PROPOSED CONTRACT WITH RAMPO COMPANY

It is Far Reaching n Its Effects - Accomed-Lations For the Dewey Festivities - 1 Lucky Ex-Secretary of War Return of Trade to



these was the Republican lawyer who secured for the Ramapo company the right of eminent domain, and the other a very prominent leader in Tammany Hall. However this may be, it is true that the scheme is one so vast of the city.

The Price Has Been Raised.

teen years ago the same company of-\$53 per million gallons, and that now the price is \$70. The added .nformation is given that at the time the proposition was made to furnish the tarian. It matters nothing to him water for \$53 per million gallons, the officers of the company intimated that a lower price might be given. The simple contract for the furnishing of the water to the city is only a small part of the job which the men behind the scheme had in view when the resolution was introduced. The resolution provides for a much higher pressure upon the mains, and to successfully carry this pressure it would be necessary for the city to lay new mains in most of the streets, and thouof bouses would also have to be newly piped. Surely here is a job in which untold millions are involved.

The Cities Hands Tied. The excuse for the cont. act with a priwate corporation is that the city ... st have an increase supply of water, and that under the operations of the constitutional debt limitation, it carnot issue any more bonds for this purpose. It is alleged that resort must, therefore, be had to the facil ties afforded by this private corporation. But fuller investigation reveals the fact that the Ramapo company cannot furnish 'ny such quantity of water as 200,000,000 gallons per day, that is pure and wholesome, and it is doubtful if it can furnish any which will stand the test of the scientists who have been called in. Comptroller Coler appears to be the only official who is vigorously fighting this job, and it looks as if he will make a name for himself which will place him very prominently before the people next year. A temporary injunction has been granted restraining the making of the contract.

Dewey Celebration. With the Dewey festivities fixed for Sep mber 28 persons out o town are already writing for hotel ready for the accommodation of the multitude of hungry and tired sightseers that will surely descend upon them. How many visitors, in addition to her own great population, can New York shelter and feed? The only pub. lic celebration in New York that can be compared with the Dewey reception was the Columbian commemoration in 1893. It is estimated that there were at least one million strangers in the city on the third and great day of that event, and that at least half that number found shelter here over night. The local hotel men worked together at that time and handled the emergency without difficulty. Weeks before the event they had compiled a list of householders in the vicinities close to the various hotels who wished to rent rooms without board, and they communicated with these householders. Then, to save hotel clerks the bother of looking after utside details they opened a central bareau in Union the Dewey celebration.

The Buyers are Here.

Never in the commercial history of this city have there been so many buyto spend. Never have the merchants of the city had greater assurance that the dominant note of tradesmen than he was then as the pupil of Dan- hay and clay has ever been discovered, throughout the United States is Pros. | iel Manning. perity, with a big "P."

This great influx of buyers is not a mere matter of chance. It is the result of a four years' campaigm of education by the Merchants' Association of New York, which includes many of the most tion has been effected in the methods Punch.

of buying for the outside market and in the methods of getting buyer and seller together.

The Season. The buyers' 'season' in New York is now practically limited to June, July and August. Instead of being scattered around the hotels and trusting to chance meetings to know who is in town, the visitors have a meeting place in the rooms of the Merchants' Association, right in the heart of the dry The magnitude of the job which it goods district. There two or three was attempted to put through the hundred of them meet every morning Board of Public Improvement recently, at this time of the year, read the pahas but just dawned upon the people, pers, the trades journals in which the and in the clear, bright sunlight of publare interested, and the newspapers licity which the press of the city is from the sections in which they live pouring upon the scheme, it shows off Their letters are sent there instead of as one of the most grantic schemes to their hotels. Appointments are ever concocted in this or any other made there. All day long buyers and city. Rumor now says that it all the men they want to meet are going started at a luncheon party at which in and out. At this season of the year but two persons were present. One of it is a busier place than the Stock Ex-

For some sections of the country the association has arranged for reduced rates for buyers during three months, but less than one-half of the buyers who come here are able to take advantage of that reduction, or even take it into consideration. They have learned to come to New York because it is the only place to buy novelties while they are new and styles while they are stylish.

The Toadstool Season. for mushrooms have been reported in Within certain bounds every settler foreman of the Manhattan Copper and shape of his meadow patch, and works at Emzabeth, N. J., is dying as the result was that some took trianthe consequence of eating two quarts sies, some squares, some traces of irof toadstools, believing them to be egular shape and some parallelograms. mushrooms How anyone could take One allotment was more than a mile the risk of consuming such a quanti-long and correspondingly narrow, and far reaching that it puts into the ty of anything that even, by the re- while in many instances there were shade every other attempt of the kind motest possibility, could be poisonous areas between tracts that no one took to extract money from the treasury is not easily understood. There are up at all. T-day no man living is able semble mushrooms so closely, that the meadow property, nor are there any The papers have discovered that fif- lay man cannot tell one from the other, records from which clear titles may There is another sure test

fered to furnish water for the city at to eat them. If they are mushrooms, you live. If toadstools, you do not. The Meat Trust.

> These are great days for the vegewhether it is the Meat Trust or the sscarcity of cattle in Western plains that is responsible for an increase of five cents a pound in the price of porterhouse steaks, and almost any cost for prime cuts of beef and mutton. He can eat potatoes, corn and cabbage and laugh, at the butchers. But the holst to meat prices is not such an indifferent thing to thousands of poor families in the tenement districts of New York. It was hard enough to get meat every day before the increase in it was announced brusquely that they the hay. had gone up from two to four cents a . It was fortunate for their regular doubtful, and in many cases retired that the black grass required attenwithout buying anything. Dan Lamont.

I ran across Dan Lamont the other day in Wall street. He was walking man able to swing a scythe turned out. slowly along snapping his fingers and thumbs, wearing a rather shabby, rusty-brown sack suit of summer clothes, a straw hat that needed the at- told stories and fought mosquitoes tention of the cleaner, shoes of tan with the energy and enthusiasm that that would have looked smarter after room, and the hotel men are getting a polishing, and an altogether ind.ffer air. I have often wondered why his pictures represent him with a black



Square, where persons crowded out of mustache, for his upper lip covering uses have been discontinued forever. the hotels were sent and quarters se- is decidedly reddish. Dan appears as Its use by iron founders was rather lected for them according to their if he didn't care whether school curious. They twisted it into "hay ideas of economy and convenience. Kept or not. Lucky young man! Sec- popes" and made them the basis of The same plan will be carrid out at retary of War! Vice-President of the the cords in cylindrical castings, cov-Northern Pacific! Director of many ering the outside of the rope with corporations! Millionaire! I knew clay. Properly prepared the latter him well when he worked for \$15 per would resist the heat of melted iron on the old Albany Argus, and he did admirably, but the hay rope would ers from all parts of the country as his work conscientiously and received burn out, of course, leaving the clay there are this season. Never before his little envelope every Saturday af porous and with a big hole through have these buyers had so much money termoon from Cashler Nolan as regu- the centre. Thus it was easily larly as the week came round. And I, broken out of the casting after it had doubt if Dan is much happier new cooled. No core superior to that of

> The Bitterness of It. Wife of His Bosom-Socratio, dearest, what is thematter.

Mr. & Welled Hedd (a literary celebrity)-At last it has come-at lest! prominent business men in the city. Not a single paragraph about me in In three years a complete transforms, any of the papers this morning.

JERSEY MEADOWS.

USES WHICH THIS SEEMINGLY WASTE LAND IS PUT TO

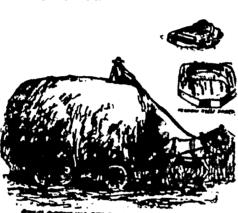
People Formerly Made a Living From Those Mumbes-Hew the Grasses Are Now Cut-Horses Are Shed With Planks to Keep Them Frem Stuking,

To those who travel across them by rail either on occasional trips or regularly after the manner of commuters, he marshes between Jersey City and Newark, known as the "Jersey Meadows." seem nothing more than a vast area of low-lying, quaking morase brine soaked overgrown with coarse grasses, reeds and cattails, and serving no useful purpose whatever-an atterly waste territory.

Yet in the past these meadows have been of great importance to the State of New Jersey. They have been surveyed and mapped under State authority with greater frequency than almost any other similar area within its boundaries; their improvement and proper management have been the ends sought by more than 400 State laws. the first of which was enacted

Some Obstacles.

One of the greatest present obstacles This is the toadstool season, and al- to any concerted meadow reclamation ready a number of cases of poisoning movement is furnished by the form through mistaking the deadly fungus taken by those old-time allotments. and near New York Philip Cheeti was allowed to designate the location some var.etles of toadstools that re- to trace the ownership of much of the



Gathering Marsh Hay.

meat for dinner in many a little best use of the black grass they could. household on the Eastside. Notw the pasturing a part of it and cutting the standing the proposition of the retail remainder. And, while there are dealers to keep 'he advance from mighty few Jerzeymen to-day who touching the cheaper kinds of ment the would dare attempt self-support on price was too high for the slender meadow land, there were then many purse of many a careworn woman, and larmers nearly all of whose meat came her family had to do the best it could from cattle fattened on black grass; on bread or vegetables. "Chuck," whose milch cows fed upon black "round and "soup" meats are the grass; whose draught horses and oxen viands sold in large quantities in the ate it the year round, and much of downtown markets and by the butch. whose clothing and other necessities ers in poor neighborhoods, but when were bought with money got by selling

pound the prospective buyer looked occupation of improving the uplands tion only at haying time. It was by all odds the busiest season of the year for the meadow holders; nearly every and for days the meadows fairly swarmed with industrious, athletic Yankees, who mowed and drank rum. have always characterized American pioneers in all parts of the land. There are plenty of Newarkers now living who can remember when the meadows were dotted every August with long rows of little ricks of black grass hay, and in many shore localithes it is a standard crop to this day. There are meadowlands in Staten Isiand Sound yielding black grass that are still cut over every year at a profit that warrants a valuation of \$50 an acre for their territory, though no buildings stand upon them, and that is a higher rate than Jersey farm land would fetch on the average if placed on sale. Measured by that standard, the 20,000 meadow acres that naturally bear good black grass would be worth \$1,000,000 to-day.

The fine salt hay of the meadows formerly was used extensively for strewing on the floors of stage coaches and omnibuses, for packing purposes and by iron founders. It is still cut and sold in limited quantities for packing, though mostly driven out by "excelsior" and sawdust, but its other but clay is much more costly now than formerly, and the cores used at present are of iron and sand.

Every once in a while the newspapers contain sensational stories of outlaws living on the meadows, Some Meadow life in the most favorable

circumstances is decidedly tough, owing to the intense heat of the summer, the raw, damp cold of the winter, and the enormous ferocity of the mosquitoes in the season. S. Howell Jones, of Newark, who has made a closer study of the meadows than any other living man, says that aside from dockkeepers, factory watchmen and living on the meadows to-day. The years ago. He occupied a hut built to find a cosey little house. of odds and ends and grass, so located among wide and deep ditches that it dents were wearing out their thou could be approached from three direc- and their strength looking and looktions only. He was suspected of many ing. They were almost exhausted thefts and his arrest was often at- when they happened upon a house tempted, but he always managed to es. where the first floor consisted of a long cape. Possibly he was only crasy and harrow reception hall in front, and an not a criminal; no one was ever cer- equally long, gloomy, high ceilinged tain that he stole, but he was suspect- parlor at the back. At the side was un ed, because no one could understand immense white marble mantel and how he lived without stealing.

' A Legend.

Despite the present general desertion of the meadows they formerly were frequented to such an extent that every ditch and every creek was and a high chiffonies. a stuffed easy named and the names are perpetuated chaff and a small cane bottomed chair. on Mr. Janes's maps. Each of the The floor was covered with a fine matnames had a reason, of course, "Ned's Ditch" being so called from an Indian, "Wheeler Creek" from a family, and exclaimed, "What a barn! Why, and so on. The name of Black Stake Creek has a less commonplace origin. rooms. You could put a whole house pastures and range themselves each It is not far from the line between in here and lose it." Elizabeth and Newark, and, the story goes, a slave ship, commanded by Cap. tain Baldwin, anchored near its mouth just it. It is big enough for two rooms one day in the middle of the eigh- and a little hall at least." teenth century. Baldwin had suffered much annoyance from mutinous ne- the room, and the length, and, locatgro captives on the voyage from Afri- ing the two chandellers, began papca and his object in anchoring there ing again in various directions, page its lump of pure rock sail. was to nunish the ringleader adequately. He took the poor wretch ashore, stretched him naked on the ground, with his face to the sky, extended his arms and legs, and then tied them she were star gazing the first one said: with rawhide though to four green chestnut stakes. There the negro was left without food or water till he died, His tortures must have been atrocious. For days his shricks and cries for help so horribly high." were heard by passers, but none dared to aid him, for the brutal captain's vessel was still anchored near, and he you again," was the reply, "Do you waiting for the rest. threatened dreadful punishment to any one who should thwart his design. The legend runs that the stakes. blackened by time and meadow fires. remained intact and erect for a full half century after the negro's miserable death.

Cutting the Grase, They still cut some black grass over on the meadows, but only a few acres. This is the fault of the railroads. tide can ebb and flow with regularity scraps and odds and ends that many there recked little of the troubles that steel highways that now criss-cross mothers were able to give their little might come to their descendants the pongy plain in all directions. You ones firsh diet. The advance means no through faixed-up titles, but made the would hardly think it probable, but most of the meadow mowing is done now with machines and not scythes, though special appliances have to be devised to make machine mowing possible. The trouble is not with the machines, but the horses. To prevent miring they have to be shod with broad, platterlike wooden shoes, which are fastened to their hoofs with iron bands.

The Fiddler Crabe.

Aside from water snakes, which abound there in great numbers, and muskrats, which live on the river banks and occasionally destroy the dykes, the chief inhabitants of the meadows to-day are fiddler crabs. meadow mice and owls. The fiddler crabs are millions in number and they undoubtedly do a good deal to prevent the rapid formation of soil from deposits of mud. for their burrowings literally honey-comb the entire morass. The meanow mice and a race peculiar to such localities, and



A Marsh Fisherman.

their nests, built in the reeds from a few inches to a foot above the hightide level, are woven as cleverly and strongly as the best built bird's nest. Whether the snakes devour them is a question; that they are the prey of the owls is certain. These birds are exceedingly numerous on the meadows, though not often seen because of their night-time habits. Where they nest and stay daytimes is a mystery. one has heard of the finding of owl's home on the meadows.

Hame of the Masanitoes.

The Jersey meadow mosquitoes are the worst to be found anywhere on the footstool with the possible exception of one or two localities on Long Island's north shore. It requires the consumption of fabulous quantities of the sort of whisky known as Jersey. lightning to enable a meadow grass haymaker to persist in a whole day's work among the swarming, singing, stinging posts, and besides drinking much whiskey he is frequently obliged to swathe his mack and jowle with cloth for protective purposes. Mesdow haymakers declare in all seriouspess that there are three breeds of Jersey meadow mosquitnes, the bills of one spet being saw teethed, those of anof these stories have been true, but other barbed as strows are bathed most of them have been fairs, and these of the third fashioned like

MADE A SUITE OF ROOMS

Trust "the Eternal Famile me's" Ingent ity in Any and Every Exigency.

Most old houses in New Yerk are built upon such an immense soals that there is little that is homelike or cosevabout them. But they are about all the like not half a dozen persons are there is to be found anywhere pear beautiful and the most famous the centre of the city. One must go ? last outlaw disappeared three or tour long way from the business section

Not long ago a couple of girl stugrate. A bay window filled up the back end, except for two tiny corner closets with mirror panels in the doors and there was a side door.

The furnishings of the back parlor completed only of a olg folding ped ting of no particular shade. One girl dropped into the easy chair

it is big enough for two or three As she spoke, however, her friend's

eyes sparkled, and she said, "That's Then she began pacing the width of

allel to the walls and in diagonal dipactions, until her friend hegan to think she had lost her mind.

As she stood looking upward as if -"Are you thinking of rebuilding the room into a house and erecting a second story? I am sure there is planty hear. or room for two floors, the cellings are

"Why, that is just the thing! Thank to my plan. We will divide the room know that you have given me two extremely valuable ideas? Just listen false cellings, and it's just as easy as lyy upon one wall, and a disast rolling off a log."

"There are two chandellers, and the doore. room is long enough for two rooms. The income is \$0,000 a room, "and." and we will have it divided, not with tays the 'squite, 'my disenters as an ugly partition, but arristically and that much for pin-money." Talia cheaply like something I saw in a sta- phia Press, Black grass flourishes only where the die once. The back part, with the bey window and two mirrors, and minutel about its roots, and this has been and grate, will be our parlor, and we will have it all finshed in green and amost an much remader a white. Just in the middle of the long the shirt water. Indeed wall we will run a partition advoce for about twelve flet, pamelled, but in plain white pine. It will be only about ave feet high, with a moulding around the top. Then it will rum toward the front door (lucky that door is in the corner!), leaving a space for a sort of. little hallway entrance to our parlor. legitimate accompanyment of

"Then we will creek a post from the ar. There are many styles in corner of the partition so that it will the open metal built was much we stand up five or six feet higher, and last year, but it met se commission mos then run a bar across to the side wall. The narrow leather belt has able a straight above the partition and an- ly had its day, and the preventing a other to the front and then a diagon, is now wider and heavier. Come al one cutting across the corner of our parlor to make it like the corners with the cupboards or closets. That leaves only one square corner, and we must cut that off, too, with something, if it's nothing more than a false panel or a bookcase with open shelves.

"Now, this pine can all be stained a forest green, or we can give it a coat; of white enamel on this side and make the side looking into the other little room green. We must attack to green for it is such a good foundation color. From these square bars we can drape portieres at the end of the little halfway and a curtain above the paneling between the two rooms.

"We can have a test fill up this bay. and paint it white ourselves, and make our own cushions for the sest and back. We can have a side sent along that panelled partition, too, beside the grate fire, and put our own rugs down on this matting, and it will not take much furniture to make if benutiful.

"We can brake that wall line with a plate rail up about eight feet, and have that of white, and then put in frieze of figured paper, between that and the real frieze and moulding. And then we can hang our plotures. from this lower moulding, and the elfeet will be so much more cosey.

"Now, what shall we do with the little room?" she asked more to herself than to her friends were the "Mightn't we make it a tea room?"

"Yes, we might, and we will, I was just thinking that it would look rather dark and cramped beside this parfor of ours, and the celling would look like a dark hole. But that where your suggestion of a second floor will belp us out. We will put in a false ceiling to that room and drape it to the chandelier in the centre. Then, to make it look wider, we will have a mirror in the side wall and drape around it, with a canopy over the top, The mirror will make it look like a deep room, and we can have our teatable in the centre and two or three little chairs and a lot of cushions. The partition can have a seat on this side. too, its full extent, and we can cushion k. And don't you suppose that we san have a red shirted curtain benind that green barred drapery above the partition and run it around to the opening into the hallway?"

All at once the two students stopped and laughed. "What shall we do with the bed and where will we sleep?" shey asked each other problem. She opened the side deed. The landledy quickly solved this ind showed a small back hall bedry fairs opered sair late like

There are two live at Belle Mesde, in middle Te see which is the pirrest the farm in the world.

Blooded horses have made to ous for severty-five years. The is a new development. The young w men, with their brother, are joint he to the estate, which embraces mently 5.000 acres, enclosed with thirty-aremiles of stone walls. Around the deer park, where odd head of deer roam and brown under the forest primayal the stone. wall is supplemented with a six-fee

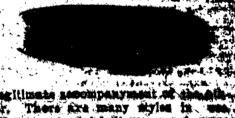
iron paling. The cows do not run with the de they have richer pastures called their own, meadows kneep-deep in lustblue gram and white clover, lying either side of Richland creek.

There are 150 of them-high-grade Jerseys, or full bloods of the most famous milking strains. The number in milk ranges from ninety to 130, Themilking is a pretty sight indeed. The sicek deersyed, full-uddered, creamy skinned creatures come in from the in her appointed stall. The stalls all three aldes of a great square. An open shed covers it. Oreside there runs a trough for the dry feed, which serves as an appetizer for the abandant grass. In the middle as well as about the pastures there are fromwork baskets, open undernaath, seck with

Five atout and folly black men d the milking. They are marvelously rapid: still made marvelously skillful They tree deep tin palls, and can make the milk streems play tunes upon the bottom of them- "Tankee Boodie" "Dixle"-as the hearers incline

They work in happy rively, at who shall rally anicked and dieds As soon as two cows are stripped of they are sent away to pasture wil

The milking shed is a ground we the dairy proper, to which the milk Meup, as you say, into at least two cosey wheeled in deep tin came, kept serupasrooms and a little hall and bring these louisly clean. The dutry limit is T perrible cellings down by putting in picturesque gray stone building, with rose blessessing riotestaly prog





is much because the manufacture pear to make no effort to bee shapely belt to gracefully fit she de instead most of those offered in stores are built on the same Bues a those worn by the envage Indiana.

Towny Lind Used to Sloop in the There are two splendid pent formiture in a Turblah buthe ment in Albany, which are and reminders of the whit of Jakes. to the Enickerbooker capital la a ponderous bed of walnut sow with rare veneering in places, imbelliabled by pictorial meatings of blue porcellan. Near it is a bure which supports a mirror six feet & They are in the Jonny Lind room, these chambre de luve of the emphishmen which makes glad the heart workship weary legislator who has the w of reposing there for the night ' There was a time when the le And furniture was celebrated as fines; which could be seen equal to the empire dity of New York. Me preparations were made for the ception of the songstress at the Delevan House. Por weeks the Stopristor was putting wide. Bisses. irder: It occurred to him this no bedroom beautiful enement singer. He purchased the fa A great price and little (4) the splendor of its variate; 162 ing and the blue medalilous with Watteau shepheriese

Thich the independent sets She mang the profess of the Coper it sproud as to like It may have been Culter) his slage elarmed the It is certain that when through the old Delays Lind apartment was apa VALUE OF THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF THE P furalture & letteryears; Dist. who sweet the balls DURANI MATTYPE

lighted with the scoom