LOYAL LEGION HAS WAR IN PROSPECT.

Veterans Jealous of the Glory They Won on the Battlefield.

New York Commandery Leads a Movement to Bar Some Non-Fighters.

Question of Eligibility to Be Fought Out in the Coming Detroit Convention.

WHO SHALL WEAR THE INSIGNIA?

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution Defining Hereditary Companions—Western and Boston Men Opposed to a Change.

Because of a belief on the part of the men who wore shoulder straps in the Union army from 1861 to 1865 that too many who never smelled gunpowder are becoming members of the Loyal Legion, the name of Governor Griggs, of New Jersey, which was recently suggested for membership in the New York Commandery, was not presented. The names of a number of others who are eligible for collateral membership have been withdrawn.

There was no opposition to Governor Griggs personally, but the consideration of his name it was thought would increase the differences in the Loyal Legion that will be fought out by the national Congress which meets in Detroit next Spring. The issues involve the question of whether a mistake was not made when the right of succession to membership was granted to the eldest son of the eldest brother of a deceased member, and to the brother in the case of there being no nephew. These are called collateral members, and the New York Commandery, of which General Grant's old friend, General Horace Porter, is the commander, has drafted an amendment barring collateral members. A circular setting forth the proposed change was sent a few days ago to the other nineteen commanderies in the Union.

In addition to fighting for this revision in the law of the order, the members who dine at Delmonico's every few months expect to assert the right of the men who smelled gun powder to the exclusive use of the red rosette and red ribbon of the Legion, a privilege which is disputed by some of the younger members in the ambitious West, and by some, too, in Boston.

The cause of the difference of opinion is the present involved plan of classifying members. The highest degree is that of Original Companion of the First Class. Only commissioned officers who served in the Union army during the rebellion are eligible to this rank, and they alone have the right to wear the red ribbon and red rosette.

Who Are Now Eligible.

First Class Hereditary Companions, according to the present plan, are the eldest direct male descendants, according to the rules of primogeniture of deceased original members of the first class, and of officers not members of the order but who were eligible. In case a first class deceased member has no lineal male descendant, then his eldest brother's eldest son is eligible, and if there are no nephews, then the eldest brother becomes eligible.

It is this right of succession to which the dignified captains, colonels and generals of New York object. They can stand having the sons of their deceased comrades in the order, but when it comes to giving a brotherly greeting to men whose fathers stayed at home while their brothers did the fighting and could find no one after the war to marry, the old veterans protest. The greatest grievance of all, however, is due to the right of brothers of deceased officers to become members under certain conditions. The members of the New York Commandry believe that this is hardly fair, and they have drafted an amendment to the constitution so that the sections providing for the election of hereditary members shall read as follows:

The Proposed Changes.

Section 3. First Class Hereditary Companions The eldest direct male lineal descendants according to the rules of primogeniture of deceased original companions of the first class and of officers not members of the order, but who were eligible as such, who shall have died, and whose direct descent shall in every case be traced anew from the original founder of the membership in the order, or from the deceased eligible officer and not otherwise, and when such descent is traced through females the elder line shall be preferred. Those elected under the provisions of this section shall be designated Hereditary Companions of the First Class.

Section 4. Any person eligible to membership by descent from an original companion or from a deceased eligible officer or by renunciation of another, may in writing waive and renounce his right to such eligibility in favor of the person next entitled.

Section 5. In case a companion of the first class or a person already eligible to membership is next in the line of descent from a deceased original companion, or from a deceased eligible officer, the eligibility last named shall devolve upon the person next entitled other than such living companion or person already eligible, or the direct lineal descendants of either.

Section 6. Any original companion having no direct lineal descendant may, by writing filed with the recorder of the commandery in which he may be enrolled, or by his last will and testament, or instrument in the nature thereof, nominate for life his successor from among his male heirs within the collateral branches of his family descending only from his own brother or sister, and the person so nominated shall become eligible upon the death of such original companion.

Section 7. In case of eligibility of a person under the age of twenty-one years, the right of succession or of renunciation thereof shall remain in abeyance until such person shall attain that age.

Section 8. The expulsion of a companion who has obtained membership by descent shall only operate to devolve his rights upon his decease upon the next person in the descent from the original companion or deceased eligible officer.

Section 9. The resignation of a companion or the dropping of a companion from the rolls for neglect or refusal to pay arrears shall, on his death, operate to devolve his rights upon the person next in descent from the original companion or deceased eligible officer.

Section 10. No eligibility to membership shall be derived from an original companion who has been expelled from the order and not reinstated.

Section 11. An applicant applying for membership by virtue of descent from a deceased companion, or from a deceased eligible officer, shall file affidavits and furnish such other evidence as may be required, setting forth the facts upon which the eligibility is claimed.

Old Fight Over Badges.

Colonel Ralph Prime, of the New York Commandery, is one of the chief advocates of the change, and General Porter is backing it, too. The opposition is expected to come from Western commanderies, that need all the strength they can get. They will argue that the New York Commandery is the only one that can afford to make the change, because it has more than its share of the men who wore shoulder straps.

The question of badges, that was fought out at the National Congress four years ago, will also come up again. According to the laws of the order, only the original members have the right to wear the familiar little button of red, with a few touches of blue. The members who didn't do any fighting wear a similarly shaped button, in which blue is the prevailing color. The ribbon of the more important badge, worn on dress occasions, is red in the centre for the veterans, and blue for the others. The edges of the ribbon for the former are blue, and for the latter red. There are two stripes of white in each.

The Massachusetts Commandery, of which Charles P. Clark is the commander and Charles Francis Adams an influential member, has given notice that at Detroit it will fight for the red ribbon and red rosette for all. This is in deference to the frequently expressed wish of the young members to have the same badge as their fathers. If they are to be of the Loyal Legion they want the right to be of as high standing as the old warriors, and in Boston the juvenile element is so strong that the veterans have acquiesced. The New York Commandery has voted in favor of continuing the distinction, and will lead the fight for the separate badges. The California Commandery has proposed a compromise, but the New Yorkers will not accept it.

The California idea is to give all members of the first class the right to wear the red badge, reserving the blue for the second and third classes. The second class consists of the eldest sons of living original companions of the first class. They remain in that class until their fathers die and then they became first class members. The third class consists of those gentlemen, who, in civil life, during the rebellion, were specially distinguished for loyalty to the Government. The power to elect such members ceased in 1890. It is understood that some of the Western commanderies are in favor of giving the young members the right to wear the red badge in order to encourage them to take interest in the organization. With Boston in line too, there are good reasons for believing the young members will win, although they lost four years ago.

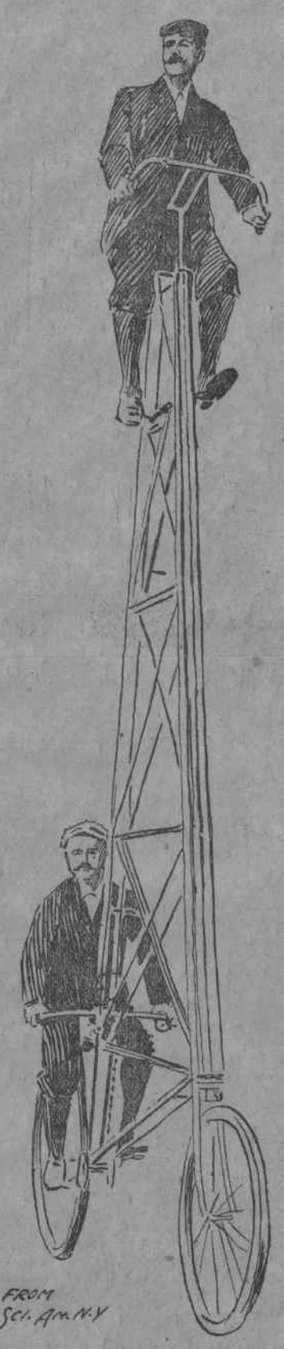
The National Congress is called to meet in Detroit in May, but it is probable that the convention will be postponed several weeks.

RECONNOITRING TANDEM

The Newest Thing in Cycles Is Twenty Feet from Mother Earth.

Probably the most grotesque production in the cycling line is the Eiffel tower tandem. Der Stein der Weiser shows an illustration of this curiosity. It is a strongly constructed bicycle, supporting a pyramid shaped frame of hollow tubing twenty feet high.

On top of this frame is a saddle with handle bars and treadles, the motion of



FROM Sci. Am. N.Y.

THE EIFFEL TANDEM.

which is transmitted by chains to the corresponding lower parts of the bicycle. The chief difficulty with which the riders have to contend is to keep the machine balanced, as will be easily understood from a glance at the illustration, but it must also be very difficult for the upper rider to reach his seat, which cannot be a very safe one.

MANY POOR THIS COMING CHRISTMAS.

On the Whole the Volume of Poverty Is Greater Than Last Year.

Records of Charitable Associations Reveal the Sad Fact.

Lodging Houses Show an Increase in the Number of Men Seeking Shelter and Food.

UNEMPLOYED ARE MORE NUMEROUS.

A Large Percentage Have Come from the Far Western States—Results of Visits Made to Superintendents of Various Relief Organizations.

When the Christmas of '96 dawns upon New York City, will it look upon more want and wretchedness and poverty among her poor than did the Christmas of a year ago?

Each year more time and thought are being given over to the unfortunate at Christmas, the one season in the year when the heart of the rich beats in unison with the heart of the poor. A careful going over the records kept by the known charitable associations of the city shows an increase in the number and severity of wants in almost every line covered by the relief and aid societies.

With the exception of the blizzard on December 16, the Winter so far has been on a fair average with that of 1895. Wages are better than they were this same time last year. On the day of the storm a call was sent in to the Labor Bureau of Cooper Union for 350 men to shovel snow at $1.50 a day. Last Winter the pay for this labor was $1.25.

The lodging houses show an increase in the number of men seeking for shelter and food, while all but one of the employment bureaus visited show a greater number of men and women out of employment.

At the City Lodging House, on First avenue, nearly 30 per cent of the men to apply for shelter were those who had not been in New York a year, the greater part of which came from the far Western States.

The Wayfarers' Lodge and Wood Yard, at No. 516 West Twenty-eighth street, has had a small increase over last year's calls for lodgings and work as a means of relief.

At the Cooper Union Employment Bureau the report compares favorably with that of last year, and tells of fewer men who are out of employment and of more calls from employers.

Dr. Tolman, speaking for the New York Society for Improving the Condition of the Poor, said:

"The amount of work done by our society this Winter varies but slightly from that of the previous Winter, though I should say that there have been more calls made upon us for immediate want than during these same months a year ago. There are fewer applications for work, but possibly that has been due to our having each applicant furnish three good references."

A talk with Mrs. Goodwin, superintendent of the New York Practical Aid Society, would indicate that the ratio of poor applying to the city for relief is higher than that of last Winter. This society, after investigating a case, goes about to furnish whatever may be needed in the way of food, fuel, clothing, helping to pay rent, undertakers' bills, etc.

"During the six years since the organization of this society," said Mrs. Goodwin, "I never remember being called upon for aid by such a large number of deserted wives and mothers as this Winter. The desertion of families among men of the poor is certainly on the increase. Our calls for immediate relief and practical aid average forty a day. A year ago our society gave at Thanksgiving, a dinner to 100 families, which represented 450 persons, while this year we felt called upon to furnish 133 dinners, representing 600 persons."

This Winter the Children's Aid Society, that provides shoes and clothing and other necessaries for children, has given more assistance than in any previous year.

Edward Devine, secretary of the Charity Organization Society, compares September, October and November of the present year with the corresponding months of the previous one, and notes a decrease of 20 per cent in relief calls, while December thus far shows an increase.

"There is certainly," said Mr. Devine, "as much want and misery among the poor in New York this Christmas time as there has been since 1893."

METRIC SYSTEM ADVOCATED

Manufacturers to Meet and Talk Over the Proposed New Law.

The Metric System bill, introduced in Congress by Representative Denis M. Hurley, of Brooklyn, will be discussed at a meeting on Tuesday evening of the Manufacturers' Association of Kings and Queens Counties. The meeting will be held in the Punch Mansion, in Clinton avenue.

Dr. T. C. Mendenhall, vice-president of the Meteorological Society, will advocate the measure, and Dr. Coleman Sellers, ex-president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, will oppose it. After the meeting a collation will be served in the banquet hall.

A Voice from the Dark Continent.

Rev. E. H. Richards, who has spent sixteen years in mission work in Central Africa, and has many thrilling stories to tell and curios to illustrate the manner of life in that land, will speak in the Summerfield M. E. Church, Washington and Greene avenues, Brooklyn, this evening, on "Home Life in Africa." Rev. Mr. Richards is about to return to his post in Africa.

WORKING ON MAIL TUBES.

Pneumatic System Between New York and Brooklyn Will Be Ready Next August.

The Pneumatic Transit Company, of Philadelphia, is now at work on the air tubes which are to transmit mail between the New York and Brooklyn Post Offices. These tubes are to be ten inches in diameter, instead of eight inches, as originally designed. This will make a carrying capacity to each of the mail cars or pouches of 600 letters. It will require but a few seconds' time to shoot one of these cars through the tube. An idea can be formed from this of the capacity of the system. There will probably never be mail enough deposited in Brooklyn to tax the capacity of the pneumatic tubes.

Postmaster Sullivan said yesterday that the pneumatic system would not be ready much before August 1 next.

The company which manufactures the tubes has nine months from the date of the signing of the contract last November to complete it.

In a general way the system between New York and Brooklyn will consist of two steel tubes running side by side across the Bridge. One tube will be used for mail out of Brooklyn and the other for mail from New York to Brooklyn.

At the Brooklyn terminal of the Bridge the tubes will enter the ground and run under Liberty and Washington streets to the office. In New York the tubes will be grounded and run under the City Hall Park to the Post Office.

It will cost the company $100,000 to establish the pneumatic system and the Government will pay a rental of $14,000 a year to transmit the mails.

The pneumatic system will do away with all of the mail wagons, except for heavy packages, which are now used to transfer the mails between the two offices. It will make a difference of a couple of hours' time also in the delivery of mails to the outgoing trains.

RAINES LAW A FARCE.

This Is What the Rev. Dr. Funk Will Tell the Brooklyn Grand Jury To-morrow.

The Rev. Dr. Isaac K. Funk intends to go before the Grand Jury in Brooklyn on Monday next and tell the body what he knows about the seamy side of life and the status of the Raines law in the city. Dr. Funk said yesterday there was no place where the law was so loosely enforced as in Brooklyn.

"Many Raines law hotels in Brooklyn," he said, "are similar resorts for the depraved. Brooklyn is now worse in some respects than New York. Evil abodes are now safer from raids in Brooklyn than in New York. One of our agents visited thirteen Raines hotels; seven he discovered were the resort of most disreputable people. The streets of Brooklyn are now haunted by people who should not be allowed to roam around, as they are in Captain Miles O'Reilly's precinct. I don't blame the police, but some one is to blame for the shameful condition of affairs in Brooklyn.

"I shall go before the Grand Jury with at least six witnesses to sustain what I say. The Raines law as regards Brooklyn is a farce, and it is a dangerous thing to render law farcical."

ARCHBISHOP IS A LITIGANT

Wants the Alyemeine Verein to Turn Over the Church of St. Stanislaus.

Archbishop Corrigan, in behalf of the Church of St. Stanislaus, on Stanton street, near Forsyth, has brought an action in the Supreme Court, against the Alyemeine Verein, a corporation, to compel it to turn the property over to the plaintiff.

The church was organized in 1878. The congregation did not have enough money to build the church, and the Alyemeine Verein agreed to build it, and, it is claimed, promised to turn it over to the church organization as soon as the latter was financially able to accept it. The church has paid all of the money advanced by the defendant, and now brings action to compel the defendant to turn the church over to them.

The plaintiff characterizes the action of the defendants in refusing to turn the church over to them as "violent and uncharitable," and says the church had to be closed in order to prevent a scandal.

FREE CURE FOR MEN.

A Michigan Man Offers to Send His Discovery Free.

Claims to Be a Benefactor to Weakened Mankind.

There is always more or less suspicion attached to anything that is offered free, but sometimes a man so overflows with generosity that he cannot rest until his discovery is known to the world in order that his fellow men may profit by what he has discovered. It is upon this principle that a resident of Kalamazoo, Mich., desires to send free to mankind a prescription which will cure them of any form of nervous debility; relieves them of all doubt and uncertainty which such men are peculiarly liable to, and restores the organs to natural size and vigor. As it costs nothing to try the experiment, it would seem that any man suffering with the nervous troubles that usually attack men who never stopped to realize what might be the final result, ought to be deeply interested in a remedy which will restore them to health, strength and vigor, without which they continue to live an existence of untold misery. As the remedy in question was the result of many years' research as to what combination would be peculiarly effective in restoring to men the strength they need, it would seem that all men suffering with any form of nervous weakness ought to write for such a remedy at once. A request to H. C. Olds, box 1107, Kalamazoo, Mich., stating that you are not sending for the prescription out of idle curiosity, but that you wish to make use of the medicine by giving it a trial, will be answered promptly and without evidence as to where information came from.

The prescription is sent free, and, although some may wonder how Mr. Olds can afford to give away his discovery, there is no doubt about the offer being genuine. Cut this out and send to Mr. Olds so that he may know how you came to write to him.

GREECE GETTING HER ARMY READY.

Does King George Mean to Declare War on the Sultan's Empire?

Said to Have Ordered a Regiment to the Turkish Frontier.

He May Adopt Forceful Methods to Compel the Porte to Carry Out Promised Reforms in Crete.

COUNTRY READY FOR THE STRUGGLE.

Treatment by the Turks of Christians in the Disturbed Island Has Aroused an Intensely Hostile Feeling All Over Greece.

A report was received yesterday by Editor Vlasto, of the Greek newspaper Atlantis, from his correspondent in Athens, that King George had ordered several battalions of reserves to form a permanent regiment, and to camp near the frontier of Turkey.

This action and the activity of the army and navy since the return of the King from his European trip have given rise to the report that preparations are now being made for a war with Turkey, and that hostilities will surely be commenced no later than next April.

The recent trip of King George to other European countries seems to have made a great change in his attitude toward the Ottoman Government, and it is generally believed that he has decided that should the powers of Europe decide to divide Turkey he would claim as Greece's share of the spoils the Island of Crete.

To Newly Equip the Army.

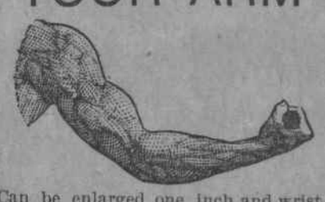
Another thing which leads to the war talk in Greece is that, despite the fact that the country is in a bad condition financially and paying only 30 per cent on the interest due foreign bondholders, King George has given orders that the army be at once supplied with the most modern rifles and other implements of war, which will entail an outlay of nearly $4,000,000.

The navy, too, is being placed on a war footing and will soon be ready for any emergency.

The discontent which exists in Greek military circles is the result of the apathy shown by their monarch in the recent revolution in Crete, when he took no action, although many members of the Greek army went to the aid of their neighbors. Now, however, it is said that King George has been acquainted with the deplorable state of affairs in Crete and, realizing that the reforms promised the Cretans by the Sultan will not be carried out, he intends to interfere.

The orders issued to the army and navy by the King have caused a great sensation in Greece, and as the army is greatly incensed at Turkey on account of her treatment of the Christians in Crete, many of whom are Greeks, it requires but the word of King George to precipitate a war.

YOUR ARM



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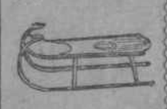

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