

before the public under repeated and recent formidable indictments in specific terms for "methods which are morally iniquitous and socially destructive," and that "the acceptance of such a gift involves the constituents of the board in a relation implying honor toward the donor and subjects the board to the charge of ignoring the moral issues involved." In conclusion the protest says: "We, the undersigned, therefore protest against any action by which our church may even seem to be compromised, and we plead with the officers of the board to decline the gift or to return it, if it has been accepted." Among the signers are Daniel Evans, Cambridge; Edward F. Sanderson, Providence, R. I.; George N. Gutterston, Derry, N. H.; N. Van Der Pyl, Marblehead, Mass.; Reuben Thomas, Brookline and James S. Williamson, Haverhill.

AN INTERESTING study of the government's emigration tables for January, 1904, is made by a writer for the Chicago Record-Herald. This writer says: "First it is to be noted that the total immigration for the month was 56,328, as against 28,624 in 1904, 31,851 in 1903, 23,229 in 1902, 18,297 in 1901 and 16,785 in 1900. It will be observed that it stands quite alone because of its magnitude, and there are notable peculiarities in the apportionment among races or countries. This will be appreciated after an examination of the following table, which gives a comparison of the Italian, Austrian and Russian immigration for the month of January in the years named:

	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Italy	5,961	8,140	6,340	7,964
Austria-Hungary	7,773	9,402	5,669	19,523
Russia	4,048	6,171	7,176	15,743

IT IS POINTED OUT by this same authority that these figures show that "there was a very remarkable increase for Austria-Hungary and Russia, between 1904 and 1905, and that Italy did not gain in anything like the same degree. It should be understood, however, that under normal conditions the Italian immigration is relatively small in January and very large in the spring months, and that it has led the list in recent fiscal years. But even with this qualification it is a significant fact that the percentages of increase should be what they are. Out of a total of 53,212 for Europe and a grand total of 56,265 Russia and Austria-Hungary contribute 35,266. In combination with the outclassed Italy they make up nearly 77 per cent of the entire immigration and more than 80 per cent of the immigration from Europe. Outside the three leaders we have only three countries or regions contributing more than a thousand each, as follows: England, 3,474; Germany, 1,424, and the West Indies, 1,184. Irish, Scotch, Swedes, Norwegians and Danes figure up only 2,289 all told. Taken separately they are negligible factors, quite lost in the great tide from the interior of the continent."

UNDER date of March 19, the Des Moines, Iowa, correspondent for the New York World sent to that paper the following dispatch: "When Frank Craig, a youth who claims Centerville as his home, appeared before Justice Duncan charged with vagrancy he asked that a physician examine him. 'I am told by doctors that I have two hearts,' he said, 'and that if I do not have fresh air constantly I will die.' City Physician Miller and Dr. Howard Gray looked the boy over and reported that he had exactly the same heart pulsations on right and left sides, and there was every external evidence of two hearts working. They asked to be given custody of Craig that his case might be investigated by the medical department of Drake University and other colleges. The young man was turned over to their custody. Doctors say medical books record three or four such cases."

E. S BROWNSON of Brooklyn, writing to the Brooklyn Eagle, says: "One policyholder of the Equitable who has promptly responded to my advertisement is the owner of a \$5,000 paid up policy. The amount of time and money which he would feel justified in using to protect that interest is, therefore, sharply limited. There are hundreds of thousands of policyholders in the same situation. In others words, the interest of the policyholders is widely scattered, and, on the other hand, the interest of the stockholders is closely concentrated. Now, the retirement of the \$100,000 worth of stock is a most excellent thing. It always has been and always will be a menace to the soundness of the company and the security of the policyholders. My object, then, as an individual policyholder is to record my protest against having the stockholders act as judge and jury in their own case and as buyers and sellers of

their own property, buying as directors and selling as stockholders. It is also my object to allow other policyholders to have a voice in this matter and join with me in my protest. As long as the control of \$100,000 worth of stock carries with it the control of over \$400,000,000 worth of assets it will be a constant threat to the welfare of the policyholders and must constrict the business of the company. If this is not the case with the stock in the hands of the present holders it is impossible to tell whose hands it may fall into in the future. But there is no wish on my part to confiscate the stockholders' property even for the benefit of the policyholders. We are perfectly willing to pay a fair price for it, and, for my part, I only want my fellow policyholders to have an opportunity to say so. Surely the worth of \$100,000 worth of stock limited in dividend to 7 per cent per annum is not a very difficult problem to solve, and the existence of a large and representative association of policyholders would be a very great help in securing the retirement of the stock at a fair valuation."

SINCE the publication of Mr. Brownson's letter, a compromise has been effected between the Alexander interests and the Hyde interests, which is in the nature of some concession to the policyholders. It is agreed that the policyholders shall elect 28 of the 54 directors, thus placing them in small majority. This does not appear to be entirely satisfactory, but it is plain to be seen that the Equitable sees the "handwriting on the wall" and will soon be compelled to give its policyholders a clearly controlling voice in the directorate. The time is passed when a few men can use for their own profit hundreds of millions of assets held in trust for others.

THE NEW YORK legislature passed a bill providing that divorce suits might be brought by persons living outside of the state, when the offense was committed in New York state and the defendant resided there. Governor Higgins vetoed the bill and in his veto message said: "This would involve a radical change in the policy of the state governing actions for a divorce. It is not clear to my mind that any good purpose would be served by the amendment. Its unquestioned effect would be to open the doors of our courts to non-residents of this state seeking divorces from our residents, and thereby to increase greatly the number of divorce decrees already too numerous, and to break down the standard maintained by this state in regard to actions brought to dissolve the marriage tie. It would, in my judgment, be a step backward for the state of New York to leave the high ground it has hitherto occupied in this important matter of domestic morals. Doubtless a lawyer may argue that the amendment is consistent and proper. Indeed, of all the judges whose opinions I have been able to obtain on this point, but one advised me that, in his judgment, it would be against sound legal policy for me to approve this amendment. I have, however, come to the conclusion that the plea of legal consistency is of little weight when compared with the duty of maintaining unshaken the present conservative position of the state on the divorce question."

WASHINGTON dispatches say that Secretary Hay will do no more work until late in the fall and if his health then be not greatly improved, he will retire from the cabinet. The Washington correspondent for the New York World says: "It is practically certain that Mr. Hay will be succeeded by Secretary Taft, who will be the real head of the state department while Mr. Hay is away. The president doubts that Mr. Hay will ever be strong enough to resume his official duties, and he already has selected Mr. Taft as his successor, barring some political contingency which now is unforeseen. Surgeon-General Rixey, who has been attending Mr. Hay for years, is by no means confident that the long rest which he has ordered will result in the complete restoration of his health. He goes no further than to say that he 'hopes' Mr. Hay will be sufficiently benefitted to take up his work again by the time congress convenes next fall. The attack of faintness to which Mr. Hay succumbed as he was sailing from New York yesterday is accepted as an indication that he is weaker than had been supposed. As soon as he returns from his two months' cruise Mr. Hay will, by Dr. Rixey's orders, go to his summer home at Lake Sunapee, N. H., where he will stay until just before congress convenes. His condition then will determine whether he is to remain in the cabinet. While he is at his summer home Mr. Hay will not be bothered with official cares. During the three months that Mr. Taft is to be away

state department matters of importance will be taken up directly with the president by Acting Secretary Loomis, and questions of great moment, if any arise, will be decided at the cabinet meetings."

HARRY S. NEW of Indianapolis has been chosen as vice chairman of the republican national committee. He was chosen by Mr. Cortelyou and will serve until the committee shall choose a successor to Mr. Cortelyou. It was reported that Vice President Fairbanks was opposed to the selection of Mr. New, but the Washington correspondent for the Cincinnati Enquirer says that he is authorized to announce that Mr. New's appointment is agreeable to Mr. Fairbanks. This correspondent adds: "There is no question but that in his capacity as the nominal head of the ruling body of the republican party Mr. New would be able to be of material assistance to one or another of the candidates for the 1908 nomination. But it remains to be developed whether he will exert his influence in any particular direction. In a large sense he is the representative of the national administration, and if the president and Postmaster General Cortelyou should determine in the course of time to support a certain man for the nomination, Mr. New no doubt would do all in his power to aid that individual's interest. More than one politician believes the president would prefer to see Secretary of War William H. Taft nominated as against anybody else. Others think former Secretary of War Elihu Root is his first choice."

HARRY S. NEW has been the Indianapolis member of the republican national committee during two presidential campaigns. The Enquirer correspondent says: "He is the son of Hon. John C. New, for many years one of the republican leaders of the Hoosier state, and consul-general at London during President Harrison's administration. The new vice chairman is 47 year old, and inherited from his father a predilection for politics. In Indiana it is generally understood he is not at all enthusiastic over Vice President Fairbanks as a presidential candidate. As acting chairman of the committee he will play a prominent part in making the arrangements for the next republican convention. Accompanying Mr. Cortelyou's announcement of the appointment of Harry S. New as vice chairman of the committee, was a statement that he had designated Representative J. W. Babcock a member of the committee for the state of Wisconsin. Mr. Babcock will fill the vacancy caused by the death of Postmaster General Henry C. Payne, who served on the committee for twenty years. This appointment may not be especially pleasing to the LaFollette organization, which came very near defeating Babcock for re-election last fall. But it is hoped the veteran representative will be able to restore harmony between the two factions in the Badger state."

MILWAUKEE dispatches indicate that the selection of Mr. Babcock does not meet with unanimous approval in Wisconsin. The Milwaukee correspondent for the Chicago Record-Herald, under date of March 21, says: "The appointment of Congressman Babcock as member of the republican national committee from Wisconsin to succeed Henry C. Payne has caused a stir among the friends of Governor LaFollette, who say that Mr. Babcock does not represent the republicans of Wisconsin. Some go so far as to say he does not represent either faction. A state senator said today that the congressman was repudiated by the republican party and received only a few hundred plurality in his district, where Roosevelt received 16,000. The whole republican state central committee asked for the appointment of W. H. Connor, the chairman of that committee. It is intimated that efforts in the direction of a change will be made."

THE correspondent of the London Mail at Port Arthur describes an incident of the siege of the fortress, when after a disastrous attempt to capture a Russian position, a Japanese reserve regiment was ordered to renew the attempt. Not a man stirred. The major in command advanced alone, vainly calling to his men to follow. He was soon killed and, after a time the regiment, apparently struck with remorse, advanced to the assault, which completely failed. The regiment was sent back to the rear, punished with forced drills and compelled to listen to services in memory of its dead major before it was allowed to go to the front again.