

THE UNION LEAGUE CLUB.

A STIRRING PROTEST AGAINST THE NEW COMPULSORY EDUCATION BILL.

There was an unusually large attendance at last night's meeting of the Union League Club, the special attraction being an exhibition of pictures by American figure painters, together with an exhibition of Persian and Indian art. At the business meeting the proposition to amend the by-laws so as to provide a different method of appointing the Nominating Committee was enlarged by the reference of the subject of a general revision of the by-laws to a special committee of five, to be appointed by the President.

A measure which is now pending for the second time in the Legislature, and that seems to have some persistent force behind it pushing it on, was some time ago taken into special consideration by the Committee on Political Reform. It is the bill entitled "An act to secure to children the benefits of elementary education and making an appropriation therefor," and in effect it is a substitute for the present compulsory education law, except that it is a further-reaching and much more stringent law.

The committee, by E. B. Hinsdale, its Chairman, presented an exhaustive report upon the proposed measure, in which they say:

"The proposed bill is so extraordinary in its provisions as to require a careful and critical examination. It incorporates within it certain principles and methods of action that are entirely inconsistent with individual liberty and the sacred rights of the family. The bill seems to be in some measure a substitute for the act passed in 1874, but with additional powers and limitations that make it a dangerous and vicious bill.

"It provides that every parent and guardian shall cause all children between the ages of seven and eleven to attend some public school in the city or school district in which such child shall reside, or some school other than a public school, and in which at least certain common school branches are taught; that for every neglect of the duty thus imposed the guilty person commits a misdemeanor, and is subject to fine and imprisonment therefor.

"The bill invades the privacy of the domestic circle and supersedes the authority of the parent in the education of children of tender age, and substitutes therefor persons authorized by act of the Legislature to discharge these delicate and important duties.

"The tendency of this bill if enforced will be to weaken parental authority over the children and divide responsibility between the parents and the State authorities for their education. It is in the line of the most vicious class of legislation with which we are afflicted—that of State interference and control in matters with which the State of right ought not to interfere."

The committee submitted the following, which was unanimously concurred in without debate:

Resolved, That the Union League Club deems this bill, in the particulars mentioned in this report, a menacing invasion of the sacred rights of the family in the matter of the education of children, and we request the members of the Legislature to so vote as to defeat the passage of the bill.

CONNECTICUT DEMOCRATS.

ABOUT NINETY PER CENT. OF THEM ARE NOT OF THE HILL TYPE.

Col. Norris G. Osborn, editor of *New-Haven Register*, one of the rock-ribbed Democratic organs of Connecticut, said some very interesting things about politics in the Nutmeg State in an interview with a *TIMES* reporter at the Hoffman House last night. Col. Osborn is an aggressive and progressive Democrat. The new Independent Democratic Club of Connecticut, which *THE TIMES* has already described, has been criticised by some Connecticut people as an association likely to breed further dissensions in the Democratic ranks in the State.

"That view of it," said Col. Osborn, "is wholly wrong. The club starts out with a promise of being a great benefit to the party. It is really an outgrowth of the Tariff Reform Club, which was organized by the Independents, or Mugwumps, in New-Haven in the campaign of 1884, and which did much to carry the State that year for Cleveland. In 1888 this club had developed into the Reform Club, and to its efforts the fact that Connecticut gave Cleveland its Electoral vote in 1888 is largely due. Those districts in the State left to be taken care of by the club's workers gave increased gains, and it was these gains substantially that gave the small Democratic majority. Now the Reform Club has broadened out into this new association which, although bound by no iron-clad ties to the regular Democratic organization, will be a potent factor in keeping the State in the right place. The club has a fine list of membership, made up of the best sort of men from all over the State. They are to a man for Cleveland."

"How does Gov. Hill stand in your State?"
"Gov. Hill stands very well with some people—spoils politicians and Democrats for revenue only. I have heard that Hill workers have been booming him for two years in Connecticut, but I don't think they have met with much success. I think it is safe to say that 90 per cent. of the Democrats in Connecticut are for Cleveland or for a Cleveland Democrat."

"What are you going to do about a Governor this year?"

"Whoever is nominated must be in sympathy with the Cleveland style of Democrat. Ex-Congressman French has been mentioned, but it can be said positively that he will not accept the nomination."

Speaking further on the Presidential outlook in his State, Col. Osborn said that he didn't think that Hill would have any show in Connecticut. "I've got an idea," said he, "that the Republicans will nominate Chauncey M. Depew, and Hill wouldn't have the slightest chance of carrying Connecticut against him."

INSPECTING THE SITES.

MR. WINDOM REPORTED TO HAVE SE- LECTED BEDLOW'S ISLAND.

Collector Erhardt called at the Fifth-Avenue Hotel early yesterday morning for Secretary of the Treasury Windom and Solicitor Hepburn, who came over from Washington to examine the various sites for a landing place for immigrants. The three gentlemen went first to Castle Garden, which they inspected thoroughly. Then they boarded the Government tug, *W. E. Chandler*, at the Barge Office, and crossed over to Governor's Island.

Gen. O. O. Howard showed them all over the island. It was about a three-mile walk altogether. From there they went to Bedlow's Island, where they spent a few moments. Then they steamed around Ellis Island. There is a quantity of gunpowder stored there, and the officials would have been compelled to throw away some freshly-lighted, special-brand cigars. Collector Erhardt left the *Chandler* at Pier 1, and the Secretary and Solicitor were landed at the foot of West Twenty-third-street.

It was ascertained last night that Secretary Windom has practically arrived at the decision that the point at which the immigrants are landed in this country shall be removed from the territory of the State of New-York. Mr. Windom was out at dinner, and Mr. Hepburn refused to be interviewed last night. The information regarding the decision came from one who is close to the Secretary. Hudson and Bergen Counties in New-Jersey are both in the port of New-York, and it is likely that the landing of immigrants will be in the State of New-Jersey. It was thought very probable last night that Bedlow's Island had been chosen, or will be chosen, by the Secretary.

Just what brought about the decision is a matter of speculation. Possibly it is the attitude of the city as to the rental of the Garden, and probably it is a move to checkmate any action the State Board of Emigration may take to contest the right of the Government to strip it of its power.

Secretary Windom and Solicitor Hepburn will return to Washington to-day.