





# THE PRESS.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 13.

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Another weather prophet has appeared in the person of the Rev. Mr. Hicks of St. Louis. Shoot him.

The Boston Globe suggests General Benjamin F. Butler for minister to England. It is now rather late in the season for such diplomacy; and his suggestion about retelling by stopping a Cunard steamer might make him something of a person non grato. But his bearing in the British embassy, where he once admitted, would be something for Americans and Britons, too, to tell to their children.

Mr. Cox is sufficiently acute to perceive that the conduct of the Democratic House toward the territories was very short-sighted when considered merely as a matter of political policy, and he is anxious to undo as far as possible the mischief that the ignoring of the just claims of Dakota and Montana has done to the Democratic party. The eyes of Mr. Oates of Alabama, however, are still covered with scales. Typical Bourbon that he is he neither learns nor forgets.

The election of Mr. Hart, in Boston, is not a partisan victory, and there is no disposition to claim it as such. Mr. Hart himself made this impossible before election, by publicly announcing that he stood in the contest not for any political party but for the honest, the just, the right, and the good. The municipal affairs of Boston. Nevertheless his victory is more gratifying than any purely partisan triumph could be, for it demonstrates that the opposition was needed—that the disreputable element in Boston's voting population even when assisted by the Democratic machine is not sufficiently powerful to take the management of municipal affairs out of the hands of the friends of honest and economical government.

The women of Boston have enjoyed the privilege of voting for school committees for some years, but Tuesday was the first time they have exercised it in any considerable number. What called them out this time was the controversy over a text book which the present committee had removed from the schools because it was offensive in its definition of indulgence to the Catholics. The issue was practically as to whether this action of the board should be sustained or repudiated. As but one member of the old board was re-elected—Miss Hastings who had resisted the rejection of the book—it follows that the action of the board was condemned. The new board however is made up of conservative men, and there is no ground for apprehension that they will pursue any policy that can fairly be complained of as liberal or unjust to any religious sect. Indeed the new board is committed to the policy of non-sectarianism which is the true one to pursue in regard to the public schools.

**A New Labor Organization.**  
While the Knights of Labor have been occupying so large a share of public attention with the tumults of their rise, their power and their decadence, there has been growing quiet and unobtrusively in this country an organization of labor that is larger than any that has ever existed in the United States, and at the present time, at least stronger than any other in the world. Not even the Knights of Labor in their palmy days equalled it in the number of their membership. This new force in the field of organized labor is called the American Federation of Labor, and it is now holding its third annual convention at St. Louis. It is not in itself a secret organization, but it is a federation in the true sense of the word. Trade and labor unions, each retaining its own methods and its autonomy, come together to obtain by association those advantages which they could not have in isolation. Each of them retains the right of managing its own affairs without interference, and the Federation merely deals with those general questions in which all of them are interested, and upon which united action is considered desirable. Its assessments are very light and it has but few officers. Their powers are very restricted, and it has not yet suffered from accusations, blunders, or the ambition of its leaders. The dues of its members are but a quarter of a cent per month, or three cents per year, and the wages of the men are not less than \$100 per month. Among the trade unions composing it are the Brotherhood of Carpenters which has 55,000 enrolled members in 44 cities; the Iron Molders' Union which has 28,000 members; the Cigar-makers' Union with 28,000; the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers with over 30,000; the Journeymen Bakers' National Union with 15,000; the Federation of Miners with 25,000 and the International Typographical Union with 35,000. Although the Federation is but three years old, these component unions are many of them old and wealthy, and with large lists of members. It is estimated, in fact, that all the trades included in the Federation can muster 650,000 men in round numbers. These men are associated, not promiscuously as in the Knights, but according to their trades. The dollar-a-day man does not interfere with the two-dollar-a-day man, a condition of the Federation which is worthy of organization has become or is becoming an indispensable condition of labor. No sooner does one great labor order decay than, behold, another has already arisen to take its place. The new one is different from the old in its constitution and methods only so that the workmen of America are thoughtful and progressive, and that they have in them those qualities of statesmanship that appreciate the meaning of the teachings of experience and profit thereby.

**Civil Service Reform Misrepresented.**  
Why should the man who placed in an office expect to stay there till his hair is white? The argument can be made to keep in office men, while others just as good, and perhaps better, are kept out. The man on the outside is capable of just as good work as the man who is in, and why should he be kept out? Look the matter as you may, it only becomes the more evident that the civil service reform continues to be given as rewards for party work.

The above is an utterance of Mr. Cleveland's civil service commissioner, Mr. Edgerton. In the course of a public argument to sustain his assertion that the reform is a "hollow and extravagant fraud." It is a complete misrepresentation of the spirit and intent of civil service reform. The impression that is attempted to be conveyed that the reform system undertakes to keep men in office when they have become wholly or partly incapacitated to perform the duties incumbent upon them is entirely erroneous. Civil service reform keeps in nobody. No employee of the government is protected against discharge by the civil service law. Heads of departments are just as free to remove their subordinates as they ever were. Indeed they are freer, for under the old system a considerable number of the clerks were under the protection of distinguished senators or representatives, or powerful political leaders, and their superiors were frequently deterred from removing them, when the interest of the service clearly demanded a change. Under the new system the power of the reform is directed against the fear of offending their powerful backers and thus jeopardizing their own heads. Under the civil service system that fear is removed either completely or to a very large extent. So that as matter of fact it is much easier to get rid of an incompetent clerk, or one who has outlived his usefulness, under the reform system than under the old spoils system.

Mr. Edgerton misrepresents—and in the face too of a full knowledge of the facts—the design and purpose of the reform system. Civil service reform is designed to protect, not the government clerk, but the people. The people have a right to demand that their servants shall be honest, and competent to do the work assigned them. They have the right to demand that they shall get their money's worth. The reform system simply undertakes to see that this righteous demand is satisfied. Now when a man is appointed to a government office simply because he has been efficient in doing political work for one

# MISCELLANEOUS.

**Pears' Soap**  
Fair white hands.  
Bright clear complexion.  
Soft healthful skin.  
"PEARS"—The Great English Complexion Soap.—Sold Everywhere.

**PHENOMINAL BARGAINS**  
IN  
DRESS GOODS, CLOAKS AND SHAWLS  
TO REDUCE STOCK.

12 pieces Black Silk Warp Henriettes, positively the best made imported, at a discount of 25 to 50 cents per yard. Not a piece can be duplicated at the price.

4 pieces 50 in. English Serge reduced from - - - \$1.50 to 75 cents  
10 pieces 54 in. Winter reduced from - - - 1.00 to 62 1/2 "  
5 pieces 40 in. Rep. Supers reduced from - - - 1.00 to 50 "  
10 pieces 42 in. French Serges reduced from - - - 1.00 to 50 "  
20 pieces 36 in. All Wool Cheviots reduced from - - - 50 to 25 "  
2 pieces 22 in. Black Satin Rhadame reduced from - - - \$1.75 to 1.15  
2 pieces 21 in. Black Faille Francaise reduced from - - - 1.50 to 1.25  
Greatest bargains ever offered in New York. All our fine Shawls under price.

**TURNER BROS.**  
EIDER DOWNS  
in Plain and Fancy Styles.  
Friday Morning I shall offer 20 pieces, in the above goods at the extremely low price of

**50 Cents Per Yard!**  
These goods have never been sold for less than 75c per yard. Fully one year's profit to say that this is a Great Bargain.

**T. F. HOMSTED,**  
No. 451 Congress Street.

**Winter overcoats.**  
We offer for November and December selection, Ready Made Heavy Weight Overcoats of the grade manufactured and sold by us for many years. These substitutes for

**Custom-Made Garments!**  
from which they cannot be distinguished, and are sold much cheaper. Some varieties made from good domestic goods, trimmed and finished with the same care that is given to all our garments, are sold as low as

**\$5 \$6, \$7, \$8, \$10, \$12.50.**  
Other lots from more costly Foreign and American goods, range from

**\$15, \$18, \$20, \$22.50, \$25, \$30.**  
Our stock is full and complete.

**HASKELL & JONES,**  
Lancaster Building, 470 Congress St.

**Spectacles and Eye Glasses!**  
These lenses should all appear equally sharp! In a normal eye, the light rays entering the eye should be brought to a focus on the retina, and when they do not, the eye is said to be defective. The eye is a very delicate organ, and the lenses should be made to suit the eye. The lenses should be made to suit the eye. The lenses should be made to suit the eye.

**C. J. FARRINGTON'S**  
Great December Sale.

**Men's and Youths' Overcoats**  
Without regard to former prices. My stock of

**Youths' and Men's Suits**  
Is large, and to reduce it I will make a generous discount from regular prices.

**Children's Overcoats**  
With Caps and without, ages from 4 to 16.

I have made special reductions on, and in fact my entire stock is marked at prices which I am sure will meet the public. This is an opportunity you can afford to pass. Call and examine my stock and get the prices.

**C. J. FARRINGTON,**  
MIDDLE STREET

**FREE! FREE FROM PAIN!**  
Anti-Pain Plaster relieves Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Headache, Toothache, Nervous Pains, Strains and Weakness. A perfect new original, instantaneous, infallible, and safe remedy for all the above ailments. At all drug stores, or direct from C. J. Farrington, 110 Middle Street, Boston.

# MISCELLANEOUS.

**MARRINER & COMPANY, GROCERS.**  
All who want to buy the best goods the market affords, at lowest possible prices, should call at our store in the Whitney Building and see the advantages we can give. We have one of the largest and finest stores in New England, and carry only the finest goods obtainable, bought direct of Importers and Manufacturers for cash. We pay no profits to middle men, and can sell you goods lower than most retailers can buy them. We carry a full and complete stock of all kinds of Groceries, and if you visit our store in search of something first-class, you will find a large and varied assortment, in select form, and not be disappointed. We have a full stock of all the goods that one kind they have ever going without. We will call attention to a few of our specialties, as follows:

**TEA.**  
Our stock is very complete in this department, comprising over 30 grades of

**Formosa, Oolong, Amoy, English Breakfast, Japans, Gunpowder, Hyson, Etc.**  
All new Teas and brought direct from importers in large lots for cash. Our specialties in this line are:

**Coffee.**  
All grades, Green and Fresh Roasted Coffee, comprising Rio, Java, Mocha, and Java, but by no means less, the famous

**ARABIAN.**  
Sold only by us at 35 cents per pound. This is the finest Arabica coffee ever offered for sale in the State.

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