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Makes haste each day to advertise,
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THE WASHINGTON CRITIC

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With news from everywhere:
Its rays in all directions fall
Its light all people share.

21ST YEAR---No. 6,485. WASHINGTON, FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 17, 1889. PRICE TWO CENTS

COLBERT IS HANGED

The Drop Falls at 12:50 This Afternoon.

PHILIP WENTZEL'S MURDERER PAYS THE PENALTY OF HIS CRIME.

He Maintains His Nerve With Wonderful Firmness--He Passes the Morning in Singing and Exhorting His Associates in Murderers' Row--An Unusual Scene on the Scaffold.

"Coffin's a comin'," brutally shouted one of the prisoners at the jail this morning about 10 o'clock as Undertaker Wright's two assistants ran a long box covered with black cloth across the rotunda of the jail past the cage in which Nelson Colbert, whose hanging was two or three hours off, was talking to the Rev. Mr. Roberts, his spiritual advisor.

It was a fearful reminder to the murderer, but he turned his head and looked toward the ominous thing without a muscle of his face changing, save that those about his popeyes contracted slightly. But for this almost imperceptible movement of his eyelids no one would suspect that the coffin was his.

Since Wednesday night

COLBERT HAS NOT SLEPT A MOMENT.

All last night he sat up and wrote and prayed and sung. His writing is fairly good, and he prides himself on it. He writes slowly and the resultant chirography is not pretty, but fairly legible. Most of it was done on a long letter to an uncle of his whose life is not the Christian one that Colbert, since his conversion, wishes it was. The letter breathed a devout Christian fervor and was an earnest appeal to the uncle to take warning from the writer and repent before it was too late. Colbert did his writing at a desk out in the rotunda of the jail, and his hand was never steadier, nor his writing more legible. He wrote and sang and talked by turns, but his spirit and wonderful nerve never seemed to fag.

Colbert, the Murderer.

As the ghastly light of early dawn began to glimmer through the windows at the eastern side of the rotunda and the morning mists rose from the marshy banks of the Eastern Branch, that flows sluggishly along, a stone's throw from the jail walls, announcing the dawn of Colbert's last day, or rather half day, on earth, he fell to singing and praying with renewed vigor, and kept it up till breakfast time. His morning meal consisted of fish, fried bacon, fried onions, bread, coffee and a piece of pie. He didn't ask for anything else, and when asked if there was any delicacy that he would like

FOR BREAKFAST,

he said "No." He did not eat very heartily, but this loss of appetite seemed less because of uneasiness than because he ate a very hearty supper at midnight last night. His spiritual advisers, the two colored preachers, Revs. Wells and Roberts, were with him constantly, and helped him with his singing and praying. Beside to his uncle, he wrote letters to his mother and sisters and father, and exhorted all of them to do all that they could to fight the curse of rum. He wrote a letter or two to some young men whom he thought needed advice.

COLBERT'S NERVE HAS PROVED WONDERFUL.

Think of staying up all night to see the sun rise on the day one is to be hung. Most murderers spend their last night in sleep, but Colbert had not slept for about thirty hours before his hanging. He seemed to find especial comfort in singing. His voice was a rich, strong tenor of not much compass but of considerable sweetness. His song were all negro camp-meeting hymns that he had learned since his conversion, and he sang them with great gusto. Admission to the hanging was by tickets issued by General Crocker, the warden of the jail. Considerable grumbling was indulged in by people who thought they were entitled to admission and failed to get tickets. The tickets were not issued till yesterday afternoon, and hundreds of ticketless people applied at the jail this morning for admission and were refused.

AFTER HIS BREAKFAST

Colbert spent his time in furthering the work of converting the other murderers in the jail, which he undertook soon after his own conviction. Hawkins, the wife murderer, is the latest comer in "Murderers' Row," and to him Colbert has been devoting particular attention. Colbert would walk up and down in front of "Murderers' Row" singing and preaching and urging them to follow his footsteps and go to Heaven, where he was about to go. The death watch passed back and forth along the corridor, watching Colbert closely all the time, though not appearing to do so. The death watch is a tall, middle-aged man, and he puffed constantly at a red clay pipe with a long stem.

The murderer's voice, clear and full, rose above the rest of the singers at all times, and though Hawkins broke down and cried like a baby, Colbert was at all times perfectly master of himself and tried to comfort Hawkins. About 11 o'clock the door through which the procession to the gallows was to pass was opened by a couple of the jail officials, and each carefully oiled so that when the time came the lock was shot back easily and noiselessly. The corridor in the northeast corner of the building in which the execution took place was carefully kept closed all the morning until the time for the hanging arrived.

The rope, which had been stretched and tested yesterday, was placed in position early this morning. The noose dangled about eight inches above the trap, so that when raised and put about Colbert's neck it gave a drop of nearly five feet. This is rather more than is usually given. The reasons that Colbert was quite light, weighing only 138 pounds with his coat off, and it was desired to break his neck, so that death should be instantaneous. His light weight and strong frame made a long drop necessary to do this. As the hour for the hanging neared

COLBERT'S SINGING AND EXHORTING

became louder and more fervid. He seemed to be buoyed up by an almost superhuman calmness and nerve. He went from one to another of the murderers and pleaded with them to turn from the world to Christ. The two preachers who had been tireless in their devotion to the condemned man's spiritual comfort accompanied him and swelled the volume of the hymns sung. A favorite hymn was "Beulah Land," and it was sung three or four times, though no other hymn was sung more than once.

By 11 o'clock the quiet street in front of the massive red-stone jail began to fill with conveyances of all sorts. The bell at the front door of the jail kept up a continual clangor as people rang for admission, and a constant stream of the favored ones who held tickets poured in through the jail office and into the rotunda, through which the death march was made. The spectators gathered in a crowd at the cage, inside of which Colbert could be seen, talking and praying with one and another of the prisoners. He seemed determined to make his forced exit as advantageous as possible to

The Drop Falls.

the conversion of other erring souls. All the time there was a sort of wild stare in his eyes and he seemed scarcely to realize what he was saying.

Each of the jail officials who were to participate in the hanging was assigned to his place yesterday and thoroughly understood his part in the ghastly performance. The spectators, who gained entrance to the jail by tickets, stood about in little groups and discussed the event, while they awaited the death march. Most of them had seen hangings before and seemed to look at it as an ordinary sort of an event.

"A good day to take a trip out of town," said one stout, pleasant-faced gentleman.

Colbert's body will be taken from the jail this evening and buried in one of the negro cemeteries, in accordance with his wishes. He received several flattering offers for his body from doctors, but refused them all.

About a half hour before the expiration of his right to live Colbert made a final tour of the murderers' corridor and bid all the murderers good-bye. His manner seemed almost cheerful when contrasted with the gloomy uneasiness of his fellow-prisoners. It took him but a few minutes as he did not linger anywhere save to talk to Hawkins, the wife murderer. The death warrant said that he was to be executed between 12 and 2 o'clock, so for every minute he lived after noon he was indebted to the warden's good nature. He went to the large cell at the south end of the corridor after he finished his good-byes and a prayer meeting was held there until the door in the iron grating at the other end of the corridor was opened to admit General Crocker to read his death warrant to the murderer.

A little after 12 a line of police, with clasped hands, stretched across the rotunda and held the crowd back on the northern half of the rotunda. Colbert and his ministers continued to sing, their voices echoing and reverberating through the lofty rotunda in the most impressive sort of way. At 12:30 the jury of twelve men, the foreman of which wore a little boutonierre, filed through the heavy oak door and down the northeast corridor to the foot of the scaffold. They sat down on a couple of wooden

Philip Wentzel, the Victim.

benches at the foot of the scaffold and waited.

At 12:32 General Crocker, the Warden, accompanied by Major of Police Moore and Police Captain Austin went into the cage at the end of the corridor leading to the cell in which Colbert and the preachers were singing and sent in word to Colbert to come and hear his death warrant read. Colbert came out, erect and calm, and looked fixedly past General Crocker while he was reading. During the reading of the document that, though it was a mere form, meant so much to the murderer, his arms were pinioned with a short piece of hemp rope. After General Crocker finished the two preachers, who had been standing at each side of Colbert during the reading, started up the following hymn, entitled "My Heavenly Home:"

My heavenly home is bright and fair;
Nor pain, nor death can enter there;
Its glittering tow'rs the sun outshine,
That heav'nly mansion shall be mine.

CHORUS:

I'm going home, I'm going home,
I'm going home to die no more.
To die no more, to die no more,
I'm going home to die no more.

My Father's house is built on high:
Far, far above the starry sky;
When from this earthly prison free,
That heav'nly mansion mine shall be.

Let others seek a home below,
Which flames devour, or waves o'rflow,
Be mine a happier lot to own,
A heav'nly mansion near the throne.

Then fall this earth, let stars decline,
And sun and moon refuse to shine;
All nature sink and cease to be,
That heav'nly mansion stands for me.

The cage door was opened, and with a firm step, singing the hymn at the full pitch of his strong voice, that had never a quiver in it, Colbert marched out and across the stone-paved rotunda to his death. He did not look to either side, and before he had taken a dozen slow steps in time to the hymn he came in sight of the red-painted scaffold.

THE DEATH MARCH

proceeded through the oak and glass door at the entrance to the gallery where the gallows stands and down the iron steps to the brick floor. As he passed through the door the cordon of police formed in a line behind Colbert and those who composed the procession, and held back the pushing, jostling crowd of some 150 spectators. He mounted the twenty-four steps that led to the scaffold firmly and took his place on the trap, facing the crowd below. Rev. J. W. Wells stood at one side of him on the scaffold and Rev. Mr. Roberts on the other. After they had finished the first hymn, which lasted until after they had reached the top of the scaffold, Rev. J. W. Roberts sang another hymn: "Fade, Fade Each Earthly Joy," beginning as follows:

Fade, fade each earthly joy,
Jesus is mine!
Break every tender tie,
Jesus is mine!
Dark is the wilderness,
Jesus is mine!
Jesus alone can bless,
Jesus is mine!

While the singing was going on the hangman pinioned Colbert's legs at the knees and ankles, and then stood at one side to wait for the singing to be finished. After the hymn ended, Mr. Roberts made a fervent prayer, closing by repeating the Lord's Prayer, which Colbert repeated after him, line by line. Then Colbert made his farewell speech. He said:

"I want to say one word to all who may be within sound of my voice. I now bid you all farewell forever and farewell to all I loved so much. And I say to you all give your hearts to God, the Good Shepherd, that I love so well. Meet me on the banks of the good place above. That is all; good-bye."

This was all said in a clear, firm voice and the murderer's eyes were turned Heavenward while he talked. He stood directly in the centre of the trap, and the rope that was to be noosed about his neck hung against his brown cheek as he talked. After he had finished the black cap was quickly and cleverly pulled down over his head and the hangman lifted the rope and fitted the noose closely around his neck.

One of the officials on the scaffold gave a quick motion of his hand to one side and the watching executioner in the screened cell beside the scaffold gave the rope a quick pull. There was a sharp click, the trap flew back with a muffled thump and at 12:49½ o'clock Colbert was dropped through the trap into eternity.

His neck was broken, the rope cutting the skin slightly. When he dropped his head was pulled over to one side and the body spun around four times rapidly and then revolved more slowly. The legs contracted and were drawn up four or five times and then the body was still. After hanging a trifle over three minutes it was lowered and the pulse felt. At ten minutes after the drop fell the pulse beat at the rate of 125 times a minute. At twelve minutes it dropped to 68 a minute. At seventeen and a half minutes after the body fell the heart stopped beating and Colbert was pronounced dead. A few minutes later the body was cut down and placed in a silver-handled coffin.

COLBERT'S FACE WAS ENTIRELY FREE FROM DISTORTION

when the cap was removed. His mouth was closed, the tongue not protruding as is usual in the case of death in this manner. There was no discoloration about the eyes, but excepting this his face was like that of a man in sleep. He trembled slightly while Warden Crocker read the death warrant to him. He flinched visibly when Deputy Strong pinioned his arms, but he recovered himself at once, and showed no emotion beyond an intense religious fervor.

The murderer was hung in a plain black suit, the coat of the "sack" pattern, and a

Scene of the Tragedy.

white vest. He had a turn-down collar and neat blue necktie around his neck when he went on the scaffold. Everything worked nicely and the hanging passed off without a hitch. Colbert's nerve was wonderful. He went up the steps to the scaffold singing and betrayed scarcely any emotion throughout the operation. The execution was witnessed by about 150 people, beside the jail officials, nearly every one of whom exhibited more emotion than the man who was hanged.

An Account of the Murder.

The crime for which Colbert lost his life is known as the Car Stable homicide. It was a brutal murder, and, as usual, would probably never have been committed but for whisky. His victim was Philip Wentzel, a harmless old man, whom everybody liked. Wentzel was employed around the car stables of the Columbia Street Railroad Company as a night superintendent or stable boss. He was over 70 years old, and was known to everybody about the place as "Pap."

Colbert was employed about the place as a hostler or stable boy. It was his duty to change the horses in the cars, clean them, and do general work about the place. On the night of Wednesday, October 3, 1888, Colbert went to work at 4 o'clock in the morning and worked till 4:30 in the afternoon. Wentzel then asked him to stay on duty, as there was a man sick, and Colbert agreed to do so. Colbert then went out and got a half pint of whisky and drank it with two companions. He also took two drinks outside. He came back to the stable at 6:15 o'clock, made the first change of horses, and, as he had an hour to spare, lay down to take a nap in one of the stalls.

At 7:07 car No. 16, driven by Charles B. West, came into the stables. There was no one to change the horses, and Wentzel asked for Colbert. When he found him asleep in the stall, Wentzel pushed him with his foot, saying: "You are a pretty fellow to attend to business."

"If you don't like the way I do business get somebody else," was Colbert's reply.

Wentzel told him that he was drunk, and advised him to go home.

Colbert insisted on having his money, saying: "G——d—— you; you pay me or I'll kill you this night."

Wentzel said: "You ought to be ashamed to talk that way to an old man like me," and was turning to go away when Colbert pulled his pistol and fired.

The ball passed through the left breast, causing death almost instantaneously. Colbert was indicted on the 8th of October. On January 14, 1889, he went to trial. A. A. Lipscomb prosecuted the case and Messrs. Snell and Prince appeared as his counsel. The trial lasted just one day, and, on the 15th, a verdict of guilty as indicted was rendered." Wentzell carried a light stick around the stable and was pointing it toward Colbert during the conversation.

Colbert claimed that Wentzell struck him. His story was that Pap swore at him, and the crowd seeing an altercation going on drew near, shouting, "Don't hurt Pap." He replied, "I am not going to," but drew his revolver in order to scare them, and it went off. His counsel made a vigorous effort to save him, but the facts were too clearly against him.

Colbert is a heavy-set man and was 21 years old when the murder was committed. He was born in Maryland, but has lived in Washington since 1874. He lived at Montello for a time and has always worked about horses. His sojourn at the jail has greatly improved him in appearance and in moral tone. He spent the greater part of his time in religious exercises, and led the hymns during church services at the jail on Sundays. He has repeatedly expressed entire resignation to his fate and fully expected to be received into heaven.

He has been under the spiritual guidance of the Rev. J. W. Robertson, a colored missionary at the jail. Mr. Robertson has had five other murderers in charge recently and will have a select colony in the Realms of eternal beatitude. William Briggs, who expected a new trial and got it, has not manifested anything like the interest in spiritual affairs which Colbert has acquired. He has been reasonably devout, however, and will doubtless become conspicuously so if the jury again convicts him of murder. He had a very narrow escape from participating with Colbert in to-day's exercises.

THE 1890 ENCAMPMENT.

VIEWS OF WELL-KNOWN MEMBERS OF THE G. A. R.

They All Believe That Washington Should Be Selected—The Principal Difficulties That Now Lie in the Way.

Following are views of leading members of the G. A. R. regarding the proposed 1890 encampment in this city:

PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER BURKE.

Jerome B. Burke, Past Department Commander: "I am of the opinion that THE CRITIC is entitled to the thanks of every comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic for your offer of assistance to the local members of the G. A. R. in their effort to secure for Washington the encampment for 1890. Should this effort succeed I know it will entail a large amount of hard work for the comrades in this department, but I feel sure they will be willing to do it, earnestly and faithfully, knowing that it will prove of great service to our needy disabled comrades and the widows and orphans, whose righteous claims are pending before Congress and the Pension Office. Here, and only here, can be given to the representatives of the people from all over this broad land the most favorable opportunity to visit us when assembled in National Encampment, and join with us in celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the grand review, and pledge anew the promises of the nation "to care for him who bore the brunt of battle and his widow and orphan." The comrades who earnestly desire to better the condition of the needy and destitute wards of the nation should favor the wishes of this department and tender at least a vote of thanks to THE CRITIC for its kind and patriotic offer.

PAST POST COMMANDER HALL.

William G. Hall, Past Post Commander, Sumner Post, No. 2: "I am of the opinion that no city of the Union is better adapted for the occasion than Washington for many reasons. First, the Capital of the United States, so nobly defended at the beginning of the war by the men who will then and there assemble, many, perhaps, who have never had the opportunity heretofore of such a visit. Second, notwithstanding our former soldier Presidents, considering General Grant a great one, we have for 1890 one who is a staunch member of the G. A. R., and who's delight it is to associate with his old comrades once in arms; and seeing a great number of these men once more touching elbows to the left on a marching review should encourage fully the plan. Third, in the States, especially New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, there are many more posts of the G. A. R. than here, but in no State are there more men of distinct army corps and naval flotillas than Washington. Many visiting here would meet friends of the G. A. R. who were either soldiers or sailors unexpectedly. I trust the plan will succeed."

N. D. ADAMS, COUNSEL OF ADMINISTRATION.

N. D. Adams, member counsel of administration, Department of the Potomac: "In my opinion not less than $75,000 would be required to defray the expense of an annual G. A. R. Encampment in this city, on as liberal scale as has been usual in other cities, and I do not believe that over one-third of that sum could be raised here by private subscription. Of course, I would like to have the encampment here in 1890 if we can show as liberal hand as our comrades have elsewhere, otherwise I am not. Of late years 'the boys' have met us in the West with unbounded hospitality, and citizens outside of the order have given us an enthusiastic welcome. People here, generally, have not the regard for an 'old soldier' that prevails in the West, though they are indebted to him for the preservation, intact, of this beautiful city; hence, why is it so? If Congress will aid sufficiently in the matter success can be assured, and I am in favor of the project, but I want no *half way* business in mine."

ADJUTANT CHARLES F. KEEFER.

Charles F. Keefer, Adjutant Kit Carson Post: "The proper way to secure the National Encampment of the G. A. R. in 1890 is for the leading citizens to hold a mass-meeting and set about at once to secure subscriptions. It is a mistake to suppose that hotel men and railway companies are the only beneficiaries on such an occasion. An encampment, with its accompanying festivities, generally lasts four days. The number of visitors, at a low estimate, will be about 80,000. Allowing an average expenditure of $4 per day per man, we have $320,000 *a day* spent right here, and every sort of tradesman will get his share of it. Even if he sells nothing to the visitor, he will eventually sell more to the resident dealer who has been benefited. Compared with other large cities Washington has been so far very seldom called upon for subscriptions of this kind. Those contributed once in four years for inaugural purposes have been usually returned within a month or so to the subscribers directly, while in many cases persons who subscribed nothing were the largest gainers.

"It is to be regretted that Congress does not meet in time to permit the District to contribute its quota out of the general fund. This is generally done by Legislatures and municipalities in other places. Still, with the many attractions this city posses over all others, less than half the amount raised elsewhere would be needed here. The sight-seeing would fill up the time and obviate the necessity of providing costlier schemes of amusement. There ought to be a *free* excursion to Mount Vernon to the members of the encampment. This would not cost much. A few thousand dollars for illumination and fireworks would do the rest. A subscription of $25,000 or $25,000 *assured* beforehand would, in my opinion, bring the encampment here. It has never been necessary for one place to outbid the other in *cash offers* made to the encampment. The proper and most successful way to succeed is to set forth the advantages of the city. General Burdett is the man to do this. The Potomac, Arlington, Mount Vernon, the public buildings, parks, a call on Comrade Harrison, and cheap and good fare—these are the attractions that tell. As for the rest, tell them that the people have subscribed *enough* to see the boys through."

Prospective Canadian Changes.

A *Herald* special from Ottawa, Ont., says: "It is generally understood here that J. H. Pope, minister of railways and canals, will be succeeded by J. A. Chapleau, Secretary of State. Mr. Colby will succeed Mr. Chapleau as Secretary of State. These appointments will cause great dissatisfaction throughout the country, as it is generally conceded that Colby receives his appointment because of the service he rendered the Government last session by a powerful speech supporting the action of the Administration on allowing the Jesuits estates act. The Government is coming in for vigorous denunciation all over Ontario for its action in reference to this question.

The Palos Heard From.

The apprehensions felt about the safety of the United States steamer Palos were set at rest at the Navy Department to-day by the receipt of one of the semi-occasional reports from Admiral Belknap, the Commandant of the Asiatic Station. The reports stated that on April 24 the Palos was at Chemulpo. The advices bringing reports of the rumored loss of the Palos were only up to this date.

Smallpox Brought from Oklahoma.

CHICAGO, May 17.—William E. Wood, aged 24, a builder by trade, was found at 318 South State street, in a boarding-house yesterday, suffering from smallpox. He was removed to the smallpox hospital and measures taken to prevent a spread of the disease. Wood came from Oklahoma a few days ago.

A Wealthy Farmer's Disgrace.

SHELBYVILLE, IND., May 17.—George Howry, a wealthy farmer of this county, was arrested yesterday and taken to Rushville on a warrant charging him with being one of two men who passed over $800 in counterfeit fives and tens there last Tuesday.

FIFTY-CENT neckwear reduced to 35 cents. Keep's, 437 7th street.

THE DEATH OF BISHOP.

His Friends Not Yet Satisfied with the Reports.

NEW YORK, May 17.—There will be an inquiry and perhaps another autopsy in the case of W. Irving Bishop, the mind-reader, who, according to medical testimony, died last Monday in a cataleptic seizure that followed an exhibition of his peculiar powers at the Lambs' Club. Mrs. Eleanor Fletcher Bishop, his mother, clings to her belief that her son died under the surgeon's knife.

It was at first decided that Bishop's funeral should take place to-day, but the later developments have caused it to be postponed until Monday. Mrs. Eleanor Fletcher Bishop is still at the Hoffman House with the wife of the dead mind-reader. Yesterday she sent a letter to Dr. Allen McLane Hamilton and Dr. Spitzka, asking them to assist her in the investigation she was about to begin. Mrs. Bishop also sent the following letter to Coroner Ferdinand Levy:

"I am of the belief, founded upon my knowledge of previous attacks, that the autopsy performed by Drs. Irwin and Ferguson was unwarranted. I therefore demand that a further examination be made with a view to determine whether my son died under the surgeon's knife or from catalepsy."

Dr. Irwin, accompanied by John Ritchie and J. W. Thomas, formerly Bishop's manager, and T. Brigham Bishop, the cousin of the dead man, called on Mrs. Bishop yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Bishop was laboring under great excitement and when she saw Dr. Irwin she demanded what right he had to undertake a post-mortem examination without her permission. Dr. Irwin has been greatly wrought up by the charges brought against him. He made the following statement:

"My action in this matter was dictated by the regard I held for Mr. Bishop and what I considered to be my duty. Bishop was not a fraud. The method of his death goes to prove that he was what he claimed to be. I did not know Dr. Ferguson personally. He was suggested to me by Dr. Lee as a well-known pathologist and I summoned him in the interests of science. The brain changes more quickly after death than any other portions of the body, and, had we waited longer, the benefit of the autopsy would have been lost. For the trouble I have taken in this case I have received no thanks, and I have been called a murderer and other vile names. I think that an examination of the body even now will clearly show that the man died hours before the post-mortem. I want the fullest investigation."

Dr. Hamilton answered Mrs. Bishop's letter in person and told her that he would be ready to testify at the proper investigation. Coroner Levi received Mrs. Bishop's letter last night and after consulting with her and Mr. Bishop's wife decided to subpoena the doctors and others interested in the case to appear before him this afternoon.

Bishop's body has been partly embalmed and lies in the undertaker's rooms at 8 Sixth avenue. The funeral will be on Monday afternoon in Grace Church, and the interment will be at Greenwood.

LATE DEPARTMENT NEWS.

The following official changes have been made in the Department of the Interior:

Office of the Secretary—Appointment: J. Jolly Jones of Kansas, confidential clerk to First Assistant Secretary, $1,600.

Geological Survey—Appointments for Irrigation Survey: William H. Hall of California and Edwin S. Nettleton of Colorado, supervising engineers at $4,000; Arthur D. Foote of Idaho, Lyman Bridges of California and Alex. O. Brodie of Arizona, engineers at $3,000. Promotions: Willard D. Johnson of the District of Columbia, topographer, $1,800 to $2,000; William J. Yaste of Maryland, assistant photographer, $720, to skilled laborer, $840.

Patent Office—Resignations: Richard T. Worthington of Ohio, law clerk, $2,000; Max Georgu of Minnesota, first assistant examiner.

Pension office—Appointment: Henry A. Phillips of New York, chief of division, $2,000. Resignations: Charles F. Gilliam of Ohio, chief of division, $2,000; Charles T. Forbes of Arkansas, clerk, $1,400.

Inventory of Naval Supplies.

The Secretary of the Navy has directed that an inventory be made of the naval supplies now on hand previous to advertising for bids for furnishing supplies for the fiscal year, that the quota now in stock may be deducted from the usual annual purchase. The inventory shows supplies in stock at the several shore stations to the amount of $2,600,806.97. In making purchases for the fiscal year the Department will take into account this stock on hand and purchase less new material to the amount above. The Secretary has also directed that transfers of stores shall be made from one bureau to another wherever practicable, instead of purchasing new material.

The Asiatic Squadron.

Rear Admiral Belknap reports to the Navy Department under date of April 24, last, the disposition of the vessels of the Asiatic squadron as follows: Omaha and Monocacy at Yokohama; Marion sailed from Yokohama April 24 for Kobe and Nagasaki and will immediately be ordered to Shanghai. The Palos is at Chemulpo.

Postoffice Topographer.

Charles Roeser, jr., of Wisconsin, has been appointed topographer in the Postoffice Department at $2,500, vice David Enright.

Maryland Postmaster.

H. C. Whiteford, at Darlington, vice B. J. Williams, removed.

Naval Orders.

Dr. M. L. Ruth has been granted a furlough for one year from the 20th inst.

Surgeon W. A. McClurg has been ordered to duty in the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery June 1.

Surgeon H. C. Eckstein has been ordered to the Marine Rendezvous, Philadelphia.

Medical Director M. Bradley has been detached from duty at the Marine Rendezvous, Philadelphia, and ordered to continue on special duty in that city.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Charles W. Rush has been detached from the Pinta and placed on waiting orders.

Assistant Surgeon William F. Arnold has been ordered from the New Hampshire and placed on waiting orders.

Assistant Surgeon E. R. Stitt has been detached from duty in the Bureau of Medicine and ordered to the receiving ship New Hampshire.

Burial Permits Issued.

Burial permits have been issued by the Health Officer for the past twenty-four hours as follows: Maria Hickey, 19 years; Charles P. Daum, jr., 30 years; Julia McKenney, 50 years; Louis P. Schweitzer, 6 years; Julia C. Cole, 47 years; Mary C. Van De Venter, 44 years, and colored: Lilly Taulbert, 4 months; Minnie Johnson, 3 months; George E. White, 10 years; Wm. Beal, 25 years; Elizabeth L. Jackson, 3 months.

In the Anarchist Case.

OTTAWA, ILL., May 17.—In the Anarchist case, the Supreme Court yesterday filed an opinion overruling the motion of the plaintiffs to amend the record. This finally disposes of the case.

ON WEDNESDAY next, the 22d, at 11:30, Duncanson & Bro., auctioneers, for Messrs. Richard Smith and Charles A. Elliot, trustees, will begin the second sale of lots in the subdivision of "Hosiny City." The new bridge crossing the Anacostia River at the foot of Pennsylvania avenue, is rapidly approaching completion. Last winter Congress appropriated $25,000, for the opening and extending Pennsylvania avenue through this property on to the Bowen road. Large investments have been recently made in adjacent property by a New York syndicate with the view of immediate improvement. Plats of the subdivision with the lots unsold may be had of the trustees or the auctioneer.

M. Numa Gilly has been convicted at Montpelier, France, of libeling M. Salis, and sentenced to a month's imprisonment and 200 francs fine.

GOOD MEN REWARDED.

APPOINTMENTS MADE BY THE PRESIDENT TO-DAY.

A Number of District Judges and Attorneys Appointed--Amor Smith Made Surveyor at the Port of Cincinnati--White House Gossip.

The President to-day made the following appointments:

Charles Swayne of Florida, to be United States States District Judge for the Northern District of Florida; Wm. D. Lee of New Mexico, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of New Mexico; John W. Whitcher of Nevada, to be Attorney of the United States for the District of Nevada; John C. Murphy of Dakota, to be United States Marshal for the Territory of Dakota; Richard L. Walker of Kansas, to be United States Marshal for the District of Kansas; Jacob Yoes of Arkansas, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Arkansas; James W. Savage of Omaha, Neb., to be Government Director of the Union Pacific Railway Company; Amor Smith, jr., of Ohio, to be Surveyor of Customs for the Port of Cincinnati, and David W. McClung of Ohio, to be collector of Internal Revenue for the First District of Ohio.

Amor Smith, jr., made his reputation as mayor of Cincinnati, and has been rated as a Simon-pure Republican and faithful public official. He was indorsed for the position conferred upon him by the leading men of the Buckeye State, and his appointment gives general satisfaction.

David W. McClung of Ohio is at present clerk of elections under the Pugsley law, and was for a time assistant postmaster at Cincinnati. He is a staunch Republican, an estimable citizen and for a number of years he was a school-teacher. Among his pupils was Private Secretary Halford, who speaks in the highest terms of his former preceptor.

James W. Savage, reappointed a Government Director of the Union Pacific Railway Company, is a Democrat who has hitherto done good work as a member of the directory of the road, and he was unanimously indorsed by Republicans and Democrats for another term.

There was a break in the line of callers at the White House, and few Congressmen braved the hot weather in the interest of their suffering constituents. Senator Evarts was not to be deterred, however, by Old Sol, and came up in his carryall prepared to take all the patronage of his State at one fell swoop. Among the Representatives who admired the new matting on the stairway and alligator pattern oilcloth in the corridors were: Messrs. Yost, J. D. Taylor, Ohio; Butler, Osborne, Bounds, Cheadle, Henderson and Posey, and in the case of the Ohio man he came in jubilant spirits, for at last his State had been reached and recognized. Rear Admirals Rodgers and Franklin called to pay their respects, and the same may be said of the Hawaiian Minister, who presented George W. Smith, of Honolulu and Justice Beckerton of the Supreme Court of the Sandwich Islands. Other callers who saw the President embraced: R. S. Montgomery, Palmetto, and T. M. Hurst, Nashville, Tenn.; Samuel L. Avery, Louisville; Joseph A. Brooks, Vincebnrg, and D. R. Collin, Lancaster, Ky.; James A. Buchanan, Gibson City, and John F. Briggs, Chicago, Ills.; C. Cowgill, Indiana, and Rev. S. H. Robertson, superintendent and treasurer Morris Brown College, Atlanta, Georgia.

ASSAULT TO KILL.

The Charge on Which Austin Kraus and Scott West Are Being Tried.

In the Criminal Court this morning two well-dressed, intelligent-looking men sat before Judge Bradley and the jury on trial on the charge of assault to kill. Around them were seated several ladies, mothers and sisters, who eagerly watched the points of the defense offered by Wm. A. Cook and F. C. Taylor, who appeared as their counsel. They were Arthur Kraus and Scott West, accused of having, in December last, tried to kill Hugh Murphy. Murphy testified that as he was going to put his horses up at the Adams Express stables, the two men attacked him with a black-jack.

DISTRICT GOVERNMENT NOTES.

Nothing but routine work, and very little of that, was done at the District buildings to-day. The sole topic of conversation was the new Commissioners, and no one would talk about anything else. Early this morning the commissions of Messrs. Douglass and Hine were issued at the State Department and sent to the gentlemen at their residences.

To-day Assessor Williams went to the Commissioners and called their attention to the fact that the Mutual Fire Insurance Company does not pay any personal tax on the capital stock, as the law requires, and asks that the matter be referred to Attorney Riddle for an opinion.

The Commissioners to-day approved the application of Sheehan & Mockabee for a retail liquor license at 600 Four-and-a-half street southwest and that of Henry Clark for a wholesale license at 700 Seventh street southwest.

THE COURT RECORD.

COURT IN GENERAL TERM—Justices Hagner, James and Montgomery.—Conley vs. Nailor; argued.

EQUITY COURT—Justice Cox.—Riley vs. Weber; Duane C. Turner allowed to intervene. Fink vs. Payne; conveyance by John Ridecout, trustee, ordered. Black vs. Saunders; appearance of absent defendant ordered. Plater vs. Williams; demurrer sustained with leave to amend. McBlair vs. McBlair; final decree adjusting rights of parties.

Suit Against the Pullman Company.

SIOUX CITY, IOWA, May 17.—Suit for $50,000 damages was begun yesterday against the Pullman Palace Car Company by Mrs Jennie Campbell of this city. The ground of the suit is an assault committed on Mrs. Campbell February 15 by a negro porter. She was the only occupant on a sleeper, and near Mulila, Iowa, the porter entered the car, locked the door and assaulted her.

American Chairs for Canada.

OTTAWA, May 17.—Mr. Linsley, a representative of the Oneida Community at Niagara Falls, N. Y., had an interview with the Minister of Customs yesterday, and asked permission to bring into Canada free of duty the separate parts required in the manufacture of what are known as American chairs, the chairs to be completed in Canada. The Minister said the request would receive consideration.

Safety Railway Appliances.

The Interstate Commerce Commission to-day addressed a circular letter to officials of the railroads throughout the country, intended to call out full information and discussion upon the question of Federal regulation of safety appliances on railroads.

Two Dioceses Consolidated.

PITTSBURG, PA., May 17.—A cablegram from Rome conveys the intelligence of the consolidation of the Pittsburg and Allegheny Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church.

A Packing House Burned.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA, May 17.—Stewart Bros.' packing house in this city burned yesterday morning with a quantity of cured meats. Loss, $100,000; insurance, $85,450.

Afternoon Locals.

River men are of the opinion that the rock in the river which was struck by the schooner Concert while being towed by the tug Zeta should be removed.

Colonel T. P. Ochiltree has sued the Herdic Company for $25,000 for injuries to his leg, received while riding on one of its coaches.

The Coroner's jury to-day exonerated Isaac Armstrong, who drove over the boy, John Keenan, on Wednesday, causing his his death.

The Bijou Theatre civil rights case will be decided to-morrow.

FOR UNDERWEAR, at lowest prices, go to Keep's, 437 7th street.

EXTRA

DOUBLE TRAGEDY!

Oswald C. Allen Shoots Himself and Wife.

Pupils in a Public School Witness The Crime.

Thrown Into a Panic by the Shocking Scene.

Details of the Killing--The Unfortunate Victim of Allen a Teacher in the School Where She Was Shot--Entrance to the School Obtained Through the Cloak Room--The Scene.

At about 3 o'clock this afternoon a terrible tragedy occurred at the Jefferson School, Sixth street and Virginia avenue, Oswald C. Allen murdering his wife, and following the crime by his own suicide.

Just as the children of the Jefferson School Building were being dismissed at 3 o'clock this afternoon, Oswald C. Allen, a middle-aged white man, entered the school-room through the cloak-room. He had no sooner entered the room than he advanced toward his wife, who was surrounded by the children at the time, and drawing a revolver shot her through the head. The unfortunate woman fell to the floor, while the terrified children ran screaming away in all directions. Allen then went back into the cloak-room, and putting the pistol to his own head, blew out his brains. His death was instantaneous. Mrs. Allen is still alive, though the first report is that there is small chance of her recovery.

LATER DETAILS.

It was the most bloody, horrible murder in Washington's history. At about 2:50 o'clock Allen got into a cab at Twelfth and Pennsylvania avenue and told the driver, James Robinson, to drive to the Jefferson School Building. He had a revolver in his hand when he entered the cab. When they arrived at the school building school was just being dismissed. Mrs. Allen had just dismissed her school of girls and was watching them go out, when her husband, who was drunk, stepped up behind her, after entering through the cloak-room.

He put his left arm around her, placed the muzzle of his revolver close to her ear and fired.

The bullet went clear through her head. Then, as she reeled and was falling Allen placed the revolver to his own temple and fired, killing himself instantly.

They fell and laid in the cloak-room, side by side, and the blood from their wounds flowed into one big pool.

The children were horrified and ran screaming from the building. Miss Trunnell, another teacher, went into hysterics.

Allen's body was taken to the Morgue, and Dr. Leech says Mrs. Allen is dying, and cannot live but a short while.

The revolver was a big 38-calibre "bull dog."

Mrs. Allen has been a teacher in the city schools for nineteen years, and her divorce suit is still pending.

WHO ALLEN WAS.

Allen has descended from surroundings of refinement to the lowest depths of degradation. He was a familiar figure in the Police Court. A short time ago some fellow-prisoners in the workhouse, who were told to give him a kerosene bath because of his filthy condition, set fire to him while he was covered with the inflammable liqu