

SPEECHES IN IRVING HALL.

HENRY GEORGE AND OTHERS ADDRESS THE GENTLE DEMOCRATS.

Indoors was quite large enough for Irving Hall's ratification meeting last night, and the two stands erected outside were not used. Over the boxes at the ends of the stage were placards declaring Irving Hall to be "Labor's Sheltering Arms," while companion pieces touched up Tammany in poetry as follows: "Come weal, come woe, this we know, Tammany Hall is labor's foe." Lithographs of Henry George decorated the stage and walls along with terse inhibitions upon smoking. The masterpiece of the collection was reserved for the platform, one entire corner of which was screened by a full length colored picture on cotton, in heroic size, of Mr. Nooney, with gore dripping over his butcher's frock. One hand held a cleaver near a chunk of turkey-red meat. The other was thrust in his pocket. "Nooney," in blue, and "The Butcher," in crimson, explained what the picture meant.

Chairman Samuel Ashton began with a speech that set the meeting howling. It had already been warmed up by the appearance of Mr. Nooney, Mr. Ecclesine, and other candidates, who occupied seats on the platform. After the usual resolutions the Chairman proceeded to fill up the gap pending Mr. George's arrival by bringing forward the smaller candidates.

Mr. Nooney was first presented. In his speech he paid an unconscious tribute to Mr. Roosevelt by saying that if Mr. George were elected, the rights and liberties of the people would be in no more danger than under Mr. Roosevelt.

Ex-Senator Ecclesine next took the platform and killed nearly half an hour, talking at random about the police, the newspapers, and deep-in-the-well Democratic principles, with occasional splurges into the present issue. While he was in the midst of a brilliant anecdote the Seventeenth Assembly District, with a fife and drum corps, filed in. This and previous arrivals filled the hall to the doors, and Mr. Ecclesine had an appreciative audience for the rest of his humorous speech. He rung all the changes on the avowed purpose of the united Democracy to save society, and traced the origin of Mr. Hewitt's nomination, which, from one faction, he said, had been due to a man once tried for murder and befriended by Mr. Hewitt; and from the other faction, to a man whose deficiency of \$19,500 in a public office had been covered by a check from the office of Cooper, Hewitt & Co. Gratitude was all very well, but when it was aroused in such ways Mr. Ecclesine didn't think reform would be advanced or society saved by it. Whatever the result of the election, he said, a petition would go to Albany at the coming session for an investigation into the methods of this election, to see what use was made of the boasted \$100,000 Democratic campaign fund. This investigation, he apprehended, would considerably diminish the New-York branch of the County Democracy and increase the branches at Sing Sing and in Canada.

Mr. George's arrival while Mr. Ecclesine was still speaking was greeted so vigorously that for several minutes no one could make himself heard from the platform. Mr. George explained his position as a candidate. Then he acknowledged with thanks Irving Hall's indorsement, congratulating that body for acknowledging the principle now budding. As Tammany and the County Democracy were seeking to put down the men who had in the past furnished their main support, let those factions take the consequences. From now on they were dead. This was no petty contest for municipal control, Mr. George said. It was the birth of a new party, destined to conquer, to secure the elevation of man, to break the shackles of the toilers. Something in this campaign was disconcerting the practical men who, from running primaries and arranging wards, thought they knew all about politics. This strong enthusiasm meant a popular uprising, a tidal wave. It marked in the history of the country an epoch that will prove more glorious than any that have preceded.

The audience went into an uproar of cheers as Mr. George finished, and when he quit the hall fully 1,000 people followed him out and along Fourteenth-street, cheering wildly.