

and a free school' for the education of poor children. A short time previous to receiving the royal 'letters patent,' or in 1611, Sutton had purchased the Howard house, as the Charter house (now one of London's most notable public schools), was then called, for £13,000. It was this old Charter house, once the home of the Carthusian monks, that the philanthropist designed for his home for the aged as well as a school for the young. But before anything further was done in the matter Thomas Sutton died. In his will was a clause which provided £5,000 for 'the building of mine intended hospital, chapple and school.' Sutton dying without fully establishing his institution or without perfecting the corporation which should control it, a nephew, Simon Baxter by name, brought a suit for trespass against the then occupants of Charter house, by virtue of its purchase by Thomas Sutton, and also to set aside the bequest of £5,000 in the will. Among the counsel for the plaintiff was Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam, who after the adverse decision to the client suggested to the king that the whole Sutton estate, as he needed the money, might well be conveyed to him for his personal use. The plaintiff contended, among other things, that there was no 'incorporation' in the letters patent of the king, and that, even admitting the incorporation, there was 'no foundation' made by Sutton. The distinguished counsel, Lord Bacon, also maintained that 'the place of every corporation should be made certain. For without a place or location, there can not be any incorporation.' The arguments were heard by a bench of eleven justices in the exchequer chamber. Among these judges was Chief Justice Edward Coke, of the court of common pleas, who gave the decision, and who sustained the will of Thomas Sutton as well as all of the decedent's transactions in reference to his intended hospital while in the life. Also 'it is not requisite,' said Justice Coke, 'that there always be truth in the name of the corporation either of a hospital or any other body politic.' This decision likewise says, 'a thing which is not in esse, but in apparent expectancy, is regarded in law.' 'A corporation aggregate of many,' also said Justice Coke, 'is invisible, immortal and rests only in intention and consideration of the law. Corporations can not commit treason nor be outlawed. * * * For they have no souls.'

REAR ADMIRAL Willard H. Brownson, chief of the bureau of navigation, created something of a sensation in naval circles by sending his resignation to the president. It was quickly accepted. It later leaked out that for some time trouble has been on in the navy department. The Washington correspondent for the Chicago Record-Herald says: "Investigation tonight, however, lifts the veil of mystery without minimizing the sensation in the slightest degree. Within the last few weeks there has been a radical difference of opinion between the president and the bureau of navigation. The president wanted Surgeon Charles E. Stokes put in command of the hospital ship Relief, now at the Mare Island navy yard. The bureau threw up its hands at the thought of any except an officer of the line being placed in command of any vessel connected with the navy. And when it became apparent that the president would have his way, as he usually does, Admiral Brownson up and resigned rather than sign the order as the president directed. Surgeon General Rixey originated the idea of having a hospital ship join the battle ship fleet under direct command of a medical officer. Brownson protested that a staff officer had no business in such a position of command and that such an appointment would be subversive of discipline to an alarming extent. The president sustained Surgeon General Rixey. Admiral Brownson would not stand for it and wrote his resignation with hot ink and a smoking pen. Commander Cameron McR. Winslow has been selected to succeed Admiral Brownson as chief of the bureau of navigation. Commander Winslow, who will not attain his promotion to a captaincy until next month in the regular course of events finds himself with the rank of rear admiral tonight by virtue of his new assignment."

THE DENVER News says: "The latest development is a 'personal letter campaign' conducted by the people of Minnesota upon the people of Colorado by friends of Governor Johnson of that state. Advance copies of the personal letters reached Denver yesterday. If you have a friend in Minnesota you'll probably get a letter. It will not be exceedingly pressing—

chiefly an inquiry regarding the position of Colorado, as the state with enormous power gained through its selection as the place for the holding of the convention. This first letter is mild. Likely if you do not reply to it or your reply is not favorable to Governor Johnson, you will receive other letters. The campaign bears the ring of earnestness as far as it has developed—it probably will be continued industriously. A large number of Denver men report having received letters from friends and acquaintances in Minnesota. Starting with the extension of compliments upon Denver's selection as the convention city, these letters proceed with the main object, an effort to determine the chances for Governor Johnson in the state that holds such a commanding political position. Following is one of the letters received from St. Paul: 'Dear —: It is proper that congratulations be extended to Denver and Colorado upon securing the next democratic national convention, to be held in your auditorium. The people here are very much interested in having Governor Johnson of Minnesota nominated as the democratic candidate for the fall presidential campaign. From your close association with the newspaper men you are in an excellent position to judge of the sentiment of the people of Denver and the state toward the different candidates. What seems to be the sentiment in Denver and the state toward Bryan? Governor Johnson has made a very good impression upon the heads of the democratic party, and we feel that, if given a boost by the people of Denver and the state of Colorado, his chances for securing the nomination are most excellent. What, in your opinion, are the chances of securing this co-operation of Denver and Colorado for Governor Johnson? An article in the Pioneer-Press of December 13 shows how favorably Governor Johnson was received on his recent eastern visit. I shall be interested in receiving your opinion of the political situation.'

THE TROUBLE in the American navy is becoming serious. A Washington dispatch carried by the Associated Press after the announcement of Admiral Brownson's resignation follows: "Not since the day preceding the passage of the personnel law ten years ago has the feeling between line and staff of the navy been so acute as it is today as a result of the refusal of Admiral Brownson to transmit orders from his superior officer, the president of the United States, assigning a naval surgeon to command vessels in the navy. In the case of the personnel act, it was Mr. Roosevelt, then assistant secretary of the navy, who acted the part of pacificator and succeeded in bringing the two warring factions together in support of the legislation, which, for a decade past, though a makeshift, has served to maintain peace between the two factions in the navy. In the present instance, however, the efforts of the president to reconcile the surgeons and the line officers have failed and it is probable that the whole controversy will be threshed out on its merits in congress. This is much deprecated by conservative officers in both line and staff, as likely to prove prejudicial to the navy's interest as a whole, for they believe that in order to succeed in securing for the four great battleships, the cruisers, scouts and submarines the year's naval estimates, in addition to securing legislation that will better the lot of naval officers personally, the navy must present a united front, which can not be done if just at the beginning of a session line and staff are to engage in a fierce strife. Through the published statement of Surgeon General Rixey, the merits of the doctors' side of the case in this instance have been clearly set forth. Line officers believe that in common fairness, they should also have a hearing. But they are in an embarrassed position in that respect. Admiral Brownson preceded his resignation by a cold, clear, logical presentation of his reasons why he objected to the assignment of a physician to command a naval ship, even though that vessel was exclusively devoted to hospital use. The statement was submitted to the president and, notwithstanding the staff has had its say in print, applications at the White House are met with refusal. Now it is clearly impossible for Admiral Brownson or any of his line officers to make public a copy of the letter without incurring the risk of a court-martial on charge of disrespect toward their superior officer, the president of the United States. So they can only look for a change in the executive mind, or congressional investigation which will develop all the facts. It may be stated in the absence of the text of Admiral Brownson's letter that his letter objecting to the execution of the president's

order to put a surgeon in command of the hospital relief was twofold. In the first place, like every line officer, he believed that the subordination of any line officer, no matter how low in grade, to a staff officer on ship board, was bad policy and subversive of naval discipline. But a stronger objection in his mind was that the proposed action was clearly illegal inasmuch as it is forbidden by law or naval regulation to assign a staff officer to command ships. It is only fair to the staff side to state that this is debatable ground and that it would not be difficult to construe the naval laws and regulations either way. So it is not to be doubted that when the subject comes before congress for consideration the lawyers in that body will find material to support either contention."

A GLASS DRESS and iron coat is described by a writer in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch in this way: "One of the latest novelties in dress material is reported to be a cloth made from spun glass and it can be had in white, green, lilac, pink and yellow. The inventor of the fabric is an Austrian and he declared that it is as bright and as supple as silk and is none the worse for being either stained or soiled. The Russians manufacture a fabric from the fiber of a filamentous stone from the Siberian mines which is said to be of so durable a nature that it is practically everlasting. The material is soft to the touch and pliable in the extreme, and has only to be thrown into a fire when dirty to be made absolutely clean. Iron cloth is largely used today by tailors for making the collars of coats sit properly. It is manufactured by a new process from steel wool and has the appearance of having been woven from horsehair. Some time ago a woolen manufacturer in the north of England succeeded in making a fabric from old ropes. He obtained a quantity of old rope and cordage, unraveled them and wove them by a secret process into a kind of rough cloth."

A CHAPTER in the "Life of Jay Cooke," written by Dr. Oberholtzer is devoted to the panic of 1873. Referring to this chapter a writer in the Wall Street Journal says: "It was the failure of this firm that was the immediate cause of the panic, although the great fundamental causes lay, of course, much further back than the operations of this great financier in the promotion of the Northern Pacific railroad. Just as during this year, many of our bankers have been apprehensive of a financial collapse and yet have, by the force of circumstances, been drawn into the whirlpool, so Mr. Cooke, far-sighted man as he was, understood clearly the conditions which surrounded him all over the world, and yet felt so secure in his own position and was so confident of the ultimate success of the Northern Pacific railroad enterprise, that he had really no conception of the danger in which his own firm was placed. There is no more dramatic incident in all financial history than that of the day of the Jay Cooke failure. The day and night preceding this event President Grant was the guest of Mr. Cooke at his magnificent home at Ogontz, near Philadelphia. President Grant was a frequent visitor at Mr. Cooke's house and the two men were on terms of close intimacy. Mr. Cooke was apparently unaware that the storm was to burst which would sweep his great banking house out of existence, when on the morning of the eventful September day he bade President Grant good-by and went to the office of his firm in Philadelphia and took up the threads of his business. During that morning his partners in New York, unable to withstand the pressure upon them, closed the doors of the New York office, which was at the corner of Wall and Nassau streets. Mr. Cooke was then obliged to close the doors of his Philadelphia office, and the great panic of 1873 started in and swept with tremendous force over the entire land. Mr. Cooke is not the only financier who has been astonished at his own failure. In the crisis of 1907 many a banker and business man has had as rude and violent awakening from a sense of security. Mr. Cooke, says Dr. Oberholtzer, had appreciated the unsoundness in the financial arrangements of the government and of private persons, firms and corporations in the boom preceding 1873. He had seen the wrongs of the system very clearly, but, as one who is in the current will, he allowed himself to be swept along with the tide, especially after he had become so deeply involved in the Northern Pacific enterprise. The long inflation had brought on a promoters' fever, leading inevitably to the crash."