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DYNAMITE CONSPIRACY.

Henious Crime Planned by a Member of the Whisky Trust.

THE PLOT UNEARTHED ON THE EVE OF ITS CONSUMMATION.

George J. Gibson Arrested at Chicago and Charged with an Attempt to Bribe a Government Official to Blow Up the Shufeldt Distillery—A Dynamite Machine and Other Evidence Found in His Possession.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

CHICAGO, Feb. 11.—If the stories told by agents of the national Treasury Department, now in this city, are true, one of the most diabolical of dynamite plots, involving great loss of life and property, has been discovered, and its consummation prevented just on the eve of its putting into effect. The Western Distiller and Cattle Feeders' Association, better known as the whisky trust, is a corporation with a capital stock of $35,000,000, and controls the price of high wines throughout the country, as it controls all of the distilleries, with two or three exceptions.

The most important distillery outside of the combination is that of H. H. Shufeldt of this city, and it was against this concern that the plot was arranged.

George J. Gibson of Peoria, Ill., arrived at 6 o'clock, and on complaint of Solicitor-General Hart of the Treasury Department, who came here from Washington for the purpose, was arrested as he was alighting from a carriage at the door of the Grand Pacific Hotel, and hurried across the street into the Government building, where he was locked up. The arrest was made as quietly as possible, and the fact was not made public until some hours afterward.

The charge laid at Gibson's door is that he offered Government Gauger T. S. Dewar, who is on duty at Shufeldt's distillery, a bribe to blow up the distillery with dynamite.

Solicitor Hart tells the story of the plot. He says Gibson opened communication with Dewar some time ago, telling him at first that Shufeldt's concern was in the way, and that they were trying to get it out of the way. Finally he offered Dewar $10,000, and then increased the offer to $25,000, to blow up the concern.

Gibson told him he had a dynamite machine that could be exploded between two large tanks, releasing and setting on fire a sea of alcohol. There would be plenty of time for Dewar to get away, and he was the only man who could place the machine, because of the fact that as a Government gauger he had access to all parts of the building.

"Gibson lied," said Hart, "when he told Dewar the machine would not go off until he had time to get out, for it would have exploded at once, killing the man who placed it before he could possibly get away, thus destroying the only evidence against the trust people, and at the same time saving to them the $25,000 bribe. In addition to the destruction of Dewar and the buildings, the success of the plot meant unquestionably the death of 150 men working in the place. As I say, Dewar, under our instructions, went the length of the conspiracy to the point of doing the diabolical deed, and when Gibson was arrested he was waiting uneasily, expecting to hear of the explosion and destruction of all these lives and all that property.

"We have in our possession evidence to substantiate Dewar's offer—the dynamite machine, the letters of contract between Dewar and Gibson, and, in fact, everything. The case is practically over so far as our department is concerned. The case is made."

"Have you any evidence to show that others of the trust besides Gibson were implicated in the conspiracy?" was asked of Mr. Hart.

"While we might reason that he was not alone in this, and that somebody higher up in the trust was the responsible party, we have not a bit of evidence tending to implicate anyone else. Everything we have points to no other person. The machine, the materials to make it effective, and the inculpating documents were in a satchel which Gibson carried at the time of his arrest. Some unknown person, who had a knowledge of the conspiracy, warned the owners of the distillery on Monday of the danger which beset them, and fixing the date of the explosion for yesterday or to-day, and they were carefully guarding the premises day and night. Two previous attempts, which were attributed to the whisky trust, but not proved, were made to destroy the Shufeldt distillery with dynamite. One of them occurred two years ago last fall. Detective Dan Coughlin, of the city police force, was detailed on the case, and it was while at work on it that he made the acquaintance of a little German named John P. Kunz. Both of them were afterwards tried for complicity in the assassination of Dr. Cronin. Coughlin is serving a life sentence for the crime, but Kunz was acquitted."

This afternoon Gibson was taken before United States Commissioner Hayne, and released on bail of $20,000. He declined to make any statement in regard to the matter.

In an interview to-night Gibson denies knowledge of any infernal machine. He asserts that he had no dealings with Dewar, and intimates that it is a conspiracy against him (Gibson).

The Government officers are exceedingly confident, however, and say they have the case well in hand.

It was learned to-night that the infernal machine was an ingenious device. A gun-barrel loaded with powder and a steel bullet was set into a can with an inflammable liquid under it.

Dewar was to put the machine under a vat and pour a chemical into the vent hole. This would ignite the liquid and the powder would explode. The bullet would go through the bottom of the vat, and the alcohol would pour down on the flaming can.

INTENSE SURPRISE AT PEORIA.

PEORIA, Feb. 11.—The arrest of J. Gibson in Chicago to-day caused intense surprise at the trust headquarters. Nobody could be found this afternoon. President Greenhut went to Washington ten days ago, and is still there, although his relatives and friends do not know what hotel he is at. His son said to-night that if his father desired to say anything on the subject he would make his views known, otherwise not.

The whisky men here assert that Gibson's arrest was the result of a conspiracy on the part of the anti-trust distillery. He has been a resident of this city since 1879, when he came here from Cleveland and entered the employment of the Monarch distillery as bookkeeper. When the trust was formed in 1891, he was elected Secretary, and has since held that position. He made money rapidly, and is now rated at $150,000.

Mayor Clark, formerly a member of the association, said to-night: "Gibson is not such a fool as to deal with a gauger in such a terrible affair, if it were true."

There is a rumor to-night that United States detectives, who were here some time ago, gained entrance to the trust headquarters and searched it carefully. In the basement, it is alleged, they found a dynamite machine and explosive chemicals sufficient to destroy all the distilleries in the world. It is known that officers were here, but the story about searching the headquarters cannot be traced to any reliable source. Several prominent whisky men will go to the aid of Gibson.

FINANCIAL.

Two Massachusetts Banks Close Their Doors.

BYER (Mass.), Feb. 11.—The First National and North Middlesex Savings Banks closed their doors to-day. There are ugly rumors afloat concerning them. H. E. Spaulding, Cashier of both institutions, has been missing from town since Monday evening, and where he has gone no one knows. The exact financial condition of the banks is not known. The books will be examined at once.

Last week Spaulding ascertained that the Directors of the North Middlesex Bank were about to have it examined, when he left home, not saying when he would return. Colonel Needham, formerly the Bank Examiner, has advised the banks not to pay out any more money until there has been an official investigation. He stated that a letter has been found which indicates that Cashier Spaulding has been speculating in stocks.

Investigation tends to show that both banks are solvent, the North Middlesex especially so, as none of its funds have been tampered with. If there is any loss it will fall on the national bank.

Spaulding was a regular member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was considered a man of sterling habits and upright character.

Commissioner of Savings Banks Locke said that from a superficial examination he should think the saving bank all right. The only chance for discrepancy in on the pass books of depositors.

Bank Inspector Getchell has arrived to examine the condition of the National Bank. The last balance sheet of the North Middlesex Bank showed assets and liabilities of $198,000.

The Supreme Court this evening issued an injunction restraining the North Middlesex Savings Bank from paying out any money until an investigation of the finances has been made.

Exploration of Alaska.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Representative Cutcheon, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to-day reported to the House, with favorable recommendations, the Senate bill appropriating $100,000 to enable the Secretary of War to provide for an exploration of survey of the interior of Alaska.

GENERAL SHERMAN.

THE HERO OF MANY BATTLES SINKING RAPIDLY.

All Hope Given Up—His Death Likely to Occur at Any Moment—Latest Bulletins.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—General Sherman was very low this morning. His condition has not changed for the better since last night. At 9:30 A. M. Dr. Alexander was waiting for the arrival of Dr. Edward G. Janeway, with whom he was to hold another consultation. Last night the General only spoke when addressed and asked to take medicine. The members of the family were about the bedside all night. If he lives through the day the crisis will have passed.

The doctors announced after consultation this morning that the condition of General Sherman was less favorable than yesterday. The General suffered considerable pain last night, and is constantly growing weaker.

Shortly before noon Dr. Alexander, when asked for the latest news of the sick General, said: "The General passed the worst night he has had since he was taken ill, and it is not too much to say that his condition this morning is extremely critical. He is very much worse than yesterday morning, and the slight improvement that was observed during the day has been entirely lost. The change came after midnight, and since that time he seems to have been gradually sinking. The worst feature of the case is that he seems to lie most of the time in a state of coma, and can only be roused when food is administered. The only nourishment he has taken for several days is whisky and milk, and at times he declines that, especially during the last twenty-four hours. He does not seem to suffer much pain, and it is this weakness and gradual sinking that we are afraid of."

On Wednesday night General Sherman went to the Casino, in company with many army and navy officers, and caught a bad cold. During Sunday erysipelas developed, attended by a high fever. The disease spread rapidly, and yesterday his face was badly swollen and painful.

At 1 o'clock General Sherman's son said that his father was slightly better, but not enough to give much encouragement.

At 2:30 it was stated that there was no change in the General's condition, which is extremely critical. He was evidently slowly dying, and was only aroused when spoken to.

At 4 P. M. General Sherman rallied. The doctors were so much encouraged that they have hopes of his recovery.

The condition of the General this evening was still considered precarious, but the success with which he battled this afternoon was the foundation of new hopes for his ultimate recovery. In the afternoon he freqnently rallied sufficiently to recognize members of his family and some old friends admitted to the sick chamber.

General Ewing says that when roused General Sherman is intelligent and free from all hallucination, but yesterday and to-day he has been much of the time in a state of semi-coma. He moves with great difficulty and pain.

The doctor's bulletin, issued at 10 o'clock to-night, says the General lost but little during the day, and his condition is about the same.

President Harrison telegraphed twice to-day for news of the General's condition.

Feb. 12.—At 1:20 this morning General Sherman's son telegraphed Senator Sherman that the General was worse, and urged him to come to the house. At the same time an official bulletin was sent out, saying there was no change in his condition.

At 1:50 this (Thursday) morning Miss Sherman sent a telegram to General Sherman's brother, Senator John Sherman, saying: "Papa is much worse. You had better come at once."

Senator Sherman reached the house at 2:20 A. M.

3:10 A. M.—Death is expected at any minute now.

At 4:45 the doctors issued the following bulletin: "General Sherman has been growing worse during the night. He will probably survive but a few hours."

Postoffice Clerk Arrested.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The Chief Postoffice Inspector was to-day advised of the arrest at Ogden of Receiving Clerk Nelson H. George of the Ogden Postoffice, charged with the embezzlement of a $5,000 registered package, sent on January 1st last from Sacramento, Cal., to Omaha, Neb. The money was recovered.

INDIAN CONFERENCE.

Turning Hawk and Other Indians Before the Commissioner.

SERIOUS CHARGES MADE AGAINST THE TROOPS.

The Indians Accuse the Seventh Cavalry With Shooting Down Innocent Women, While They Were Standing Under a Flag of Truce, and With Showing No Mercy to Little Boys.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The Indian conference closed to-day, and the Indians will start home on Friday. The feature of to-day's talk was the story of the fight at Wounded Knee. Turning Hawk said that at a given time, when the men had delivered up their guns, they were separated from their families and taken to a certain spot. A crazy man, a young man of bad influence, fired his gun, killing an officer. Other Indians began drawing knives, although they were exhorted from all sides to desist, and firing began immediately on the part of the soldiers. All the men, who were in a bunch, were killed right there, and those who escaped that first fire got into a ravine, and as they went along the ravine for a long distance, they were pursued on all sides by soldiers and shot down. The women had no firearms to fight with. They were standing off at a different place, and when the firing began those of the men who escaped the first volley went in one direction up the ravine, and the women went in a different direction through an open field, but met the same fate as the men.

American Horse said that when the firing began the people who were standing immediately around the young man who fired the first shot were killed, and then the soldiers turned their guns on the women who were in the lodges, standing there under the flag of truce. Of course, as soon as they were fired upon they fled. There was a woman with an infant in her arms killed as she almost touched the flag of truce. Right near the flag another was shot down. Her child, not knowing that its mother was dead, was still nursing, and that was a very sad sight.

The women, as they were fleeing with babies on their backs, were killed together, and women heavy with child were also killed. After most of the Indians had been killed, a cry was made that all those not killed or wounded should come forth and they would be safe. Little boys who were not wounded came out of their places of refuge, and as soon as they came in sight a number of soldiers surrounded and butchered them.

Commissioner Morgan said to the interpreter: "I wish you would say to him that those are very serious charges to make against the army. I do not want any statements that are not absolutely true, and I want anyone here that feels that the statements are too strong, to correct them."

American Horse replied: "Of course it would have been all right if only the men were killed, but the fact of the killing of the women and more especially the young boys, and girls, who are to make up the future strength of the Indian people, we feel very sorely."

Commissioner—"Does American Horse know these things of his own personal knowledge, or has he been told them?"

American Horse—"I was not there before the burial of the bodies, but I did go there with some Indian police, and many people from the agency, and we went through the battlefield and saw where the bodies were from the tracks of blood."

Rev. Mr. Cook, a Sioux half-breed, pastor of the Episcopal Church at Pine Ridge Agency, among other things, said: "Much has been said about the good spirit with which the members of the Seventh Cavalry went into that action. It has been said that a desire to avenge Custer's death was entirely absent from their mind. In coming toward Chicago, in company with General Miles, I talked with one of his own scouts, who was almost killed because he was compelled to fly with the Indians, being fired upon by men whom he tried to serve and help. He told me that after he recovered from his fright he succeeded in getting among the soldiers. After they all got in from killing the Indians, an officer of high rank—he did not know who—came to him and said: 'Now we have avenged Custer's death,' and this scout said to him, 'Yes, but you had every cause to fight for your lives that day.' These poor Indian people did not have that opportunity to protect and fight for themselves."

After several others had spoken the Commissioner declared the conference at an end.

FORTIFICATION OF SWEET WINES.

The Revenue Commissioner Says the Government Tables are Correct.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Commissioner of Internal Revenue Morgan is having more trouble about the fortification of sweet wines in California. Until to-day he had no information for the public. The despatches he received from one of his deputies yesterday about the matter was supplemented this morning by a message from Professor Hilgard, chemist at the California State University, stating that the department had evidently made a mistake in the table relating to the fortification of sweet wines. The tables as printed showed volume for the basis of calculation, while the calculation had evidently been made with reference to weight. This, as will be seen, in time would have forced the wine producers to use less alchohol than the law allows, and in turn would endanger the wines.

On receiving the dispatch Commissioner Mason instructed Richards, who has charge of the chemical department, to make another examination. Richards spent the day looking over his work, and reported to Mason to-night that he had made no mistake; that the tables are correct.

Mason said to a California Associated Press representative to-night that he had no doubt but that the department was correct, and added: "But when a chemist as eminent as Professor Hilgard says we are wrong, we are quick to look into the matter. I never let my pride interfere with my acknowledging mistakes, and if your California man had been proven correct I would have thanked him for the correction, and the California wine men would have been allowed to re-open the barrel and re-rectify."

FUR SEALS.

Professor Elliot's Statements Confirmed Regarding Their Extermination.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The report of Professor Elliot, the commissioner appointed to investigate the condition of the seal fisheries, was not among the documents presented to Congress to-day. It is held by Secretary Blaine. The reports of special agents tend to confirm what Professor Elliot found out, that unless the killing of seals is stopped for a period of years, it won't be long till there will be no seals to kill. Last year the North American Company, which got a lease from the Government, killed 21,000. It had a right to kill 60,000 the first year and 100,000 each year following. The old Alaska Seal Company has gone out of business.

Professor Elliot thinks that the absolute stopping of seal-catching for about seven years would make the fisheries once more valuable. Should any arrangements be made for preventing any seal-catching during a given period, the United States will not be liable to the North American Company for any failure of contract. The company took the lease subject to such conditions.

Silver Pool Investigation.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The silver pool investigating committee resumed its sessions this morning, and Congressman Dorsey of Nebraska said he desired under oath to make a statement. He called attention to an interview with Owenby, who was somewhat notorious and not unknown to fame, in which Owenby said the Nebraska Congressman told him there was $2,500 waiting for him if he would forget what he knew when he went on the witness-stand. Dorsey said he was satisfied that his colleagues, Laws and Connell, had never seen Owenby. If Owenby meant him (Dorsey), he pronounced him an infamous liar in all that the term implied. He (Dorsey) had never been interested directly or indirectly in silver.

Bills Before Congress.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Representative Vandever of California has presented to the House a report in favor of the passage of the bill heretofore reported from the Irrigation Committee, to provide for the segregation of public lands into irrigation districts, and the transfer of the lands to the several States, on condition that they shall construct irrigation works.

Senator Stanford to-day proposed an amendment to the sundry civil bill to increase the limit of cost for the purchase of a site for a public building in San Francisco, to $450,000.

Struble of Iowa, from the Committee on Territories, to-day reported favorably the bill to open the Cherokee outlet in Indian Territory.

Approved by the President.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The President has approved the Act granting to the Umatilla Irrigation Company a right of way through the Umatilla Indian Reservation; an Act to prevent the counterfeiting or manufacture of dies, tools or other implements used in counterfeiting, and providing for the issue of secret warrants in certain cases; an Act amending the Act for the regulation of commerce; an Act to provide an additional Justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona.

RECIPROCITY.

Commercial Agreement to be Made With Venezuela.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—A Washington special to the *Times* says: It is understood the President is ready for the announcement of a proclamation of reciprocity with Venezuela, similar in terms to the agreement just reached with Brazil, and which will take effect about the same time with this agreement. While the commerce of Venezuela is not as large as that of Brazil, the United States for several years has enjoyed a much larger proportion of the importing business than any other nation dealing with the Venezuelans.

The total exports of Venezuela in 1888 were little more than $11,000,000, and their imports about $9,000,000. Of this amount, the Venezuelans took from the United States more than $2,000,000 in 1886, and in 1888 that country took from the United States products to the amount of $3,000,000. This included about $600,000 worth of breadstuffs, principally wheat flour; about $500,000 worth of cloth, $400,000 worth of manufactures of iron and steel, and more than $500,000 worth of provisions and dairy products in 1888. Last year we imported a little more than $10,000,000 altogether. While the United States sends more products to Venezuela than any other foreign nation, the imports from the United Kingdom, France and Germany together are larger than those of the United States.

The proclamation of the President would have been made a day or two ago, as it was expected the agreement of Venezuela to the propositions of the United States would be received by the last steamer. The papers are on the way, however, and will arrive by the steamer due in New York February 18th or thereabouts.

SAID TO BE INCORRECT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—It is learned on the highest authority that the statement that a reciprocity agreement will be concluded with Venezuela is incorrect.

WILL DEAL ONLY WITH THE REFORM PARTY.

TORONTO, Feb. 11.—The *Telegram*, on what it calls unexceptionally high authority, says that Hon. Mr. Laurier holds in his pocket a letter from Secretary Blaine, in which the Secretary distinctly refuses to negotiate with any party in Canada but the Reform party, upon the question of a commercial union.

DENIED BY BLAINE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Secretary Blaine makes a positive denial of the statement telegraphed from Toronto regarding the letter to Laurier. He says he has not written a letter to any Canadian since he became Secretary of State.

DEADLOCKS UNBROKEN.

No Senators Yet Chosen From Illinois and South Dakota.

SPRINGFIELD (Ill.), Feb. 11.—The Republicans to-day presented the F. M. B. A. men a list of candidates from which to choose a United States Senator, but they refused to consider any of the names, saying it was useless to negotiate further. The Republicans decided to go into joint assembly and after two or three ballots change off to Lindley, and later to the other candidates on the list presented to the F. M. B. A. When the joint assembly met, every member responded to roll-call and the first ballot showed no change from the votes of yesterday. On the seventy-seventh ballot the Republicans voted for Cicero J. Lindley, but the farmers refused to change from Stelle. The ballot resulted: Palmer 101, Lindley 100, Stelle 3.

Two more ballots were taken this afternoon without change.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

PIERRE (S. D.), Feb. 11.—The Independents' caucus last night decided to drop Campbell and nominate State Senator Kyle instead, while in the Republican caucus Moody was decided on again as the party nominee. Two ballots were taken to-day, the last one resulting: Moody 68, Kyle 59, Tripp 24, Dillon 4, Mellette 1, Dewarte 1, Campbell 1, with twelve paired.

The report that a combination of Independents and Democrats was being formed to secure the election of a Democrat from Illinois and a Farmers' Alliance from South Dakota had the effect of uniting the Republicans, and they will hereafter doubtless vote together for one man. The Independents seem disposed to follow the same order.

The Illinois-South Dakota combine is treated with little credence among leading politicians here.

Snow at Sisson.

SISSON, Feb. 11.—Light snow fell during the past twenty-four hours. The nights are cold, the thermometer reaching 25°. The mining interests of the county will suffer unless heavy rains occur.

CHICO, Feb. 11.—While out driving this morning, J. T. Dunn was thrown from his buggy, breaking his thigh-bone and badly cutting his face. His recovery is doubtful.

COAST CHRONICLES.

Sutter County's Sheriff Sues for an Increased Salary.

THE ALILA TRAIN ROBBERS STILL AT LARGE.

Captain Greenwood, One of the Victims of the Napa Tragedy, Resting Comfortably—A San Francisco Brewer Killed by a Policeman—A Packing-House Destroyed by Fire.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

MARYSVILLE, Feb. 11.—Sheriff Harkey of Sutter County to-day brought suit against Treasurer Cope to compel him to pay an increased salary for January. The action is brought to determine to what class of counties Sutter belongs. It is claimed that according to the amendment to the Constitution Sutter County belongs to the thirty-nine and one-half class instead of the forty-first. There is considerable difference in the salary of county officers. The Auditor drew his warrant for a larger amount, but the Treasurer refused to cash it. The case will be watched with much interest.

ALILA TRAIN ROBBERS.

The Report That Two of Them Were Killed Not Believed.

TULARE, Feb. 11.—The report telegraphed to San Francisco that two of the Alila train robbers were killed by a Sheriff's posse in San Luis Obispo is not believed to be correct. None of the posse has returned or even been heard from. The last heard from Sheriff Kay he was at Santa Margarita, from which place he was heading for San Luis.

It is now ascertained beyond a doubt that the robbers were in this city on the Tuesday and Wednesday prior to the robbery, leaving here Thursday and going to Delano.

Two men came here and were joined by a third, putting up their horses at a livery stable.

Accurate descriptions of the men have been secured and are as follows:

One man fully six feet high, weight about 190 pounds, very fair complexion, very small mustache, blue eyes, and was an expert at poker. He wore new square-toed calf boots and was about 28 years old; was well built, had a full face and rode a dark bay horse about sixteen hands high and weighing about 1,050 pounds.

The second man was about five feet ten inches in hight, dark complexion, small dark mustache, which looked as if it had been dyed; full face, weight 175 pounds and about 29 years old. He rode a light bay horse about fourteen hands high and which would weigh about 900 pounds.

The third man was about 21 years old, of light complexion, no mustache, and his weight was about 160 pounds.

THE NAPA TRAGEDY.

Captain Greenwood Resting Comfortably—Reward for the Assassins.

NAPA, Feb. 11.—Captain J. Q. Greenwood, whose home was the scene of the awful tragedy in which his wife was killed and himself wounded yesterday, is resting comfortably. He has authorized Sheriff McKenzie to offer a reward of $1,000 for the arrest of the perpetrators of the crime. It is expected that the Board of Supervisors will also offer rewards. No further clue has been found to indicate who did the deed.

Sheriff McKenzie to-day sent out a description of the men, and with all his force is vigilantly hunting them.

Killed by a Policeman.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 11.—Police officer J. V. Cavanaugh shot and killed John May, a brewer, at 12:30 o'clock this morning, on the corner of Fulton and Buchanan streets. He saw three men emerge from a doorway on Buchanan street.

He gave himself up at the Central Police Station. He denies that he intended to either hit or kill May, and says he simply wanted him to halt and give an account of himself.

May, in company with Henry Getz and Charles Jadke, was posting boycott circulars against the National Brewery when he was shot by Policeman Cavanaugh. Fearing arrest, they attempted to escape. Cavanaugh is held on a charge of manslaughter.

Arrested in Portland.

PORTLAND, Feb. 11.—The police to-day made the following arrests: Harry Wicks, on a warrant issued from San Diego, Cal., charging him with obtaining money under false pretenses. The offense consisted in passing a worthless $150 check.

O. W. Michling, who is wanted in Sioux City for forging a $1,500 draft on a Sioux City bank.

Richard Stahl, the well-known composer and leader of the Natural Gas Company orchestra, has been arrested for felony and embezzlement. It is thought the warrant was sworn out by Kreling Bros. of San Francisco, and the arrest grew out of a misunderstanding regarding a theatrical matter. Stahl was released on his own recognizance.

San Bernardino Notes.

SAN BERNARDINO, Feb. 11.—The long tunnel in the Bear Valley and Alessandro pipe-line was completed yesterday. It is 2,300 feet long. Six miles of the two-foot steel pipe-line are in. There are four more to lay.

Over 2,000 acres of the Alessandro tract are being planted to orchard this season.

A hot water mineral well has been struck at Moreno in the Alessandro tract, at a depth of 250 feet.

Packing-house Burned.

FRESNO, Feb. 11.—The packing-house of A. D. Barling, near Malaga, was destroyed by fire last night. It was the finest in the county. Fifteen thousand boxes of raisins and a large quantity of vineyard material were burned. The loss is about $34,000; insurance, $23,000. A force of hands was engaged in preparing raisins for shipment, and it is supposed the fire caught from a spark from the engine.

Serious Accident.

NEWMAN, Feb. 11.—Mrs. B. F. Robinson of this place had a very serious accident yesterday by getting her right leg broken just above the ankle by jumping off the train while it was moving. Mrs. Robinson got on the train to see some friends, and the train backed up to do some switching, and when it started to pull up again she thought they were going on and she jumped off.

Another Pioneer Gone.

MERCED, Feb. 11.—John B. Paulk, aged 82 years, an old Tuolumne County pioneer, died in this place to-day at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. George Powell. Paulk was a native of Massachusetts.

Woodland Items.

WOODLAND, Feb. 11.—Main street in this city is being paved with bitumen. The City Trustees will soon give the citizens an opportunity to vote on a proposition to bond the town for $100,000 to construct a City Hall, water works and a system of sewerage.

E. H. Baker, for years proprietor of the Exchange Hotel, was stricken with paralysis last night, and is in a critical condition.

A Murderer Discovered.

SAN BERNARDINO, Feb. 11.—Arnold, the murderer of David Patterson at the asylum grounds a few weeks since, has been discovered at Alamo, Southern California. Sheriff Seymour and a man who is well acquainted with Arnold, started for San Diego last night. From there they will sail to-morrow for Ensenada to get the criminal.

An Unknown Man Killed.

BERKELEY, Feb. 11.—An unknown man was killed by the 11 o'clock local train from San Francisco last evening at University avenue. The body was mangled beyond recognition, and there was nothing on the person of the dead man by which he could be identified. The fragments were removed to the Morgue.

No Definite Answer at Present.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 11.—The California Athletic Club received a telegram from Fitzsimmons to-day saying that he would give no definite answer about meeting Hall until after the termination of his "theatrical" engagement.

FREE COINAGE.

Ex-President Cleveland Decidedly Opposed to It.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Several hundred people assembled at Cooper Union to-night to oppose the free silver bill, in response to a call of the Reform Club. Among the letters of regret was one from ex-President Cleveland, in which he says in part: "It surely cannot be necessary for me to make a formal expression of my agreement with those who believe the greatest perils would be initiated by the adoption of the scheme embraced in the measure now pending in Congress for the unlimited coinage of silver at our mints.

"If we have developed an unexpected capacity for assimilation for a largely increased volume of currency and even if we have demonstrated the uselessness of such increase these conditions fall far short of insuring us against disaster, if in the present situation we enter upon the dangerous, reckless experiment of free, unlimited and independent silver coinage."

Resolutions condemning unlimited silver coinage were passed.

Ex-Secretary-Treasurer Fairchild was the chief speaker in opposition to the pending bill.

BANKING SYSTEM IN CHINA.

RUMORS OF CONCESSIONS MADE TO AN AMERICAN SYNDICATE.

The China Minister Says He is in no Way Connected With the Enterprise.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—At various times since the present Minister from China, Tsui Kwo Yin, came to this country, there have been rumors of the formation of a great American syndicate that was to be given control of the national banking system of China and management of the railroad and telegraph interests of that country. The syndicate was said to be formed under the auspices of the Chinese legation in this city, and a statement was made that the corporation would receive large grants and valuable concessions from the Chinese Government.

These rumors have been denied by representatives of the Chinese Government in this city, but have come to life again every time with unerring regularity.

A month or two ago the Chinese Minister went to New Haven on business connected with the purchase of a large amount of small arms for the Chinese Government. The information was at once sent that the sale was made through the influence of this syndicate. This was denied on the following day, but there is no doubt that the Minister was provoked about the whole business.

According to statements made at the legation to-day, one of the promoters of this syndicate has a Chinese servant who is on intimate terms with the servants at the legation, and is thus enabled to keep his master informed of the movements of the Minister and of his secretaries, and it is complained that as a result the Minister never takes a trip but he finds this enterprising individual in the same car with him, giving people the impression that the two are on the best intimate business and social terms.

Before his departure for Peru on Monday evening Minister Tsui wrote out a statement which covers the matter pretty fully. The statement was in the Minister's own handwriting, and likewise in the Chinese language. As translated by his Secretary, the statement is as follows:

"The attache, Tu, has resigned to go back to China. He is not commissioned by me to transact any official or other business at all. All rumors about concessions to be had in China for the purpose of constructing railways or opening national banks, or for other like business enterprises, and all statements involving any connection on my part, or any interest of mine in any such enterprises, are utterly and absolutely false. I am under no instructions from my Government connecting me with any such schemes. I have no power in the matter, nor have I any influence that would ever be used in that direction."

THE WEATHER.

Good Prospects for Rain Yesterday but no Precipitation.

The Signal Service temperature at 5 A. M. and 5 P. M. yesterday was 34° and 56°, while the highest and lowest temperature was 58° and 34°, with gentle southerly winds, and a cloudless sky. The barometrical readings at 5 A. M. and 5 P. M. were 30.01 and 30 inches, respectively.

The highest and lowest temperature one year ago yesterday was 60° and 38°, with no rainfall, and one year ago to-day 60° and 42°, without any precipitation.

The relative humidity or the dryness of the atmosphere yesterday was 44 per cent. of complete saturation, which point is expressed by 100. The prospects for rainfall on Tuesday appeared to be good, but there was no precipitation from the dubiously damp-looking clouds.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Patti Rosa Company concluded its engagement at the Metropolitan Theater last night before a light audience. The play was "Margery Daw." The thinly settled auditorium in no wise lessened the vivacity of Patti Rosa.

The Katzenstein-Brownlee elocutionary recital at Pythian Castle last evening, was a very interesting affair, and was fairly well attended. Messrs. Katzenstein and Brownlee are both good elocutionists, particularly the former, and each of their selections was warmly applauded.

At the Metropolitan Theater this morning the sale of seats for the Lotta engagement begins. There is no charge for reserving seats.

IRELAND'S WOE.

O'Brien Issues Another Statement on the Situation.

ONLY A REUNION CAN SAVE THE IRISH CAUSE.

Parnell Refuses to Recede from His Position, Which He Says is Consistent—He Will not Submit to Dictations from Gladstone and the Priests.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—William O'Brien has issued another long statement of the Irish situation. He says the experience of the past five weeks, gathered from personal interviews, letters and newspapers, completely confirms his conviction that only a reunion can save the Irish cause.

Referring to the recent Boulogne Conference, he says: "I cannot too strongly express with what feelings we found the settlement, so vital, shipwrecked at the last moment by mere contests of words and phrases—contests which, to my mind, offer shockingly inadequate excuses for committing the country to a struggle involving consequences so appalling."

In conclusion, O'Brien says: "One of the saddest things in this tragic business is that circumstances rendered it impossible to give an organized effect to the overwhelming public longing for a reconciliation, while the field is held by heated partisans who have done their worst by exasperating language and insulting suspicions, scarcely veiled threats and rumors and intrigues to make a word of peace-making impossible. The irreconcilables of all sections have carried the day. Dillon and myself cannot longer stand between them and their deplorable work. We can do nothing more until we have recovered freedom of action by getting through with the sentence standing against us."

Mr. O'Brien expresses a hope that the inevitable conflict forced upon the country may be conducted without personal bitterness, so when the unhappy passions of the hour exhausted themselves all may again co-operate in the nation's cause.

Dillon, in a short statement, admits that he has been largely influenced to mediate by the vindicative action of Parnell's most prominent opponents. The personal element in the struggle has in many minds hopelessly obscured the great public issues, and driven thousands in Ireland and America into Parnell's camp who otherwise would have opposed his continued leadership. Events have fully borne out O'Brien's views as to the methods of compromise, but from the beginning of the negotiations powerful influences were working on both sides against peace, and we are now compelled sorrowfully to announce a failure.

In an interview to-day Parnell declared that he would not recede from his position, which he said was consistent. He would not, he said, submit to dictation from Gladstone and the priests.

The McCarthyite members who were seen in the lobby of the Commons to-day say that Parnell's refusal to come to amicable terms will stiffen their attitude and increase their resolves to resist his claims. It is not certain that all points will be settled at to-morrow's meeting.

PARNELL'S LETTER TO O'BRIEN.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—Parnell, in a letter to O'Brien, says: "The last information Gill conveyed to me on our negotiations being of final character, I conclude that nothing is left to be done on my part but to bring our endeavors to a close. I regret that it has not been rendered possible for me to consider the national interest so safely guarded that I could feel that there would be no danger to the cause in my now surrendering the responsibility which has been placed upon me, and which I have accepted from the hands of our nation and our race. I regret that no course is left but withdrawal from the negotiations. The seal of confidence which covers what has passed between us prevents inviting public judgment, but if it is ever moved, I am confident it will be held that I did everything in my power consistent with national interests to promote peace and reunion. Whatever side true Irishmen take they owe you thanks for your efforts."

PRESS COMMENT.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—The *Standard* says it is understood that Parnell took exception to the inadequate assurances given in regard to the right of Imperial veto and the Irish representation at Westminster. The Irish campaign will be based upon a principle of resistence to clerical dictation.

The *News* assumes also that the negotiations failed because the Liberal leaders declined to give any assurance regarding the home rule bill.

The *Times* says O'Brien's "lachrymose genius wails through the turbid and inflated sentences of the manifesto like a literary banshee."

Choynski Defeated.

SYDNEY (N. S. W.), Feb. 11.—A fight for a purse of £500 took place here yesterday, between Joe Goddard, the Australian pugilist, and Joe Choynski, of San Francisco. At the end of four rounds the referee declared Goddard the victor. Goddard, who bears the title of "Champion of Barriers," has been the winner of many battles. One of his best fights was with Peter Jackson, whom he defeated in an eight-round glove contest. Choynski is well known at San Francisco, where he resides.

LATER ACCOUNT.

SYDNEY, Feb. 11.—The fight for the heavy-weight championship of Australia between Joe Goddard of Sydney and Joe Choynski of California resulted in Choynski's defeat in the fourth round. Goddard weighed nearly fifteen pounds more than Choynski. Goddard forced the fight from the beginning and rained blow after blow on Choynski's body, and the latter succumbed to a punch in the jaw.

Failure of Crops.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—A dispatch from Buenos Ayres says that information received from the Rio De La Plate district shows the locusts and drought have reduced the maize crop to a quarter of what the crop was in 1890.

BRIEF NOTES.

Clara Williams has commenced suit in the Superior Court for a divorce from Joseph A. Williams.

The case of E. W. Jones vs. J. A. Parker and D. G. Newman, has been transferred from San Francisco to the Superior Court of this county. The suit is to recover $582 66, alleged to be due for work and labor done.

"Mrs. A. J. B." sends a communication for publication. The RECORD-UNION will pay no attention to communications not accompanied by the name of the author—not for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.

The Scottdale Strike.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 11.—Scottdale dispatches report no indications of a settlement of the coke strike. Every plant in the district is now involved and a long struggle is anticipated.