

people and they are called upon to manage and direct its workings.

Dr. R. L. Paine, one of the pioneer church workers of Lincoln, is president of the league. B. A. Woodard is vice president and Mrs. Dora Doyle is second vice president. The two other vice presidencies are held by Peter McNichol and Bertha Brown. Alva Townsend is secretary and Dan DePutron treasurer.

Other church societies are numerous and in flourishing condition. Mrs. H. E. Harvey is the chairman of the Progressive circle, the Central is presided over by Mrs. Dr. Finney and the Kensington by Mrs. Charles Robbins. Mrs. E. B. Kellogg is chairman of the South Side circle and Mrs. Frank Graham of the North Side. East Lincoln circle is in charge of Mrs. E. W. Allen, Star circle by Mrs. B. O. Wilson and the social afternoon organization by Mrs. Frank Lahr.

B. L. Paine is superintendent of the Sunday school. C. H. Gordon is assistant superintendent, R. S. Hunt, supervisor of the junior department, Anna Hawes, supervisor of the intermediate department, Mrs. Lella Adams, supervisor of the primary department and Will B. Ryons secretary. W. W. Woods is treasurer and E. B. Woodward librarian. J. S. Leonhardt is chorister and Alice B. White organist.

There is a missionary society for foreign work and home labor directed by women and also two corresponding organizations where the young ladies have charge of the work. In addition there is a Mite society.

The young men and the young women each have a club. C. H. Gordon is president of the male organization, I. J. Ayers secretary and C. A. Musselwhite treasurer. Mrs. L. C. Richards is president of the young women's club.

The committee which has superintended the finances of the church has had an arduous task. The committee consists of A. R. Talbot, J. T. Mastin, M. A. Warren, E. H. Steckley, H. A. Tebbetts, C. W. Rieger and E. M. Coffin.

The building committee is now almost relieved from duty. The members who directed the construction of the church are: J. E. Miller, George A. Adams, L. C. Richards, H. K. Burket and B. L. Paine.

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#### White Horses

There is a very old custom or game or incantation played by generation after generation of high school girls. It is called "counting white horses." The rule is to count white horses, not counting the same one twice in the same day, until the counter has recorded ninety-nine. The girl who counts must touch her right forefinger to her lips, then to the palm of her left hand, and then strike her fists together, little finger end to thumb end. After ninety-nine white horses have been seen and recorded thus cabalistically, one white mule must be counted before the tale is complete. After these ceremonies have been performed, and the white mule recorded with an especial ceremony, the first unmarried man that the girl who has made her tally meets, is to be her husband. Well, a group of half a dozen high school girls had completed the course of ninety-nine horses, but the old span of white mules that used to tug stone on a low-hung stone-wagon seems to have disappeared from the streets of Lincoln. The girls watched for the white mule for weeks, but without finding one. But passing by the postoffice one day on her way to school one of the girls discovered the fabled magic beast. She hurried to the high-school and got there a few moments before school time. She gasped the news and the other girls seized their "things" and ran down to the square where the poor old mule was hitched. They stayed only long enough to perform the ceremony, but they were late. The teamster looked upon the mule with a new sense of his preciousness after the girls had left.

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Why will you persist in leading a life of crime?  
I am afraid it's heredity, Judge; my grandfather was a minister's son.

## OBSERVATIONS

BY SARAH B. HARRIS

#### A Fusion Victory

MR. SETH LOW'S plurality over Mr. Shepard, Tammany candidate for mayor of New York, is about thirty thousand votes. Mr. Bryan's plurality in New York in 1900 was about thirty-five thousand votes. Consequently the new mayor of New York owes his election as much to democratic votes as to republican.

For once reform energy was completely fused. The women of New York had much to do with Mr. Low's election. The revelations made by the Mazet committee appointed by the New York state legislature, by the press, the City Vigilance League, the Society for the Prevention of Crime, the Society for the Suppression of Vice, the churches and the settlements upon the East side, by the Committee of Fifteen, and by the ministers, convinced most of the decent men of New York that national politics had very little to do with the administration of the business of a city; and Seth Low got a plurality of thirty thousand democratic and republican votes.

The Committee of Fifteen, composed of prominent business men, lawyers and labor leaders, was appointed by the Chamber of Commerce. Members of the committee raided gambling house after gambling house in districts where the police asserted there was not a single one. Absolute and indisputable evidence showing the existence of collusion between the gamblers and Chief of Police Devery was secured. The committee was greatly assisted by Justice Jerome of the Court of Special Sessions. His assistance was invaluable, especially as the courts were filled by Tammanyites anxious to block by legal conventionalities the operations of the committee, by releasing prisoners and in other subtle ways known and practiced by Tammany judges.

But with Jerome's aid, and in spite of the sympathy of the judges with the law-breakers, a number of convictions were secured and other prisoners jumped their bail rather than stand trial for the crimes charged against them. The most important conviction was that of Wardman Bissert, who was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary for blackmailing a prostitute.

Some of the richest and most influential women in New York—women who are supposed not to possess any ideas or wishes about politics or municipal business—were intensely interested in this election. Rich or poor, aristocratic or plebeian, women in business and in society are intensely and vitally interested in goodness and in the suppression of crimes and opportunities for crime against their sex. There was not a disinterested good woman in New York from Helen Gould to the poorest shop girl—and each one of these women has her sphere of influence upon which the other does not intrude—who was not anxious to help suppress the infamous "cadet" system. All these women were against Croker. Some thought that Shepard alone, on a ticket otherwise made up of Tammany men, would be enough to enforce the laws and punish the men who have established, developed and are still carrying on the "cadet" business with the knowledge and under the protection of the police.

The rich women contributed nearly fifty thousand dollars to the anti-Tammany campaign. The efforts of humbler women were just as constant and were directed by the indignation feminine, which is a motor of unmeasured but occasionally demonstrated power. The wrongs of the hundreds of young girls sacrificed to Tammany made furies of women whom poverty or friendlessness had not abandoned to its

greed. Rich and poor united to influence men who never voted anything but the democratic ticket, to vote against Tammany. This republican and democratic fusion success in an overwhelmingly democratic city is due to the aroused indignation and hatred of the men and women of New York. A large majority of the people love honor and decency. Most of the people are honest, and their regard for integrity overbalances party affiliations. A democrat's love for his party and its principles is tenacious in the extreme, but a fortnight ago thirty thousand democrats in New York renounced their life-long preference for democratic candidates in order to rebuke the most infamous political organization in the world. The spectacle is a credit to the citizenship of New York. If non-partisan citizenship can be organized into a body with correlated functions while it has the chance under Low's administration, Tammany will stay beaten. Otherwise Tammany's retirement from power will be only temporary.

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#### Seth Low

An opinion of Mayor-elect Low by a former chancellor of the Nebraska university, Mr. James H. Canfield, appears in the current number of the Review of Reviews.

The Roosevelt type is repeated in Mr. Low. Direct, scholarly, forcible, able, with executive and political ability, the latest evolution of American culture and the strenuous life is of a quality and even of a frequency which should convince Americans especially of the truths of evolution and of the certain improvement of political conditions. Mr. Low is fifty years old, but he has the vigor and the enthusiasms of a young man.

Mr. Canfield expresses his entire belief in the new creed that citizens are partners in the business of running a city. He says that "The newer and clearer and more practical thought in public affairs is that any unit of civic life is nothing more or less than a business corporation, a very practical and successful co-operative scheme. A city charter and its accompanying ordinances are a necessary expansion and enlargement of the constitution and by-laws of every four-corners debating club or high school literary society or labor union, since each simply determines the ways and means of best accomplishing the objects of the organization." \* \* \* "For more than twenty years Mr. Low has stood squarely and insistently and unselfishly and fearlessly for this theory of business principles and non-partisan methods in local affairs." \* \* \* During his mayoralty the public affairs of Brooklyn became as though they were his own private business, and as far as possible were administered upon precisely the same basis. He tried to save money for the people precisely as he would have tried to make money for himself. He regarded taxes paid by citizens as a definite investment for a definite purpose, and he was as eager to realize upon the investment as though it had been made by or for a corporation of which he was a director or the president. He made character and efficiency the sole test for appointment to public service and the sole assurance of continued tenure. He carried municipal administration to the highest point of efficiency ever reached in this country. This is why in the hour of their supreme need of honest, competent, fearless administration of civic affairs, hundreds of thousands of our citizens have instinctively and confidently turned to Seth Low."

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#### Li Hung Chang

When General Grant on his trip around the world met Earl Li, he was

greatly impressed by his simplicity and wisdom. Although General Grant was always a modest man, at that time he was the most talked about and courted of any man in the world. Queen Victoria and the lesser monarchs of Europe were eclipsed in the effulgence of the great American. General Grant had accomplished the greatest military success of the century if we leave Napoleon out of the question. And Europe worships military heroes. An hereditary, divine-right king occupies the centre of the stage and is the cynosure of all eyes until a military genius like Napoleon, Wellington or Grant comes into the neighborhood, then there is a glory between the king and the people that obscures the king.

Even a modest man, like Grant, worshipped by commoner and king, must grow to regard himself as an oracle. When asked for his opinion about Li Hung Chang, after Chang had entertained him at his country home and presented him with costly jewels, Grant said that Li was one of the three greatest men in the world. The other two were Beaconsfield and Tolstoy.

By later units of measure Li Hung Chang rates higher than either of these men. Beaconsfield died without having accomplished anything of permanent value to his nation or race, and left only a brilliant record. Tolstoy has ignored his superhuman gift of telling a story well, and has preferred to become an indifferent economist and interpreter of the Scriptures. Men who are numbered first, second or third great of a century or generation, counting in, as Grant did, all nations, must in their lifetime have affected humanity, leaving a sign of their existence for at least a generation. It is only about twenty years since Beaconsfield died, and the sands are smooth. There is no sign that he once passed this way. It is too early to form any judgment about Tolstoy. He may modify the institutions of his country, but it is doubtful. He is not enough of a politician. He is not content to keep just a little ahead of the people. He soars and expects them to follow his flight as well as they can with their eyes and perhaps try it themselves. The feet of the mujiks cling to the ground, and they laugh at Tolstoy and wonder what he is trying to do.

Grant also compared Li Hung Chang to Gambetta and to Bismarck. In regard to this John Russell said: "Behind western statesmen were established civilizations, the forces of advanced empires. They did not create but carried out what was begun. Bismarck was the successor of Frederick the Great, Gambetta of Mirabeau, while Lord Beaconsfield could only have found his ideal in the conquering soul of Chatham. Li Hung Chang was alone with his problem. History gave him no precedent. The outside world had no sympathy for him. The western nations looked upon China with carnivorous eyes. He accepted the appalling duties before him. He rejected nothing. He had breadth, depth, omniscience. He meant that China should grow, broaden, rise. He worked for the Chinese people with an intelligence and courage that must forever rank him as one of the world's foremost men of this age. Yet Li, with all his greatness, was still a Chinaman. He established the China Merchants' company and brought his commerce under the flag of China, but he was devoted to his native ways in matters of religion. His superstition or respect for what the mass of the people believed in was profound. He would not get an inch from his cue nor let fuzz show on his foretop. He worshipped the dead ancestors with all the fervor of a true Chinaman."

Considering these qualities it is hardly comprehended why Li Hung Chang, in spite of the Japanese defeat and he was premier, never lost his popularity with the people, and why the Dowager Empress never dared to punish him severely for anything. Earl Li and Croker's political doom was sealed when he transferred his residence to Wantage, England. Read the names of the leaders of Tammany Hall, and these men going to be bossed by a