WILL IT BE MACKEY?

LEADING BUFFALO DEMOCRAT, A GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE.

The Popular and Brilliant Young Senator of Buffalo a Much-Talked-of-Candidate for the Democratic Nomination - Popular in Both Ends of the State.

(Special Correspondence.)

Albany, N. Y., April 6:—It seems to be settled on the Republican side of the house that Governor Roosevelt may be unanimously renominated, and probably with the present Lieutenant-Governor or Senator Ellsworth, the present majority leader, as a running mate. In the former contingency Senator Ellsworth will be returned from the 45th district and it has been announced that Speaker Nixon is also to be continued in his present position of leadership in the Assembly by the express request of Senator Platt, instead of being promoted to the Senate.

On the Democratic side speculation has been rife as to who the candidates for the head of the State ticket will be. On February 7th the representative of the Brooklyn Eagle made a canvass of the Democrats in the Legislature, and in reporting the concensus to his newspaper said: "There is what may be called a strong sentiment for Senator William F. Mackey for Governor at the State capital."

He said that he "discovered that nearly every one at Albany believed that the Senatorial choice was Senator Mackey, and that he was the only candidate."

Mr. Mackey is a most interesting and unique figure in politics. He has served but one term in a legislative body, and yet in little over a year he has so risen in popularity within the ranks of his colleagues and of his party that he is quite in the lead as its representative in the race for chief magistrate of the Empire State.

Senator Mackey was born about forty years ago in Albion, Orleans county. He was educated in Lockport, Niagara county, and is a graduate of its High School. He read law with the firm of which Senator Ellsworth, the Republican Senate leader, was senior partner, and soon after he was admitted to the bar, he came within a very few votes of being elected in Niagara county, the youngest District Attorney in the State.

Always a politician as well as a studious and thorough lawyer, he looked for a broader field in the city of Buffalo, where he located in 1884. He was the Attorney for the State Dairy Commission and handled the prosecution of all the cases in the three Western New York districts for a number of years. In 1890 he was appointed and served for three years as Assistant City Attorney of the city of Buffalo, writing most of the opinions and doing most of the work of the office during the ill-health of his chief.

In 1893 he was selected by the late Hon. William A. Poucher, of Oswego, to be his first assistant in the office of United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, a position he filled with signal success and great credit until his successor was appointed in 1897. While holding this exacting appointment he was called upon to prepare and prosecute violations of the United States statutes all over the district, and thus formed a wide and valuable personal and professional acquaintance.

Mr. Mackey has always been intensely active in politics and political organizations ever since he was a school-boy.

A brilliant and eloquent speaker, a logical and convincing debater, he has employed his forsenic skill and from 1882 till the present, his voice has never been silent in a party campaign, national or local. He is always in great demand, frequently during the heat of campaign making from three to five addresses in a day, so great a favorite is he with his audiences. Very few campaign orators have a happier faculty of expressing themselves on the issues of a campaign or convincing the voters of the merits of the cause they champion, than he.

In 1888 Mr. Mackey was a candidate for Congress against Major John M. Farquher, in the thirtieth district, and although running against a popular veteran for the second term, he reduced the regular 3,500 majority to less than 1,600.

In 1887, 1888 and 1892 Mr. Mackey was the president of the famous "Cleveland Democracy of Buffalo."

In 1898 Mr. Mackey accepted the Democratic nomination for Senator in the 47th District, a district normally Republican by nearly 4,800 plurality, and after an exceedingly hot and vigorous campaign, in which his own strong personal popularity was phenomenally demonstrated, he won.

He immediately rose to prominence as a champion of all measures local and general calculated for the relief of the great common people, and his voice is heard always in favor of the plain, simple and economical government which he holds to be his party principles, and against narrow intolerance or the greed of trusts or monopolies.

As a lawyer Mr. Mackey is no less distinguished. He was chief counsel in the famous Howard C. Benham wife-poisoning case, and fought it through the courts. His presentation of the appeal in the Court of Appeals was so masterly that it evoked, in the written opinion of the court, a strong encomium. Owing to his legislative duties he was compelled to retire from the case before the new trial was granted.

Of scholarly and dignified presence, with all the marks of refinement and a studious life, he is a conspicuous figure wherever he appears. In the Democratic State Convention at Syracuse in 1898 he will be remembered as the speaker who, with an eloquence that evoked perhaps the most spontaneous applause, presented the name of his friend and fellow-citizen, Judge Robert C. Titus, for Governor.

Though young in years, he has already achieved a professional and political standing that only comes to most men, if at all, in the later years of life.

CURIOUS EASTER CUSTOMS IN HUNGARY.

Some of the most curious Easter observances prevail in Hungary, the home of dance and song. Miss Janka Frankel, a singer who was heard in opera last winter in Philadelphia and other cities, gives an interesting account of the strange customs of her native land.

Passion week, as a whole, is generally very quiet, almost no social functions taking place. Its prominent feature is the pilgrimage to one of the sacred shrines. Devout persons in both town and country join in the pilgrimage, and every village through which the procession passes adds its quota to the pilgrimage. The journey is taken fasting, as far as possible, only bread and water sufficient to preserve from absolute exhaustion being indulged in.

On Good Friday a life size image of the Christ is carried to the principal church by a procession of priests and there remains until Easter, guarded by soldiers, who stand motionless as statues. On Easter Sunday the worshippers place offerings of money at the feet of the sacred image. Easter morning is greeted with tokens of gladness, somewhat similar to our Christmas, all the windows having wreathes of flowers or leaves.

One of the prettiest observances of the day is a procession of young girls in white, carrying branches of green trees, following the clergy in their robes and the acolytes with a huge gilded cross. After the white robed girls come the villagers.

The most interesting custom, however, is that known at "watering," which occurs on Easter Monday and Tuesday. Men go out armed with water in bottles or pitchers and throw it on the young women they meet in the village street. Sometimes they even call at the houses and greet the girls who come to the door. The odd part of it is that the more thoroughly drenched the victims are the better they are pleased, as it brings them luck. In the cities the custom has been gradually refined so that some gentlemen arm themselves with bottles of cologne.

This "watering" rite is said to be known in no other country, and its institution is ascribed to one of the apostles. It is possibly a perversion of the rite of baptism.

Easter Monday is the Hungarians' favorite wedding day, as it is supposed that it is especially fortunate for marriages, and the priests are usually kept busy that day. The rest of the week is filled with social gayeties, and the quiet of the rigorously observed Lent is fully atoned for.

EASTER HAYS

"I love Easter," said an actress recently, "for it is a real holy day holiday, and the only one all the year round that does not inspire managers to matinees, as it happily always falls upon Sunday—a movable feast as to date, stationary as to day. It is the only day that I do or can really keep."

Great bonfires are lighted by the Welsh peasantry on Easter eve. Each family has its own bonfire, which is lighted at about ten o'clock in the evening, and the family remain gathered about it until midnight ushers in the Easter day. These fires are deemed omens of the future of the families to which they belong, and according as they burn brightly and briskly or smokily and slowly so will be the fortunes of the members of that family for the next year.

The Welsh are profound believers in fairies, and that all good fairies are especially active and powerful at Eastertime, while the power of bad fairies is rendered practically nil by the beneficient influence of that great event of the Christian religion—the rising of Christ from the dead.

"Chandler, in his Travels in Asia Minor," says Brand, "gives the following account of the manner of celebrating Easter among the modern Greeks: 'A small bier, prettily decked with orange and citron buds, jasmine flowers, and boughs, was placed in the church, with a Christ crucified, rudely painted on the board, for the body. We saw it in the evening, and before daybreak were suddenly awakened by the blaze and crackling of a large bonfire, with singing and shouting in honor of the Resurrection. They made us presents of colored eggs and cakes of Easter bread.'"

One must wear something new on Easter Sunday, of course, if only for the good luck that is supposed to come from such a proceeding.

I said to my washerwoman, who has recently returned to me after quite an absence:

"Don't forget to wear something new if you go walking on Sunday, Mary."

"Faith, madam, an' I'll not forget. I'll be afther wearin' it on me arm."

"May I ask what it is?"

"It's me new baby, ma'am, good luck to it." And I said "Amen!"

The Easter lily is a hardy flower and can be grown out of doors quite successfully by the amateur gardener. But art has come to the aid of the lily and enables horticulturalists to produce it in its full perfection artificially and to so regulate its growth that it is always at the height of its beauty when needed at Easter.

An Easter Experiment.

Oh wondrous things the season brings,
In books and leaflets, cards and scrolls,
With all the best the poet sings,
To charm our eyes, to lift our souls,
One maiden got an Easter card
So full of silk and golden glitter,
With wings of birds upon it sewn,
Enough to make a feline titter.
She gave a cry of pure delight
While gazing thoughtfully upon it,
Then sewed two strings on overnight
And wore it for an Easter bonnet.

EASTER IN CUBA.

The Observance of the Christian Festival There.

Those of us who know Easter only in our cold and prosaic North can have little conception of the significance and solemnity of Passion Week in countries where a hotter sun has infused intenser warmth into the blood.

Mr. Thomas H. Graham, vice president of the Juragua Iron Mines Company, Santiago de Cuba, gives an interesting description of Easter as observed in Santiago and other Cuban cities.

"During the entire week," he says, "all social gayety is suspended; even business assumes a quieter aspect, but the distinctive celebrations do not begin until Thursday. On that day high mass is broken off in the middle, and a procession of priests carries an image of the Christ—the 'Ecce Homo'—to the cathedral. In towns where there is no cathedral some church is selected, and there the image, life size and robed in white, is carried in solemn state, the entire populace joining the procession. This ceremony commemorates the journey to Pilates' Judgment Hall. The image is left in the church and the people disperse in silence. Then the devout begin the ceremony of the pilgrimage. That is, they visited fourteen churches, indicative of the Fourteen Stations of the Cross, saying prayers at every station. It generally requires a part of Good Friday to complete the pilgrimage.

"A Good Friday in a southern Roman Catholic country is something to be remembered. The sun rises on a city plunged in absolute stillness—stillness of the grave. The air is funeral.

"In the afternoon the procession of the Holy Virgin takes place. This is really the most striking of all the ceremonials. The sacred image, robed in black, is carried by priests and is followed by the eighteen canons of the Church in singular costume, all lack. On their heads they wear conical black caps fully two and a half feet in height, and their robes have trains sixteen or eighteen feet long. Every canon is followed by an acolyte, who carries the train. Then comes the populace, men and women, still in black, all carrying lighted candles. The scene is curiously mediaeval and impressive.

"The people who are not in the procession vie with one another in doing homage to the Virgin as she passes. Money is freely given, and flowers are offered in profusion. While we lived in Santiago Mrs. Graham always sang a hymn to the Virgin as her image passed our house, which was facing the great plaza. As her voice rose from the balcony where we stood the vast procession would stop and listen in silence so profound that it could be felt. Not a sound would be heard except Mrs. Graham's voice."

"Through the entire day no bells have been rung. Even the call to church is given by clattering a peculiar box with loosely fastened strips of wood. By ten o'clock all lights are out, and the city seems asleep. Then comes the 'Saturday of Glory,' with its wonderful and dramatic change. At ten o'clock in the morning all the church bells ring out joyfully, and the 'vigil' is ended. At the first sound of the bells, called the burst of glory, every one drops on his knees, wherever he may be, and says three Credos. The battery in the fort salutes. The veil is taken from the altar. The mass is resumed where it was broken off on Thursday, and every where rejoicing takes the place of mourning. Easter Sunday is a day of music and gladness. It seems as if the reaction from the excessive gloom of the preceding days affected the entire city, and almost wild gayety is the result. Monday and Tuesday are devoted to festivities, and it is not until the end of the week that the city resumes its usual aspect."

To Color Easter Eggs.

Children are always delighted with bright, pretty colored eggs for Easter. A variety of fancy eggs can be made from one package of dyes sold for the purpose by every druggist.

Purchase a package containing four colors, red, blue, yellow and violet being pleasing. The day before the coloring is to be done dissolve each color separately and put into bottles. The next day select perfectly fresh eggs and wash them clean. If obtainable, use some very small eggs. Put a few of the eggs into a kettle of cold water and let them remain for ten or fifteen minutes; long boiling renders eggs more digestible. Only a few should be cooked at a time, as they must be dipped into the dye while hot, so as to dry the coloring immediately, or they will not be nice. Pour the dyes into an old bowl or deep dish. To produce a variety of colors from the four kinds of dye proceed thus: Dip one-half of an egg into one color and the other half into another color. Paste a half-inch strip of paper around a white shelled egg; dip one end of the egg as far as the paper extends in the red dye, and then the other end into the blue dye; when the paper is removed you will have a pretty red, white and blue egg. You can produce from two or three different shades from one color. For instance, dip an egg into the yellow dye to produce yellow, then add a little water to the dye to produce a light orange, add a little more water to produce lemon, and proceed in the same way with the other colors. Roll the eggs over in the dye two or three times until they are evenly colored.

It was to the women who followed Him, weeping and wailing, that Jesus turned and said, "Weep not for me." It was the women who prepared spices and ointments with which to lay out the sacred body. It was the women who found the great stone rolled away from the tomb, who found the tomb their empty, and who brought the glorious news of the Resurrection to the Apostles.