THE RECORD-UNION.

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PEGGING AWAY AT GIBSON.

Durrant's Lawyers Trying to Fasten Suspicion on Him.

THE PREACHER MANAGES TO STAND THEM OFF.

A Fresh Witness Why Saw a Man Resembling Durrant and a Girl Near the Emmanual Church at 8:30 O'Clock on the Evening of the Williams Murder.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—Rev. John George Gibson, pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist Church, was again on the witness stand to-day in the preliminary examination of Theodore Durrant, charged with the murder of Minnie Williams. The defense believes that it has a case against the clergyman, and will try to show that he, and not Durrant, killed Miss Williams and Miss Lamont.

On the Wednesday preceding the finding of Blanche Lamont's body her aunt, Mrs. Noble, received a paper containing the rings worn by the missing girl. On the paper were written the names George R. King and Professor Shernstein, the apparent object being to connect these men with the girl's disappearance. Experts declared the writing to be the disguised penmanship of Durrant.

In court to-day counsel for the defense requested Mr. Gibson to write the names of King and Shernstein. The minister complied, but asked twice how to spell Shernstein's name. Gibson was calm and collected on the stand, and was a good witness. Nothing tangible against him was developed by cross-examination, and his testimony was concluded.

Albert O. McElroy, aged 18, testified that on Friday evening, April 12th, he observed a man resembling Durrant waiting on a corner near the church. Soon a young woman came along. The man approached her and shielded her with his shoulder from witness' observation. Soon afterward the witness, who had passed on, noticed a light moving in the church.

This testimony was corroborated by Bert Minnere, McElroy's companion. The other evidence adduced was a repetition of that given at the inquest.

Durrant has secured a desk and an easy chair in his cell, and spends his time in studying his notes for his medical examination.

DRAWING TO A CLOSE.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—The preliminary examination of Theodore Durrant for the murder of Minnie Williams is about over. District Attorney Barnes announced to-day that he would close the prosecution's testimony to-morrow morning, and the defense will not, it is said, make much of a fight in the Police Court, but will reserve their strength until they go before the jury that will finally determine whether or not there is proof enough to hang Durrant.

To-day's examination was principally taken up with a continuation of the cross-examination of Rev. John George Gibson, which was concluded shortly before noon.

The preacher returned to the stand apparently irritated by the treatment he had received the day before. The lawyer's pretense of deferential courtesy was so thin that at times it was imperceptible.

They locked horns at the outset. General Dickinson questioned the pastor sharply about his study and his posessessions. He politely, but no less certainly, accused the minister of telling a falsehood about a statement made last Thursday in his study.

Then the attorney asked for some of Dr. Gibson's handwriting. By this time the witness was aggravated enough to be disobliging, and refused to give the writing. A few minutes later the same request came up, and Dr. Gibson, after complaining that there was no pen to suit him among the dozen boxes handed out by the clerk, wrote everything they asked. And he did it apparently without the slightest recollection that it was the same request he had denied a few minutes before.

The writing they asked him for consisted of the names that were on the paper in which the rings of Blanche Lamont were wrapped when they were returned to her aunt. They produced the samples of the minister's handwriting—a blackboard from the church and a memorandum from him—and the obvious intention was to show that the pastor's hand had written the names on the bit of newspaper.

Dr. Thomas A. Vogel also testified. It was at his house the Christian Endeavor Society of Emmanuel Church met the night of Minnie Williams' murder. The important part of his testimony referred to Durrant's condition—disheveled, soiled and perspiring—when he arrived there an hour and a half later than was expected.

Dr. Vogel's statement has varied considerably since he first made it.

If Durrant goes on the witness stand with the alibi he outlined when he was arrested he will be confronted with the statement he made to his friend Vogel about the horses and the Signal Corps, and the more doubtful Dr. Vogel is on this subject the better it will be for Durrant.

The young ladies who found Miss Williams' body in the church on Saturday morning told their stories, and the Deputy Coroner and the undertaker explained to the court the condition of the church and of the dead girl when they arrived there.

COXSWAIN JOHNSON.

How He Met His Death Behind the Olympia's Gun.

SAN DIEGO, April 25.—The death of Coxswain John Johnson of the cruiser Olympia on Wednesday morning was not caused by the blowing out of the breech-plug of the five-inch gun, as at first reported, but by the recoil of the rifle itself. The accident was said by Johnson's comrades to be wholly inexcusable, and they lay the fault on the Ordnance Inspector at Mare Island, who was supposed to have gone over the guns and attended to them.

The big guns are so mounted that the recoil is taken up by a mechanism similar to a cylinder and piston-rod, the material inside the cylinder being glycerine, which, as the gun recoils, is forced past the piston into the other chamber of the cylinder, taking up the force of the recoil by its slow action.

After the accident on the Olympia the gun was examined, and it was found that instead of several gallons of glycerine in the cylinder, as there should have been, there was hardly a drop, and it was then seen that the whole force of the big gun struck the coxswain in the face, smashing it out of semblance of human feature and killing him instantly. The gun recoiled clear back to the bulkheads and tore up the deck considerably. It is probable the matter will be investigated when the vessel returns north.

NATURE DID IT.

It Wasn't Necessary for the Ledette Filly to be Doped.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—Fred Warren, a hanger-on at the race track, tried to turn a trick to-day, and got into trouble. He offered the colored boy who has charge of the Ledette filly $250 if he would dope the filly before her match race with Seraphin to-day. He gave the boy a syringe and a bottle of laudanum with which to do the work. Instead, the boy reported the matter to Charles Boots, the filly's owner, and the horse was carefully guarded. Warren's efforts were needless, for Seraphin won without trouble.

KERN LAND WAR.

The "Swamp Angels" and "Swamp-Landers" in Court.

BAKERSFIELD, April 25.—The "swamp angels" arrested for assault to commit murder were up for a hearing in the Superior Court to-day on a writ of habeas corpus, on the ground of excessive bail, $20,000. The District Attorney moved to dismiss the cases, which was done. Later all five were rearrested on a warrant sworn out in a local court and bail fixed at $1,000 each. T. A. Means and Alonzo Tyler, two stanch sympathizers with the "swamp-landers" are the sureties. Late to-night Judge Fox issued a warrant for William Winterhalter, the man reported to have been nearly killed by the swamp angels.

He is charged with assault with intent to kill the swamplanders. This is said to have occurred during the fight in which Winterhalter was hurt. He will recover.

HE WAS LIBELED.

Heath Awarded Damages for $2,500 Against the "Examiner."

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—A jury in the Superior Court has rendered a verdict awarding Richard S. Heath $2,500 damages in a libel suit against the *Examiner*.

Heath is the man who was twice tried at Fresno for the alleged murder of Louis McWhirter at that town two years ago, and in both of of which trials the jury disagreed. Some months ago the *Examiner* published the statement that Heath was in a bar-room fight in one of the hotels in this city. The paper was in error, and it corrected the statement. Heath brought suit for libel, claiming $10,000 damages. A stay of proceedings has been granted pending an appeal.

INSURANCE WAR.

The Situation Somewhat Improved in San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—The local insurance situation may be said to have improved a little to-day, for the reason that the leading offices have about all the business at deeply cut-rates on their books that they care to have. A number of the agents who represent large companies have come together, and there is a tacit understanding that they will refuse such business for a time, and enable weaker concerns to overload themselves with it. The moral effect of such action is already beneficial. Still the insurance situation is in anything but a favorable or hopeful condition.

Nearly everywhere in this State local boards of underwriters are being organized.

CARSON MINT SCANDAL.

Melter Jones Had the Best of Yesterday's Showing in Court.

CARSON, April 25.—Melter and Refiner Harris was again placed on the stand this morning in the mint steal investigation. He claimed there were several instances in Assistant Melter Jones' books where an improper entry had been kept of combination melts, and that such records evidently were made in order to prevent the identity of bullion.

He also stated that the shortage since 1891 was over $222,000. In the morning he testified that a key to the refining-room was found in the desk once used by Jones, but this afternoon admitted that it was found by workmen while cleaning up a vault. All in all, the defense seems to have the best of it to-day.

UTAH IS INTERESTED.

Will Assist in the Effort to Have the Conventions in the West.

SALT LAKE, April 25.—The effort to have the national conventions of the two great parties in 1896 held at some point in the West is now assuming definite shape, and if the attempt shall prove unsuccessful it will not be through the fault of the Western leaders.

Governor West a few days ago received a request from the Governor of California to appoint delegates to a meeting, and to-day he announced the following gentlemen as such delegates: O. W. Peters, P. H. Lannan, F. J. Keisel and Isaac Trumbo.

MYSTERIOUS ASSAULT.

A San Francisco Painter Beaten and His Skull Cracked.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—Dave Smith, a painter living in the King House, on Fourth street, was brought to the Receiving Hospital this morning to be treated for a fracture of the skull. He said he was attacked by some men in the hallway of the house in which he rooms about 1 o'clock this morning. He claims not to know his assailants.

Suicide or Murder?

RIVERSIDE, April 25.—Mrs. Sophia Van Landter was suppossd to have committed suicide at her home near Alessandro. The Coroner held an inquest to-day and the evidence submitted showed that death was caused by poison. The verdict of the jury was that poison was administered by some person unknown, which indicates that it may be a case of murder, instead of suicide.

The woman was alone, with the exception of two small children, when she was taken sick and died.

A Mystery of the Ocean.

PORT TOWNSEND (Wash.), April 25.—The fishing schooner Francina of Astoria which was supposed to have been lost at sea, arrived this morning and reports that a southerly storm carried the vessel several hundred miles out of her course. More mystery than ever now attaches to the unknown derelict seen west of Cape Flattery ten days ago.

Gray Goes Free.

OAKLAND, April 25.—In the case of the People vs. George Gray, who attacked C. R. Bennett, Secretary of the Society for the Prevention of Vice, some months ago, the jury, after being out a short time, found the defendant not guilty.

Bennett had been persecuting Gray's daughter, and he shot at him.

Suicide of an Ex-Salvationist.

FRESNO, April 25.—Calvin W. Nugent committed suicide some time last night by taking a dose of poison. He was once a member of the Salvation Army, but had left it. The army is holding a council here, and he became despondent at not being in good standing.

A Young Man's Downfall.

LOS ANGELES, April 25.—Charles Hoyt, a young man who forged a check for $500 on the Ontario Bank, to-day pleaded guilty and was sentenced to one year's imprisonment. Hoyt is from one of the best-known wealthy families of Maryland.

Held to Answer.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—Eugene Calmon was to-day held to answer to a charge of murder for the shooting of Rene Lefere in the White House on April 13th.

LOWER RATES FOR DENVER.

Concessions Allowed by the Interstate Commission.

HOW MISSOURI'S STATESMEN STAND ON SILVER.

Outlaw Bill Cook Arrives at Albany, N. Y., in His Wild and Woolly Western Costume—Disastrous Hailstorm in Texas—A Tax Collector is Short Eighty Thousand Dollars.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

DENVER, April 25.—The evidence given before the Interstate Commerce Commission in this city has been so convincing that railroad attorneys and officials have conceded the justice of the demand of Denver jobbers and manufacturers for a reduction of rates. But they contend that if lower through rates be granted, the rates to intermediate points shall not be lowered correspondingly. Colorado complainants do not object to this exception, since all they demand is to be put on an equal footing with Chicago and other Eastern points in reaching markets west, north and south.

The commission has rendered a decision of great importance to the orange-growers of Southern California in granting the railroads terminating in California and their connections authority to make a lower rate on oranges to Atlantic seaboard cities than to intermediate points.

This enables California growers to market their oranges on the seaboard in competition with imported oranges.

The old rate was 90 cents, and the new rate will probably be 60 cents.

LIKE GOOSE EGGS.

The Quality of Hailstones They Have Down in Texas.

SAN ANTONIO (Texas), April 25.—A terrific hailstorm which swept through Wilson, Bexar and Medina Counties last night did $200,000 damage. Hailstones as large as goose eggs covered the ground to a depth of two feet. Lyttle, Benton City and Castroville were devastated, the houses being riddled like sieves. The damage to residences and business houses in Lyttle alone amounts to $50,000. Hundreds of head of livestock were killed. The track of the International and Great Northern Railroad was blockaded with hailstones, which had to be removed before the trains could proceed. The cotton and corn crops in the path of the storm were completely destroyed. A subscription was started here to-day for the relief of the sufferers.

A FOREST FIRE.

It is Doing Immense Damage in New Jersey.

LAKEWOOD, April 25.—The forest fire which originated from the buring of tallow in a hotel in the cedars, about a mile from this place, continued to burn fiercely this afternoon. It is estimated that $75,000 worth of property has already been destroyed. About 2,000 acres of standing timber has been burned over.

The fires are getting dangerously close to Vineland.

WISCONSIN A SUFFERER ALSO.

CHIPPEWA FALLS, April 25.—Word was received here that forest fires are again raging in the vicinity of Phillips. The woods near Prentice are ablaze, and the inhabitants are rushing to this city for safety. There were several farm houses burned yesterday, and there seems no probability that the forest fires will abate. The woods are very dry and are fit objects for the fire to prey upon. Unless rain comes soon the fires will certainly create widespread desolation.

A "SOULLESS" CORPORATION.

The Southern Pacific's Offer to Deluded Colored Men.

HOUSTON (Tex.), April 25.—The Houston negroes have taken up the cause of those of their race who have been deceived into going to Mexico, where they are treated like Siberian exiles. A mass meeting has been held and funds subscribed to help out the unfortunate and deluded people who left their good homes in a free country to enter into bondage.

The Southern Pacific Company has agreed to haul to New Orleans free of charge all who reach this side of the Rio Grande. Quite a number have lately escaped, some of whom have reached San Antonio.

A TRIPLE TRAGEDY.

A Husband's Jealousy Impels Him to Murder and Suicide.

HOUSTON (Tex.), April 25.—To-night Dr. J. K. Simmons, the family physician, was called to see a sick child at the residence of Mrs. Robert Owen. He had written the prescription and was giving directions as to the medicine, when Owen entered, and, without saying a word, put a pistol to Simmons' breast and pulled the trigger.

Dr. Simmons staggered to his feet and pulled his pistol, but fell dead before he could use it. Owen then shot his wife and left the house, going to a hotel, where he blew out his own brains. Owen was a stockman, and had been married about eighteen months. In January he came here from New Orleans, and a week ago he and his wife separated. Mrs. Owen will recover.

GOT WIND OF IT.

Train Robbers Disappoint a Reception Committee of Officers.

ATCHISON (Kan.), April 25.—Officials of the Missouri-Pacific were warned of a plot to hold up the incoming passenger train on the Central Branch, between Goff and Corning, where it passed about midnight. A flat car was placed between the smoker and the mail car, on which a posse was concealed. As the robbers did not make the attempt, it is supposed that they got wind of the reception awaiting them.

Florida's Blessing in Disguise.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—First Assistant Secretary Simms of the Interior Department has returned to the city from Florida, where he owns an orange grove. He says that the first cold snap of the past winter, which came in December, destroyed 2,500,000 boxes of unpacked fruit. In spite of the great damage done the storm was a blessing in disguise, as it checked the growth of the trees and kept them from being in blossom when the second cold snap came.

Hundreds of trees escaped that would have been killed had it not been for the first cold wave.

Charged With Being a Defaulter.

CHICAGO, April 25.—Declarations were filed in the United States Circuit Court to-day in two suits begun last fall which charge Richard S. Rispan, formerly manager of the Sun Insurance Company of San Francisco, with being a defaulter to the amount of $20,000. The company investigated his accounts, finding that he had failed to make a proper return, it alleges, of his collections and business and was short in his accounts to the amount of $20,000.

Wild and Woolly Outlaws.

ALBANY (N. Y.), April 25.—Bill Cook, the famous outlaw, arrived in this city this afternoon with twelve other famous convicts sent here from the West. The prisoners were taken to the penitentiary in the prison van. They attracted a great deal of attention as they rode through the streets to the prison. They still wore their wild and woolly Western costume. The men were chained together and guarded by armed men.

More Soldiers for Cuba.

NEW YORK, April 25.—Senor Dupuy de Lome, the new Spanish Minister, arrived from Havana to-day. He says the Spanish Government proposes to send 24,000 soldiers to Cuba by May 1st. The leaders of the insurrectionists will be severely dealt with. The Allianca incident, he says, has been satisfactarily settled.

Hetty Green's Taxes.

NEW YORK, April 25.—Hetty Green, the richest woman in America, who has been assessed here on $1,500,000 worth of personal property, will not be made to pay a personal tax in this city. The Corporation Counsel has informed the tax department that the assessment is illegal. Mrs. Green has proved that her residence is in Bellows Falls, Vt.

Mrs. Parnell Yet Alive.

BORDENTOWN (N. J.), April 25.—Mrs. Parnell's condition to-night is much improved. She recognizes those about her. Edward Slavin, who was formerly in her employ, and who now resides in New York, arrived here to-day, and when Mrs. Parnell saw him she grasped his hand with a knowing look.

California Cattle in Denver.

DENVER, April 25.—Traffic Manager Folsom of the California, Oregon and Nevada Railway Company, arrived in Denver last night with his third shipment of cattle from the ranges of Nevada. The shipment consisted of twelve carloads, which have been brought through on fast time.

Naval Academy Appointments.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The Attorney-General, in answer to an inquiry from the Secretary of the Navy, has decided that nominations to the Naval Academy made by the members of the last Congress after noon on March 4th last are of no effect.

Eighty Thousand Short.

ST. JOSEPH (Mo.), April 25.—George H. Hall, a defaulting County Collector, has disappeared, and it is said he has gone to California. Tax receipts are still being produced by property owners who are marked delinquent on the Collector's books, and the shortage will reach $80,000.

Rey El Santa Anita Will Run.

NEW YORK, April 25.—It was announced at the office of the Coney Island Jockey Club that Rey El Santa Anita and Sister Mary were among the latest entries for the Suburban Handicap.

AWFUL SCENES AT A FIRE

WITNESSED LAST EVENING BY THE PEOPLE OF MONTREAL.

Nine Hundred Girls Imprisoned in a Burning Factory—Several Believed to Have Perished.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

MONTREAL, April 25.—W. C. McDonald's extensive tobacco factory on Ontario street was partly destroyed by fire this evening. The loss will reach $500,000, on which there is no insurance. There was not a fire escape outside, nor any appliances on the inside of the building for fighting the fire. Even the windows were guarded by heavy iron screens, presumably to prevent theft.

The fire started at 4 o'clock in the drying-room, and for awhile smoldered. Then suddenly the flames burst through, and a most awful panic ensued. There were 900 employes in the building, and more than half this number were women and girls. The shrieks of the women as they beat against the iron screens, praying the crowd to do something to save them, were most heartrending.

As the flames burst through four firemen were on the roof, and for twenty minutes their lives were despaired of, until finally ladders were found to bring them down. They were badly burned. The girls were nearly all on the fourth floor, and were frantic with fear. With much trouble one of the iron lattices was knocked in, when one of the girls jumped and was severely injured. She alighted on the roof of an adjoining warehouse. In a similar manner the others followed, to the number of thirty.

The ambulances were kept busy carrying the women and girls to the hospital, and some were driven to their homes. So far only one is known to be dead, but several are believed to be in the ruins.

The Associated Press correspondent interviewed several who escaped. They say the scene on the fourth floor was terrible. When the first rush for the stairway occurred the passageway was solidly packed, and many fainted and fell under the feet of the crowd. Then a rush was made to the windows, but the crowd forgot about the heavy screens which guarded the windows. Frantic women tore their hands beating against the obstructions, but the irons were too strong for their feeble blows.

Death seemed inevitable, until Marie Gagnon found a window that yielded to determined blows of those who could get their united efforts to bear. This window overlooked an extensive one-story warehouse, and without a moment's hesitation, the woman leaped onto the roof below.

Encouraged by her daring, and impelled by the smoke and flames which were making rapid progress, other women followed her example until about thirty maimed and bruised forms were piled on the warehouse roof.

By this time, the passage-way had become sufficiently cleared to permit a more rapid clearing of the building. The work of rescue by means of fire-extension ladders was in progress, and many almost inanimate forms were carried out by the firemen.

Great indignation is expressed against the officials whose duty it is to see that the law is inforced in regard to fire-escape appliances.

From inquiries at the hospitals at a late hour to-night concerning the condition of the girls injured by jumping from the window of the burning building, it was learned that but little hope is entertained for the recovery of at least five.

Following are the names of those probably fatally injured: Marie Gagnon, Lionel Bernard, Sarah Zeraphin, Mary Flynn, Maxime Concase, L. Reselle, Adele Gagnon, Rosana Beauchamp, Ida Foster, H. Sinnette, Joseph Gagnon, Dolphis Charput, Napoleon Blondin.

Reina Regente Mystery Solved.

GIBRALTAR, April 25.—The Spanish frigate Isla du Leon has discovered the wreck of the missing cruiser Reina Regente, which was lost while bound from Tangier for Cadiz March 1st. The wreck lies midway between Tariffe and Trafalgar, in water 109 fathoms deep.

MUST DEPEND ON HERSELF.

Uncle Sam Refuses to Interfere in Nicaragua's Behalf.

ENGLAND WILL BLOCKADE CORINTO THIS MORNING.

Secretary Gresham Explains the Reasons Why the United States Cannot Conscientiously Go to the Relief of Her Sister Republic in the Latter's Hour of Trial—Precedents Cited.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Up to 2 o'clock to-day no official word had come as to Nicaragua's decision on the British ultimatum. It is known that Nicaragua is in a state of great excitement. The authorities are understood to be in consultation. There is a very strong conviction among the officials, however, that Nicaragua will not yield.

MUST GO IT ALONE.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Nicaragua's last hope of assistance from the United States in her controversy with Great Britain to prevent the seizure of Corinto vanished this evening. Dr. Guzman, the Nicaraguan Minister, who has been waiting with intense anxiety to see Secretary Gresham, was finally successful about 3 o'clock, when the Secretary came into the department from the White House, where he had been in consultation with President Cleveland, presumably on the same subject.

The interview was very short. In five minutes the Minister emerged from the Secretary's office looking very much depressed. He refused to say a word as to what had taken place, but it can be stated that the Secretary gave him to understand very clearly the United States would not interfere in the case as it stands.

So there are now three courses open to Nicaragua—to pay the indemnity; to permit the occupation of Corinto, or to fight; and the next twelve hours must find the choice declared, for the British troops are to land at daybreak to-morrow at Corinto.

As already stated in the Associated Press dispatches, the position taken by the President in this matter is that the dispute is one entirely between Great Britain and Nicaragua, in which the United States has no call to interfere unless there should be acts committed injurious to American interests in Nicaragua, or there should be shown a disposition by Great Britain to acquire Nicaragua territory. On each of these points a favorable assurance has been had from Great Britain, and it is said that all that can now be done is to watch the course of events.

PRECEDENTS FOR AMERICA'S COURSE.

This decision was not hastily reached, for the entire subject of our relations to the countries of Central and South America was considered and discussed carefully by the President with his constitutional advisers, and there has been made a close scrutiny of the precedents that might suffice for our guidance. These have been found in at least three cases.

The first was fully set out in the message of President Buchanan to Congress in 1859, in that portion relating to Paraguay. For several years preceding this message the United States had great difficulty in maintaining friendly relations with Paraguay, the latter country being then under the dictatorship of Lopez, who was carrying out a policy of excluding the rest of the world from his country by the most drastic measures. He had, as President Buchanan stated, upon the most frivolous and even insulting pretexts, refused to ratify the treaty of friendship and commerce concluded with Paraguay; had seized and appropriated the property of American citizens in a violent and arbitrary manner, and finally the Paraguayans had fired upon the United States steamship Waterwitch in 1855, killing the helmsmen, while the vessel was making a peaceful survey of Parana River to determine its fitness for navigation.

The honor as well as the interests of the United States demanded satisfaction, and the President, being clothed by Congress with the necessary power, sent a naval expedition up the Parana River to the capital of Paraguay and compelled ample apologies from the President, the payment of an indemnity of $10,000 to the family of the man who was killed, and finally secured the ratification of the treaty.

The application of this case to the Nicaraguan situation is not exact, but it is regarded as committing the United States to the recognition of the principle of the right to demand an indemnity for the abuse of United States officers, and therefore we could not consistently deny the same right to Great Britain.

The second case which was relied upon as a precedent grew out of the difficulties encountered by Spain, France and Great Britain in their relations with Mexico in 1860. These nations asserted they had been placed by the arbitrary and vexatious conduct of Mexico under the necessity of exacting from the authorities of that country a more effective protection for the persons and properties of other States as well as the execution of obligations contracted with them by Mexico, and therefore they had combined to effect their ends by force if need be. The United States, which had similar grievances against Mexico, was invited to join these European nations in enforcing their demands. This invitation was declined by the United States, which was then in the throes of civil war, but the significant point in the case is found in the declaration by Secretary Seward:

"As the undersigned has heretofore had the honor to inform each of the plenipotentiaries now addressed, the President does not feel himself at liberty to question that the sovereigns represented have undoubted right to decide for themselves the fact that they have sustained grievances and to resort to war against Mexico for the redress thereof."

The third precedent was found in the case of the war between Spain and Chile, in 1866, when, upon being appealed to on behalf of Chile, in the name of the Monroe doctrine, to prevent the bombardment of Valparaiso, Secretary Seward wrote to United States Minister Patrick at Valparaiso as follows: "The Government of the United States will maintain and insist, with all the decision and energy which are compatible with our existing neutrality, that the republic which is accepted by any of those (South American) States shall not be wantonly assailed, and that it shall not be subverted as an end of a lawful war by European Powers.

"But beyond this point the United States Government will not go, nor will it consider itself hereby bound to take part in wars in which a South American republic may enter with a European sovereign when the object of the latter is not the establishment in the place of the subverted republic of a monarchy under a European Prince."

Upon these precedents rests the decision of the Administration to refrain from interference between Great Britain and Nicaragua at this stage of the proceedings.

NICARAGUA'S CLAIM.

In behalf of Nicaragua, though without success, it would appear that it has been urged that the occupation of Corinto by the British troops would be a direct violation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty between the United States and Great Britain. A provision of that treaty prohibits British occupation of Central American territory.

Article 1 [Covenants 5, United States and Great Britain] agrees that neither will ever erect or maintain any fortifications commanding the Nicaragua Canal, or in the vicinity thereof, or occupy, or fortify, or colonize, or assume, or exercise any dominion over Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito coast, or any part of Central America.

It is pointed out this is even more binding than the Monroe doctrine, as the latter is a principle asserted by the United States, while the treaty is an agreement to which Great Britain is a party. There have been individual statements on both sides of the water that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty was abrogated, yet the Governments have never formally abrogated it. A resolution was introduced in the last Senate to abrogate it, indicating those who opposed it considered it still in force. The terms, it is held, appear to be very definite against Great Britain's occupation or dominion over Nicaragua.

UNCLE SAM IN THE SAME BOAT.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Dr. Guzman, the Nicaraguan Minister, was at the State Department this afternoon, but was unable to see Secretary Gresham. The Minister was very much perturbed, for, while he had no advices directly from his Government relative to the projected landing at Corinto, later than those of yesterday, he is evidently in great doubt of the favorable disposition of the administration. It is intimated by some officials, in explanation of the harmony of view between the United States and Great Britain of the matter of forcing the British ultimatum reported from London, that the United States itself has interest in the success of the British attempt to collect indemnity, being about to make a demand on Honduras for indemnity for the murder of an American, Renton, and the destruction of his estate there last spring, and also to move on Guatemala for reparation for the ill-treatment of a number of Americans by the Government officials.

WORSE THAN A BLUNDER.

NEW YORK, April 25.—Frederick R. Coudert, who is recognized as the leading lawyer in practice of the international law in this country, and whose services as counsel to the Behring Sea Arbitration Commission brought him prominently before the two continents, was asked for his views of the report that force would be used to compel Nicaragua to accede to Great Britain's demand. Mr. Coudert said: "If I were an enemy of Great Britain I would be glad if she did. Our people don't want bombardments by foreign people on this continent. Whether it is against the Monroe doctrine or not the American people have a strong feeling on that subject. They don't like to see a big nation bullying a little one, even if the big nation is the United States and the little one Chile.

"In the next place, these small Republics on this continent belong to one family, not by blood, but at least by proximity—by points of contact and by sympathy with the example of free government which we have set. It would seem to be a wiser policy for Great Britain to get through with Egypt before starting on Nicaragua. She is arousing the resentment of one great country in Europe, and it may not be prudent for her to inflame the prejudices, if you choose to call them so, of the great nation of the Eastern Hemisphere.

"The bombarding of helpless towns is at best brutal and expensive. It may turn out that the expense may be greater to Great Britain than to Nicaragua.

"The most painful part of it is that so great a Government should deliberately take a step backward. The whole sentiment of the world is against a settlement of disputes by the old-fashioned way of war, and arbitration is growing to be the hope of civilization. As the century closes, I cannot help thinking that this coercion on the part of a powerful nation against a weak one, which might result in war, is worse than a blunder—it is a crime."

NO REQUEST TO HOLD OFF.

LONDON, April 25.—The Foreign Office up to to-night had not received a request from the United States or Nicaragua for extension of time allowed Nicaragua for consideration of the ultimatum of Great Britain, as presented by Admiral Stephenson, who is now at Corinto with three British warships.

WILL BE NO RESPITE.

LONDON, April 25.—Efforts were made this evening to interview Embassador Bayard in regard to the statement that the United States had cabled to him, suggesting that a brief respite be granted Nicaragua as a means toward the adjustment of the payment of indemnity in London, instead of Corinto. Mr. Bayard could not be found, but inquiries in other directions tend to the belief that the report is correct, and the suggestions failed of an affirmative reply.

CORINTO CORKED UP.

COLON, April 26—A. M.—It is reported here that the British squadron at Corinto, Nicaragua, has closed that port.

CYCLING NOTES.

Sanctioned and Unsanctioned Races—Sacramento Referee.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—R. M. Welch, Chairman of the local Racing Board of the League of American Wheelmen, has granted sanctions to hold bicycling events as follows: April 26th, Stanford Cycling Club, Palo Alto; May 1st, Riverside Polo Club, Riverside; May 9th, Santa Rosa Wheelmen, Santa Rosa.

Chairman Gideon directs that no sanction be granted to races on Sunday, and that men competing in unsanctioned races be suspended—for the first offense, thirty days, and for the second one year. No sanction is to be granted for a contest between a bicyclist and a horse.

For competing in an unsanctioned race at Gilroy on April 2d, George Lewis, W. A. McDonald, Roy Lennon and Frank Reeves are suspended from all track racing for thirty days from that date.

L. W. Ripley of Sacramento was appointed official referee for the Capital district.

SAVED HIS PAL.

A Murderer Refuses to Testify Against His Confederate.

WEAVERVILLE, April 24.—Charles Williams, the self-confessed murderer and chief witness for the prosecution in the case of Moses Williams, charged as being an accessory in the murder of John Hart, near Hay Fork last fall, refused to testify or even be sworn as a witness. He was put on the stand three times, but remained as dumb as an oyster. He is serving a life term at Folsom, having previously confessed to the murder of John Hart, implicating Moses Williams as the instigator of the plot.

The People, with the evidence of Charles Williams, had a certain case against the defendant, but on motion of defendant's counsel, the Judge instructed the jury to render a verdict of acquittal, which they did.

Due the Haydenfeldt Estate.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—The executors of the late Judge Solomon Heydenfeldt have filed suit against Mrs. Elizabeth A. Heydenfeldt to recover $18,665 89, and against James L. Crittenden to recover $15,000. The complaint states that the defendants received the amounts stated out of the estate, and have since refused to make payment thereof.

Acquittal Looked For.

STOCKTON, April 25.—The Edith Elder murder case will not go to the jury until to-morrow. Arguments were made today, and the Court's instructions will be delivered in the morning. A verdict of acquittal is looked for on the first ballot.

LONDON'S REV. JECKYL-HYDE.

Preacher Jonathan Bell's Ruin of Miss Emily Hall.

HE FOLLOWS HIS VICTIM TO THE UNITED STATES.

Details of the Relief of the Garrison at Chitral, India—Russia's Threat to Invade Japan Ridiculed—Newfoundland Not Yet Ready to Enter the Canadian Federation.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

LONDON, April 25.—At the end of 1894 Rev. Jonathan Bell, for the last two years a pastor of the Primitive Methodist Church in the Black Heath circuit, was seen occasionally in the company of Emily Hall, who was a member of his church. She was 24 years of age, and used to preach and speak at temperance and political meetings. She was a candidate for the local preacher's place in Black Heath.

Miss Hall went to Bell's house in August last to assist in doing the housework during the accouchement of Mrs. Bell. She left her home suddenly in the following November, it is understood to take a situation in Leeds, to which place Bell accompanied her. Her folks were later informed she had gone to America with a lady. In December Bell obtained leave of absence on the plea that his throat was affected, and that his doctor had ordered him to go away. Several weeks later he returned to Oldbury, his home in Worcestershire, five miles northwest of Birmingham. Since that time he has lectured on his experiences in America, and he has also referred to them in sermons.

Mrs. Hall has in her possession letters written by her daughter in America to Bell, which contain serious allegations, and ask him to help her through her trouble.

Bell came to the district from Burnley and was to be removed next July. He is 38 years of age and has a wife and six children. He has an excellent education. On Monday last he preached, but as the details of the Detroit story were published that evening, he vanished the following morning. The police have taken no action in the matter, although Miss Hall's parents sought their assistance.

BELL'S AMERICAN RECORD.

BROOKLYN (N. Y.), April 25.—The Rev. Jonathan Bell, known in Brooklyn as Frederick Bell—the man referred to in dispatches from London—was the first pastor of the Primitive Methodist Episcopal Church on Park avenue, which was built in 1873. He was not long in charge, for stories connected his name with some of the female members of the congregation. He was requested to appear before a meeting of the Board of Trustees for inquiry into his moral character.

Bell did not make his appearance, and was expelled from his pastorate. Two months after his expulsion he hired the Academy of Music and conducted services there. In 1876 Bell announced that he was going to Europe. He left his wife and two children behind him, but after a month or two he sent for them.

FIGHTING IN INDIA.

The Siege of Chitral—Fine Marksmanship of Tribesmen.

CALCUTTA, April 25.—A dispatch from Simla to-day announces the contents of the diary of Dr. Robertson, the British political agent at Chitral, who was besieged in the fort there and relieved Saturday last by a column commanded by Colonel Kelly, which reached Chitral from Cilgit, after accomplishing a brilliant military achievement in passing over the snow-covered Shandar Pass, 12,000 to 14,000 feet above the level of the sea.

He says that on March 3d the British garrison made a reconnoissance in force, and lost twenty-two officers and men killed and had thirty-two wounded.

The siege proper began on March 4th. On the 8th the enemy tried to set fire to the water tower and on the 14th the besiegers attacked the east side of the fort, but were repulsed. The tribesmen occupied the summer-house about fifty yards from the tower on the 15th, and on the 16th advanced to within forty yards of the main gate of the fort.

On April 7th the enemy fired the tower, and while the garrison was fighting the flames Dr. Robertson was wounded and several of the British force killed or wounded.

The enemy attempted on April 8th to set fire to the citadel, and on the 11th the fort was attacked on all sides. The garrison made a sortie on April 17th, recaptured the summer house and blew up the enemy's mine. The British loss in the sortie was eight killed and thirteen wounded. The enemy lost sixty killed, of whom thirty-five were bayoneted by the troops. On April 19th the siege was raised.

The British troops suffered terribly from bad food and exhaustion of the medical stores. The heavy loss of life suffered by the besieged was due to the splendid marksmanship of the tribesmen.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

The Former Might as Well Try to Invade the Moon.

LONDON, April 25.—In an editorial the *Chronicle* says: "Russia might as well try to invade the moon as to invade Japan. Every soldier's stand would find ten Japanese soldiers for him, while it is not improbable that the Japanese would attempt a descent upon Vladivostock. This is the proposition that Russia must face before deciding to back up by arms her protest."

THEIR HEADS SWELLED.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 25.—The Japanese Government, replying to the note of the Russian Government, intimating that there are various conditions in the treaty of peace between Japan and China that Russia cannot allow to be put into execution, has informed Russia that if Japan yielded to the exactions of Russia, France and Germany, she would expose herself to a revolution, as the Japanese people are intoxicated with victories, and would assent to no concessions.

In spite of this reply, Russia is determined to maintain her demands.

ITS CORRECTNESS DOUBTED.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Japanese officials here question the correctness of the St. Petersburg cable giving Japan's answer to Russia. It is pointed out that the Tokio Government would not make such a concession of weakness as to say a revolution would occur. It is also argued that the answer lacks the dignity that will characterize such answer as Japan may make.

Newfoundland Still Coy.

OTTAWA (Ont.), April 25.—The Government has received a private cable from Newfoundland stating that the Legislature called for to-day adjourned for a fortnight, and that the delegates will report that Canada's proposals for Newfoundland's entering the Confederation are untenable; that Newfoundland's counter-proposals are being considered at Ottawa, and Newfoundland awaits the decision of the Canadians.