty acres of orange trees, and a comfortable and attractive winter home.

Although he had early manifested a desire to pursue the study of medicine, it was not until 1876 that Dr. Bishop was able to put that plan into operation. In this year he entered the Long Island College Hospital, in Brooklyn, from which, after pursuing this course with commendable assiduity and success, he was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1879. Ill health, however, compelled him to remain in the South during the winters, and he practiced medicine in Florida while looking after his business interests, he having been one of the foremost men in all enterprises which looked to the development and advancement of his town and county.

He was one of the Directors and originators of the first telegraph line from Sanford to Ocala, Florida, and was the originator and prime moving spirit in the construction and operation of the Sanford and Lake Eustis Railroad Company, the stockholders and directors of which organization showed their appreciation of his endeavors by making him President of the road.

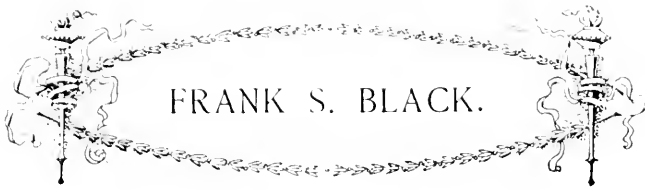
In 1887, Dr. Bishop's health having been restored by the soothing climate in the South, in order to enlarge his scope of work in his chosen profession, he removed to New York City and opened an office at 12 West Thirty-eight street, taking up, as a specialty, nervous troubles and diseases of women, to which branch of his profession he devotes the bulk of his time and attention, and in which he has acquired an enviable reputation. A man of strong personality, genial disposition and great domesticity, he enjoys the confidence and respect, not only of his patients and associates, but of all who make his acquaintance. He has acquired a practice unsurpassed in the Commonwealth, and is frequently called to Washington as the physician to President and Mrs. McKinley. He is a man of commanding personality and attributes his magnificent support of good health and endurance under the exacting and varied duties of his practice to his temperate habits and discardment of tobacco and liquors, and even of tea and coffee.

Dr. Bishop is a member of the County Medical Society, the Physicians' Mutual Aid Association, the Camera Club, and is the President of the Social Culture Club. He was married on June 27, 1877, to Mrs. Gussie M. Marsh, of New London, Connecticut. They have no children.

Dr. Bishop has traveled extensively throughout not only the Western Hemisphere, but has visited all the principal points of interest in Great Britain, France, Switzerland, Germany, Russia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Iceland and elsewhere in the Old World, and his letters from the Land of the Midnight Sun attracted wide attention.



Frank J. Black



EVENTS in a life like that of Governor Frank S. Black crowd each other so rapidly that any sketch is apt to be incomplete in that it may not include his latest and, perhaps, his greatest public achievement. He is of that stamp of history-makers about whom no man may, with assurance, say that he can write his life and select the page in it on which another generation will linger longest in admiration. Governor Black is still building, with brain and honest purpose and an energy that is tireless, a reputation whose horizon is ever widening. And he is building, too, as did all men who have builded strong and well. He has selected his own materials and fashioned them in the mold planned by himself. He has thrown in no fortuitous circumstance nor has he appropriated accidental happenings and posed on them. He has been and is Frank S. Black throughout. What fame he has, he wrought himself. What pinnacle he stands upon is made of his own achievements. Upon him there is no reflected glory. What is best in his public career, no man versed in the inner history of our times but knows they were of his own conception and his own completion.

His life has been a singularly successful one. All the years of it have been a series of advancement. His aims have been achieved at great labor, and, oftentimes at much sacrifice, but from the day he bade adieu to the old homestead in York County, Maine, until he entered upon his duties as Governor of the State of New York, not a single reverse has he met. New York State, in its political history, knows no parallel; the search is in vain for another man whose stride has been so uniformly

forward or who, at some time, in the labor to reach the summit on Capitol Hill in Albany, has not been forced backward temporarily. That summit, half way up to the Matterhorn of the Presidency on which so many politicians have been lost, rarely ever has been gained by a man who, like Governor Black, has owed so much to himself, and so little to circumstance or who has so few accounts to settle with the future.

It may be that it is because Frank S. Black always did everything he set to do so well and so promptly that his present is so little embarrassed and his future so little discounted. He has paid his way personally in the world and to the body politic has discharged all obligations by the fullest performance of every duty. In his advance upward, he was careful of the condition of the balance sheet of his last previous position, so that he entered upon his new duties without any fetters that, if they would not shackle, might, at least, impede. For such a man, he would be bold indeed who would lay down any line of limitation and with a milestone would designate a spot beyond which he might not go. Because of the fact that his progress is not necessarily the result of any movement nor the consequence of any chain of circumstances, a sketch of his life is one not difficult to make.

FRANK S. BLACK was born in Livingston, in Southwestern Maine, on March 8, 1853, and was one of eleven children. His father was a farmer and, while an industrious one, the aid of every child was necessary that the homestead might be saved to them. Later, the family removed to Alfred, Maine, and there Frank was able to attend the Limerick and afterward the Lebanon Academy. The money necessary to do this, he earned himself. While at the Lebanon Academy he was forced to walk three miles to it every winter's day and three miles back home in the evening. His summers he spent in the fields working, earning the money with which to pay his fees in the winter.

Then he taught school and with the money thus earned entered Dartmouth College in 1875. In the first year he was able to attend his classes for only eleven weeks, when his funds ran out and he secured a place as teacher in a school on Cape

Cod. Even when he was a senior he taught school at Provincetown. Notwithstanding the difficulties attending his course from lack of funds and the necessity of absence to replenish them, he was one of the honor men on commencement day and twice had been chosen a prize speaker.

Although the recommendations of the faculty of Dartmouth secured him the choice of three principalships, he declined them. Teaching had been to him merely a means to an end. He had aspired to a collegiate education, achieved it through teaching and with the result gained, he quit it. He was bound for the law. Without money and without friends of influence, he had to aim for his new goal in a circuitous way. Teaching had won him his collegiate education and he decided that newspaper work would be the avenue through which he would reach the law. His first work was on the Johnstown, Fulton County, *Herald*, in this State. At the same time he entered a law office in Johnstown as a student. His course, politically, was not satisfactory to the owner and Mr. Black resigned.

From Johnstown he went to Troy and, while working at night, as a reporter on the Troy *Whig*, he studied law. In the office in which he entered he soon became managing clerk, and was the first man to use a typewriter in that city. In 1879 he was called to the Bar. For a year he was associated as junior counsel with a big firm and then started in for himself, and in two years there was no case of great commercial interest or involving any delicate question of law that did not have Frank S. Black retained on one side or the other. It was said by more than one judge that he had the best ordered mind at the Rensselaer Bar and that he always knew not only what was the remedy his client sought but exactly how to proceed to get it. His addresses to the courts, in clearness of statement and appropriateness of illustration, were forerunners of the State papers he afterwards was to prepare—the best in literary and argumentative merit that are on file in the State Library.

And all the time, Frank S. Black neither was a clubman nor a social lion nor a politician. His nights he spent with his wife

and his little boy in their modest home on Pine Woods Avenue, not believing that merely because he was a great lawyer he should become an indiscriminate corner talker or club-room debater. In politics he always took an earnest part. He worked from the beginning of a campaign until the end of it, but not in the ordinary methods employed up to that time in Troy.

When the time for the punishment of election frauds came, however, it was Frank S. Black who went to the front. He had bills presented to the Legislature calling for honest elections, but his political opponents were in power and they did not pass. At the head of a delegation of citizens he called upon the Governor for protection at the polls, but was repulsed in the chamber which three years afterwards he entered as Governor himself. In the election Robert Ross, a Republican watcher at the polls, was shot and killed by a man named "Bat" Shea. Mr. Black organized a Committee on Public Safety and prosecuted the murderer. Shea was convicted and electrocuted, and, in the next Republican Legislature, the Black bills for the safety of voters and the purity of the ballot were passed.

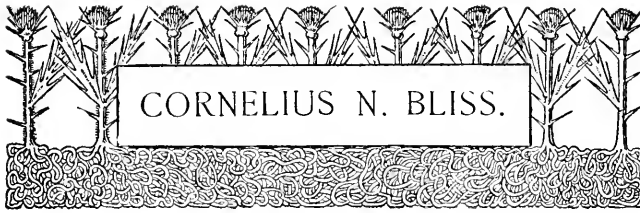
Rensselaer County insisted, as a recognition of Mr. Black's services, on making him Chairman of the Republican County Committee. In 1894 they sent him to Congress, and, in 1896, the Republican State Convention chose him its candidate for Governor. That contest is history too recent to demand more than a recapitulation of the votes received. It is: Frank S. Black, Republican, 787,516; Wilbur F. Porter, Democrat, 574,524; Daniel G. Griffin, National Democrat, 26,698; William W. Smith, Prohibitionist, 17,419; Howard Balkam, Socialist-Labor, 18,362.

Governor Black assumed office January 1, 1897, and, while always the staunchest and sturdiest of Republicans, has been the Governor of all the people of all the State. His administration has been a strong one, vigorous both in achievement of positive measures and in repression of vicious or frivolous legislation. His preservation of the Adirondacks, his completion of the Capitol, his re-organization of the National Guard, his message call-

ing for \$1,000,000 that the Guard might be equipped for the war, and his Pure Primary Law, of themselves, did they stand alone, would mark it for warmest commendation. Under his direction, all the State departments have been conducted honestly and economically, the tax rate has been reduced, and the Legislature of 1898, under its prompting, made a record in early adjournment.

Governor Black's wife was Miss Lois Hamlin, daughter of Dr. Hamlin, of Provincetown, Massachusetts. She is an expert musician and a genial, charming woman. Mr. and Mrs. Black have a son, Arthur, now seventeen years of age.





MERCHANT, banker and statesman of the highest rank, Cornelius N. Bliss to-day occupies a position before the people of the nation that is not excelled by any living New Yorker. With a stainless record and the full confidence of the community, he is known throughout the State as a man of very great ability and executive capacity, traits the possession of which are amply demonstrated by his faithful and efficient conduct of the governmental affairs that fall under his control as Secretary of the Interior of the United States. His career is an open book, with no act recorded therein which he has cause to regret, and the place he has won in the mercantile, financial and political worlds stamps him as distinctively entitled to a place as a representative citizen of the Empire Commonwealth.

CORNELIUS NEWTON BLISS was born in Fall River, Massachusetts, on the 26th day of January, 1833, of excellent English and American ancestry, dating back in this country almost to Plymouth Rock. Mr. Bliss disclosed early in life the sterling qualities that everywhere command success. After attending school at Fall River until he was thirteen years old, and completing his scholastic training in the High School at New Orleans, he began his brilliant career in the business world about 1849, by entering the establishment of James M. Beebe & Company, importers and jobbers of dry-goods, of Boston. They were the largest dealers in their line in the United States at that time, and in their service young Bliss had a chance to show his capacity. How well he improved the opportunity is evident from the fact that he ultimately acquired an interest in the business. The firm of



Cornelius A. Bliss

Beebe & Company having dissolved, in 1866 Mr. Bliss became a partner in the firm of John S. & Eben Wright & Company, of Boston, selling agents for some of the largest New England manufacturers. In the year mentioned the house established a New York branch, and Mr. Bliss took charge of it. With the ampler opportunities of the great city, he made himself more and more important in the business world. On the death of the senior Wright, in 1874, the firm assumed the style of Wright, Bliss & Fabyan, with offices in New York, Boston and Philadelphia. Since 1881 the concern has been known as Bliss, Fabyan & Company, and has come to be one of the strongest mercantile houses in the world. Selling agents for a number of mills that rank among the greatest manufacturing corporations of the continent—the Pepperell Manufacturing Company, the Laconia Company, the Androscoggin Mills, the Otis Company, and others—Bliss, Fabyan & Company transact a business not exceeded by any competitive firm, and amounting every year to not far from twenty millions of dollars.

In recounting thus the commercial side of Mr. Bliss's life the half has not been told. More important still is his splendid career as a broad-minded citizen and a tower of strength to every good cause. For many years his name has been one of the first to be mentioned whenever any question of great public interest has come up for discussion and settlement. Political, financial and social questions alike have engaged the attention and received the benefit of his wide experience and sagacious counsel. Though he has never until very lately held a public position that carried a dollar of salary with it, he has long been recognized everywhere as a political leader of stainless reputation. He has repeatedly refused nomination to high offices, including the Mayoralty of New York City and the Governorship of New York State. In the higher councils of the Republican party, however, he has had a prominent place for many years, serving as a Delegate to city, county, State and national conventions. In 1884 he was made Chairman of a committee of one hundred business men appointed at a large public meeting held in Cooper Union

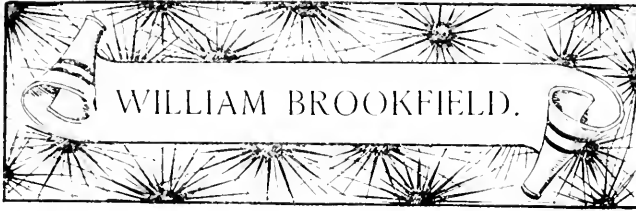
to attend the National Convention and urge the nomination of Gen. Chester A. Arthur for the Presidency. He was Chairman of the New York State Republican Committee in 1887 and again in 1888. In the Presidential campaign of 1892 Mr. Bliss was a member of the Executive Committee of the Republican National Committee, and he was Treasurer of the National Committee in the campaigns of 1892 and 1896. His services in the latter capacity were so eminently able that when President McKinley came to make up his council of advisers he tendered the distinguished New Yorker the post of Secretary of the Interior. Mr. Bliss's personal inclinations would doubtless have led him to decline the honor, but the call was so urgent that he at last consented, and has since administered the duties of this important position with honor to himself and complete satisfaction to the people and the Executive.

Naturally enough, Mr. Bliss has been called upon to devote some of his business ability to the affairs of various financial, philanthropic and social institutions. Of these he is Vice-President of the Fourth National Bank, Director of the Central Trust Company and of the Equitable Life Assurance Company, and Governor and Treasurer of the Society of the New York Hospital. Secretary Bliss is a Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce, and has been Chairman of its Executive Committee. He is a member of the Union League Club, and belongs to various similar institutions, including the Republican, Century, Metropolitan, Riding, Union and Players' clubs.





W. Woodfield



ANY of the most prominent citizens in the Empire State are men who, while they have attained recognition in commercial circles through close attention to their business affairs, with patriotic spirit have yet found time to interest themselves in the cause of good government in city, State and nation. Of such men the Republican Party in the Empire State claims as one of its most prominent representatives William Brookfield, who, while he has never consented to accept the nomination for an elective office, and has held no political office save that of Commissioner of Public Works under Mayor Strong, (and that even was resigned by him in a few months) has been honored by his party with many marks of its esteem, and has frequently lain aside his private business to devote himself to political affairs.

WILLIAM BROOKFIELD was born at Greenbank, New Jersey, May 24, 1844, and is the son of James M. and Catharine A. Brookfield. His great-grandfather was born in Norway, of Irish parents, but came to New Jersey while still a young man. His grandfather was born in that State, as was also his father. After a preliminary education in the common schools of his native town, followed by a course in the academies at Bethany and Honesdale, Pennsylvania, he entered the Cayuga Lake Academy, at Aurora, New York, and remained there until 1861. The six months following were spent as a clerk in a country store. Being then but sixteen years of age, he entered business with his father in the State Street Glass Works, and later in the South Brooklyn Glass Works. In September, 1861, they started the Bushwick Glass Works, at Williamsburg, to which Mr. Brookfield

has since given the greater part of his attention, and of which he is now the sole proprietor. Besides his connection with this establishment, Mr. Brookfield is President of the Sheldon Axle Company, Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, the Franklin Loan and Improvement Company of New Jersey; is Vice-President of the Addison and Pennsylvania Railway Company, and a Director in the Augusta Manganese Company, the Greenwich Insurance Company and the Kings County Fire Insurance Company, besides holding membership in the New York Chamber of Commerce, the Consolidated Stock and Petroleum Exchange, the Board of Trade and Transportation, and the New York Produce Exchange. Mr. Brookfield's prominence in the business to which he devotes the bulk of his attention was ably demonstrated when he was elected to the Presidency of the National Association of Glass Manufacturers, which he held for five years.

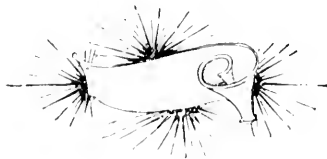
Mr. Brookfield is a Trustee of Wells College, ex-President of St. John's Guild, to which he has devoted a great deal of his time and energy. He is an attendant of Rev. Dr. John Hall's Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, taking a deep interest in and being a large contributor to a number of the most worthy benevolent and charitable institutions in the city.

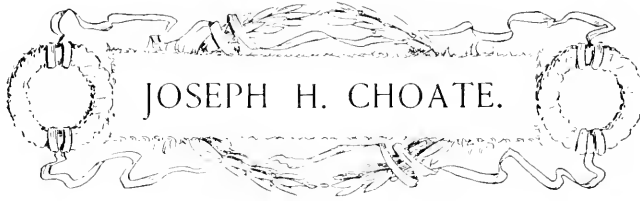
Always actively interested in political affairs, Mr. Brookfield has long been prominent in the Twenty-first District, and has held a leading position in Republican politics in New York City. He has never consented to accept an elective office, but was, however, Presidential Elector in 1888. Mr. Brookfield has been Vice-President of the Union League Club; Delegate to the Republican National Conventions of 1888 and 1892; four times Chairman of the Republican State Committee; three times President of the Republican County Committee of New York City; has been President of the Republican Club, holding the Chairmanship of the State and the Presidency of the County committees, as well as the executive office of the Republican Club during the same year.

In the citizens' movement in New York City in 1894, which resulted in the nomination and the election of William L. Strong

for Mayor, Mr. Brookfield's part was a prominent and consistent one. He was a member of the Committee of Seventy, and was one of the earliest to appreciate the distinct advantages of a Union ticket. While, as a Republican, he demanded that the nominee for Mayor should be of that political faith, he was earnest and successful in his insistence that all the elements represented in the fusion should be recognized on the ticket. Mr. Brookfield, it is generally known, was the actual manager of Mr. Strong's campaign, and, after the election, in so far as his private business duties would permit, he was the adviser of the Mayor in many of the projects which marked the administration. He accepted the Commissionership of Public Works at the urgent request of the Mayor, though in doing so he sacrificed a plan for a trip abroad. He retained the office until it was in good working order and then resigned. Mr. Brookfield's interest in politics has continued to the present day. He is of that class which regards activity in politics as a duty, and not either as a profession where it is apt to assume a selfish hue or as a recreation, in which latter event it may be alloyed with an unthinking eccentricity. In the earnest discussion of a pure primary bill by the Legislature of the State of New York last winter, Mr. Brookfield was one of the most valued advisers.

Mr. Brookfield holds membership in the Union League Clubs of New York and Brooklyn, in the Down-Town Association; is ex-President of the Fulton Club and the Republican Club, is a member of the Lotus, New York Athletic and Barnard Clubs. He was married, June 23, 1870, to Miss Kate Morgan, of Aurora, New York. They have four sons living, Henry M., Frank, J. H., and Edwin Morgan.





JOSEPH H. CHOATE.



JOSEPH HODGES CHOATE, of the New York Bar, was born at Salem, Massachusetts, on the 24th day of January, 1832, and is a descendant of one of the oldest and most highly regarded families of New England, many of his relatives and ancestors having gained signal distinction in various fields of endeavor, and particularly in the legal profession. Mr. Choate entered Harvard University when he was sixteen years of age, and was graduated in 1852. Having decided to enter the profession so honorable in the family records, he then matriculated at Dane Law School, from which he graduated in 1854, after two years of assiduous application, and was admitted to practice at the Massachusetts Bar in the following year.

In 1856 Mr. Choate came to New York, to whose Bar he obtained ready admission, and from that date to the present time he has been engaged in the practice of his profession in New York City with brilliant success, and has won a reputation as a lawyer equal to that of the most distinguished advocates in the United States. Among the cases in which he has been engaged are many famous ones, in most of which he has borne a leading part and gained deserved applause for his forensic ability and deep and thorough knowledge of the law. To describe all the cases in which he has thus been prominent would be far beyond the space at our disposal, and be almost equivalent to writing a legal history of New York for more than a quarter of a century past.

Mr. Choate's distinction as one of the leaders of the Bar of New York is not his only legal claim to consideration. He is as



Yours very truly
Joseph H. Choate

popular as he is able, and may be considered as one of the best known lawyers of the city in this particular. His popularity is not confined to his clientage and to the people at large, but extends to the profession as well, it being doubtful if any other lawyer in the city has more professional friends and well-wishers than has Joseph H. Choate. This popularity is due, in large measure, to his personal gifts of courtesy and geniality, which are so marked as to win him the friendship of all with whom he comes in contact.

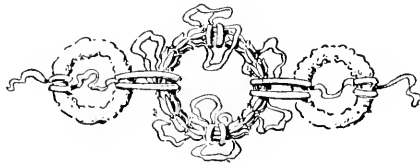
Among the most celebrated cases in which Mr. Choate has been engaged may be named that of General Fitz-John Porter, whom he served as counsel in his protracted suit for re-instatement in his military rank, of the privileges and honors of which he had been deprived by sentence of a court-martial. The origin of this celebrated case must be familiar to all students of the Civil War. General Porter was charged by General Pope with disobedience of orders during the second battle of Bull Run, in failing to bring his troops into the engagement, although his corps was within sight and sound of the battle, thus imperilling the army and being the principal cause of the defeat of the Union forces. The court-martial which was convened at General Pope's instance sustained these charges, and General Porter was cashiered and dismissed from the military service of the United States in January, 1863, continuing under the ban of this decision for many years. In 1870 he appealed without effect to President Grant for a reversal of the sentence of the court-martial. The struggle to obtain this reversal continued for years, and brought into play all of Mr. Choate's well known legal powers. It was finally successful, (largely due to the ability of the plaintiff's counsel,) and, in 1886, General Porter was finally restored to the army with all disabilities removed.

Another almost equally celebrated case in which Mr. Choate acted as premier counsel was the notable *Cesnola* case, in which, also, he was successful. But perhaps his most notable achievement was his successful attack upon the constitutionality of the income tax before the Supreme Court of the United States.

Not only did he win his cause, but in doing so he upset all legal precedents and succeeded in convincing one of the formerly adverse Justices, inducing him to reverse his own decision. These are but the most famous of the many important legal struggles in which he has been engaged.


Politically, Mr. Choate is a member of the Republican Party, and a very active one, taking a prominent part alike in national, State and municipal politics, and exerting his powers particularly in the work of reform. He was one of the original Committee of Seventy, that earnest body of reformers which came into being during the political dominance of Tweed and his ring, and which crushed the disdainful "Boss" and for the time being purified the political atmosphere of New York City. In bringing about this result Mr. Choate and his friend and associate, Charles O'Connor, were very largely instrumental.

In social circles Mr. Choate is highly esteemed. He is ready as an after-dinner speaker, rivaling even Chauncey M. Depew in this social art, in which he is noted for his pungent wit and, if necessary, caustic and sarcastic comments. He is a member of the Union League and the New England Society, both of which organizations he has served as President.





Richard Croker

A decorative banner with a scalloped, ribbon-like border. The name "RICHARD CROKER." is printed in a serif font across the center of the banner. The banner is adorned with small, starburst-like decorative elements at the top and bottom.

THE possibilities that America's free institutions open to ability and determination can hardly be better illustrated than in a resumé of the most remarkable career of a man who, born amid the most humble surroundings, in a foreign land, deprived of almost all the advantages of early schooling, forced to begin life as a day laborer, has, nevertheless, pursued his course upward with a grim resoluteness that can but command admiration from even his bitterest political enemy. To contemplate him as he is renders almost impossible a realization of the imperial sway he exercises over his party associates and of the fact that this silent and almost taciturn man's friendship and good will are to-day and have been, for many years, absolutely indispensable to him who desires political recognition at the hands of the Democracy in the City and State of New York. Simple and unassuming in his manner, and a born leader, he is a striking example of that class of persistent, indomitable, unconquerable men to which Ulysses S. Grant belonged; and, indeed, in many respects, it is to the possession of so many of the most marked characteristics of this great General that Richard Croker owes his most remarkable success as a political factor. About his rise there is something almost weird, but it cannot fail to inspire all to look upward and onward or to point out the rewards that our system of government has to offer to even the poor and friendless foreigner who makes his home on America's soil.

RICHARD CROKER was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1840, and is the son of Eyre C. Croker, a sturdy blacksmith and a

veterinary surgeon who, in 1851, finding his family growing and his business dwindling, determined, like so many of his fellow countrymen, to seek fortune in the newer world and, turning his eyes across the western waters, emigrated to the United States. The son was eleven years old when the family reached New York and made its home on a farm just off of Ninety-ninth Street, the site of which now forms a part of Central Park. Early in 1852 the Crokers moved to East Twenty-sixth Street and later to East Twenty-eighth Street, in which neighborhood the son passed the days of his early manhood and laid the foundation for his future political supremacy. The early education of the subject of this review was gotten in the public educational institutions of the metropolis, but the vast fund of general information he has since acquired has been gleaned in the great field of experience.

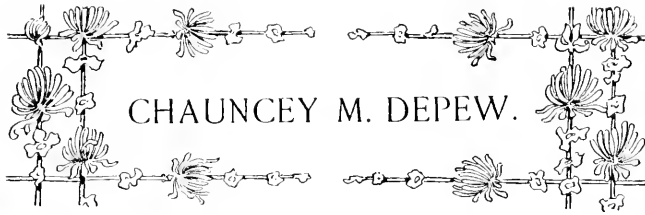
When he was but sixteen years of age, and still a stripling, Richard Croker was forced to begin his battle with the world, taking a position in the Harlem Railway machine shop as a chore boy, with a salary of only \$2.00 a week. Even before attaining his majority, however, he became a political factor and soon acquired considerable prominence in municipal affairs. His father had been an outspoken Orangeman, but the son, soon after reaching manhood, was received into the Catholic Church, with which he has since remained connected. The famous Dr. McGlynn performed both his baptismal and marriage ceremony, the latter of which occurred in 1873, and at which John Kelly, the then great power in Tammany Hall, was groomsman.

Mr. Croker was one of the leaders of the famous revolt against Boss Tweed and, as a candidate of the faction which overthrew his régime, was elected an Alderman of the City of New York. His course in this office gave him such popularity that the post of Coroner subsequently came to him from the hands of the people. Soon after the completion of his services in this important office, he was appointed Fire Commissioner and gave to this department a most effective administration. The Mayor later appointed him City Chamberlain.

In business Mr. Croker is connected with the well known auction firm of Peter F. Meyer & Co., No. 111 Broadway, New York City. He lives at No. 5 East Seventy-fourth Street, one of the handsomest residences in the city. No trait of Mr. Croker's character is more strongly marked than his love for horses. He had one of the finest stables in America, and one which after successes here he shipped to England.

Mr. Croker's latest triumph was the election of Robert A. Van Wyck as Mayor of Greater New York, at the election held in the autumn of 1897, to serve for four years from the succeeding January. Mr. Croker was one of Mayor Van Wyck's most earnest and persistent advocates, and the latter's success in the memorable "four-cornered" contest which followed the nomination may be regarded as being, in a great degree, a personal victory for Mr. Croker, especially since he was opposed not only by the Republican and Citizens' tickets, but by a large contingent of his own party, under the leadership of the younger Henry George, who succeeded his father on the ticket, when the latter died during the closing days of the campaign.





CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW.



RAILROAD manager, statesman and orator not only in political campaigns but in the more felicitous sphere of after-dinner speaker and about the banquet board, the subject of this review has won a fame that is international. It is but just to say of Mr. Depew that few men in this country have acquired equal renown in such widely varied fields of thought and action, and that the esteem in which he is universally held, both at home and abroad, could have no source other than in the possession of talents of the most remarkable order. Active in financial, political and social circles, he enjoys a popularity such as is possessed by but few men in the nation.

CHAUNCEY MITCHELL DEPEW was born at Peekskill, New York, April 23, 1834, in the homestead which has been in the possession of his family for over two hundred years. On his father's side he descended from Huguenot stock, his ancestors having been among the emigrants from France who after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, in 1685, came to America and settled in Westchester County, naming New Rochelle after La Rochelle, France. On his mother's side Mr. Depew descended from Roger Sherman, the signer of the Declaration of Independence and grand-uncle of Mr. Depew's mother, Martha Mitchell, daughter of Chauncey R. Mitchell. Late in the Seventeenth Century the family settled in Peekskill, and purchased the farm where the old homestead stands, and which is still the property of Mr. Depew.

As a boy, Mr. Depew went to school in his native village, and at the age of eighteen entered Yale, graduating in 1856.



Chauncey M. Deffen.

Determining on the law as a profession, he went into the office of William Nelson, in Peekskill, and, in 1858, was admitted to the Bar. In 1859 he began practice, but, though he was a good worker, his attention was soon drawn off by the political situation, and he took the stump during the Lincoln campaign and did effective work. In the following year Mr. Depew ran for the Assembly, and succeeded in obtaining an election in a Democratic district by a majority of 259. In 1862 he was re-elected, and during this session was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. In 1863 the Republican Party of New York nominated Mr. Depew for Secretary of State, and throughout six weeks of the campaign which followed he spoke twice a day and was elected by a majority of 30,000. During the beginning of President Johnson's occupancy of the Presidential chair Mr. Depew was offered the position of Minister to Japan, but declined the post after having had the commission in his possession for a month.

Mr. Depew had by this time about decided to go out of politics and, in 1866, the offer of the position of Attorney for the New York and Harlem Railroad Company decided him in this conclusion. In 1869 occurred the important consolidation of the New York Central with the New York and Harlem Railroad, when Mr. Depew was appointed Counsel of the new organization, which was called the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company. Ten years after his entrance into the position as Attorney for a single line, he was holding the office of General Counsel of all roads, while he was a Director in the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, Michigan Central, Chicago and Northwestern, St. Paul and Omaha, West Shore and Nickel Plate.

In the Senatorial contest that followed the resignation of Senators Conkling and Platt, Mr. Depew was a prominent candidate, but finally withdrew in the interests of party harmony and broke one of the most memorable deadlocks in the history of the State.

In 1882 Mr. Depew was made Second Vice-President of the

New York Central road, and continued to hold that position until 1885, when he was raised to the Presidency, thus becoming the executive head of one of the greatest railroad corporations in the world. Mr. Depew held this post until 1898, when, on the consolidation of the roads comprising the Vanderbilt system, he resigned to assume the most responsible post in the new organization.

Before the Convention of the Republican Party at Chicago, in 1888, Mr. Depew was a prominent candidate for the Presidency. On the first ballot he received 99 votes to Harrison's 80, Sherman leading with 229. On the second ballot Harrison had gained 11 votes and Depew held his own. On the third ballot a push was made for Alger, and Mr. Depew dropped 8 votes. It being evident that the nomination was not possible, under the existing conditions, as Mr. Depew concentrated the full strength of his side, he withdrew his name as a candidate, whereupon the larger part of the New York vote went for Harrison, and, an adjournment taking place over Sunday, the latter was nominated on the Monday following. It will thus be seen that in the interest of the party Mr. Depew had practically given up the Senatorship of the State of New York and an excellent chance for the Presidency of the United States.

Mr. Depew has been President of the Union League Club of New York and of the Yale Alumni Association of the city, a member of the New York Chamber of Commerce, a Director of the Union Trust Company of New York, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, and of St. Luke's Hospital, in addition to the many important posts previously recorded.

Mr. Depew was married, on November 9, 1871, to Alice Hegeman.



E. M. Dodge



OF the distinguished men who now make New York their home few have had more conspicuous careers than has Major-General GRENVILLE MELLENDODGE, born in Putnamville, Danvers, Massachusetts, April 12, 1831. His father was Sylvanus Dodge and his mother was Julia T. Phillips. The son's opportunities for early education were limited, but he worked successively on a farm and at gardening, finally becoming a clerk in a general store. During the winter of 1845-1846 he attended Durham Academy, New Hampshire, and in the autumn of the latter year entered Norwich University, Vermont, in the military and scientific course, graduating as a civil engineer in 1850, and the following year from Captain Partridge's Military School at Norwich, in the scientific course. Soon after he located at Peru, Illinois, as a land surveyor, before long entering the Engineer Corps of the Illinois Central Railroad, and later going to the Chicago and Rock Island. While here he made the survey of the Mississippi and Missouri River Railroad from Davenport, Iowa, to Council Bluffs, and was Assistant Engineer during the construction of the road from Davenport to Iowa City. The bill authorizing the construction of the Pacific Railway was largely made on the basis of his surveys. In 1854 he removed to Council Bluffs, Iowa, and engaged in mercantile pursuits, sending the first train through to Denver, and opening one of the earliest mercantile houses in Colorado. In Council Bluffs he founded the banking house of Baldwin & Dodge, later merged into the Pacific National Bank, of which he became President. In 1856 he organized and equipped the Council Bluffs Guards

and was elected Captain. He tendered its services to the Governor of Iowa in April, 1861. The offer was declined, however, as the Governor deemed it unsafe to withdraw troops from the western border of the State. When the Fourth Iowa Infantry was organized the company joined that regiment, and, in the spring of 1861, the Governor appointed Captain Dodge upon his staff, sending him to Washington to secure supplies which the Congressional delegation had been unable to obtain. The War Department, recognizing his ability, offered him a Captaincy in the regular army, but he declined; whereupon the Secretary requested the Governor to make Captain Dodge Colonel of an Iowa regiment. Governor Kirkwood immediately put him in command of the Fourth Iowa Infantry, and in two weeks Colonel Dodge was leading it against the rebels in Northern Missouri. His desperate courage at Pea Ridge won him a promotion to Brigadier-General, and, his distinguished services continuing, Grant, after the fall of Vicksburg, requested that General Dodge be promoted to the rank of Major-General, which was promptly done.

A thorough review of General Dodge's services in the Rebellion, both as a line and engineer officer, would extend far beyond the limits at our command, but he was certainly among the most distinguished officers in the Union Army, and was several times seriously wounded.

In 1865 General Dodge was assigned to the command of the United States forces in Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, Utah, Montana and Dakota, and took command of these troops, fighting in the Indian campaigns, and following the hostile tribes until they were made to sue for peace. Then, at his urgent request, he was relieved of his command and his resignation was accepted. In the bill for placing a certain number of generals of volunteers in the regular army for life, General Grant selected General Dodge as the head of the list of Major-Generals of volunteers to be made Major-Generals in the regular army.

In July, 1866, the Fifth Congressional District of Iowa elected General Dodge to Congress. The honor was reluctantly

accepted, but General Dodge was quickly recognized in the halls of legislation as authority on all matters relating to military subjects.

Few men have been more active in the railway world than has General Dodge, among the railway and construction companies with which he has been connected being the following: The California and Texas Railway Construction Company, Chief Engineer; Union Pacific Railway Company, Director; Texas and Pacific Railway Company, Chief Engineer; Pacific Railway Improvement Company, American Railway Improvement Company, International Railway Improvement Company, Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway Company, President; Texas and Colorado Railroad Construction Company, Oriental Construction Company, President; Fort Worth and Denver City Railway Company, Director and Vice-President; St. Louis, Des Moines and Northern Railway Company, President; Des Moines Union Railway Company, President; Colorado and Texas Railway Construction Company, Iron Steamboat Company, Director; Denver, Texas and Fort Worth Railway Company, President; Des Moines and Northern Railway Company, President; Wichita Valley Railway Company, Director; Union Pacific, Denver and Gulf Railway Company, President; besides being connected with a number of the most prominent industrial corporations in the country.

General Dodge was married May 29, 1854, at Salem, Massachusetts, to Miss Annie Brown, of Peru, Illinois. Of this marriage there are three children.





SILAS B. DUTCHER.

SILAS BELDEN DUTCHER was born in Springfield, Otsego County, New York, July 12, 1829, and traces his progenitors on both sides of the ancestral house to the earliest settlers in the Province. He is the son of Parcefor Carr Dutcher, whose parents were John Dutcher and Silvey Beardsley, the latter descended from William Beardsley, born at Stratford, England, in 1605, and came to this country in 1635, settling in Stratford, Connecticut, in 1639. His paternal great-grandparents were Gabriel Dutcher and Elizabeth Knickerbocker, the latter a granddaughter of Harman Janse Van Wye Knickerbocker, of Dutchess County, New York. Gabriel Dutcher's parents were Ruloff Dutcher and Jannettie Brussy, who came from Holland towards the close of the Seventeenth Century. Silas B. Dutcher's mother was Johanna Low Frink, daughter of Stephen Frink and Ann Low, the parents of the latter of whom were Captain Peter Low, an officer in the Continental Army, and Johanna Vanderveer, a daughter of Ferdinand Vanderveer and Rebecca Ten Eyck, the former a descendant of Cornelius Janse Vanderveer, who came to this country from Alckmaar, Holland, in the ship "Otter," in February, 1659, and settled in Flatbush, Kings County, New York. Rebecca Ten Eyck was a descendant of Conrad Ten Eyck, who came from Amsterdam, Holland, to New York in 1650, and owned what is now Coenties Slip, New York City.

The early boyhood of our subject was spent in the neighboring public schools, with a term's schooling at Cazenovia Seminary. Between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two he taught school during the winter and worked on his father's farm sum-



S. B. Dutcher.

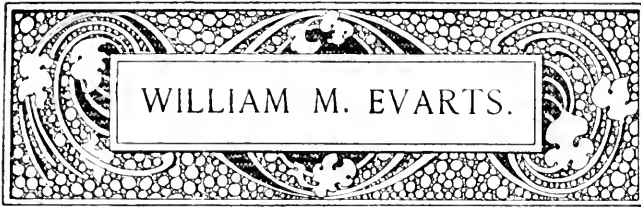
mers. For the four years between 1851 and 1855 he was engaged in the construction and operation of the railroad from Elmira to Niagara Falls, in the latter year coming to New York and engaging in the mercantile business, in which he continued until 1868. In 1859 Mr. Dutcher was made a charter Trustee of the Union Dime Savings Institution, of which he was President from 1886 until 1891, and in which he still holds a Trusteeship. In 1891 Mr. Dutcher was invited to the Presidency of the Hamilton Trust Company, a position which he still holds. For the past twenty years he has been a Director in the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. He is President of the Ramapo Water Company, a Director in the National Shoe and Leather Bank, Manhattan Fire Insurance, Garfield Safe Deposit, Nassau Electric Railway, German-American Real Estate Title Guarantee, and Kings County Electric Light and Power companies, and Treasurer of the Columbia Mutual Building and Loan Association.

Mr. Dutcher has been active in political life for forty years. He was a Whig from 1850 until 1855, but allied himself with the Republican party at its organization. He was Supervisor of the County of New York in 1860 and 1861; was appointed first by Hugh McCullough, Secretary of the Treasury, and afterwards by President Grant, Supervisor of Internal Revenue from 1868 to 1872, in which latter year President Grant made him United States Pension Agent, a post he held until 1876, when he resigned to accept an important position with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. The following year President Grant made him United States Appraiser of the Port of New York, the duties of which he fulfilled until 1880, when he was appointed by Governor A. B. Cornell Superintendent of Public Works for the State of New York, retiring in 1883. Governor Levi P. Morton made him a member of the Charter Commission which framed the charter of Greater New York, and Governor Frank S. Black appointed him a Manager of the Long Island State Hospital. What makes these positions doubly honorable is the fact that Mr. Dutcher had never been an applicant for any of these

offices. In 1858 and 1859 he was President of the Young Men's Republican Committee of New York City, in the following year accepting the Presidency of the Wide-Awake Organization in the City of New York. He removed to Brooklyn in 1861, and was Chairman of the Kings County Republican Committee for four years and of the Republican Executive Committee of the State in 1876, besides holding membership in the Republican State Committee for many years, and being a Delegate to several Republican national conventions and an active orator for the Whig and Republican parties in every Presidential campaign from 1848 until 1888.

From the day on which he became a resident of Brooklyn he was one of the most earnest and persistent advocates of the consolidation of the various boroughs that now form the great City of New York, and it was largely owing to Mr. Dutcher's efforts that this plan was eventually consummated.

Mr. Dutcher is a member of the Reformed (Dutch) Church; has been particularly active in Sunday-school work and for ten years was Superintendent of the Twelfth Street Reformed Church Sunday-school. He is Treasurer of the Brooklyn City Bible Society, and a Manager of the Brooklyn Society for Improving the Condition of the Poor. Mr. Dutcher holds membership in the Hamilton, Aurora Grata and Brooklyn clubs and in the Masonic fraternity, having been President of the Association of Brooklyn Masonic Veterans during the year 1896. He was married to Rebecca J. Alwaise February 10, 1859. Mrs. Dutcher is a descendant of John Alwaise, a French Huguenot, who came to Philadelphia in 1740. Her grandmother was a descendant of John Bishop, who came from England in 1645 and settled at Woodbridge, New Jersey. They have six children, De Witt P., Edith May, Elsie Rebecca, Malcolm B., Jessie Ruth and Eva Olive.



WILLIAM MAXWELL EVARTS, eminent as a lawyer and statesman, is a native of Boston, in which city he was born on the 6th day of February, 1818. His father, Jeremiah Evarts, was a well known philanthropist of Massachusetts, the editor of *The Panoplist*, a religious monthly, and for many years was Secretary of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. The son was educated at Yale, where he soon became noted for his close application to his studies, particularly to the classics, which always had a great fascination for his mind. He graduated from this famous institution in 1837, and in the following year entered Harvard Law School. After a year's study here he came to the City of New York, where he remained for two years as a student in the office of Daniel Lord, after which he was admitted to the Bar.

Shortly afterwards he entered the legal firm of J. Prescott Hall and quickly gained a wide reputation for unusual ability, great industry and much modesty. He was ever earnest and conscientious in the preparation of cases, and was not long in securing a position among the rising men of the Bar. In 1849, when Mr. Hall was made United States Attorney-General, Mr. Evarts acted as his Deputy, and continued to fill this important position till the winter of 1852-1853. In this post he took part in many important trials, gaining a high reputation for his conduct of the case growing out of the "Cleopatra" expedition, a suit concerning a vessel which had been stopped when preparing to sail for an invasion of Cuba. This trial he conducted with much energy and ability; his able management of the Lemmon slave

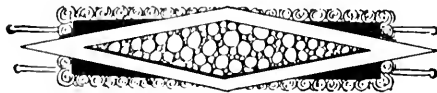
case also eliciting admiration. Mr. Lemmon had landed in New York with some slaves, whom he proposed to take to Texas. Their release was demanded, and Mr. Evarts, as their principal counsel, was successful in gaining for them their freedom.

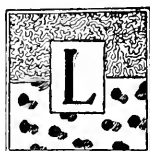
In 1860 he became prominent in the political world by his advocacy of the name of William H. Seward before the Republican National Convention of that year as a candidate for the Presidency of the United States. In 1861 Mr. Evarts entered into a contest in the New York Legislature for the United States Senatorship, Horace Greeley being his opponent. The contest was long continued, and finally ended in the withdrawal of Mr. Evarts, and the election of Ira Harris. In 1862 he conducted before the Supreme Court of the United States, on the side of the government, a case concerning the treatment of captured vessels as maritime prizes.

We have named but a few of the important suits at law in which Mr. Evarts took part. But his greatest opportunity for distinction took place in 1868, on the occasion of the impeachment trial of President Johnson, in which Mr. Evarts was retained as the principal counsel of the defendant in this greatest of American cases. In the conduct of this most important trial in the history of the nation, he displayed the greatest power and sagacity, while his speech in defence of the Executive was a masterpiece of learning, research, satire and eloquence, such as has been rarely equalled in the history of jurisprudence. President Johnson rewarded him for his services in securing his acquittal by appointing him Attorney-General of the United States, which post he filled till the end of the administration.

In 1871 he became concerned in another affair of world-wide import, being appointed by President Grant one of the commissioners at the Geneva arbitration of the "Alabama Claims." His able effort here is part of the history of our country. His presentation of the case for the United States was a masterpiece of clear exposition and apt illustration. In 1874-1875 he acted as senior counsel for Henry Ward Beecher in the famous Beecher-Tilton libel suit. His summing up of the case for the defence

in this trial was remarkable for the endurance he displayed for one of his age. It occupied eight days, at the end of which time he appeared still fresh and vigorous, while most of the others concerned in the case seemed worn out. In 1877 Mr. Evarts was the advocate of the Republican Party before the Electoral Commission whose verdict placed Gen. Rutherford B. Hayes in the Presidential chair. In forming his cabinet the new President selected Mr. Evarts as his Secretary of State. In this high office he exhibited the same marked ability that has ever distinguished his career, raising the standard of the consular service, and originating the very useful series of consular reports which have ever since been maintained by the Department. In 1881 he was sent to Paris as a Delegate to the International Monetary Conference and, in 1885, became a member of the Senate of the United States. Mr. Evarts had a high reputation for his powers as an after-dinner speaker, in which his display of humor and pleasant satire was unusually fine, while as an orator, whether before Bench, jury, or the Senate of the United States, his deep research and mastery of diction gave him always an attentive and appreciative audience. On the expiration of his Senatorial term Mr. Evarts retired to private life, and is now living in retirement, in very feeble health.





AWYER and faithful public servant, there is much in the career of Ashbel P. Fitch to entitle him to rank among the prominent and progressive citizens of the Empire Commonwealth. A native of the State and a descendant of one of the oldest and most distinguished of American families, he has won success in his chosen profession and has been the recipient of many honors at the hands of his fellow townsmen, who long ago learned to appreciate his worth and sterling integrity. In the halls of national legislation and as the guardian of the public funds he has been faithful and efficient, winning high commendation and universal respect.

ASHBEL PARMELEE FITCH was born in Mooers, Clinton County, New York, on the 8th day of October, 1848. Few families in this country can boast of clearer Puritan parentage than can the subject of this review, who is the seventh in line of descent from Rev. James Fitch, a noted minister of the gospel, who left his home in Essex, England, in 1638, and settling in this country, became one of the most noted divines in the colonies. From him is descended a family that has contributed to America many of her most public-spirited and prominent men, among whom few are better known than Ashbel P. Fitch. Edward Fitch, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a distinguished lawyer of New York City, where he practiced his profession with pronounced success.

The son attended the public schools of the metropolis, and there early exhibited those qualities of application and penetration which have won him such distinguished success in political and



Ashbel Pritch

professional life. After a course in these excellent institutions, Ashbel P. Fitch was entered at Williston Seminary, East Hampton, Massachusetts, whence he went to Europe, completing his studies at the universities of Jena and Berlin. His classical and scientific course concluded in these famed institutions, he returned to this country and, following in the footsteps of his distinguished father, began the study of law at Columbia Law School, from which he was graduated in 1869, being admitted to the Bar in the same year.

Until the year 1886 Mr. Fitch devoted himself almost exclusively to the practice of his profession. Having in the meantime taken such an interest in public affairs as became a good citizen, in that year, however, he was tendered and accepted the nomination by the Republican Party as Member of Congress from the Thirteenth New York District. This he did, because the Democratic nominee, Gen. Egbert L. Viele, was an avowed protectionist. Mr. Fitch, although a Republican, had no sympathy with extreme protection and was thoroughly liberal in his views on tariff reform. After a spirited canvass he was elected by a majority of 2,672, notwithstanding the fact that in 1884 his opponent had won his election by a majority of 655. In Congress Mr. Fitch voted for the Mills tariff bill.

In 1888, his course while in the national legislature meeting with the approval of his constituents, he was re-elected by a majority of 9,000, while in the election of 1890 he rolled up the stupendous sum of 16,000 votes more than were recorded for his opponent.

In the autumn of 1893 Mr. Fitch was elected Comptroller of the City of New York and served in this capacity until the 1st day of January, 1898. In the autumn of 1897 Mr. Fitch accepted the nomination of the Republican County Committee for Comptroller, but it was as a gold Democrat and not as a Republican that he was nominated and went before the people.

During his term as Comptroller, Mr. Fitch retained his legal practice, and was able to devote a considerable portion of his time to the cases entrusted to him by his many clients, and since

his return to active practice his business has increased to such an extent that, although he has been out of office but a few months, it has been found necessary to secure new and greatly enlarged quarters in the Mutual Life Building. As attorney, Mr. Fitch takes an exceptionally high rank. His knowledge of the law is profound, and his extended connections with large financial interests makes his advice of great value and much sought. Furthermore, his specialties are such as to give him unusual prominence in the legal fraternity. Mr. Fitch is an admirable speaker, clear, concise and convincing, and during the years in which he has been in New York City, despite the fact that much of his time has been demanded by the prominent public positions which have come to him, he has gathered about him one of the most satisfactory practices enjoyed by any attorney at the Bar.

In social circles Mr. Fitch is as widely known and as highly esteemed as in his profession or in the political world, and his charming traits and genial disposition have gained for him many friends not only in the organizations with which he is connected but throughout the country. He is a member of the St. Nicholas Club, the Metropolitan Club, the Arion and Liederkrantz societies, the New England Society and the Sons of the Revolution. Mr. Fitch is also a Governor of the Manhattan Club, one of the best known social organizations of the city.





Theodore Fitch.



IN NO walk of life does the "survival of the fittest" hold to greater force than in the practice of the profession of law. The ever-watchful public lets not ability go unrecognized; no true workers toil in vain, and the lawyer who guards his clients' interests as his own finds ample compensation in a growing patronage and increasing public esteem. To succeed in this most exacting of professions is to have such abundant abilities that, with their possession, equal fame could doubtless be won in any field of commercial or professional life, and to achieve success as a corporation attorney, especially, denotes the possession not only of the keen analytical instinct of the true lawyer, but of those peculiar qualities of mind that are necessary to activity in commercial circles. The New York Bar has many men whose success proves their ability, whose growing practices are the just rewards of earnest effort; but of those who have won the respectful recognition of Bench and brother barristers, few have been more deserving than Theodore Fitch, the subject of this review.

THEODORE FITCH was born in Franklin, Delaware County, New York, on the 30th day of March, 1844. He is the son of the Rev. Silas Fitch (Wesleyan, 1838) and Mary A. White, both of whom are descendants from early settlers in the colony of Connecticut, the paternal line being of Norwalk ancestry, and the maternal of Stamford. After receiving the fundamental foundation of an education in the minor institutions of his native State, Mr. Fitch was prepared for college at the academies in Poughkeepsie and Middletown, New York, where he early displayed those admirable traits as a student that may really be said to be the secret of his success in later life.

After pursuing a course in the lesser institutions of learning, Mr. Fitch entered Yale College, from which he was graduated in 1864. His father was at that time Principal of Delaware Academy, located at Delhi, Delaware County, New York, and the young graduate began his career as a teacher of Latin, Greek and mathematics in the institution over which his father presided, at the same time studying law with Honorable William Murray, of Delhi, who was then County Judge and subsequently a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

After duly pursuing his studies under this eminent tutor, Mr. Fitch was admitted to the Bar at Binghamton, New York, in May, 1867, and in the autumn of the same year commenced the practice of law on his own account at Yonkers, which city has since remained his residence, although he later opened a law office in New York City, and, since 1883, in partnership with his brother, Silas Hedding Fitch, (Wesleyan, 1877) under the firm name of T. & S. H. Fitch, he has had his office in that city exclusively. His practice begun, his talents early attracted attention to himself, and he quickly acquired high standing at the Westchester Bar, and soon began to enjoy a most successful practice, the special departments of corporation and real estate law occupying the greater part of his attention.

From 1876 until 1883 he was City Attorney of Yonkers, serving three terms, and during that time won every case for the city, with a single exception, and in this he was virtually successful, as he greatly diminished the claim against the city, bringing the verdict down to a very small amount. Among his interesting cases were *The People ex rel. Manhattan Savings Institution vs. Otis, Mayor* (90 New York, 48), in which it was held that the act requiring the city to re-issue bonds to the Bank in place of those stolen was unconstitutional; *Hobbs vs. City of Yonkers*, a suit for back fees which had been relinquished by the plaintiff while a candidate for office as an inducement to his election as City Treasurer; *Theall vs. City of Yonkers*, involving the boundary between the Township of Yonkers and Eastchester; the suit, several times in the Court of Appeals, of Levi P. Rose, to

regain title to Getty Square, Yonkers, on the ground of breach of the condition in the original grant through encroachment of the Radford Building upon the Square; and the litigations for several years by Charles E. Skinner over the Smith Moquette Loom Company, in which, in association with Joseph H. Choate and Francis N. Bangs, he successfully represented the Alex. Smith & Sons Carpet Company and its principal stockholders.

Mr. Fitch deserves all the success he has won, and his prominence is not confined to New York State, extending as it does throughout the neighboring Commonwealths, where he is recognized as a man of thorough zeal in his profession, and one possessing an admirable strength of purpose. Indeed, his reputation is that of the highest character and most sterling worth, traits which have earned for him many encomiums and have brought him success as a lawyer, prominence in citizenship and happiness in home life.

On the 4th of February, 1869, Mr. Fitch married Catherine Hawley Coe, daughter of Rev. Samuel Goodrich Coe (Yale, 1838) and Grace Ingersoll Hawley, likewise of early Connecticut ancestry.





SAMUEL M. GARDENHIRE.



THE subject of this sketch is essentially a lawyer, inheriting from a family which have been lawyers for generations the dominant qualities of his character. It is safe to say that two-thirds of his life have been spent in the court-room, first as a stenographic court reporter, a position from which so many useful men have been graduated to prominence, and then from his early manhood as a practitioner of the law. He is one of those earnest, nervous, energetic men, who, capable of indefatigable labor and infinite patience, make the Bar of New York distinctive among the learned professions. An index to his character is found in a statement he has had repeated occasion to make, to the effect that he is a total abstainer from drink from business principles alone, "Because," said he, "I have discovered that that fact, once known in New York, is by itself a guaranty of success at the Bar."

SAMUEL MAJOR GARDENHIRE was born at Fayette, Missouri, on the 23d day of November, 1855. His father was James B. Gardenhire, a native of Tennessee who settled in Missouri in the forties. He was an original abolitionist, an able lawyer, one of the most eloquent orators in the State, and was nominated by his party for Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court in 1846; was Attorney-General of the State in 1852, and the first Republican nominee for Governor of Missouri. President Lincoln appointed him United States Solicitor of Claims at Washington in 1860, but he soon resigned the position in order to form a co-partnership with Montgomery Blair. He died in 1862. The maiden name of the mother of the subject of this review was Sarah



Mulgardenhire

Major. She was Judge Gardenhire's third wife and the daughter of Samuel C. Major, of Howard County, Missouri, one of the oldest settlers in the State, and a member of a family that was among the most prominent and influential in their section.

The early years of Mr. Gardenhire were spent in Jefferson City, Missouri, in whose excellent educational institutions he laid the foundation for that great fund of general knowledge which he now possesses. Passing from these schools he entered Central College, then the only higher educational institution in the State of Missouri under the control of the Methodist Church. After leaving school, where he had, in connection with his curriculum, made himself an adept at shorthand writing, he went to Tennessee and read law with his uncle, Judge E. L. Gardenhire, of Sparta, in whose office at that time was Hon. Benton McMillan, since so prominent in the National Congress. Mr. Gardenhire remained for two years in Tennessee, and after a course at the Lebanon Law School, engaged in the business of court reporting. He was subsequently admitted to practice law in Tennessee, but went to St. Louis, where he completed a course at the St. Louis Law School, and then entered the office of Senator John B. Henderson, where he remained at the profession of the law for a period of five years. In 1880 Mr. Gardenhire's health began to fail as a result of his arduous labors and he was advised to locate at Denver, Colorado. He left St. Louis with that end in view, but, attracted by the dry climate of Kansas, and the beauty of the Capital City, settled at Topeka, in that State, where he formed a co-partnership with Hon. A. B. Jetmore, then, as now, one of the ablest lawyers and foremost public men in the Central Mississippi Valley.

Like his eminent father, Mr. Gardenhire has always been an earnest and active Republican, and from the day of his settling in Kansas he defended the interests of that party in every campaign until his departure from the State and his coming to New York, where he settled in 1895. In 1890 he was elected Clerk of the Circuit and District Courts, at Topeka, and later served the State Capital District in the Legislature.

Early in his professional career as a lawyer Mr. Gardenhire began to vary the severe labors of his profession with work of a literary character. From his childhood he has been an insatiate reader, and under a nom-de-plume published his first novel, "The Hebrew Talisman," in 1875, since which time, as a labor of love, and as a matter of recreation in the hours of leisure, he has published a novel about every two years, besides contributing extensively to the leading magazines and other publications of the country.

Two years after coming to New York, Mr. Gardenhire associated himself in the practice of his profession with Judge Samuel W. Vandivert, one of the ablest lawyers of the West, and the firm of Gardenhire & Vandivert has already established a substantial position among the corporation lawyers of the city.





Friedrich Fuchs



FREDERICK S. GIBBS.



MERCANTILE, political and legislative life have each claimed a portion of the attention of Frederick S. Gibbs, of whose conspicuous career this sketch is written. As Manager of a great corporation, as the representative of his party in its councils, and as a capable member of the State legislative body, he has fulfilled the duties that have fallen to him with fidelity and honor, and won the esteem of the people in city, State and nation; and, with judgment based upon the past, it is but reasonable to expect that the future will bring to him renewed and even higher honors.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR GIBBS was born in Seneca Falls, New York, March 22, 1845. He is the son of Lucius S. and Jane Wilson Gibbs. His father's family is of English descent, and for a hundred years was one of the most prominent in Connecticut. Spencer Gibbs, the great-grandfather, was a sergeant in the Continental Army. Another branch of the family has long been prominent in South Carolina. Jane Wilson Gibbs is a native of Ogdensburg, New York, and, although of Canadian parentage, traces her ancestry through a long line of the most energetic people of Scotland.

Until he was thirteen the boyhood of Mr. Gibbs was spent in the public schools of Seneca Falls. Leaving school, he was office boy of Cowing & Company, manufacturers of pumps, and remained with them until 1862, when he entered the army in Company A of the One Hundred and Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, serving until the cessation of hostilities, and being mustered out at Elmira, June 30, 1865. Although he entered the

army as a private, he rose from the ranks to Corporal in September, 1862; Sergeant in 1863; Sergeant-Major in 1864; Second Lieutenant in 1865, and was brevetted First Lieutenant "for gallant and meritorious services." During the battle of Cold Harbor, on June 3, 1864, Mr. Gibbs received a severe gunshot wound in the face, and, while with the Army of the Potomac, before Petersburg, on April 2, 1865, he was again wounded, this time in the leg by a piece of shell. Notwithstanding, he remained with his regiment and witnessed the surrender of Lee.

The war over, Mr. Gibbs re-entered the employ of Cowing & Company as a shipping clerk, remaining with them until May, 1869, when he came to New York City, as manager of their branch warehouse. He remained in charge of their extensive business here until January 1, 1875, when he accepted the post of manager for New York City of the Goulds Manufacturing Company, pump makers, also of Seneca Falls, and remained at the head of their business until the formation of the Metropolitan Water Company, of which he has since been Managing Director, with offices at No. 1 Madison Avenue.

But it is in the world of political life that Mr. Gibbs has most won the esteem of the people. Since 1882 he has been a Delegate to every New York State and New York County Convention of the Republican Party, as well as to the first City Convention of Greater New York. Since 1883 he has been a member of the Republican County Committee from his Assembly District, and is now (1898) a member of the Committee on Organization of the Republican County Committee. He was a Delegate to the National Republican conventions of 1888, 1892 and 1896, and now represents New York in the Republican National Committee.

The Eighth New York District, in 1883, elected Mr. Gibbs to the State Senate, and during the sessions of 1884 and 1885 he took a prominent place in formulating the legislation of the cities, and as a member of the Committee on Grievances. In 1884 the Republican Party nominated him as its candidate for Mayor of New York City, but in the "three-cornered" contest

he, along with Hugh J. Grant, was defeated for Mayor by William R. Grace. In 1889 and again in 1890 Mr. Gibbs represented the Thirteenth Assembly District of New York in the State Assembly, and, on account of his able services along similar lines while in the State Senate, was made Chairman of the Committee on Public Health and a member of the committees on General Laws and Affairs of Cities.

Many of the most important measures now on the statute books of the State owe their introduction and passage to the efforts of Mr. Gibbs, the following being especially worthy of note: The law enacted in 1884 providing for regulating of the payment of pensions to members of the Police and Fire departments of New York City; the law making the offices of Comptroller of New York City and President of the Board of Aldermen elective; the measure providing for the creation of the original Commission to inquire respecting the practicability of the creation of "Greater" New York; and the measure providing for the investigation of the departments of the City Government of New York by members of the Senate. Of the Committee of Investigation created under the measure last mentioned Mr. Gibbs was Chairman, as he was also of a committee created to investigate the Department of Public Works; and from the findings of these committees he prepared, introduced and secured the passage of the numerous remedial bills to abolish abuses and supply deficiencies in connection with the several departments of the Government of the City of New York.





HERMAN HAUPT was born in Philadelphia on March 26, 1817, and was appointed cadet at West Point by President Jackson in 1831, graduating in 1835, in the class with General Meade, and being commissioned Second Lieutenant, United States Army. He resigned, in the fall of 1835, to accept a position in the corps of H. R. Campbell, in Philadelphia, as Assistant Engineer. He was appointed Principal Assistant Engineer in the service of Pennsylvania, in 1836, and located the Gettysburg Railroad across South Mountain.

In 1838 he married Anna Cecelia, daughter of Rev. Benjamin Keller, and they have had eleven children, eight of whom, six sons and two daughters, survive. One of the sons, Prof. Lewis M. Haupt, has acquired an international reputation and was appointed one of the three United States Commissioners on the Nicaragua Canal. Two sons are in the ministry.

The subject of this sketch was Principal Assistant Engineer on the York and Wrightsville Railroad in 1840, at which time he commenced investigations on the strength of timber and the magnitude and distribution of strains in bridges and other trusses. These investigations were continued for several years and resulted in the publication, in 1852, of "The General Theory of Bridge Construction," a work which at once revolutionized the art, elicited high commendation from Robert Stevenson and his associates in England, was universally adopted as a text book in engineering technical schools and furnished the means of calculating strain sheets of bridges which had never before been attempted, and without which the great structures of modern times would have



Sturges

been impossible. He was Professor of Civil Engineering and Mathematics, from 1842 to 1847, in Pennsylvania College, and was Principal Assistant Engineer on the Pennsylvania Railroad and Assistant to John Edgar Thomson, from 1847 to 1849. In 1849 Mr. Haupt was notified by J. Edgar Thomson that he had been selected for the post of Superintendent and instructed to visit the principal railroads of New York and New England, examine all matters connected with their operation and prepare a plan for the business organization of the Pennsylvania road. The plan reported was adopted without change and Mr. Haupt was appointed Superintendent of Transportation on September 1, 1849, when the road was opened to Lewistown. He was made General Superintendent January 8, 1851, resigning, in 1852, to accept an appointment of Chief Engineer of the Southern Railway of Mississippi, but was unanimously appointed Chief Engineer of the Pennsylvania Railroad April 30, 1853, and completed the Allegheny Tunnel and the Mountain Division. November 23, 1855, H. Haupt, John H. Bringham and George M. Howell were elected by the City Councils of Philadelphia, Directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company to represent the interests of the City in the Board, and thus, at the same time, Mr. Haupt held the office of Chief Engineer as well as Director.

In this connection the *American Railroad Journal* of December 1, 1855, said, "The selection of the above-named gentlemen has given great satisfaction and is a piece of good management so far as practical business qualities and the highest engineering talent and skill are concerned. Mr. Haupt's reputation as a civil engineer and bridge builder is as extensive as the existence of the railroads themselves. His works on these subjects are not only regarded as first-class authority in this country but have been translated into several European languages."

In 1856 Mr. Haupt withdrew from the Pennsylvania Railroad and commenced the construction of the Hoosac Tunnel, in Massachusetts. The work was prosecuted with great energy and success until 1862, when it was assumed, through the persistent efforts of Governor Andrew, as a State work, an unfortunate change of

policy that cost the State many millions of dollars. It had been conclusively demonstrated to the satisfaction of investigating committees that the resources of Messrs. H. Haupt & Company were sufficient, with the aid of the original loan of credit by the State, to complete the Hoosac Tunnel and the Troy and Greenfield Railroad, of which it formed a part. By assuming the tunnel as a State work the time of completion was delayed from six to eight years and the cost increased, through mismanagement, many millions of dollars.

In the spring of 1862 Mr. Haupt was summoned to Washington by the Secretary of War and placed in charge of a Bureau of the War Department as Chief of Construction and Operation of the Military Railroads of the United States, with the authority to take possession of any road required and to make requisition upon any company for cars and engines; also to organize an independent corps for construction and operation. This corps consisted of several hundred negroes selected from refugees in Washington, with fifty to seventy-five bridge and track foremen and a large number of work oxen which were humorously called "Haupt's Horned Cavalry." This corps became a marvel of efficiency. The published accounts of its work were regarded as incredible in Europe and at a meeting of the British Association, in 1867, at which General Haupt was present by invitation, he was asked whether the published statements in regard to the construction of the military bridges were correct, and if so to explain how such phenomenal results had been accomplished. The explanation elicited a vote of thanks, invitations to accept the hospitality of distinguished members and a banquet tendered by the Royal Engineers. This corps accompanied Sherman in his march to the sea and under the supervision of E. C. Smeed built a railroad bridge across the Chattahoochie in Georgia, 700 feet long, 100 feet high in the middle, in four and a half days, taking the timber from the stumps. The world never before, nor since, witnessed such a feat, and without the aid of the construction corps there can be no doubt that Sherman's march would have been a failure instead of a success. Its work, as Colonel Lazelle, in

charge of the "War Records" remarks, was of inestimable value to the country but was never either recognized or appreciated.

The first of these military railroad bridges was built on the line of the Fredericksburg Railroad in the spring of 1862 by details of unskilled common soldiers and was regarded by General McDowell as a most remarkable performance. President Lincoln and his Cabinet passed over it the next morning after its completion and on his return to Washington at a meeting of the War Committee was reported to have said, "Gentlemen, I have witnessed the most remarkable structure that human eyes ever rested upon. That man Haupt has built a bridge across Potomac Creek in nine days with common soldiers, and upon my soul, gentlemen, there is nothing in it but bean poles and corn stalks."

On assuming charge of the Bureau, Mr. Haupt received a commission as Colonel and Aid-de-Camp to General McDowell. His position was independent of the General's in command in the field and his reports were made directly to the Secretary of War and to General Halleck. He had written authority which secured admittance to the presence of the Secretary of War at any hour, day or night.

In 1862 a work, "Haupt on Military Bridges," was published by D. Van Nostrand & Company. September 5, 1862, Colonel Haupt was commissioned Brigadier-General for meritorious services in the operations against the enemy during the second battle of Manassas.

In June, 1863, when Lee's army had moved north of the Potomac, General Haupt was authorized by a special order of the War Department to do "whatever he might deem expedient" to aid the armies in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. He repaired to Harrisburg, and notified General Meade that Lee was concentrating his columns in the direction of Gettysburg, evidently with a view to fall upon his army corps before they could be placed in position for defence. General Meade was thus apprised of his danger and hastened his forces to a defensible position. General Haupt then proceeded to open communication with Gettysburg and forward supplies, keeping the army so well supplied that Chief

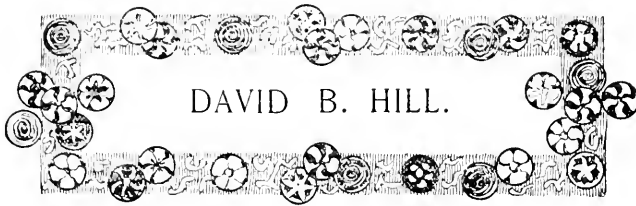
Quartermaster-General Ingalls declared that during the whole of the battle they never had less than three or four days' supplies in advance.

Space will not permit further reference to General Haupt's most distinguished military services, but after the war he filled a number of very honorable and responsible professional positions; amongst others, those of Chief Engineer of the Shenandoah Valley Railroad, General Manager of the Richmond and Danville system and Chief Engineer of the Seaboard Pipe Line. He suggested and prepared a plan for the organization of the Southern Railway and steamship associates, which was adopted in convention at Macon, and Mr. Haupt was proposed as the first commissioner, but declined. In 1881 General Haupt was appointed General Manager of the Northern Pacific Railroad; in 1884 President of the Dakota and Great Southern Railroad Company and, since 1892, has devoted his time to the development and introduction of compressed air motors for city and suburban service. He has demonstrated their superiority in efficiency and economy over any other system and greatly increases the length of run with a single charge of air. General Haupt is the only surviving honorary member of the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia. His permanent residence is in Washington, D. C.





1881



AN earnest and intelligent leader in the council halls of the State; Mayor of Elmira; Lieutenant-Governor; thrice Governor; United States Senator, and prominent candidate for the Presidency of the nation, the career of David B. Hill is one of the most remarkable in the political annals of the Empire State. With only average advantages for scholastic training while a youth, he nevertheless made the most of every opportunity and has invariably proven himself thoroughly fitted to cope with any situation in which he has been placed. Enemies he undoubtedly has, but few will be found who longer decry his ability, and although he has now been for several years in comparative retirement, his past career and his activity as a statesman and political manager would seem to warrant the assertion that his retirement is but a temporary one, and that the near future will find him again in the lead of his party's forces.

DAVID BENNETT HILL was born in Havana, Chemung (now Schuyler) County, New York, on the 29th day of August, 1843. After taking a course in the public schools of his native village, he attended the excellent academy at Havana, where his scholastic education was completed. Leaving school, however, at a comparatively early age, and his inclinations leading him into the profession of law, he entered the office of an attorney in his native place. He made rapid progress, but perceiving enlarged opportunities in Elmira, he went thither in 1863, and again applied himself assiduously to the study of law, grasping its principles so readily that in the following year he was admitted to the Bar.

Then, as ever, taking a deep interest in politics, he entered into his party's strife with a vigor that won for him, in the same year, the position of City Attorney. Since 1868 he has many times been a Delegate to Democratic State conventions, and was President of those held in 1877 and 1881. He was also one of the representatives of the State of New York to the Democratic National conventions of 1876 and 1884, and that both of these conventions nominated Governors of this State for the Presidency was largely due to Mr. Hill's able leadership.

In 1870 and 1871 Mr. Hill was chosen to represent his county in the Legislature of the State; and, in 1882, Elmira elected him to the position of Mayor. His administration of the city government was a brilliant one, being signalized by several very important reforms which not only gave him additional strength in the section in which he lived, but extended his reputation throughout the length and breadth of the Commonwealth.

By September, 1882, Mr. Hill had attained such prominence that he was nominated for Lieutenant-Governor on the Democratic State ticket, and at the polls, in the following November, he was elected. Two years later, when Grover Cleveland resigned the Governorship to be nominated President of the United States, Mr. Hill succeeded to the Executive chair for the unexpired term. His administration of the State's affairs meeting with the satisfaction of the Democracy, he was nominated for the Governorship the next year and, in 1885, was elected Governor for the full term of three years, this election being a recognition by the party leaders, and indeed by the rank and file of the Democratic Party throughout New York and the nation of his claims as an earnest political worker and competent administrator of the governmental affairs of the State. His administration was so successful that, in 1888, having been again nominated to lead his party's ticket, he was elected in the face of the defeat of Grover Cleveland, who headed the national ticket of the Democracy.

In the spring of 1891 he was elected United States Senator, being the first of his party for ten years to represent the State of New York in the Senate of the nation. Political exigencies,

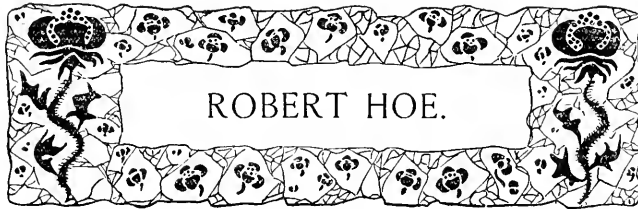
however, led to his continuing in the office of Governor until the expiration of his term, when he was duly sworn in as a Senator of the United States.

During the campaign preceding the election of 1890, Mr. Hill went to Ohio, speaking with great success in the closely contested districts, and there is very little doubt that Mr. Hill's influence in this canvass, into which the Republican as well as the Democratic Party threw some of its best speakers and political workers, was largely instrumental in bringing about the success of John G. Warwick, who defeated William McKinley for re-election to the national House of Representatives.

While United States Senator Mr. Hill was again nominated for Governor of New York, and although defeat was certain in the face of the overwhelming tidal wave that was sweeping over the State, he refused to abandon his party in the hour of impending defeat, and made a brave though unsuccessful canvass. At the expiration of his term as Senator he retired to private life. For a number of years Senator Hill was proprietor of the *Elmira Gazette*, the leading Democratic organ in the southern tier, but he severed his connections with it some time previous to his election to the Mayoralty.

Frugal and temperate, and not using liquor or tobacco in any form, Mr. Hill still possesses a strong nervous and vital constitution, and though averse to the functions of fashionable society, his manners are most democratic and cordial.





ROBERT HOE, mechanical engineer and head of the well known firm of printing press manufacturers of New York and London, was born in the city of New York on the 10th day of March, 1839. His father (Robert Hoe), whom he succeeded in business, was born in New York in 1815 and died at his country residence at Tarrytown, in the summer of 1884. Associated with the latter was Richard M. Hoe, they having succeeded to the business of their father, Robert Hoe, an Englishman, who came to New York in 1802, from the hamlet of Hoes, near Nottingham, Leicestershire, England. The name of "Hoe" is the Saxon for "hill," being the equivalent of the French "haut." The origin of the family is, therefore, Anglo-Saxon. On his mother's side Mr. Hoe is of the oldest Puritan stock.

Robert Hoe, the elder, established himself in New York as a manufacturer of printing presses as early as 1820, and was among the first if not the very first manufacturer of iron printing presses in America, only wooden plates and screw presses having previously been universally used. Among his earliest productions was a patented hand press. He also made the first successful single and double cylinder presses, printing from type on flat beds. In a single leap the productive power of presses was thereby advanced from four to five thousand to twenty thousand impressions per hour, and the Hoe machines were quickly introduced into the leading newspaper offices of the world. After his death, which occurred in 1833, his business was continued by his sons, Richard and Robert, above referred to, who in 1846-47

brought out the then world-renowned printing press known as the "Lightning" or type-revolving machine, for which patents were taken out by Richard M. Hoe. These presses were used not only in America but in Great Britain.

In 1863, Robert Hoe, the present head of the firm, entered the business as a partner. From that time to the present his labors in connection with it have been unremitting. During the past ten years, at the head of a large establishment, doubled in size and importance since the death of his father and uncle, and including in its personnel a great variety of talent, the firm has produced some of the most remarkable and original pieces of mechanism of the century. This new development in the presses has caused an equal development in the business, and what were previously thought very extensive works have been greatly increased. The number of employes in ordinarily busy times is about two thousand five hundred engineers and mechanics in the New York and London works, which are filled with the most modern tools and mechanical devices capable of producing the extremely accurate work required in printing machinery. The New York works of the firm occupy the space between Grand, Sheriff, Columbia and Broome streets, embracing a floor space equivalent to eight acres. The branch works in London occupy a block of ground, and are equally well equipped. Every kind of printing press is made in this establishment, from the well known Washington hand press, cylinder presses of all kinds and power lithographic presses, to the large "Sextuple," "Quadruple" and "Double Supplement" machines, now used in all the principal printing and newspaper offices in America, Great Britain and Australia. Anyone inspecting the vast printing room of the New York *Herald*, on Broadway, or the pressrooms of the *Press*, the *World*, the *Journal* and other great dailies of the cities of the country, will see in the presses which are nightly at work, throwing off printed sheets by the million, examples of the elaborate and superb mechanisms which owe their existence to the intelligent enterprise and industry of the past few years.

Mr. Hoe has associated with him as partners Theodore H.

Mead and Charles W. Carpenter. The present head of the firm has always resided in New York, where he takes an active interest in all matters relating to the progress of literature and art. He is not only a man of ability, but of cultivation, and was one of the founders of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and of its connected industrial art schools, and labored assiduously in their behalf for many years. In his city residence he is the possessor of what is considered the finest private library in New York, if not in America, and which contains numbers of costly treasures, accumulated during what might properly be styled an industrious leisure. His collection of mediæval, oriental and other illuminated manuscripts in vellum is unrivalled in this country, and his library abounds in fine examples of the typographical art.


Mr. Hoe was also one of the founders and the first President of the Grolier Club, an institution having literary and artistic aims, and a member of the Union League, Century, Engineers', Players' and other exclusive clubs.





John W. Cannon



 AMERICA has no sturdier stock than those of the sons of the Emerald Isle who have left their native land and sought homes across the seas, under the banner of freedom. In every walk of life, from the humble mechanics who form the bone and sinew of the Republic to those occupying the highest executive and administrative offices within the gift of the people, representatives of the Irish race may be found and found faithful and true to the trusts committed to them, whether their duties be great or small. Indeed, it would be only justice to say that throughout the length and breadth of our country no race of people has contributed more to the moral and material advancement of the nation than have these men and their descendants. The Bench, the Bar, the legislative halls, the counting room and the battlefield each have contributed many men of Irish birth to the national roll of honor, and that New York has been the home of a very great percentage of those whose integrity and industry have brought them fame and fortune, will be revealed by a review of her representative men. In the municipal government of the Empire City of the Empire State this is especially noticeable, for the Land of the Shamrock has many, many sons standing guard over the interests of the public, and it may be truly asserted that among the most justly esteemed of those who are occupied in the administration of the affairs of this great municipality is City Chamberlain of New York, Patrick Keenan, a man whose valuable services in minor posts have brought to him the important position he now so capably fills.

PATRICK KEENAN, for ten years Alderman of New York City,

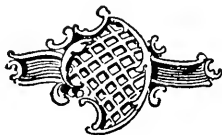
County Clerk, leader in the Democratic organization and present City Chamberlain, was born in the County Tyrone, Ireland, in the year 1837. The days of his early boyhood were spent in his native land, in whose most excellent educational institutions he acquired the rudiments of the elementary branches. When he was fourteen years old, however, he was brought to America and completed his studies in the public schools of the city which he has since served with such distinction. It has been truly said of Mr. Keenan that had he remained in Ireland, with his eminent qualities of heart and mind, he would undoubtedly have been a prominent citizen; that he has prospered in the land of his adoption is without question. His entrance into the busy life of the work-a-day world was as an apprentice to a plumber into whose service he entered immediately upon leaving school. His fidelity and steadfastness was amply foreshadowed by his remaining with his first master until 1863. Then, inspired by a most laudable ambition, he entered the business world on his own account and for eighteen years prospered and met with such deserved success that, in 1881, he was able to retire on a most comfortable competence.

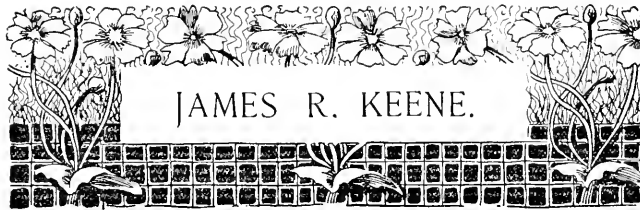
So much for his business life; but, although he long held a position honored in the mercantile world, it is rather as a political leader and faithful public servant that he has distinguished himself. Mr. Keenan has always been an ardent and enthusiastic Democrat and one who could invariably be found in the fiercest of the fight in a political campaign, but he has steadfastly maintained his independence and individuality of character, and his genial manners and affable temperament have gained for him so many earnest and sincere friends that he has rapidly risen to a position of leader in political life, for when the subject of this review was quite young he threw himself heart and soul into its turmoil and soon became a moving spirit in all the fights and difficulties of his time. He became a member of the County Democracy in 1880, and continued one of its most active spirits, but, with other prominent reformers, in the latter year he returned to the hospitable shelter of the Wigwam of Tammany

Hall and soon became a leading adviser and Sachem of that organization, and has been leader of the Sixteenth District ever since.

His first official position came to him, in 1872, as a fitting recognition of his strong personal character. He was in that year elected to the Board of Assistant Aldermen, and continued to be a member of that body until it was abolished, two years later. Subsequently, he was elected to the Board of Aldermen and served with distinction and ability for the six years which ended in 1882, when he attained a still higher office by his election to the post of County Clerk. He fulfilled the duties of that important office until 1885. To Mr. Keenan, also, came the honor, on the consolidation of the districts grouped about Manhattan into the one city of Greater New York, of being its first City Chamberlain, which post he will doubtless fill with all the distinction which has characterized his conduct in every office he has previously held.

Charitable in the extreme, Mr. Keenan's influence is largely used in securing places for less fortunate people, and his many deeds of kindness doubtless have much to do with his present popularity and success.





BORN with the talents that go to make up a successful speculator, James R. Keene is one of those who have followed out the unerring dictates of nature, and throwing aside every alluring inducement to enter other fields of effort, he has spent his life in the hazardous atmosphere of the stock exchange. Now concentrating his attention on food products, now turning to railroads or to mining shares, he has had one of the most active and exciting careers on the street, and while, of course, meeting with occasional reverses, has been so eminently successful that since he left his Western home by his bold and daring operations he has greatly added to his already extensive fortune.

JAMES ROBERT KEENE was born in England in 1839. He was the son of a London merchant, and at an early age was placed under a tutor and studied in Lincolnshire until prepared to enter a large private school. He remained here three years, and then went to Dublin to prepare for a higher course under an old master of Trinity. At this juncture, through injudicious ventures, Mr. Keene's father met with a serious impairment of his fortune. He then took his family to California, and, in 1852, settled in the northern part of that State.

Although but fourteen years of age, the son had acquired an unusual English education, besides a fair training in French and Latin, and had already displayed all the energy which has since contributed so greatly to his success. His first employment was at Fort Reading as one of the guards of the animals at the post, on the then frontier and in the Indian country. After three months he had earned enough to buy a miner's outfit, and joined



James R. Kane

the throng of adventurous men who were prospecting every canyon, gulch and stream in search of gold. For several years he spent his time in mining, freighting, stock raising and milling with indifferent success, studying law, and even editing a newspaper for two years. Finding this unprofitable also, he went to Nevada a year or two after the discovery of gold and silver there, and secured some mining property. Reselling this advantageously, he returned to California and plunged into speculation in mining stocks in San Francisco, within a few months making a considerable fortune. He then married Sara, daughter of Col. Leroy Daingerfield and a member of one of most aristocratic families of Virginia, she at that time residing in California with her brother, William P. Daingerfield, a United States District Judge.

In the crash following the first excitement after the discovery of the Comstock lode, Mr. Keene lost all that he had made and found himself nearly penniless, in a strange city, with few acquaintances and friends. But he had a spirit which nothing could daunt. Through much hardship for a year or more he struggled, refusing every offer of employment, feeling confident that his only chance of recovering his lost fortune lay in speculation, for which he felt he had a natural talent.

He secured some business as a broker and finally entered into a business arrangement with Senator C. N. Felton, then a member of the Stock Exchange and one of the largest operators on the Pacific slope. Mr. Felton gave Mr. Keene the bulk of his business for some time, and upon the Senator's being appointed Assistant United States Treasurer in San Francisco, he sold Mr. Keene his seat in the Stock Exchange. Once in the Board, Mr. Keene rose rapidly to great influence in the organization, made much money and was soon elected to its Presidency. By purchasing the stocks of the California and Consolidated Virginia mines, he made in this and other stocks of which he held large quantities, a fortune of several millions. When the Bank of California failed, Mr. Keene was one of the four contributors who gave a million dollars in cash to the guarantee fund which was necessary to secure the depositors of the Bank against loss,

and enabled the institution to resume business. Through his influence the Stock Exchange contributed \$500,000, while many of the leading brokers followed Mr. Keene's lead in contributing nearly as much more.

His health impaired by the strain, Mr. Keene listened to the advice of his physicians and started for Europe on a long rest. He arrived in New York in the spring of 1877, en route for the Old World, and found the stock market here demoralized and prices as low as they had been in the panic of 1873. Here was an opportunity not to be lost, and he deferred his trip abroad and with the large capital at his command bought nearly all of the leading stocks, displayed all of his old energy and advanced the market, selling out in the autumn of 1879 with a profit of nearly ten millions of dollars. And not till then did he obtain the rest in Europe which he had so well earned. On his return he perceived the many advantages which the East had to offer over the Pacific slope and settled in New York City, where he has since taken part in many of the most daring operations which have startled financiers.

Of late, Mr. Keene, while still active in the financial world, has taken an especial interest in fine horses and his blooded stable has won many successes on the English and American turf. His home is at Cedarhurst, Long Island, and he is the Steward and Vice-President of the Jockey Club and a member of the Rockaway Hunt Club. His children are Foxhall Parker Keene, who married Miss Lawrence, of Bay Side, Long Island, and Jessie Harwar, wife of Talbot J. Taylor, of an old Maryland family, and now a successful broker in New York.





Alexander P. Ketchum



DESCENDED from one of the oldest and most prominent families in the State, the career of Alexander P. Ketchum furnishes a fitting accompaniment to the deeds of his illustrious line of ancestors and gives him a deserved place among the progressive citizens of New York. As a faithful public servant and as a practitioner of his profession in the courts of this and neighboring States, there is much in the story of his life that is worthy of emulation.

ALEXANDER PHOENIX KETCHUM was born in New Haven, Connecticut, May 11, 1839. His father, Edgar Ketchum, was born in New York City in 1811, and died here in 1882. The parents of Alexander were on a visit to New Haven, where he was born, and returned to New York within a few months thereafter. His grandparents on his father's side, John Jauncey Ketchum and Susanna Jauncey, were distantly related, and through both he is descended from the Jauncey family, which traces its lineage in America back to Guleyn Vigne, whose daughter, Rachel, married Cornelius Van Tienhoven, at one time Secretary of the New Netherlands, and one of the largest contributors to the defences of New Amsterdam in the list of 1655. The line runs backward as follows: Edgar Ketchum, senior, son of John Jauncey Ketchum and Susanna Jauncey, daughter of Joseph Jauncey, son of John Jauncey and Sarah Van Tienhoven, daughter of Cornelius Van Tienhoven, son of Lucas, who was the son of the original Cornelius Van Tienhoven.

Elizabeth Phoenix, mother of Alexander P., was the daughter of Rev. Alexander Phoenix and Patty Ingraham, and the grand-

daughter of Daniel Phoenix, first Treasurer of the City of New York after the organization of the United States under the Constitution of 1789, he holding that honorable position for nearly a quarter of a century thereafter. Daniel Phoenix was also one of the most prominent of the early New York merchants, and, in 1789, was Chairman of the delegation of merchants that received Washington in New York on the occasion of the latter's inauguration, while upon him devolved the honor of delivering the address of welcome to the illustrious first President, upon his entry into the city on November 26, 1783. He was a descendant of Jacob Phoenix, who with his wife, Anna Van Vleck, is found in Domine Selwyn's list of the Dutch Church in 1686.

The subject of this sketch received his early education here, and graduated, in 1858, from the College of the City of New York. In this institution he won medals in natural history, drawing and mathematics, a prize for oratory in his senior year, and was chosen to deliver an honorary oration on the graduation of his class. He then served in the college for a short period as tutor in drawing and mathematics. In 1861 the degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by his Alma Mater. His college societies were the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity, the Prenocosmian Society and the Phi Beta Kappa. After finishing his course he studied at the Albany Law School, graduating in 1860 with the degree of Bachelor of Laws.

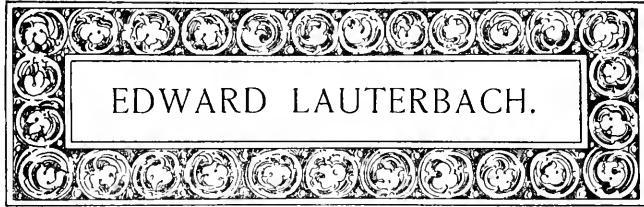
Soon after this the war broke out, and Colonel Ketchum, volunteering his services, was assigned to the military department of the South as a member of the staff of Gen. Rufus Saxton, Military Governor of South Carolina. In this capacity he took part in the regulation of civil and military affairs along the Southern coast until 1865, when he was transferred from General Saxton's staff to the staff of Major-General O. O. Howard, under whom he served as Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, first at Charleston, and afterwards at Washington. He resigned from the army in 1867, and two years later was appointed by President Grant Assessor, and a little later Collector of Internal Revenue for the Ninth District of New York. In 1874 he was made

General Appraiser of the Port of New York in the Customs service. In 1883 President Arthur appointed him Chief Appraiser of the Port at New York City, which position he held until April, 1885, when a Democratic administration assumed control.


Since that time Colonel Ketchum has practiced his profession of the law, and while engaging in general practice, has given special attention to the charge of estates and conveyancing, successfully conducting important suits in the United States Courts in which customs revenue were involved. Colonel Ketchum has lived in New York city since 1839. He was largely instrumental in the organization of the Mount Morris Bank, and was the first President of that institution. He is also active in Young Men's Christian Association work and various benevolent, religious and educational enterprises. During 1890 and 1891 he was President of the Presbyterian Union of New York City, and was four years President of the Alumni Association of the City College and is now President of the City College Club.

He is also a member of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion; the State Bar Association of New York; the Numismatic, Archaeological, and New England societies; the Phi Beta Kappa Society; the Republican Club of the City of New York; the Republican, Central and Lenox Republican clubs of Harlem; the Alpha Delta Phi Club, the New York, Atlantic and Riverside Yacht clubs, and a member of the School Board for the Boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx.





EDWARD LAUTERBACH.

N such a crowded centre of population as the city of New York, the lawyer whose energetic efforts have won for him success in a profession whose membership embraces some of the most talented men in the nation has amply evidenced his right to be regarded as one of the Empire State's most representative citizens. Not alone those whose birthplace is within the Commonwealth have had to be met before Bench and jury, but the master minds of his profession from every quarter of the United States have sought the great business centre of the hemisphere as affording them the fullest scope for their abilities and ambitions. Few pleaders in the courts of New York, however, have more justly acquired their extensive practices than has Edward Lauterbach, the outlines of whose successful career are given in this sketch.

EDWARD LAUTERBACH was born in the City of New York on the 12th day of August, 1844, and the years of his youth were spent principally in the city of his birth. Here he attended preparatory schools and fitted himself to receive the inestimable benefits of a collegiate education. After a thorough course, during which he applied himself to his studies with commendable zeal, he was graduated from the College of the City of New York with honors, in 1864, and at once commenced the study of the law in the offices of Townsend, Dyett & Morrison. After a time he was made a member of the firm which was, on his advent, re-organized as Morrison, Lauterbach & Spingarn. Upon the death of Mr. Spingarn the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Lauterbach becoming a member of the present firm of Hoadley,



Edward Luedersbach.

Lauterbach & Johnson, one of the best known in the country. He early applied himself with indefatigable industry to his profession, and soon acquired a recognized standing at the Bar as a successful corporation lawyer, for it was of the statutes relating to corporate bodies that he made an especial study. He has been engaged in many important litigations, and has been especially successful in settling cases involving large interests outside of court.

As a railroad organizer, too, Mr. Lauterbach has fairly won a wide reputation. He was concerned in the re-organization of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, brought about the consolidation of the Union and Brooklyn Elevated roads, thereby transforming two conflicting interests into a single, powerful and prosperous property and induced the merging of interests which created the Consolidated Telegraph and Electrical Subway. As attorney of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, he obtained a recognition of the largest subsidies from the United States government. Mr. Lauterbach also secured the incorporation of the East River Bridge Company, whose charter empowers them to erect two bridges between the cities of New York and Brooklyn, both structures to start from the same point in New York and to separate so as to reach two different points in Brooklyn, with a crosstown elevated road from the New York terminus to the Hudson River.

Mr. Lauterbach has been instrumental in the introduction of a number of important legislative bills, many of which were enacted into laws. One of these was a law for uniformly regulating surface cars throughout the State of New York, thus putting on a par all the cities of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Lauterbach was one of the three Delegates-at-Large representing the City of New York in the Constitutional Convention, in June, 1894, and was Chairman of the Committee of Public Charities. Outside of his profession he is especially interested in the cause of education. He has also devoted much time and attention to the philanthropic institutions of the city and is a generous contributor to every form of charity, and has done

much to further the interests of some of the best known benevolent institutions.

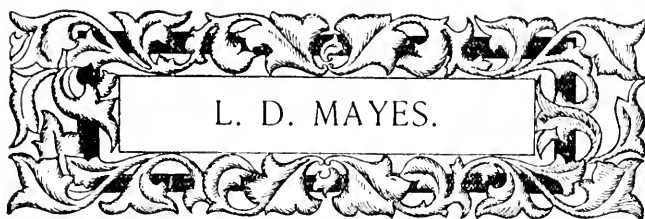
He was for a number of years the Chairman of the Republican County Committee of New York, and was more than ordinarily active in that capacity, and succeeded in bringing the organization into the most perfect condition that it had then ever attained. Mr. Lauterbach is also a member of the Advisory Committee of the Republican State Committee, his associates being Thomas C. Platt, Chauncey M. Depew, Frank S. Witherbee and Frank Hiscock. He represented the State of New York as Delegate-at-Large to the National Republican Convention which was held in the City of St. Louis, in June, 1896, and was the State of New York's member of the Committee on Resolutions and a member of the sub-committee of five which drafted the platform, being especially interested in the adoption of the financial plank which formed the issue presented to the people at the last national election.

Mr. Lauterbach is a member of several clubs and is now Director and Counsel of the Third Avenue Surface Railroad Company, the Brooklyn Elevated Railroad Company, the Consolidated Telegraph and Electrical Subway Company and various other of the most important corporations in the Empire State, the Subway Company being organized and the legislation authorizing the exercise of its functions secured by the subject of this sketch. It resulted in the removal of poles and wires from the principal streets in New York City, and their burial under ground, a work which of itself would entitle Mr. Lauterbach to rank among the foremost citizens of the Commonwealth.





Ed. House



EMPIRE STATE though she is, New York owes not a little of her high position as a centre of wealth and learning to the fact that men of energy and ability have had the foresight to perceive enlarged opportunities here and, leaving sister Commonwealths, have made their homes and sought their fortunes within her borders. Indeed, it is fair to say that the State's and particularly New York City's high place in every sphere of human thought and action is as much owing to the efforts of her adopted sons as to those born upon her soil. In the legal profession, especially, it is noticeable that the South has contributed many men who have won eminence in her courts, not only as orators, but because of their deep and intimate acquaintance with the principles of common and statutory law. Of these, not the least deserving is the subject of this review who, although he is a comparatively recent addition to the city's Southern colony, has won pronounced success at the Bar.

L. D. MAYES was born on the 12th day of September, 1847, at Courtland, Lawrence County, Alabama. His father was Patrick H. Mayes, who was born on the 7th day of August, 1822, at Courtland, Alabama, and who moved to Arkansas in 1859. While a resident of the latter State the elder Mayes was elected a delegate to the State Convention of 1861, which was called together to decide whether or not the State of Arkansas would secede from the Union. Mr. Mayes was a Baptist Minister, and because of his adherence to the Union, both in and out of the convention, came very near being hanged by the secessionists. Had it not been for the fact that he was a slave owner, this

probably would have been his fate; or possibly it was his fearlessness which saved him, for he informed his enemies as to his whereabouts and sent them word, "I will kill as many of you as you will of me, and possibly more." In the fall of 1861 he removed to Southern Texas and died in Tarrant County, on the 21st day of July, 1879, honored and respected by the entire community. Both of his grandfathers were in the Revolutionary Army and had most praiseworthy military records.

The mother of L. D. Mayes, our subject, was Mary Jane Thompson, who was born near Knoxville, Tennessee, on the 31st day of October, 1824, and married to Patrick H. Mayes in 1845. Both of her grandfathers, too, were in the Revolutionary Army, and her grandmother was in the fort at Knoxville for two years during the struggle for independence. Since men were scarce at the fort, she took her turn with the other women in standing guard, and one night while on guard an Indian was crawling to the fort to set it on fire, when she killed him. During the war she killed two others. At the battle of New Orleans one of her sons, a crack shot, and a comrade, were called up by General Jackson and told that if General Packingham was killed that "he wanted to see him." When they both fired at him Packingham fell, and two soldiers picked him up. They killed both of these with the butts of their rifles, and carried the General and laid him at Jackson's feet, shot through with one ball. Her son always claimed that he did it.

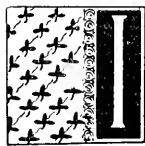
Like so many of the generation which was coming to manhood during the years in which the civil strife was raging between the States, the subject of this review never received the advantages of early education he would otherwise have had, but his mother instructed him at home and gave him such facilities for the acquisition of knowledge as were then and there possible, but in all he had gone to a private school but twenty-two months when the institution was closed by the outbreak of the war. Mr. Mayes then went into the store with his father and served for nearly a year as a clerk. At this juncture his parents moved to Texas, and the son to battle as a volunteer in the Confederate

Army. When the internecine struggle had ceased his father, like so many of his unhappy neighbors, was nearly ruined, his slaves free, his stock gone and but a few hundred acres of land remaining, and this, indeed, was threatened with confiscation because of an elective office which he had held in Arkansas. The health of the elder Mayes being poor and his land thus threatened, he sold his property for what it would bring and moved to North Texas, where the entire care of the family soon devolved upon the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Mayes has been in contact with the busy world since early boyhood, when he learned the trade of carpenter. Ambitious to occupy a higher station in life, however, than was open to a mechanic and farmer, he determined to study law, and he first took a business course at Eastman's College, Poughkeepsie, New York, graduating with some honor in May, 1880. One year before his mother's death he was admitted to the Bar, and promptly began the active practice of his profession at Fort Worth in January, 1885, still running his farm. Seeking a wider field, in December, 1893, he was admitted to the Bar in Brooklyn, New York. His first office was opened in Poughkeepsie, but seeing that city did not offer him the opportunities that he could find in the metropolis, he came afterwards to New York City and has succeeded in building up a very satisfactory practice, and one that holds out high promise for the future.

Mr. Mayes is a member of several Democratic organizations, and was connected with the Baptist Church for more than twenty years. He was made a Master Mason in 1876.

He was married on the 29th day of December, 1886, to Miss Minnie H. Morgan, of Poughkeepsie, whose father was one of the most prominent men of the community and at one time Mayor of the city, also serving a term in the New York State Senate. They have no children.



ISAAC NEWTON MILLER, the subject of this sketch, although residing in the State of New Jersey, where he also has a large legal following, is best known as an active member of New York's Bar, and as one of the most successful practitioners

before the courts of the Empire State. In his practice, covering not only New York and New Jersey, but several neighboring States as well and even reaching across the broad Atlantic, he has acquired a reputation as widespread as it was fairly achieved, and by the exercise of his stern sense of justice and honor and sturdy independence of character, qualities which especially characterize him, he has won a place in his profession of which he has every right and reason to be proud.

ISAAC NEWTON MILLER was born in the town of Augusta, Oneida County, New York, on the 22d day of October, 1851. He is the son of Isaac C. Miller and Elizabeth Wood, the former of whom was the son of Isaac Miller, who came to Oneida County from Southern Connecticut when the territory around what is now the town of Kirkland was little more than a wilderness. He bought large tracts of land in the neighborhood from the Indians, and was the first white settler in Kirkland. The Miller family is descended from old Puritan stock, and was one of the most prominent in Connecticut in the early Colonial days, contributing to the country some of its most eminent men. Isaac N. Miller, the subject of this biography, is a cousin of William Henry Harrison Miller, law partner of ex-President Benjamin Harrison, and Attorney-General in his Cabinet. The Wood family, too, has a long line of most honorable ancestry, leading back to



Wm. H. [unclear]

the earliest days of the New England settlements. Mr. Miller's great-grandmother on the maternal side of the ancestral house was a sister of Nathaniel Greene.

The subject of this review received his early education in the district schools in Oneida County, passing from thence to the Seminary at Whitestown, New York, where he pursued his studies for some time, afterwards taking a course in the High School at Clinton, New York, where he prepared himself for college. He completed the course and was graduated from Hamilton College in 1873, and from Hamilton College Law School in the following year, having, during the latter part of his classical course, begun the study of statutory and common law. Although he was admitted to the Bar of Oneida County in June, 1874, and was legally qualified for the practice of his profession, he was too ambitious to be satisfied with his attainments, and, coming to New York City, he began a post-graduate course in the Columbia College Law School, and at once established himself in practice in the metropolis of the nation.

Thoroughly self-reliant and confident of his own attainments and abilities, Mr. Miller never formed a law partnership, although all the cases of the late Henry Brewster were conducted by him during the last few years of that aged lawyer's life. By strict devotion to the interests of his own clients, too, Mr. Miller has gathered about him an extensive practice, principally in litigated cases, until to-day, in the number and importance of the cases entrusted to him in the New York Supreme Court, he ranks among the most active lawyers in this most important department of practice in the City of New York. In the case of *Clare vs. the Providence and Stonington Steamship Company*, he was the only lawyer who recovered damages for the loss of life in the famous Narragansett disaster of June 11, 1880, in which about forty lives were lost. He had for opposing attorneys in this case the firm of Miller, Peckham & Dixon, and the litigation was extended during a period of about eight years. Another important case, *Ledyard vs. Bull*, in which the administrators of Asa Worthington, formerly United States Minister to Peru,

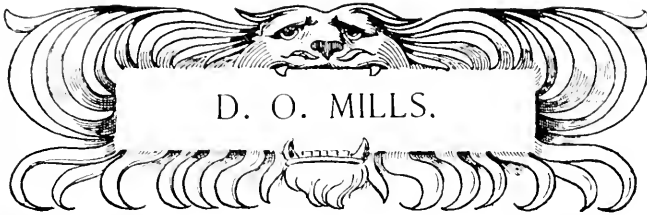
brought suit for an accounting by H. W. Worthington, involved several unique points of law which Mr. Miller's thorough grasp of the intricacies of his profession enabled him to conduct to a successful issue. He has also had charge of a number of important cases in the English Court of Appeals, growing out of will contests and involving very extensive interests. In one case of this kind, Healy *vs.* Beekman, he recovered especially heavily for his client. He has been in England many times in the conduct of these causes, one of the most important suits of which, Barker *vs.* Beevor, involving \$2,000,000, was carried to the British Court of Appeals.

Mr. Miller is a Republican in politics, but with that self-abnegation that craves no reward beyond that given by a satisfied conscience, he has steadfastly refused to become a candidate for any office, preferring to devote the whole of his time and attention to his growing legal practice in New York City. He makes his residence in the State of New Jersey, where he also enjoys a practice scarcely second to that which he has acquired in the Empire State. Indeed, the demands of his New Jersey clients are so extensive that he is compelled to have branch offices in Jersey City. Mr. Miller's country place is located at Lakeview, near Paterson, New Jersey, and is one of the handsomest homes in that locality, being especially notable for its possession of one of the largest private conservatories in the State, for Mr. Miller spends many of his spare moments among his fruits and flowers and is recognized as one of the most successful amateur floriculturists in our sister Commonwealth.





L. O. Mills



NEW YORK has few men whose high-minded and noble-hearted philanthropy has been productive of more good to the community than has the discriminating charity of the subject of this review. Believing in the kind of assistance that really assists, he has contributed largely to institutions whose object is to help men to help themselves. A native of the Commonwealth, he returned to it after acquiring fame on the Pacific Slope, to find the State of his birth proud to once more number him among her most prominent and progressive men.

DARIUS OGDEN MILLS was born in North Salem, Westchester County, New York, September 5, 1825. His father died when he was sixteen years of age, and later investments having proved unfortunate, the lad was left without resources. He soon found a clerkship in New York, and at the age of twenty-two became cashier and one-third owner in a small bank in Buffalo. Two years later he was one of the earliest victims of the gold fever, sailing for California in December, 1848. He soon began business in Sacramento, and the gold bank of D. O. Mills & Co., then established, is still flourishing and still under his control and the oldest bank of unbroken credit in the State. He was immediately and conspicuously successful. The luck of D. O. Mills became a proverb, but it was attended with a reputation for judgment, rapid decision, boldness and absolute integrity. He became largely interested in mines on the Great Comstock Lode, secured control of the Virginia & Truckee Railroad leading to it and of the immense forests about Lake Tahoe which supplied it, acquiring a large share in the chief quicksilver mines, and bought ex-

tensive ranches and other property, but dealt in everything on the principle of a banker and boldly but rarely in a speculative way.

In 1864 Mr. Mills founded the Bank of California in San Francisco, heading the list for the capital and assuming the Presidency. It became one of the best known banks in the country, with the highest credit in the financial sections both in Europe and Asia. Desiring finally to retire from business Mr. Mills resigned the Presidency in 1873, leaving the bank with a capital of \$5,000,000, large surplus, profitable business, first-rate organization and unlimited credit. Two years later he was called back to find it with liabilities of \$13,500,000 above its capital and surplus, with only \$100,000 in its vaults and with many doubtful assets. His old cashier, Wm. C. Ralston, had been President in the meantime. He had loaned Ralston the capital on which he later began business in San Francisco and had trusted him. Mr. Mills had resigned his Directorship in the bank when retiring from its management and finally had sold his stock, but Ralston, against his wishes, had continued to have him elected a Director, buying enough of Mr. Mills' stock to qualify for a Directorship, and keeping it in Mr. Mills' name without his knowledge. Mr. Mills returned from Europe shortly before the crash, and was first appealed to by William Sharon to save Ralston's personal credit. He at once responded, loaning Mr. Ralston \$400,000 that day and \$350,000 more within a week. It subsequently appeared that this money was used to take up fraudulent over-issues of the bank's stock. A few days later the bank failed, creating an excitement that convulsed the Pacific coast. Mr. Ralston committed suicide, and Mr. Mills was recalled to the Presidency. He headed the new subscription with \$1,000,000, raised nearly \$7,000,000 more and opened the doors of the bank one month and five days after they had been closed. He insisted on holding the Presidency now without pay and resigned peremptorily within three years, as soon as he felt that the bank was firmly established. Afterwards he uniformly refused the care of any business but his own. He gradually transferred heavy investments to the East, erected the then largest office building in New York, and finally

returned to reside near his birthplace. He had been Regent of the University of California, and when he resigned this place he gave an endowment of \$75,000 to found the Mills professorship in moral and intellectual philosophy. About the same time he presented to the city the marble group "Columbus before Queen Isabella" by Larkin G. Meade, which now stands in the centre of the State House rotunda at Sacramento. In New York Mr. Mills presented to the city a building on the Bellevue Hospital grounds costing \$100,000 for the training of male nurses. He has been an active Trustee of the Lick Estate and Lick Observatory in California, of the Metropolitan Museum, the Museum of Natural History and also of the American Geographical Society.

Mr. Mills married, September 5, 1854, Jane T., daughter of James Cunningham, of New York. He has two children, a daughter and a son. The former married Whitelaw Reid, editor of the New York *Tribune*.

Mr. Mills is President and Director of the Virginia & Truckee Railroad, Director of the Bank of New York, Carson and Colorado Railway, Cataract Construction Company, City and Suburban Homes Company, Duluth and Iron Range Railroad, Edison Electric Illuminating Company, Erie Railroad Company, Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad Company, Madison Square Garden Company, Mergenthaler Linotype Company, Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company, Minnesota Iron Company, Niagara Development Company, Niagara Junction Railway Company, and Trustee of the Metropolitan Trust Company and United States Trust Company.





HE who can conquer the difficulties that lie in the path of a political aspirant who is identified with the minority party in the City of New York is, indeed, a most remarkable man and one who possesses, besides keen perceptive faculties and more than ordinary abilities, a strong personality and a magnetism that gathers around him devoted followers. Throughout the nation the fame of the Tammany Society in New York is a synonym for keenness and solidity, and he who successfully defies that ancient organization has the courage of a Spartan and the skill of a Napoleon. That John Murray Mitchell, who is now, for the second term, representing New York's Eighth Congressional District in Congress, is abundantly possessed of the qualities necessary to successful leadership is amply proven by his selection for the post he occupies, while his course in the national legislature and the place he now holds in its deliberations are evidence that to these qualities are added the instinct of the true statesman.

JOHN MURRAY MITCHELL is the son of the late William Mitchell, at one time Chief Justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court in the County of New York, and later a Justice of the State Court of Appeals. His mother's name was Berrien and her family, of old Huguenot origin, settled in New Town, Long Island, in 1653, the name then being written de Bérien. Congressman Mitchell's grandfather, Edward Mitchell, came from Colerain, near the Giant's Causeway, Ireland, in 1785, and settled in New York. He was then about twenty-one years of age and had received a broad education for those days, his father being a



John Murray Mitchell

publisher and especially interested in church matters, which resulted in his becoming a preacher in what has become known as the Universalist faith, of which he and John Murray were practically the originators. After his death the church established a fund for the perpetuation of his ideas, and to be used in publishing his sermons.

John Murray Mitchell was born, March 18, 1858, in Ninth Street, New York City, and the period of his early boyhood was spent chiefly in that city, in whose educational institutions he was prepared for admission to Columbia College, from which he was graduated, in 1877, as the valedictorian of his class, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, later receiving the degree of Master of Arts. He then decided to study for the legal profession and, accordingly, entered the Columbia Law School, from which he was graduated, in 1879, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. After an extended tour abroad, during which he studied French, German and Italian and International Law, he served as a clerk, for two years, in his father's office, there gaining much experience that later stood him in good stead.

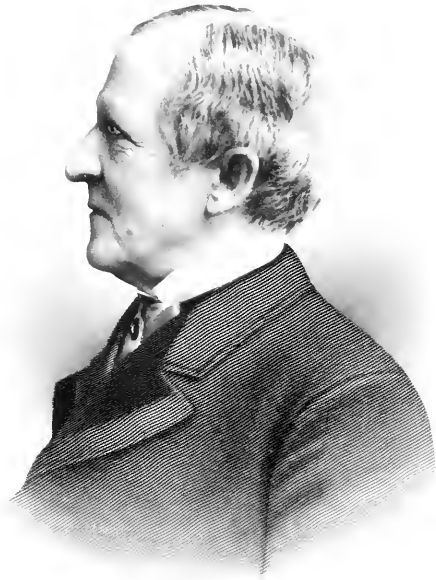
In 1882 he started in practice on his own account and in 1889 formed a partnership with his brothers, Edward and William. In May, 1894, he associated himself in the practice of the law with John R. and Benjamin F. dos Passos, the well-known lawyers and authors of several standard law books—the firm name being Dos Passos Brothers & Mitchell. In one case before the United States Supreme Court, Mr. Mitchell appeared as counsel for the Judges of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Twenty-four of the most prominent law firms in New York City had asked for a *madamus* compelling this Circuit Court of Appeals to reverse their decision as contrary to law, but the Supreme Court unanimously decided in Mr. Mitchell's favor.

Mr. Mitchell has long been identified with the Republican Party in the Empire State and speedily rose to prominence in its councils, which culminated, in 1894, in his nomination, by acclamation, to represent his district in the Congress of the United

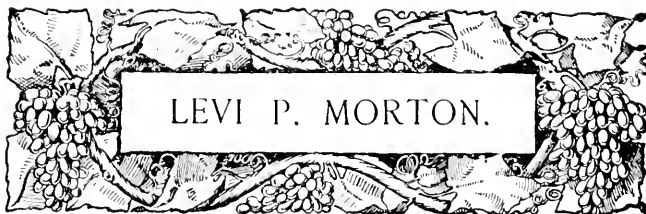
States. He accepted the arduous undertaking of leading his party and made a furious campaign, giving notice of prosecution if fraud was attempted at the election. When the polls closed his opponent had an apparent majority of 367, but the Republican candidate immediately decided to contest the seat. He employed detectives at his own expense, and made such a splendid exposure of the trickery that had encompassed his apparent defeat that, on June 2, 1896, the House of Representatives decided, by a vote of 162 to 39, to give him the place, even the Democratic members of the Committee throwing out one-third of the majority against him.

His conduct in the legislative halls so won the approval of his constituents that a few months later he was re-nominated by acclamation and waged another famous campaign in his district. The odds against which he battled were almost overwhelming, but he received a majority of 1,269, being the only "gold" candidate elected in the city south of Twenty-third Street. During his service in Congress he has several times spoken on measures which affected the interests of his constituency and the country at large, and has succeeded in carrying through a number of bills. The committees he serves on in Congress are three, viz: Banking and Currency, Patents, and Election of President, Vice-President and Representatives in Congress. He is one of the special committee of three appointed to draw the bill which this committee recently completed entitled "An act for strengthening the public credit for the relief of the United States Treasury and for the amendment of the laws relating to national banking associations." This bill has received the highest commendation from numerous Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce all over the country and from the Monetary Commission.

Mr. Mitchell married the daughter of Dr. John F. Talmage, the celebrated homeopathist. He is the owner and captain of the yacht "Bedouin," has had experience in building several electric railways and is a member of an unusually large number of clubs and scientific, charitable and political societies.



Genl P. Morton



NEW YORK, teeming though it is with men of national and international fame, has few citizens whose names will be longer or more gratefully remembered than will that of the subject of this biography. Inheriting from his Puritan ancestors all their firmness of character and staunchness of integrity, he has been honored by the people of his State and by the nation with a frequency that could have had its source only in an honest appreciation of his many admirable qualities of heart and mind. Elected to represent his State in the halls of the national legislature, his course was so thoroughly to the satisfaction of his constituents that he was returned by a largely increased majority. Mr. Morton has ably represented his country at the capital of France; as Vice-President of the United States has presided over the deliberations of the Senate, while as Governor of the Empire State, he has given the people one of the best administrations in New York's history.

LEVI PARSONS MORTON was born at Shoreham, Vermont, on the 16th day of May, 1824. One of his ancestors was George Morton, of York, England, who was the financial agent of the "Mayflower" Puritans in England and came over in the ship "Ann" (arriving at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1623) and settled at Middleboro, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, where many of his descendants have resided until the present time. John, the son of George, was the first delegate to represent Middleboro in the General Court at Plymouth, in 1670, and he was again chosen in 1672. Levi Parsons Morton is the son of Rev. Daniel Oliver Morton and Lucretia Parsons Morton. His mother was a

descendant of Cornet Joseph Parsons, the father of the first child born at Northampton, Massachusetts, (May 2, 1655), his title of cornet indicating his position in a cavalry troop (the third officer in rank) and bearer of the colors.

Levi received a public school and academic education; entered a country store at Enfield, Massachusetts, at fifteen years of age, commenced mercantile business at Hanover, New Hampshire in 1843, removing to Boston in 1850 and to New York in 1854, and was extensively engaged in mercantile business in both cities until 1863, when he entered upon his career as a banker in New York City, under the name of L. P. Morton & Company. Soon after this time a foreign branch was established under the firm name of L. P. Morton, Burns & Company. In 1869 the firm was dissolved and re-organized under the names of Morton, Bliss & Company, New York, and Morton, Rose & Company, London, George Bliss entering the New York firm and Sir John Rose, then Finance Minister of Canada, going over to London to join the English house. The London firm of Morton, Rose & Company was appointed finance agents of the United States government in 1873, and Mr. Morton was later appointed by the President honorary commissioner to the Paris Exposition.

Mr. Morton was elected to Congress as a Republican from the Eleventh District of New York (which had been Democratic previously) receiving 14,078 votes against 7,060 votes for B. A. Willis. His course was so satisfactory to his constituents that he was re-elected to the Forty-seventh Congress in 1880 by an increased vote over James W. Gerard, Jr.

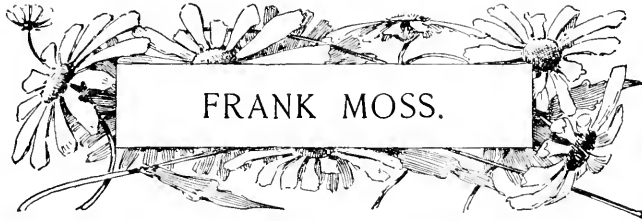
In March, 1881, he was nominated as Minister to France by President Garfield, and resigned his seat in the Forty-seventh Congress to accept the appointment. He presented his credentials as Minister to France to President Grévy on the 1st day of August, 1881, and resigned his post after the inauguration of President Cleveland, in 1885, returning to New York in July of the same year. During his residence in France he secured from the French Government the official decree which was established on the 27th day of November, 1883, revoking the

prohibition of American pork products, but the prohibitory decree was subsequently renewed by the legislature. He secured also the recognition of American corporations in France; drove the first rivet in the Bartholdi Statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World," and accepted the completed statue for his government on July 4, 1884.

The Republican Party nominated him for the Vice-Presidency at their convention, held in Chicago, in 1888, he receiving 591 votes against 234 votes for the other candidates. He was elected in November of the same year and inaugurated as Vice-President on the 4th day of March, 1889. Mr. Morton proved a model presiding officer, filling the position with a dignity and fairness that won the praise of all, without regard to party distinctions, even at a time when party politics were most earnestly discussed.

Soon after returning to his New York home, Mr. Morton was called upon to lead the Republican Party as its candidate for Governor of the State. His opponent was Senator and ex-Governor David B. Hill, the then leader of New York's Democracy, but when the ballots had been cast and counted, it was found that the subject of this review had defeated his hitherto unconquered opponent by an overwhelming majority and the State government passed under the control of the Republicans. As the Executive of the State, Mr. Morton's administration ably vindicated the judgment of the people who had placed him in this most important post, and that it met with the approval of the masses is evidenced in the fact that Frank S. Black, his successor, was also a Republican.





FRANK MOSS, lawyer, was born at Cold Spring, Putnam County, New York, on the 16th day of March, 1860. His father was John R. Moss, a professor of music in Manchester, England, who came to America in 1850 and achieved considerable prominence in Newburgh and New York City. He was a Lieutenant in the Ninth New York Volunteers (Hawkins' Zouaves) during the Civil War, was captured by the Confederates, incarcerated in Libby Prison, paroled and exchanged. His wife was Eliza Wood, of Cold Spring, daughter of Joshua Wood, a veteran of the War of 1812.

The subject of this sketch came to New York City with his parents at the age of six years, and was educated in the public schools and the College of the City of New York. He read law in the office of Joseph Fettretch, a well known lawyer, and was admitted to the Bar in 1881. Two years later he established an independent practice, and has ever since been actively engaged both in the civil and criminal practice, and has taken a high position as a trial lawyer.

Mr. Moss has spent a large part of his time and energy in public matters, and though he has modestly refrained from pushing himself into public notice, it is well known that no man has done more meritorious work in raising the standard of the public service in New York City.

In 1885, while unknown and un influential, in the course of his duty to several clients who were property owners in West Twenty-Seventh Street, then a famous stronghold of vice, he prosecuted Captain Williams before the Board of Police, and so began the



John S. ...

work that resulted ten years later in the overthrow of the old regime in the Police Department. This able and fearless prosecution attracted the attention of Dr. Howard Crosby, then President of the Society for the Prevention of Crime, who immediately tendered him the post of counsel to the Society, which he accepted, two years later becoming a Director and thus relinquishing all compensation for his work.

After the death of Dr. Crosby, Mr. Moss became a leading spirit in that Society, and he and his fellow members of the executive committee planned and directed the movements which revealed the condition of some of our city departments, and led to the investigation by the Lexow Committee, and the overthrow of the entire Tammany administration in 1894. He was one of the counsel to the Lexow Committee, and his knowledge, experience, tenacity and ability contributed very largely to the success of the investigation.

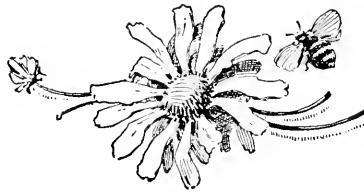
Upon the retirement of Theodore Roosevelt from the Presidency of the Police Department, Mayor Strong surprised Mr. Moss by asking him to take the vacant position. It was a difficult and trying post at that time, because of the strife and hatred that existed in the Board, and the continuance of conditions that seemed to preclude harmonious action. The new appointee rose to the situation. He became the President of the Board, with firmness and dignity repressed the public exhibitions of dissension, carried forward the work of re-organization and turned over to the incoming administration a completed and re-organized police force, with a new Chief, and new Inspectors, Captains and Sergeants in the positions that had remained unfilled for two years before he became a member of the Board.

Mr. Moss is a Republican, but outside of his work for good government has not been conspicuous in politics. He is a forcible and captivating public speaker, and is in constant demand as such. He is connected with many organizations and has a host of warm friends. He is connected with the Society for the Prevention of Crime, the City Vigilance League, Republican Club, Harlem Republican Club, Twilight Club, Bar Association, Law

Institute, Medico-Legal Society, Bible Society and various societies of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is Superintendent of the large Sunday-school of the Trinity M. E. Church. He is Professor of Medical Jurisprudence in the New York College and Hospital for Women, and, in 1896, was honored with the degree of Doctor of Laws, which was tendered to him by Taylor University, of Indiana.

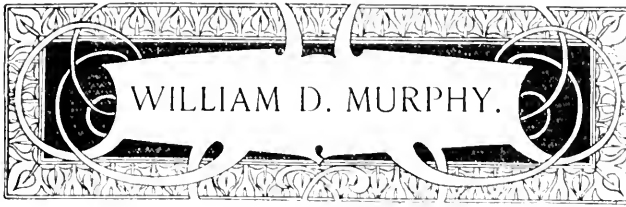
His first literary work is "The American Metropolis from Knickerbocker Days to the Present Time," in three volumes, which has lately appeared, and has been received by the press and the public with many evidences of appreciation.

In 1883 he was married to Eva E., daughter of Eli F. Bruce, of New York City. They have two children, Birdie J., and Arthur B.





James D. Murphy



HOPEFUL signs for the future greatness of the Republic are not wanting when the young men of high position and sterling integrity—men who crave no reward beyond that bestowed by a satisfied conscience—are taking so active a part not alone in social and business life but in the political and economic worlds. Partisan preferment is not needed to put such men in prominence, political positions are not necessary to keep them in the public eye; their shouldering of the people's burdens, quiet and unostentatious though it be, wins them the unsought applause of those they serve. Such a citizen is William D. Murphy, who, although a comparatively young man, besides taking a particularly active part in politics and in social life, has won an enviable reputation as a financier and as an independent operator in Wall Street.

WILLIAM DENNISTOUN MURPHY was born on the 4th day of January, 1859, in the City of New York. He is the son of William D. Murphy and Ann Letitia, daughter of Joseph Goodliff, of Utica, New York. Mr. Murphy is the great-grandson of John Murphy, a native of the North of Ireland, who came to America as a Sergeant in the British Army, in 1761, and saw service in Canada during the French and Indian War. In 1767 he was honorably discharged from the service and, in the same year, became a resident of New York City, where his descendants have since resided. Mr. Murphy's oldest line of American ancestry is traced through the family of his father's mother, Lydia Cornish, who was the daughter of Benjamin Cornish, of Trains Meadows, Long Island, and a direct descendant of Thomas Cornish, one of the

earliest English settlers in the New Netherlands, where he became one of the founders of Newtown, Long Island, in 1650. The father of the subject of this biography was a Republican from the days of Fremont, a staunch abolitionist and well known patriotic speaker during the Civil War period.

Mr. Murphy was educated in New York City at the Anthon Grammar School and at Dolbear's Commercial College, and after leaving these institutions, for a number of years, he devoted himself to recreation in travel and the study of art and literature. He is an enthusiastic amateur photographer and has taken his camera with him over 30,000 miles' travel in the United States and Europe, securing a varied collection of scenic wonders of the world. He has given much time and energy to building up the photographic fraternity in the city, and was President of the New York Camera Club, and was instrumental in consolidating this organization with the Society of Amateur Photographers under the title of the Camera Club of New York, of which organization he was twice elected President. Under his guidance the club has greatly increased its membership and has established a fine new club-house.

Mr. Murphy has, by invitation, delivered many lectures on art subjects before prominent clubs and social organizations in New York and Brooklyn.

He became interested in Republican politics early in the eighties, at the time of the anti-machine movement in the Twenty-first Assembly District, when the young men overthrew the organization and established the reform conditions which have since prevailed. He has been identified with the Republican organization in various capacities, occupying the position of First Vice-President at the time of the re-organization under the Committee of Thirty, but has invariably refused to accept political nominations or appointments. He was one of the organizers of the Federal Club, in 1887, and an active worker, having served as Chairman of its Board of Governors, Vice-President, and Chairman of its Committee on Consolidation when, in 1891, the club united with the Republican Club of the City of New York, in

which latter organization, too, he has taken great interest and has served on many of its most important committees, and as Secretary, Treasurer and Chairman of the committee having in charge its annual Lincoln dinners. Besides the positions previously enumerated, Mr. Murphy was, in 1892 and 1893, First Vice-President of the Enrolled Republicans of the Twenty-First Assembly District, a member of the Republican County Committee in 1888, 1889 and 1891, is on the First Panel of the Sheriff's Jury, and has been a Delegate to many county and State conventions.

Since leaving school Mr. Murphy has not been engaged in active business, but has devoted his time to real estate matters and Wall Street interests, in which latter field he is well known as a successful operator. He was one of the original members of the Real Estate Exchange and Auction Rooms, Limited, which was organized in 1884, and has served upon its committees on Legislation, Taxation and Assessment.

Mr. Murphy is a life member of the St. Nicholas Society of the City of New York, a member of the Republican Club of the City of New York, President of the Camera Club, of New York, a member of the Baptist Social Union of New York, of which he is now (1898) President, the New York Historical Society and of the American Institute of Civics.

On the 17th day of January, 1881, in Philadelphia, he was married to Miss Rosalie Hart, daughter of James H. Hart. They have one son, William Deacon Murphy. In both the political and social worlds Mr. Murphy is widely known as a general organizer and committee man, and has been peculiarly successful in arranging banquets. He is not only an able after-dinner speaker but is also a most pleasing raconteur, whose humorous and dialect stories have done much to make successful many a dinner.





IT is not often that as young a man as is William M. K. Olcott attains such prominence, municipally and nationally, as he has done. Still less frequent is it that so young a man so carries himself that after a most bitter struggle of parties against parties and factions against factions he retains the same position in the eyes of his fellow citizens that he occupied before the fight. As Alderman at a time when the Board of Alderman was not a popular body; as District Attorney at a time when the District Attorney's office needed and received a most thorough cleaning out; as a prominent possibility for the nomination as the Republican candidate for Mayor when the Republican Party was in a most trying position, he was before the public most conspicuously. Fortunately for him, he had the ability to do the right thing at the right time and the result is that he is to-day a power in the municipal and political life of New York.

WILLIAM M. K. OLCOTT is a New Yorker through and through. He was born in No. 111 West Thirteenth Street on August 27, 1862. His grandfather was the Rev. John Knox who for many years was pastor of the Collegiate Dutch Church of New York. His great-grandfather was John M. Mason, for many years a prominent clergyman of New York and Provost of Columbia College. His paternal ancestors are the Connecticut Olcotts who settled in Harvard in the Seventeenth Century.

Mr. Olcott was educated in Grammar School No. 35, and was graduated from the College of the City of New York in 1881. He won the degree of A. B.; that of A. M. a few years later, and in 1883, in the Law School of Columbia College, he



Wm. K. O'Keefe

won the degree of LL.B. and was admitted to the Bar immediately afterward.

With his brother, J. Van Vechten Olcott, he began the practice of law in No. 4 Warren Street. It was not long before he took an active part in politics, and soon he won a name as a shrewd and honest leader of men. In 1893 the Republican Party made him its candidate for Judge of the City Court, and he made a campaign which, despite the fact that the political complications of that year caused his defeat, convinced Republicans that he was one of the best men that they could put forward. In 1894 he was elected to the Board of Aldermen and became the acknowledged leader of the Republican members. As Alderman his position made him particularly conspicuous because he served as Chairman of the Finance Committee, thus sitting as a member of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. After his term as Alderman was over he began the work of strengthening his district, a work in which he succeeded remarkably well. In the political campaign that followed the session of the Lexow Committee, he was particularly active, and he presided over the Republican convention which nominated William L. Strong for Mayor.

In December, 1896, Governor Levi P. Morton appointed him District Attorney, a position which had become vacant through the death of Colonel John R. Fellows. At the time, there was, probably, no public position in the City of New York more difficult to fill. As everybody knew what the condition of the office was, so everybody knew that great influences were at work to prevent reform. But the famous pigeon holes were cleaned out, and the cruel overcrowding of trial prisons became a thing of the past, the demands of justice being fulfilled by prompt prosecutions, and accused men saved from long preliminary imprisonment before trial. In his first six months Mr. Olcott disposed of 1,147 more cases than were disposed of in the corresponding six months of the year before, and the records show that he actually ran the office at a cost 50 per cent. less than it had cost in the previous year when so much less work was done. Where the expenses in 1896 were \$58,500 they were only \$26,905 in 1897.

Despite the sharp and swift prosecution which made the office a terror to evildoers, it is probable that Mr. Olcott and his assistants, under the just and high minded system established by him, did more to reform repentant law breakers than had been done in many years before. He investigated many cases of excessive punishment and exerted himself personally on behalf of a number of young men who either had been sentenced on insufficient evidence or whose punishment was shown to be so excessive as to reduce their chances of reformation.

In personal conduct of cases Mr. Olcott made excellent impressions, and in several his able presentation of the prosecution's side was marked with so much ability that they were commented on all over the country.

When the great municipal campaign of 1897 for the control of the greater City of New York began, Mr. Olcott's name soon was heard everywhere as a favorite of Republicans for the Mayoralty nomination. He did not permit this open expression of preference to sway him, but continued to pay all his attention to his duties as District Attorney, and he was one of General Tracy's most able and active supporters.

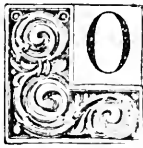
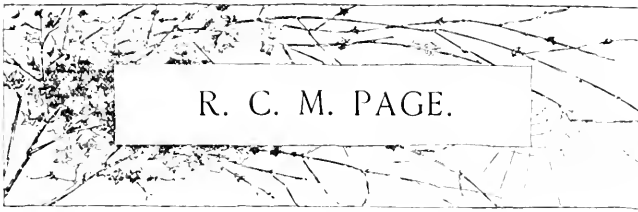
In the end of 1897 Governor Black offered him the position of City Court Judge, made vacant by the resignation of Robert A. Van Wyck, who had been elected as Mayor. Mr. Olcott declined the position at first, but at last decided to take it.

Judge Olcott lives in No. 58 West Eighty-fourth Street, in the Twenty-first Assembly District, and is a member of the Republican Club, the West Side Republican Club and the Bar Association.





H. C. M. Page M. D.



ONE of the most distinguished families in the history of Virginia is that of Page. The American pioneer was John Page, son of Francis Page, of Bedfont, near Feltham, Middlesex County, England, who belonged to a branch of the family that had for its arms: or; a fesse dancette between three martlets, or and azure; a bordure of the last. John Page was born in Bedfont, England, in 1627; was a prosperous merchant in the mother country, and in Virginia became one of the most influential members of the colony, being a member of the Royal Colonial Council. He died in 1692. Matthew Page, (1659-1703) son of John Page, was a wealthy planter; married Mary Mann; was an original member of the Board of Trustees of William and Mary College, and a member of the Royal Council under Queen Anne. In the third generation Mann Page (1691-1730) was, next to Lord Fairfax, the largest landowner in Virginia, holding at one time over seventy thousand acres in several counties. John Page, (1720-1780) second son of Mann Page, was a member of the Colonial Council in 1776. After his father's death he was the head of the North End branch of the family. His wife was Jane Byrd, daughter of Colonel William E. Byrd, of Westover, on James River. Eleven children of John Page survived their parents. Major Carter Page, the fourth son (1758-1825) left William and Mary College, in 1776, to join the Continental Army and became major and aid-de-camp to General Lafayette. He married Mary Cary, daughter of Colonel Archibald Cary, and Mary Randolph, his wife. Colonel Cary was a descendant of Colonel Miles Cary, of the Royal Navy, and his

wife was in the sixth generation from Pocahontas and John Rolfe. Dr. Mann Page, (1791-1850) third surviving son of Major Carter Page, was educated at Hampden-Sidney College, and graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, in 1813. He married Jane Frances Walker, descended from the Nelsons of Yorktown, Virginia, and from Colonel John Washington, the ancestor of Gen. George Washington.

RICHARD CHANNING MOORE PAGE was born at Keswick, Albemarle County, Virginia, January 21, 1841. He was the youngest child of Dr. Mann and Jane Francis (Walker) Page. He was educated at the University of Virginia, entering the academic department of that institution in October, 1860. The following January he joined the military company of students, called the Southern Guard. He remained at college until the close of the session, graduating in mathematics and Latin and distinguishing himself in Greek. He then entered the Confederate Army as a private in Pendleton's battery, under the command of General Joseph E. Johnston. In October, 1861, he was promoted to be Gun-Sergeant and transferred to the Morris Artillery and, in April, 1862, was brevetted Captain of Artillery and served as such in the campaigns against McClellan around Richmond and Antietam; also in the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and Mine Run. He was severely wounded at Gettysburg, and in the spring of 1864 was promoted to be Major of Artillery. In October of the same year he was made Chief of Artillery for the Department of Southwestern Virginia and East Tennessee on the staff of General John C. Breckinridge, where he remained until the close of the war. In February, 1864, Captain Page was captured by the Federals during Dahlgren's raid at Frederick's Hall, Louisa County, Virginia, but he managed to escape and rejoin his command in a short time.

After the close of the war, in 1866, he returned to the University of Virginia and studied medicine, graduating in one session, in June, 1867. In August following he removed to New York City, and matriculated in the Medical Department of the University of the City of New York, graduating the succeeding

March. In April he entered the competitive examination for Bellevue Hospital, secured first prize, and was admitted on the staff of that institution, serving the regular term as House Physician. He was appointed District Physician, a political position, but after a short time resigned, and entered the Woman's Hospital as Assistant. In 1871 Dr. Page began to practice on his own account, and has resided in New York ever since.

In 1874 he was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Fitch Winslow, of Westport, Connecticut, widow of Hon. Richard Henry Winslow, who founded the bank of Winslow, Lanier & Company, in New York City.

In 1886 Dr. Page was appointed Professor of Diseases of the Chest and General Medicine in the New York Polyclinic, a position he held until his death. He was also Vice-President of the New York Academy of Medicine, and a member of the New York Pathological Society, the New York State Medical Society, and other important medical associations. Upon him was conferred the honor, in the summer of 1888, of an appointment as Honorary Vice-President of the Paris Congress for the Study of Tuberculosis. Dr. Page was the author of a number of important medical works, among them being a "Chart of Physical Signs," etc., a "Handbook of Physical Diagnosis," and "The Practice of Medicine."

Dr. Page also wrote a carefully prepared genealogy of the Page family in Virginia, including the Nelson, Pendleton, Walker and Randolph families. He was the author, too, of some notable pamphlets, one of the most important being on "Metastatic Parotitis," a subject which attracted world-wide attention in the case of President Garfield. Other pamphlets, perhaps not less able, treated of "Typhoid Fever," "Lead-poisoning," "Bright's Disease of the Kidneys," etc.

Dr. Page was a member of the New York Historical Society, the Virginia Historical Society, the New York Southern Society, as well as of the Confederate Veteran Camp of New York. He died, in Philadelphia, on June 19, 1898, after an illness of but a few days.



JOHN EDWARD PARSONS was born in New York City on the 24th day of October, 1829. He is the son of Edward Lamb Parsons and Matilda, daughter of Ebenezer Clark, of Wallingford, Connecticut. His father was a native of England, the family having lived in Lancashire at the time of his birth, although for many generations they had resided at Cubbington and in the adjoining village of Stoneleigh, in Warwickshire. Edward L. Parsons came to America when a young man and soon engaged in business in New York. In June, 1839, he was drowned off the coast of Cheshire in the wreck of the packet ship "Pennsylvania" while on his way home from a voyage to Europe.

John E. Parsons received his early education in the boarding school of Samuel U. Berrian, at Rye, Westchester County, New York, in 1844 entering the New York University, of which Theodore Frelinghuysen was then Chancellor. He was graduated in 1848, when but eighteen years of age. He became a member of the Council of this University in 1865, and has remained upon the Board ever since.

In the fall of 1849 Mr. Parsons entered the office of James W. Gerard, the distinguished member of the New York Bar and, three years later, was admitted to practice. January 1, 1854, he opened an office and, May 1, 1854, formed a partnership with Lorenzo B. Shepard, who, in July of the same year, became District Attorney of New York, by appointment of Governor Horatio Seymour. Mr. Parsons was appointed his assistant and held the position until the close of the year. With that exception he has



Mr. E. Parsons

never held public office. In May, 1857, (Mr. Shepard having died in September, 1856,) Mr. Parsons became associated with Albon P. Man, under the firm style of Man & Parsons. This partnership continued until 1884. In 1890 he formed the firm of Parsons, Shepard & Ogden, during the intervening period having had no partner.

Mr. Parsons has been long recognized as a leader of the New York Bar. From the beginning his practice has been important, embracing many departments of the law. The interesting cases with which he has been connected include *Dunham vs. Williams*, involving the title to disused roads laid out in the parts of the State settled by the Dutch; *Story vs. the Elevated Railroad companies*, in which, after years of unsuccessful litigation, the Court of Appeals sustained the liability of the companies to abutting owners; the *Merrill will case*, the *Burr will case*, the *Hammersly will case*, the *Tracy will case*, at Buffalo; the *Fayerweather will case* and the *Jacob Sharp case*. He was counsel for the Committee of the New York Senate to declare vacant the seat of William M. Tweed; participated as counsel in the investigation by the committee of the Assembly into frauds in Kings County; was counsel before the committee of the Assembly in the case against Henry W. Genet, participating in the trial of Genet, and has been engaged in many other public cases. He has been counsel, since its organization, of the American Sugar Trust and took part in the various litigations and Legislative and Congressional proceedings which followed the formation of the organization.

He was an original member of the City Bar Association, having taken an active part in the proceedings preliminary to its organization. He submitted the draft for the original constitution of the association, which were amended by the late Judge Rapallo, and were adopted. He took part in the reform movement which preceded the proceedings against the Judges at the time of the crusade against Tweed; was selected by the Bar Association as one of the counsel to take the initiatory proceedings before the Judiciary Committee of the Assembly of which

Samuel J. Tilden and David B. Hill were members, and was retained by the managers in the impeachment of Judge Barnard, as one of their counsel participating in his trial. He also took part in the trial of Judge McCunn and in the proceedings against Judge Cardozo until his enforced resignation.

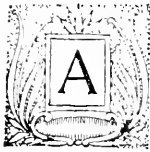
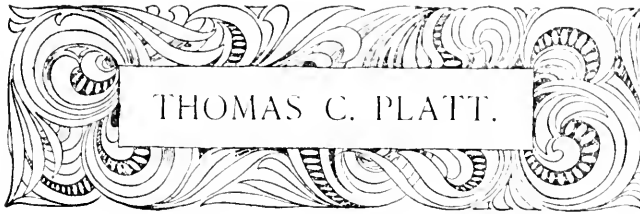
Much of Mr. Parsons' time has been given to benevolent and philanthropic work. He participated in the organization of the New York Cancer Hospital and has been its President from the beginning. He is the President of the Woman's Hospital of the City of New York; is a Director of the Executive Committee of the New York City Mission and Tract Society; the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church and the American Tract Society; was President of the New York Bible Society, is a member of the Board of the American Bible Society, an original member of the Board of Trustees of Cooper Union, being associated upon that Board with Peter Cooper, his son, Edward Cooper, and his son-in-law, Abram S. Hewitt, together with Daniel F. Tieman and the late Wilson G. Hunt.

Mr. Parsons has a country residence, an estate at Rye, New York, long held in his family. In 1875 he also established a country residence at Lenox, Massachusetts, and has continued to make his summer home at that estate, being deeply interested in farming and the occupation which comes from the care of country property.

He is a Governor of the Lenox Club, a member of the Vestry of the Episcopal Church, of Lenox, and a member in New York of the Century, University, Players', Metropolitan, Riding, City and Turf Clubs, and of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Elders of the Brick Presbyterian Church. He has been much interested in poor children in the City of New York, for twenty years having been at the head of a large mission school and maintaining at his own expense a fresh-air home at Curtisville, near his residence at Lenox, where one hundred children at a time are taken care of during the heated season.



J. C. Platt



SERVICE in public positions that dates almost from the days of his boyhood, a natural sagacity and a quick grasp and keen insight into questions of national moment have won for United States Senator Thomas C. Platt, of Tioga County, high rank as a statesman and pre-eminence as a party manager. Trained in the mercantile and financial worlds, in which his progress is scarcely second to the rank he has attained as a political leader, and having filled with distinguished ability a number of positions of honor and trust in the service of his State and of the political party in which he is so conspicuous a figure, his elevation to the halls of national legislation found him peculiarly fitted for the duties of the position, and, while his first term in the Senate was terminated by an error that few men would have ever lived down, after almost a score of years he has again entered the Senate Chamber as the almost unanimous choice of the Republicans of the Empire State. But during the years which followed his resignation, in 1881, he set to work steadily to regain his lost prestige, and although opponents have arisen and his reelection to the Senate of the United States was bitterly fought, his course as a Senator has been such as to win him the appreciative applause of even his personal and political opponents.

THOMAS COLLIER PLATT was born in Owego, Tioga County, New York, on the 15th day of July, 1833. His father, William Platt, was a lawyer in the town who strove to give to his son ample educational opportunities. The latter was but sixteen years of age when he was qualified to enter Yale College, from which the threatened failure of his health, before the completion of his

course, compelled his withdrawal. This college, however, conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts in 1876, as a recognition of his conspicuous position in public life. To regain his health he embarked for a time in the active life of a lumberman and merchant. He then went to Ohio, where he was the cashier in a bank while yet a boy, but finally drifted into the drug business in Massillon, Ohio, later returning to his home in Owego, where he became, while yet very young, President of a bank and a Director in the Southern Central Railway.

He received his first political appointment in 1859, as County Clerk of Tioga, and, in 1870, he declined the Congressional nomination in his district, being absorbed in the cares of business. Two years later, however, he consented to accept the nomination, and, after a stirring campaign, was elected and served two terms in the National House of Representatives.

On January 18, 1881, he was chosen United States Senator to succeed Francis Kernan, but resigned on the 16th day of May in the same year with his colleague, Roscoe Conkling, on account of a disagreement with President Garfield regarding New York appointments which had been made by the Executive against the protests of the Senators. He returned home, was a candidate for re-election, and, after one of the most exciting canvasses in the history of the State, was defeated. From that day he was apparently out of politics and was spoken of and almost universally regarded as a political suicide; but in the fall of 1882 he started in again, although tremendously handicapped. It was thought that he wanted to get back into politics to punish the men who had defeated him in his fight for vindication and re-election to the Senate, but instead of fighting he set to work to encourage young men to enter the political arena. The new blood was his, and it was on this foundation that he built up the party and rehabilitated himself. He had been a Delegate to the National conventions in 1876 and 1880 and was elected a Delegate in 1884. In the ensuing campaign he was chosen to lead by his party's managers, and it has been said that had his advice that year been followed, and had the Presidential candidate sought a

reconciliation with Roscoe Conkling, the State would have been carried for Blaine and the Presidency retained by the Republican Party.

Mr. Platt held the position of Quarantine Commissioner until January 14, 1888, when he was removed by proceedings which were instituted on account of his residing in Tioga County and not in New York City.

His position in the Republican party has for years been one of peculiar leadership, which culminated in his re-election, in 1897, to succeed David B. Hill in the United States Senate, which he entered with renewed and even increased prestige after almost a score of years.

Mr. Platt became Secretary and a Director of the United States Express Company in 1879, and since 1880 has been its President and active and managing head. Among other corporations with which he is at present connected may be enumerated his posts as President and Director of the Addison and Pennsylvania Railway Company, Director of the American District Telegraph Company, of the Cataract General Electric Company, of the Erie Canal Traction Company, of the New York and New Jersey Ice Lines, of the Safety Car Heating and Lighting Company and of the Toledo and Ohio Central Railway Company, all of which demand a share of his attention, although the affairs of the United States Express Company demand almost all the time Mr. Platt can spare from the duties that fall upon him as a political leader and because of his place in the council halls of the nation.





IN NO city of the Union does the legal profession contain so many men of talent as New York, the commercial centre of the hemisphere. This is, in a great measure, due to the advent of men of force and ability, who, leaving sections where opportunities for advancement were few, have settled where an almost unlimited field is afforded for men of character and intelligence. This, while making rewards doubly great, has vastly increased the difficulties and lessened the chances for success, and he whom energy and application have enabled to rise to a foremost place in a profession that is teeming with intellectual giants is all the more worthy of esteem. That the qualities that go to make up a successful attorney are present in a marked degree in M. Warley Platzeck, the review of his successes amply demonstrates.

M. WARLEY PLATZEK was born in North Carolina, in 1854. His parentage is Teutonic, his father, Isaac Platzeck, and his mother, Sarah Platzeck, both being natives of Germany. The father died and was buried in Wilmington, North Carolina, in 1860, but Mr. Platzeck's mother is still living. The early education of the son was acquired at the district school of Fayetteville, in his native State, at the High School in Richmond, Virginia, and later under the private tuition of Professor Withero, of South Carolina. Before his twenty-first birthday Mr. Platzeck was chosen Clerk of the Common Council of Marion Court House, South Carolina, and, immediately upon attaining his majority, he was appointed Assessor and Treasurer for the district. The only firm into whose employ he entered in South Carolina was that of Warley & McKerall. While residing in this State Mr. Platzeck's ambitious



Wm. Marley Staples

energy led to his study of the law, in which he made such advancement that he was soon admitted to practice. After a few months, however, he perceived that the North presented enlarged opportunities, and he came to the metropolis and entered the Law Department of the University of the City of New York as a student, graduating, in 1876, as class orator and with the degree of Bachelor of Laws.

For a year after coming here, Mr. Platzek served in the offices of the late Judge Joseph P. Joachimson, but having been admitted to practice in this State, in June, 1876, he has since made a specialty of commercial and insolvency law, as well as the trial of jury cases. He is especially known as a trial lawyer, and his brilliant conduct in many important litigations has gained for him not only an enviable reputation, but has secured an extensive clientele, he being regularly retained by a number of the most prominent of New York's lawyers as trial counsel. By methods strictly honorable and professional, and by the exercise of an inherent integrity so necessary to success in this most exacting of professions, he has won the respect of the Bench and the esteem of his professional colleagues.

Endowed by nature with talents of a high order, which he has supplemented by earnest and intelligent study and wide travel, Mr. Platzek has won in the literary world many encomiums both as author and lecturer. His travels have reached every habited part of the globe, with the exception of Egypt, China and Japan, and he has gone beyond the North Cape as far as Spitzenberg. Of late years, however, the press of his practice has precluded his presence on the platform.

While Mr. Platzek was always an ardent and enthusiastic Democrat, he has never consented to accept public offices beyond a Delegateship to the Constitutional Convention, held at Albany in 1894, in which he represented the Tenth Senatorial District. Here, as elsewhere, his grasp of the problems at issue was quickly recognized, and his position as a member of the Convention was one thoroughly in accord with his high professional standing. For twelve consecutive years Mr. Platzek was a member

of the Examining Committee of the Law Department of the New York University, and hence the President of the Constitutional Convention designated him for service on the educational as well as on several other of the most important committees of the body. For four terms he was President of the Young Men's Hebrew Association of the city, for two years President and is still a Director of the Progress Club. He was one of the founders of the Educational Alliance of the City of New York; is now President of the Supreme Lodge of the United States of the Order Keshet Shel Barzel, an endowment society which has expended over two and one-half millions of dollars in charity. Mr. Platzek was also Chairman of the Executive Committee of the American society for the amelioration of the condition of Russian refugees during the recent persecutions, and was Chairman of the Central Committee of all the charities during those troublous times for the oppressed exiles. His prominence in political circles is better illustrated by his position as one of the Governors of the Democratic Club of the City of New York.

Mr. Platzek is a member of the Harmonie, Progress, Criterion, Democratic, Wa Way Yanda, Mohican and Reform clubs, of the State Bar Association, New York Catholic Protectory, Hebrew Orphan Asylum, Mount Sinai Hospital, St. John's Guild, Home for Aged and Infirm Hebrews, Educational Alliance, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Hebrew Free Schools, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Hebrew Sheltering and Guardian Society, Montefiore Home, the Young Men's Hebrew Association, the United Hebrew Charities, the Jewish Publication Society, American Jewish Historical Society, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Aguilar Free Library and many other of the most prominent benevolent, educational and literary organizations in the city.





Wm. Root



ELIHU ROOT.



THE laws relating to corporations have in late years received the attention of some of the most eminent legal lights of the New York Bar. Of necessity, the man who can build up a successful practice among corporations whose interests involve millions must possess peculiar attainments and the highest erudition. On the other hand, the large amount of money frequently involved in their suits, and the thoroughness with which their cases must be investigated, makes such a practice decidedly lucrative. Among the most successful attorneys in this high branch of the profession in New York is Elihu Root, the subject of this biography, who for years has been recognized as having a thorough knowledge of this department of legal jurisprudence, and a practice extending throughout the State. His manifest abilities and active and conscientious work have made him eminent in his profession, respected in the community, and prominent in the political world.

ELIHU ROOT was born in Clinton, Oneida County, New York, on the 15th day of February, 1845, and is the worthy descendant of an old and prominent New England family, his father, Oren Root, having been the Professor of Mathematics at Hamilton College for the thirty-six years between 1849 and 1885. Elihu Root completed a course at and was graduated from this institution in 1864, afterwards studying law at Hamilton College and at the University Law School. His studies completed and having been admitted to the Bar, he began the practice of his profession in New York City in 1867, in a few years becoming prominent both as a lawyer and as a leader of the reform element of the Republican Party.

Devoting himself closely to his chosen work, he rapidly acquired an extensive practice, principally in behalf of important corporations, and has been counsel in many of the most famous litigations in the annals of the State. Indeed, few lawyers of to-day have a more remarkable record of success in the cases entrusted to their care. In the famous contest growing out of the will of A. T. Stewart, Mr. Root was leading counsel for Judge Hilton, and he successfully defended the suit of Branagh *vs.* Smith, in which he disposed of the claim of the alleged Irish heirs against the Stewart estate.

He was the leading counsel in the Hoyt will case, as he was also in the famous Fayerweather contest. He appeared in the Broadway surface railroad litigation, the Sugar Trust contest, the suit (growing out of the Bedell forgeries) of Shipman, Barlow, Laroque and Choate *vs.* the Bank of the State of New York, besides defending the proceedings before Mayor Grant for the removal of Dock Commissioners Matthews and Post. In the aqueduct litigation (O'Brien *vs.* the Mayor of the City of New York) as counsel for the city he won against the opposing counsel, Joseph H. Choate, and succeeded in saving to the city several millions of dollars. He successfully resisted the removal of Charles A. Dana to Washington when the editor was under indictment in the courts of the District of Columbia for publication of an alleged libel in his paper, the *New York Sun*. In one of the most sensational cases of modern times he defended Robert Ray Hamilton from the machinations of the notorious Eva Mann.

In 1879 Mr. Root polled a large vote as the Republican candidate for Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. From 1883 to 1885, by appointment from Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States, he served with distinction as United States District Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and tried and convicted James D. Fish, President of the Marine Bank, for acts connected with the celebrated Grant and Ward frauds. He resigned upon the advent of the Democratic administration.

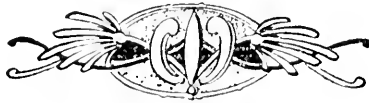
For many years Mr. Root represented the Twenty-first As-

ssembly District on the executive committee of the Republican County Committee of New York, and, in 1886, was Chairman of the County Committee. In 1893 and 1894 he was one of the most active members of the Committee of Thirty in organizing a revolt against the employment of machine methods in the Republican Party in New York County. He was also one of the Delegates-at-Large to the Constitutional Convention of 1894 and while Joseph H. Choate officiated as President, Mr. Root was Chairman of the Judiciary Committee and leader on the floor of the Republican majority.

Mr. Root's legal practice is characterized by exhaustive work in the preparation of his cases and a keen intellectuality which quickly penetrates to the marrow of the subject under investigation. He is also a ready speaker, but, with the same mental characteristic, appeals, with forceful logic, to the understanding rather than merely to the more ephemeral emotions.

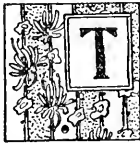
He is universally recognized as one of the most powerful speakers in the Republican Party, and has been active in all its campaigns for many years. Especially notable was his analysis and exposure of municipal corruption in the famous address which he delivered at Cooper Union during the Presidential campaign in 1892. Preceding the Parkhurst agitation, this arraignment astonished all by the boldness of the assault, while its anticipation of the Lexow exposures seems now almost prophetic.

Mr. Root has held or is holding the offices of President of the New England Society, Vice-President of the Union League Club; and at the election in January, 1895, was made President of the Republican Club of the City of New York for the year succeeding. He is also a member of the Century, Metropolitan, University and Players' clubs, and a number of others of the city's best known social organizations.





HENRY W. SCOTT.



HIS eminent advocate, distinguished as a judge, jurist and author, is a self-made man in the truest and most literal sense of the term. He is the son of Caleb Longest and Charlotte Templeton Scott, and is a native of Sangamon County, Illinois. His mother was Charlotte King Templeton, and was born in Wayne County, Ohio, on October 9, 1827. She is a woman of great strength of character, possesses a prodigious mind and a most astonishing memory. His father was born on the 18th day of December, 1821, in Sangamon County, Illinois. He was an intimate friend of Abraham Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas and Richard Yates, and a college mate of the latter at the University at Jacksonville. His younger brother, John Winfield Scott, married Miss Martha Yates, a sister of Senator Yates. Caleb L. Scott was a man of broad, philosophic mind, and while possessing the greatest tenacity of purpose, yielded to the California gold excitement of 1849-50, and was led to abandon college and a promising future in professional life.

This branch of the Scott family traces its ancestry back to the early centuries of Scotland. The family progenitor in this country settled in Pennsylvania about 1736, and later branches settled in Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina. Judge Scott comes from lineal Revolutionary stock on both sides of the house. His maternal great-grandfather, Nathaniel Templeton, a volunteer from Washington County, Pennsylvania, was killed at the battle of Sandusky Plains, June 11, 1782, in the fight with the Indians, at which time Colonel



Aug. N. Hall

Crawford, his commander, was burned at the stake after being betrayed and led into ambush by Simon Gerty.

This sturdy ancestry transmitted to Judge Scott through the unerring laws of heredity the faculties and strength of character that have supported him in life. He finished his education and was admitted to the Bar at Lyons, Kansas, at the age of eighteen years, and following his admission he was taken into partnership with his law preceptor. This association continued until his appointment by President Cleveland, in February, 1888, to the position of Register of the United States Land Office at Larned, Kansas, which he held until replaced by a Republican soon after the inauguration of President Harrison. In the fall of 1889 he was the Democratic candidate for Judge of the Sixteenth Judicial District of Kansas. He was endorsed by the combined opposition to Judge S. W. Vandivert, the regular Republican candidate, and one of the ablest and most popular judges and lawyers of that State. The campaign was particularly bitter and hotly contested and is recorded as one of the most memorable judicial elections ever held in the State. The result showed that Judge Scott had been defeated by a majority of eight votes. Following this defeat his friends rallied and tendered him their united support for the Democratic nomination for Congress in the Seventh Congressional District; but the fact that he was ineligible on account of age made it necessary for him to advise them that it would not be proper to allow his name to go before the Convention.

Upon the death of General Bragg, in 1891, which created a vacancy in the Democratic membership of the Interstate Commerce Commission, Judge Scott's name was presented to President Harrison for the vacancy by Hon. John Sherman and the late Senator John E. Kenna, of West Virginia; and among the distinguished men of both parties who joined them in the request, may be named Thomas M. Cooley, Lyman Trumbull, Henry M. Teller, Shelby M. Cullom, William P. Frye, Daniel Dougherty, A. H. Garland, Richard Coke, John M. Thurston and John Randolph Tucker. But for the persistency of Presi-

dent Harrison in selecting a Democrat from the extreme South, Judge Scott's friends assured him that he would have received the appointment.


In 1893 President Cleveland again honored him by appointment without solicitation to the position of United States District Judge for the Territory of Oklahoma, and his career in that region, in suppressing lawlessness and crime, and in dealing with the many complicated legal questions growing out of the anomalous conditions there, is a part of his life, that, if space permitted, it would be interesting to dwell upon. Judge Scott's desire, however, to permanently abandon political and official life, and resume the active practice of the law, actuated him, in 1896, to resign his office and accept a law partnership in the city of New York. While the arrangement was consummated in March of that year, his resignation did not take effect until the following September. Since his residence here his success has been the subject of much comment. He is constantly being retained in the most celebrated cases, and his trial work calls him into many States of the Union. He is a man of tireless industry and application, and his capacity for great labor is a source of astonishment to those who know him.

Judge Scott is well and favorably known throughout the country as a writer on legal subjects, and an exhaustive article written by him, at the request of the editor, on the subject of "Uniform Marriage and Divorce Laws," published in the *New York Herald*, in November, 1896, created a profound sensation, not only in this country, but abroad.

It is said, no doubt with perfect truth, that Judge Scott has the acquaintance, confidence and esteem of more of America's distinguished men than any man of his age in the Union. His name has frequently been mentioned in connection with the Vice-Presidency in 1900 by his friends and the press in different parts of the country; but, having determined to continue his professional work, he gives no encouragement to anything whatever in the line of political achievement.



Alfred Fabian Smith



JOHN SABINE SMITH.

THE possibilities of the legal profession for individual distinction and the honors it offers to men of bright minds are among the reasons why this special field contains so many endowed with uncommon gifts. Among the many lawyers who add lustre to the fraternity in this country, this State is probably more largely represented than any other. New York City is particularly notable in this respect, and during the past half century has contributed to the profession some of its most successful members. Among them is John Sabine Smith, who, although largely interested in public affairs, has won a most important position in his profession.

JOHN SABINE SMITH was born in Randolph, Vermont, April 24, 1843, and is the son of Dr. John Spooner and Catherine, daughter of the Rev. James Sabine, an Englishman and an Episcopal clergyman. His wife was the daughter of Isaac Danford, a noted English barrister. On his father's side Mr. Smith traces his ancestry to one of the earliest and most prominent of New England families and his father, for more than half a century, was the leading physician in Randolph. His grandfather, Samuel Smith, was the first white child born in Windsor, Vermont, and was married to Lucy Woods, daughter of a captain in the Revolutionary Army. Captain Steele Smith, the great-grandfather of the subject of this review, was the founder of the town of Windsor, having led a band of pioneers thither from Farmington, Connecticut. The first American ancestor of whom they have a record was Captain James Parker, of Groton, Massachusetts, who had command of the garrison at that place in 1676.

Mr. Smith attended the Orange County Grammar School, at the age of sixteen entering Trinity College. His support was largely dependent upon what he could earn by teaching, but he graduated at the head of his class when but twenty. The next four years of his life were spent as an instructor in a select school at Troy, New York, his spare moments being utilized in studying law under Judges George Gould and Gardiner Stowe. He was admitted to the Bar in 1868 at Poughkeepsie, and has gradually risen until he is now recognized as one of the foremost lawyers in the State. On coming to New York City Mr. Smith accepted a position as assistant in the office of William E. Curtis, late Chief Justice of the Superior Court. Soon after, however, he opened an office on his own account, and by his strict devotion to the interests of his clients, laid the foundation for his present extensive and lucrative practice.

As a political leader and an astute organizer he ranks high in the Republican Party. It was in 1879 that Mr. Smith first became a member of the Young Men's Republican Club, which later became the Republican Club of the City of New York, and he was largely instrumental in the organization of the Republican League of the United States. In 1888 Mr. Smith was not only a member of the Executive Committee of the New York State League but was Chairman of its sub-executive committee, and was practically the head of the State organization during the campaign of that year. Since this time there has been hardly a progressive movement in the Republican organization but has had his unqualified support. As originator of the propaganda to secure a Republican Mayor for the County of New York; as Chairman of the Republican Club Committee on Municipal Elections; as one of the strongest advocates who brought about the nomination and election of William L. Strong as Mayor; as Chairman of the "Campaign Committee of Fifty" in the Republican Club of the Fassett campaign; as presiding officer over many of the most important political meetings in the city; as the nominee of his party for Surrogate of New York City in 1892, in which contest he ran ahead of both National and County Republican

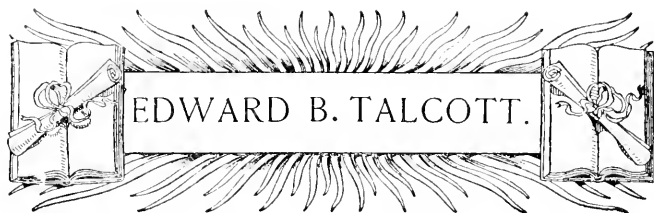
tickets; as President of the Republican County Committee in 1893; as President of the Republican Club of the City of New York; as a member of the famous "Committee of Thirty," as a member of the Republican State Committee for several years, as Chairman of the Committee on Speakers and Meetings of the Republican County Committee during the campaigns of 1896-1897, and as principal author of the Primary Election Law, he has had a career of remarkable political activity, although he has never held public office.

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, in 1897, appointed Mr. Smith one of three Commissioners to determine whether a system of rapid transit should be constructed by the City of New York and operated at a cost of \$35,000,000. After a heated contest, conducted by eminent counsel, the Commissioners presented an exhaustive report, which was largely the production of Mr. Smith, deciding that the road ought to be built. This report was confirmed by the Court and Mr. Smith received the commendation of the great body of citizens.

In the Republican State Convention of 1893, his name was presented for nomination as Judge of the Court of Appeals, and he received the support of the large delegation from the city.

Mr. Smith has been President of the New York Society of Medical Jurisprudence. He is a Trustee of Trinity College, and for several years was President of its New York Alumni Association. He is a member of Grace Church, and was one of the founders and is the Treasurer of the East-Side House. He is a member of the University, Lawyers', Republican, Church, Patria and Quill clubs, the Phi Beta Kappa Alumni, the New England Society, the Society of the Colonial Wars, the National, State and City Bar associations, Vice-President of the Institute of Civics, a Director of the Society for Promoting Church Schools and Colleges, and Counsel of St. Mark's Hospital, and is actively interested in many social, philanthropic and political organizations.

Mr. Smith is a prominent Thirty-second Degree member of the Masonic fraternity, a Knight Templar and a member of Mecca Temple of the Shrine.



NEW YORK has few more prominent men in the financial world or more active as operators in Wall Street than Edward B. Talcott, of whose busy life much more might be said than could possibly be incorporated in a brief sketch of this character. It is by the energetic efforts of such men as the subject of this review that the State's greatest city has risen to its present place as the financial centre of the Western Hemisphere, and is to-day in a fair way to soon be the greatest city in the entire world. For many years Mr. Talcott has been one of the best known and most highly esteemed brokers on the floor of the Stock Exchange, where he has conceived and guided to a successful termination some of the most important deals in the history of the Street.

EDWARD BAKER TALCOTT, the fourth son of Frederick L. Talcott, was born in New York on the 21st day of January, 1858. Warwickshire was the original home of the Talcott family, though the first recorded ancestor was John Talcott, of Colchester, Essex. His son resided in Bramtree, England, and was a Justice of the Peace. From the latter the American branch of the family sprung, through his son, John Talcott, who settled in Boston in 1632 but removed to Hartford in 1636, where he became a magistrate. Lieut.-Col. John Talcott, his son, was born in England, and came to this country with his father. In 1650 he was an Ensign, a Captain in 1660, a Deputy in 1654 and Treasurer of the colony between the years 1660 and 1676, in King Philip's War commanding the troops with the rank of Major and afterwards of Lieutenant-Colonel. He was one of the patentees named



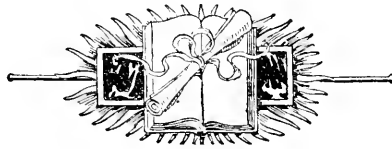
E. A. Falcox

in the Connecticut Charter and, in 1650, married Helena Wakeman, daughter of John Wakeman, Treasurer of Connecticut, dying in 1688. His son, Hezekiah, was born in 1685, married Jemima Parsons, was one of the original proprietors of the town of Durham, and died in 1764. In the next two generations, the ancestors of the subject of this sketch were John Talcott, (born in 1712 and died in 1765) and his wife, Sarah Parsons, and David Talcott, (1744-1786) and his wife, Anne Lyman. Noah Talcott, the son of the latter couple, was born in Durham, Connecticut, in 1768, and died in New York in 1840, having been a prominent merchant in the city during the early years of the present century. From 1798 to 1809 he was a partner of one of the present Ellis brothers, and after continuing alone in business for the next six years, he took his brother, David, into the firm, which was then styled N. & D. Talcott. They dissolved partnership after eight years, but he continued in business, either alone, with other associates, or with his sons until the end of his life. His wife, to whom he was married by Bishop Moore in Trinity Church, in 1803, was Eliza Woods, of Oxford, England, who was born in 1787 and who died in 1866. Noah Talcott was one of the original members of the New England Society. Frederick Lyman Talcott, his son, was born in 1813. Graduating from Columbia College in 1832, he and Daniel W. Talcott, his brother, were taken into business with their father, the firm becoming Noah Talcott & Son, and continuing under that style until 1858, when Frederick L. retired and with his two sons, Frederick L., Jr., and August B. Talcott, established the banking house of Talcott & Sons. Frederick L. Talcott was known as the "Cotton King" from his operations in the cotton market, and was President of the organization of merchants from which grew the present Cotton Exchange. In 1842 he married Harriet Newell Burnham. Their children were: Frederick L. Talcott, who married Mary Picard; August Belmont Talcott, married to Therese Polhemus; James Carleton Talcott, who married Laura Belknap; Mary Alice, wife of Charles F. Palmeter; Harriett Elliott, who married James R. Harrison; Edward Baker Talcott and Florence Louise Talcott.

Edward B. Talcott began business, in 1874, with Talcott & Sons, after which he passed four years with the firm of Charles F. Hardy & Company, for whom he made a number of successful trips abroad and was eventually offered an interest in the business. This he refused and, returning to Wall Street, entered the firm of Talcott & Sons in 1880, becoming a member of the Stock Exchange. He remained connected with this house for three years and then became a most successful independent operator. In January, 1897, he entered the firm of Bell & Company. Mr. Talcott represents the house, which is one of the leaders of the Street, on the Exchange.

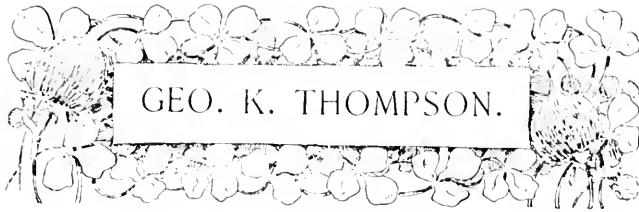
Between 1890 and 1894 he was identified with baseball affairs, and, on returning from a European trip, in 1892, found the New York Baseball Club in a bankrupt condition. He was made Managing Director, with absolute control, and by the end of the season 1894 had paid off its debt and placed the club on a paying basis, then selling his interests to the present owners.

In 1879 Mr. Talcott married Sara T. Roberson, daughter of W. H. Roberson, In 1880 a son was born to them. He died in 1886. Mr. Talcott is a member of the Colonial, Manhattan, New York Athletic, Atlantic Yacht and Democratic clubs. Although he has long been an active and prominent member of the Democracy and has a high place in his party's councils, Mr. Talcott has never permitted his name to be presented for nomination for any political position and has invariably refused all the public appointments that have been tendered him.





George Kramer Thompson.



GEORGE KRAMER THOMPSON, who was born October 15, 1859, in Dubuque, Iowa, is a descendant of one of the oldest families in this country, his ancestry in the United States being traceable in a direct line to the earliest days of the colony.

Thomas Minor, the first American progenitor, was born in England, in 1608, and came to this country in 1630, here marrying Frances Palmer. From his second son, Thomas, through Clement, to William to Stephen Minor, of Winchester, Virginia, and through his son, John, who was the father of Abia, whose daughter, Sophia, married John H. Thompson, the subject of this review traces his family. John Minor, of Winchester, Virginia, settled in Washington County, Pennsylvania, in the portion which afterwards became Greene County, prior to the Revolutionary struggle. Hanna's "History of Greene County" claims him as one of a small party that first occupied and cultivated the soil of the region. When Greene County was constituted, in 1796, Mr. Minor was at once appointed one of the associate judges of the county courts and held the office until his death. His descendants have since been among the most prominent citizens of southern Pennsylvania and the family has contributed many of the most illustrious citizens to the Keystone Commonwealth as their relatives have done in their Virginia home.

At the age of fifteen the subject of this review entered Chattock Military Academy, about this time making up his mind to prepare himself for the architectural profession, pursuing such studies as would be most valuable in his chosen walk in life. In 1876 he entered Franklin and Marshall Academy, at Lancaster,

Pennsylvania, and there followed lines of research necessary in the architectural profession. In 1879 Mr. Thompson came to New York and entered the office of Frederick C. Withers, Esq., on the corner of Rector Street and Broadway, on which site Mr. Thompson's firm is now erecting the Empire Building, one of the most magnificent office structures in the city. He remained with Mr. Withers until 1882, as a student, during which time much important work was put under his supervision.

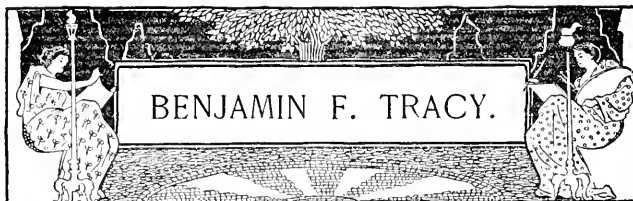
In the fall of 1882 he accepted a salaried position in the office of Messrs. Kimball & Wisedell, remaining with them for about a year; after which, for a short time, he was again connected with Mr. Withers, besides attending to some work on his own account.

In 1883 Mr. Thompson formed a partnership with C. P. H. Gilbert, with offices at 40 Broadway, the union lasting about eighteen months, when our subject bought out the interests of his partner and continued the business alone, a portion of the time with offices in New York and a branch establishment in St. Louis. During this period Mr. Thompson had a large and varied practice in both places. In 1890 he carried out some work for the Manhattan Life Insurance Company, and through the acquaintance thus formed with the officers of that institution was invited to compete for their proposed new building, at 66 Broadway. The partnership of Kimball & Thompson was formed in 1892, the first work undertaken by them being the Manhattan Life Insurance Building, which was the pioneer building of its class and construction. After the designs for the Manhattan Life Building had been settled upon, the problem of sustaining its immense weight on a small area of ground which comprised the site was found to be a serious matter, and the architects' investigations soon showed the necessity of creating a stronger foundation than piles, concrete or grillage would sustain. Then it occurred to him that if bed-rock could be reached by some process such as the pneumatic caisson work, which had hitherto only been used for bridge work, which would sustain the pressure of the surrounding soil, the problem would be solved. Accordingly, he called in a firm who

did this class of work and empowered them to perfect the system, which was then used for the first time in building operations on dry land. The idea was thoroughly original with Mr. Thompson, and was first employed in the foundation of the Manhattan Life Building, but has since been used on many other large structures which have been erected not only by this firm but by other architects. The Manhattan Building completed, Kimball & Thompson erected stores for B. Altman & Company, at Eighteenth and Nineteenth Streets and Sixth Avenue, followed by extensive alterations and additions to the Standard Block for the Standard Oil Company. The Empire Building, for the O. B. Potter Estate, which they are just completing at Rector Street and Broadway, like the Manhattan Life Building, is one that reflects the greatest credit on its designers, for these two buildings are most chaste and magnificent piles, unsurpassed by any similar structures in the world. Mr. Thompson has also erected warehouse and office buildings for ex-Postmaster C. W. Dayton, residences for Francis Wilson and Augustus Thomas, and a great number of country houses throughout the United States.

In addition to his prominent position among the greatest architects of the nation, Mr. Thompson is well known in the social life of the metropolis, being a member of the Lotus Club, Knollwood Country Club, Republican Club of the City of New York, Twilight Club, National Sculptors' Society, American Art Society, Royal Arcanum, Huguenot Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, Mount Vernon Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Bethlehem Commandery, Knights Templar.

Mr. Thompson was married, June 4, 1886, at Dubuque, Iowa, to Miss Harriet H. Henion, who is a member of one of Pennsylvania's oldest families, having, like Mr. Thompson's parents, established their residence in Iowa in the early fifties.



THE great Empire State has been especially distinguished in its contributions to the nation of men whose services have been enlisted in the conduct of the national government; not alone in the highest office of the land, but in the Cabinet, in the Supreme Court, in the Diplomatic Service, in the Army, in the Navy—in fact in every branch of Federal affairs demanding trained judgment, high intelligence and great executive ability. Of this long roll of prominent men, which New York has furnished to the nation, and whose work has stamped its impression upon every line of executive endeavor, none is more conspicuous than that of Benjamin Franklin Tracy, who has specially distinguished himself as Secretary of the Navy in the Cabinet of ex-President Harrison.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TRACY is a native of New York, and was born in Owego on the 2d of April, 1830. His father had been a pioneer in the southern tier of counties, and was a man of marked integrity, progressiveness and enterprise. His son early showed an inclination and fondness for study, and received his education principally at the Owego Academy. As he possessed a logical mind and a clear analytical intellect, he selected the law as the profession to follow. When quite a young man he entered a law office in his own town, and quickly mastered the dry details of study, and was admitted to the Bar in May, 1851. He immediately achieved distinction in his own home, and was pitted against men who afterward became distinguished, but with whom he always was able to hold his own in either arguments or cross-examination. In 1853 he was elected District Attorney for Tioga



Wm. P. Tracy

County. He was the Whig candidate at that time, and the County was a strong Democratic bailiwick. He was honored with a re-election in 1856, securing a majority over the Democratic candidate, Gilbert C. Walker, who afterward became Governor of Virginia. Although on opposite sides, the two candidates were friends, and soon after this election formed a law partnership. When the thunders of war first broke upon this country in 1861, General Tracy took an active and prominent part in the exciting politics of that period, and filled several important offices in the State Legislature. In the spring of 1862, under appointment from the Governor of New York, he was actively enlisted in the work of recruiting soldiers for the front, and he raised two regiments of State troops, the One Hundred and Ninth and the One Hundred and Thirty-seventh. As he himself desired to see active service, he became the Colonel of the former. This regiment first went to Baltimore, and then to Washington, D. C., where it remained on duty until the spring of 1864. When the general advance under Grant was made, the regiment joined the Ninth Army Corps of the Army of the Potomac, and took a brave part in the battle of the Wilderness. In this tremendous conflict, Colonel Tracy behaved with daring bravery and valiant heroism, and when the battle closed he fell exhausted and was carried from the field, but refused to be sent to the hospital. He continued to lead his regiment during the three days' conflict in Spottsylvania. Here he utterly broke down and was forced to surrender his command to the Lieutenant-Colonel. He then came North to recuperate his health, but in the following September was made Colonel of the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh United States Colored troops, and was soon after assigned to the command of the military post at Elmira, New York. This was a prison camp and the drafting rendezvous in Western New York, and at one time he had as high as ten thousand prisoners under his charge. In March, 1865, Colonel Tracy was brevetted Brigadier-General of Volunteers for gallant and meritorious services during the War and in June, 1865, was honorably discharged on tendering his resignation. Colonel Tracy went to New York City, and entered

the law firm of Benedict, Burr & Benedict. In 1866 he was elected District Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, a post which he accepted and filled with high credit. While acting as District Attorney, he became the author of an internal revenue bill which more than trebled the revenue of the United States at that trying period when our national credit was being established in the face of a huge war debt. In 1873 he resigned and again entered upon general practice. In December, 1881, the Governor of New York appointed him Associate Justice of the State Court of Appeals, the appointment being made to fill a vacancy. This high position he occupied for two years, and then returned to the practice of the law with Mr. William De Witt and his son, F. F. Tracy. The law office of the three was located in Brooklyn. While thus following his profession, he was, on March 5, 1889, called to the Cabinet by President Harrison, as Secretary of the Navy. His nomination was most favorably received, and the appointment was confirmed on the very day it was sent to the Senate. Secretary Tracy entered very zealously upon the duties of his office, and at once mapped out plans for the rehabilitation of the Navy and increase of our fighting forces. His work was such as to be a guide to other secretaries. In April, 1891, his report showed that his department was then engaged in the construction of twenty-five vessels, in addition to eleven completed and put in service since the spring of 1889; that the Washington Gun Foundry for holding artillery had been brought to the proper state of perfection, and that under the supervision of the department a reserve naval militia was in process of active formation.

General Tracy is a member of the Loyal Legion, and a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He is now actively engaged in the practice of the law, and is one of the most distinguished and successful members of the Bar of the State. In 1897 his name was conspicuously mentioned as a suitable candidate for the mayoralty of Greater New York, and much against his own inclination he was induced to become the candidate of the Republican Party.



Francis Fox



CHAUNCEY S. TRUAX.



DEEP student not only into the intricacies of the profession to which he has devoted the larger portion of his life, but into oriental languages and ancient history, Chauncey Shaffer Truax has had a peculiarly successful career. During the years of his early manhood exceptional opportunities came to him for scholarly advancement, and his success during the twenty years he has practiced his profession in New York conclusively proves that no opportunity has failed his grasp.

CHAUNCEY SHAFFER TRUAX was born in Durhamville, New York, on the 11th day of March, 1854. He is the son of Henry Philip Truax and his wife, Sarah Ann Shaffer, whose brother was the late Chauncey Shaffer, one of the most able and eloquent lawyers in the City of New York.

Chauncey S. Truax received his early education in the public schools of his native section and at Oneida Seminary, in 1875, graduating from Hamilton College with high honors and being awarded the prize for oratory on commencement day. In 1877, having chosen the Bar as the field for his efforts, he was graduated from Columbia College Law School, and about the same time received the appointment of instructor in international and commercial law at Robert College, Constantinople, being recommended for that position by the President and faculty of Hamilton College. In this institution, sometimes styled the "Oxford of the Orient," designed to offer eastern students the same educational advantages provided by the universities of Western Europe and America, and from which have been graduated the men who now control the destiny of Bulgaria, Mr. Truax was a Professor and at the same

time continued his own studies in Roman law and in ancient history in connection with explorations on the plains of Troy and other classic sites. Unwilling to abandon the practice of law, he resigned, however, and returned to New York in October, 1878. Here in his native State he at once commenced the practice of his profession and met with great success. In 1890 he organized the firm of Truax & Crandall, his brother becoming a member of this firm during the year 1895, between his retirement from the Bench of the Superior Court and his subsequent election to a seat in the Supreme Court.

In 1884 Mr. Truax was counsel in the litigation growing out of the Williams Bridge reservoir as well as in the litigations, in 1888, in connection with the construction of the new aqueduct. He also distinguished himself as counsel for the defense in the famous Jacob-Sire suit, the Langley divorce cases, the Adirondack Railroad litigation, and the more recently notable case of *Thompson vs. Blauvelt*, which was tried in Rockland County. In the last mentioned action, which was a suit brought for fifty thousand dollars' damages, the court denied the plaintiff's novel claim that a cause of action for the alleged alienation of his wife's affections could be mentioned against her present husband. Mr. Truax is also counsel for many of the largest and most prominent corporations and banking institutions in the State, having devoted a large portion of his time to this special field.

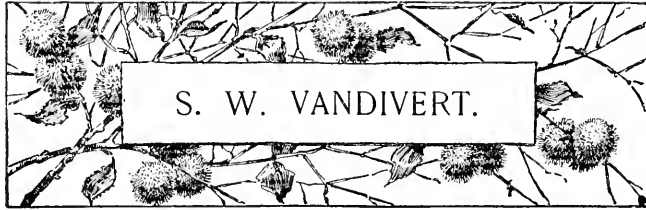
Mr. Truax has always retained his fondness for the study of the classical languages and, in 1886, founded a Greek scholarship at Hamilton College. He has often taken an active interest in Democratic politics, and he spoke in the States of New York and New Jersey for Tilden in the memorable campaign of 1876. In 1881 he was a Delegate to the Democratic State Convention and, in 1888, was a member of the Committee on Platform in the convention which nominated David B. Hill for Governor. In 1894 he was a member of the New York State Constitutional Convention, as was also his brother. This was the only instance where such a distinguished honor was simultaneously conferred upon two brothers. Despite his activity in political affairs and

the deep interest he has always manifested in seeing that the government of city, State and nation was properly administered, Mr. Truax has craved no reward for his services and has never permitted his name to go before the people as a candidate for any elective office, preferring to devote himself to the profession in which he has, by his undivided effort not less than his qualities of mind, been able to achieve signal distinction.

Chauncey S. Truax is a member of the Bar Association of the City of New York, and served many years on its Committee on Amendments of the Laws. He has also been long identified with and a prominent member of the Manhattan Club and Holland and Harlem societies, being one of the founders of the latter. He is President of the New York Alumni Association of Hamilton College.

In 1886, Mr. Truax was married to Alice M., the daughter of R. K. Hawley, of Cleveland, Ohio. They have three children.





THE progressive West has sent to the Empire State one of her most distinguished jurists in the person of the subject of this review, who, after winning a reputation as a lawyer and judge second to none in his native section, has sought a broader and better field for the continued practice of the profession in which he had already gained so many laurels in his former home. Judge Vandivert, in coming to historic Manhattan, after many years, at last sought the city which his forefathers helped to found and in which he bids fair to be rewarded by as many successes as had attended his career in the West.

SAMUEL W. VANDIVERT was born on a farm in Harrison County, Missouri, on the 14th day of January, 1857. He is the son of Robert H. and Agnes H. Vandivert, both of whom were natives of the State of Ohio. The earliest members of the family of whom there is any trace in history were natives of Flanders, their descendants later emigrating to Holland, where the name was spelled Van Der Voort. Our subject's name, therefore, should really be spelled thus, but his ancestors, two or three generations ago, Anglaised it into its present form. The members of the family who first crossed the broad Atlantic settled on or near Manhattan Island in the year 1646. Robert H. Vandivert, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a physician by profession, an abolitionist and a soldier in the Union Army in a Missouri regiment during the Civil War. He was long prominent in public life in his adopted State, and as an active Republican served in the Senate of Missouri from 1869 until 1875.

The early education of S. W. Vandivert was received in



Samuel H. Vandivort

the country schools of Missouri. Thorough educational institutions were scarce on the frontier at that day, but after attending a number of the best ones accessible he began the study of law when eighteen years of age, graduating in the Law Department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, in 1877, the spring succeeding his twentieth birthday.

After leaving college, and as a means of securing a little ready money, he taught school for a year and then, in the spring of 1878, opened a law office in Bethany, the county seat of his native county, remaining in practice there with a considerable degree of success until the autumn of 1884. At that time the western half of Kansas was rapidly settling and a flood of emigration was pouring into the new frontier country. Ambitious and enterprising, our subject joined the throng and settled at Kinsley, Kansas, establishing a weekly newspaper there and one at Coldwater, Kansas, for five years conducting both of these journals and attending to his legal practice as well. After settling in the State he confined his work to the professions of journalism and law, in the latter of which he soon acquired a large and varied practice, no small proportion of which was in the criminal courts.

During this time Mr. Vandivert was active in political life and held a high place in the councils of the Republican Party, taking a particularly prominent part in all the political campaigns through which his party passed. At the November election, in 1889, he was elected District Judge for the Sixteenth Judicial District, composed of Edwards, Hodgeman, Garfield and Pawnee counties. This court has the same jurisdiction which is allotted to the Supreme Court of New York, being a court of general criminal and civil jurisdiction and unlimited by the amount in controversy. His course on the Bench was so eminently satisfactory to the people of his section that he was re-elected to the same office in 1893, and held the position about eight years, and until he left the State a few months before the expiration of his term. Judge Vandivert was a candidate for United States Senator before the people of Kansas in 1896 with a flattering prospect

of election in case the Republican Party carried the State. The Legislature, however, was carried by the Populists, and the seat was therefore filled by a member of that party.

Judge Vandivert came to New York in October, 1897, and entered the legal field as a general practitioner in connection with Hon. S. M. Gardenhire, a former Kansan and able lawyer who had preceded Mr. Vandivert in the city for some years.

Judge Vandivert was married, in 1879, to Miss Eva Crossan, of Bethany, Missouri. They have three children, a daughter, Louise, aged fifteen, and two sons, William W., thirteen years old, and Roderick McLean, aged eleven.

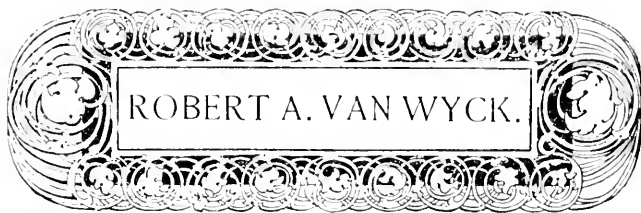
He is a Royal Arch Mason and a Knight of Pythias, still retaining his membership in these orders in Kansas. Among his fellow members of the Bar of New York he is highly esteemed and in the social circles of the city he and his family have made many friends.

Judge Vandivert's life had been a very energetic and active one and whatsoever he has attained since early manhood has been solely the result of his own energies and abilities. Thoroughly versed in the intricacies of the law, a deep student and devoted to whatever interests may be confided to his care, there would seem to be no reason why, sharp as the competition is in New York's legal circles, he should not equal or even surpass his successes in other fields.





Franklin M. M. M.



O greater compliment could be paid to the personal worth or ability of a citizen of this Commonwealth than the tribute which came to Robert A. Van Wyck when he was selected as the first Mayor of Greater New York. To be elected at any time the executive head of the second city of the world would be a distinction that could scarcely come to an unworthy man, but to be the first one chosen, and the man upon whom has devolved the arduous duty of practically re-organizing the whole city government, is an especially great mark of the public esteem. While Mayor Van Wyck was upon the Bench it was remarked that his keen perception and the instinctive faculty he always had of at once sifting the grain of an argument from the chaff of verbiage with which it is too often accompanied led lawyers to submit their causes to his hands with confidence and with the knowledge that there would be fair play. His elevation to the chief magistracy of the consolidated city was but a just reward of the earnestness and energy which has characterized his conduct and forced him to the front, and his friends feel that his ability is deserving of and can hardly fail to receive, in the future, greater recognition than has yet been accorded him. The Van Wycks were among the very earliest Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam, having taken a prominent part in local affairs almost from the first days of the settlement in the colony, and the subject of this sketch may be justly regarded as a worthy representative of his distinguished family. He has proven himself to be a lawyer of the highest ability as well as an efficient judge, and the excellence of his decisions is best evidenced by the fact that over ninety per cent. of

his opinions, written in General Term, are to be found in the law reports.

ROBERT ANDERSON VAN WYCK was born in the old Van Wyck mansion in Lexington Avenue, New York City, in 1849, and is the son of William Van Wyck and his wife, Lydia Anderson Maverick. His taste for the law may be said in a measure to have been inherited from his father, the late William Van Wyck, who was a prominent attorney and a conspicuous man of affairs in New York more than half a century ago. From his father he also inherited his Democratic politics, for William Van Wyck was, until his death, high in the councils of Tammany Hall and prominent in the political campaigns through which this historic institution has passed. He was at one time elected Alderman of the City of New York, and the Board of which he was a member recognized his ability by electing him to preside over its deliberations. Robert A. Van Wyck is a descendant on the paternal side in the seventh generation from Cornelius Barents Van Wyck, who came to New Netherlands in 1650, from the town of Wyck, Holland, and was married, in 1660, at Flatbush, Kings County, New York, to Ann, the daughter of Rev. Johannes Theodorus Polhemus, the first Dutch Reformed minister in that County. All the American Van Wycks are descendants of Cornelius Barents Van Wyck, and are connected by intermarriage with many of the most notable families throughout the State, including Van Rensselaer, Van Cortlandt, Beekman, Gardiner, Van Vechten, Livingston, Hamilton, Seymour and others.

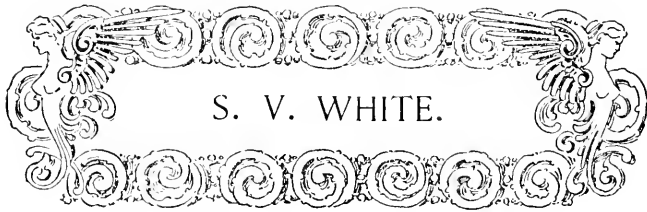
The subject of this biography left school when but a boy, determined to enter business life, and began his career in 1862, running errands for a mercantile establishment in this city. His fidelity attracted the attention of his employers and he was later made a clerk, in which capacity he served for five years, when his ambition led him to follow in the footsteps of so many of the distinguished members of his family, and he began his studies for the legal profession in one of the most celebrated institutions of the country, and was graduated at Columbia College Law School, in 1872, as the valedictorian and at the head of a class of one hun-

dred and twenty-four. He was admitted to the Bar and practiced his profession until 1889. In that year he was elected a Judge of the City Court, and became Presiding Judge of the Court. In November, 1897, he was elected Mayor of the enlarged city at the first election held under the charter creating the Greater New York. It is certainly a notable fact that this honor should fall to the direct descendant of one of New Netherland's founders.

He is unmarried and a member of the Holland Society, of the St. Nicholas, Manhattan, Democratic clubs and a number of other of the most prominent social organizations in the city. The Mayor's brother, Augustus Van Wyck, of Brooklyn, also has had a distinguished career at the Bar, and some years ago was elected a Justice of the Supreme Court of New York in the Second, or Kings County, Judicial District. He is a member of the Holland Society.

Since early manhood Mayor Van Wyck has displayed a steady independence of character balanced by a reflective mind that has been the keystone in the arch of his career. Indefatigable in energy and tireless in effort, he has steadily kept before him the growing benefit of personal rights, and won the confidence of all with whom he has had dealings, realizing that thus only could he ever perfectly balance a successful life crowned with triumph. His rise has been in no sense a meteoric one, but a result of carefully laid plans, intelligently carried out.





ALL STREET has no man within its limits who is more widely known or who has more personal and devoted friends and well-wishers than has S. V. White, of whose busy life we write. In sunshine or in storm, in prosperity or in adversity—for there have been times when the dark waters of ruin threatened to engulf him—he has ever retained the confidence of all with whom he came in contact and has, undaunted by threatening troubles, defeated defeat and raised victory from failure.

STEPHEN V. WHITE, who has for years been one of the most prominent figures in Brooklyn, and in New York, too, for that matter, was born in Chatham County, North Carolina, August 1, 1831. On his father's side Mr. White is a descendant of a family of sturdy Quakers who had removed to the South from Pennsylvania at the close of the Revolutionary War; while his mother, Julia Brewer, was a member of one of the oldest and best known families of North Carolina. In consequence of the slavery agitation, which eventually came to a head in the Nat Turner insurrection, the States of Virginia and North and South Carolina were thrown into ferment and Mr. White's father, Hiram White, because he refused to perform patrol duty against the blacks, was requested to leave the State, which he did soon after the birth of his son. Removing to Greene, now Jersey County, Illinois, he built a log hut and devoted himself to farming.

It was in the frontier wilderness that the early years of Stephen V. White were passed. The first labor for which he received direct pay was in 1847, in trapping and hunting, the skins thus obtained being purchased by the American Fur Company.



Faithfully yours
S. White

In 1849 he was enabled through the assistance of an elder brother to enter the preparatory school of Knox College. Graduating from Knox in 1854, for a time Mr. White taught school, afterwards going to St. Louis to become book-keeper in the wholesale boot and shoe house of Claflin, Allen & Stinde.

In 1855 Mr. White began the study of law, entering the law office of Brown & Kasson, the senior partner being B. Gratz Brown, who was the candidate for Vice-President of the United States on the Greeley ticket of 1872, the junior partner being Hon. John Kasson, since member of Congress from the Seventh Iowa District, and also United States Minister to Austria.

In November, 1856, Mr. White was admitted to the Bar, and in the following month he located himself in Des Moines, Iowa, and commenced the practice of his profession. In 1857 this place was made the capital of the State and the sessions of the Court of Appeals and of the Federal Courts were held there. Mr. White was a very successful lawyer from the start and made his mark in a number of important cases. In one of these, *Gelpe vs. Dubuque*, in the United States Court, he made a strenuous fight and won an important victory. It was a case that involved the constitutionality of certain municipal bonds that had been issued for railway construction. Retained by the appellant, Mr. White succeeded in having the case reversed, and as a result several millions which had been repudiated by the State were saved to investors. This case, which is reported in *First Wallace*, is the leading one on that question.

Despite Mr. White's professional success, he decided to leave the law and go into business, and, in 1865, he formed the partnership in banking in New York then known under the name of Marvin & White. Two years later Mr. Marvin retired and Mr. White continued alone until 1882, when the firm of S. V. White & Company was formed with Arthur Claflin and Franklin W. Hopkins. Mr. Claflin retired January 1, 1886. Mr. White's marvellous success in Wall Street is too well known to need commenting upon. He has been a member of the Stock Exchange for more than twenty years, and has ever been known as a fear-

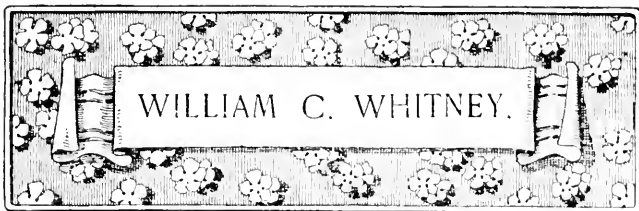
less operator engaged in dealings of a gigantic character, and always having the courage to follow his convictions and business judgment to the fullest limit.

In 1886 Mr. White was the Republican candidate for Member of Congress from the Third New York Congressional District, and was elected by one hundred and seventy-two votes over James D. Bell, the Democratic nominee. His Congressional career was marked by a fidelity to duty characteristic of the man.

Mr. White for many years has been a pillar of Plymouth Church, having been its Treasurer for a long period. He was the first President of the American Astronomical Society, serving as such for five years, and owns the largest private telescope in the country. Mr. White is an accomplished classical and scientific scholar and among his literary efforts is a translation of the "Dies Iræ." He is deeply interested in charitable work, which he performs quietly and without ostentation.







WILLIAM COLLINS WHITNEY was born at Conway, Massachusetts, July 5, 1841, a descendant of the eighth generation from John Whitney, one of the leaders of the English Puritans who settled in Watertown, Massachusetts, in 1635. His ancestors in the male line were, without exception, men of unusual strength of character and of prominence in the communities in which they lived. Among them were Brigadier-General Josiah Whitney, of Harvard, Massachusetts, who was a member of both the convention that prepared the constitution for Massachusetts and that which adopted the constitution of the United States. His father was Brigadier-General James Scollay Whitney who, 1854, was appointed by President Pierce Superintendent of the Armory at Springfield, Massachusetts, and, in 1860, became Collector of the Port of Boston, on nomination of President Buchanan. Upon his mother's side his ancestry goes back to William Bradford, Governor of Plymouth Colony.

Mr. Whitney was educated at Williston Seminary, East Hampton, Massachusetts, at Yale College, where he was graduated in 1863, and at Harvard University Law School, which he left in 1864. Beginning practice in New York City, he was soon recognized as a fearless lawyer, whose devotion to his clients was indefatigable. His first appearance in public affairs took place in 1871, when he was active in organizing the Young Men's Democratic Club of New York City. In 1872, he was made Inspector of Schools, and at the same time became a leader of the County Democracy division of the Democratic party. In 1875, he was appointed Corporation Counsel for the City of New York. He

resigned the office in 1882, to attend to personal interests, and, March 5, 1885, was appointed Secretary of the Navy by President Cleveland, and proceeded vigorously with the construction of the new navy with which his name is hereafter to be inseparably linked. He did much in restoring to the United States the prestige as a navy power, and above all things making it independent of the rest of the world for supplies in case of war. When he became Secretary he found that neither armor, nor the forging for high-power guns, nor the rapid-firing guns constituting the secondary battery, could be produced on this side of the Atlantic. Resolutely declining to place any contracts abroad and stipulating for American products in every instance, there necessarily was a considerable delay in beginning the new ships; but, in 1887, by embracing in one contract all the armor and gun steel authorized by the two previous Congresses, he induced the Bethlehem Iron Works to assume the expenditure for a new plant of \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000 and had the satisfaction of securing all that the government needed from a home institution—the largest and finest of the kind in the world—and of better quality than had ever before been produced anywhere. American citizens and shipbuilders were invited to submit designs and models for the new vessels; construction by private parties was especially stimulated on the Pacific coast, and as a supplement to all this the navy yards at New York and Norfolk, Virginia, were also equipped for steel and iron shipbuilding of every type and size. When Mr. Whitney retired from office, in 1889, the vessels of the United States Navy designed and contracted for by him, then finished or in process of construction, consisted of five monitors, double turreted, besides the dynamite cruiser "Vesuvius," and five unarmored steel and iron cruisers, the "Newark," "Charleston," "Baltimore," "Philadelphia" and "San Francisco;" in addition there were three, then unnamed, armored cruisers and four gunboats, two of the latter having been launched in 1888. He also contracted for a torpedo boat and purchased the "Stiletto." The vessels enumerated were exclusive of the steel and iron vessels of the old navy, so-called. The following tribute was paid him by the late Senator Preston B.

Plumb, of Kansas, a political opponent, in a speech in the Senate on February 12, 1889: "I am glad to say in the closing hours of Mr. Whitney's administration that the affairs of his department have been well administered. They have not only been well administered in the sense that everything has been honestly and faithfully done, but there has been a stimulus given, so far as it could be done by executive direction, to the production of the best types of ships and the highest form of manufacture, and, more than all that, to the encouragement of the inventive genius of our people and to the performance of all possible work, not in navy yards where they might be most surely made the instrument of political strength, but in private ship yards and manufactories, to the effect that we have got to-day enlisted in this good work of building the American Navy not only the Navy Department backed by Congress, but we have got the keen competition of American manufactories and the inventive genius of all our people, so that we may confidently expect not only the best results but great improvements each year. I am glad to say that during the past four years the Navy Department has been administered in a practical, level-headed, judicious way, and the result is such that I am prepared to believe and to say that within ten years we shall have the best navy in the world."

Mr. Whitney was married, in 1869, to Flora Payne, daughter of Henry B. Payne, Senator from Ohio, and their home in Washington, one of the finest in the Capital, was as great a centre of attraction as was their New York mansion. Mrs. Whitney died in 1892. In 1896 he contracted a second marriage, his bride being Edith S. (May) Randolph, daughter of the late Dr. William May, and widow of Capt. Arthur Randolph, of East Court, Wiltshire, England. Their city house is on upper Fifth Avenue, New York City. In 1888 Yale conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

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