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DURRANT MURDER TRIAL.

Barnes Begins the Closing Argument on Behalf of the State.

THE CASE WILL PROBABLY GO TO THE JURY TO-MORROW.

Burglars Attempt to Rob a Safe at Napa City—Appraisers of the Estate of the Late A. N. Towne File Their Statement in the Probate Court at San Francisco—Baseball Cranks Again to Have a Chance to Witness the National Game in California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 30.—District Attorney Barnes to-day began the closing argument on behalf of the State in the trial of Theodore Durrant.

The courtroom was crowded to its greatest capacity, and close attention was paid to the speaker.

Referring to the testimony, District Attorney Barnes said: "There were four propositions in the case—the finding of the body, its identification, the cause of death and the identity of the murderer. The body had been found in the church on Easter Sunday, April 14th. It had been identified by the girl's uncle as that of Blanche Lamont. The post mortem examination had shown the cause of death to be asphyxiation caused by strangulation. As the injuries could not have been self-inflicted, it followed that it was the work of a murderer, or rather an assassin."

He compared the act to those of the Indian things. He then took up the testimony with a view to locating the murderer. Though decomposition had progressed so far that it was impossible to determine whether an assault had accompanied the murder, counsel said it was within the province of the jury to assume from collateral facts that it had been. There must have been a motive. The murderer did not strangle his victim for the mere motive of murdering her.

Accepting the theory that lust had been the actuating cause for the crime, the rest presented no difficulties. The defendant had formed the girl's acquaintance, had become infatuated with her and had deliberately planned to rob her of her virtue. He had taken her to the church for that purpose. No one, counsel said, could say what proposal preceded the crime. No one could say how the doomed girl, after hearing it, had turned to flee. Had she then escaped, Durrant would not have been tried for murder, but he would have been brought before the congregation of Emmanuel Church on another charge. He saw disgrace and social ruin before him, and he sprang on the frail girl and clasped her throat in his fingers. The twelve finger-marks on the girl's neck could have been caused by one change of the murderer's grasp.

Durrant's acquaintance with the girl was traced. She was essentially a home-keeping girl, pure-minded and striving to fit herself for an honorable future. When she first met the defendant she was attending another Sunday-school, but at Durrant's solicitation she joined that of the Emmanuel Church. There was no doubt that Durrant's regard for the girl led him to induce her to join the Sunday-school, and that her regard for him led her to leave the other school and join that of which Durrant was an official. She had frequently been out with him and knew that her aunt trusted him. It was not, therefore, remarkable that she should have had that confidence in him which enabled him to induce her to enter the church with him at an unusual hour.

Counsel said that the defense had begun to deny that Durrant had been in the girl's company on the morning of the murder, but at last admitted it. It would have been denied, but Durrant had admitted it after the girl's disappearance and the denial would have been useless.

One of the most significant things in the case, the District Attorney said, was that Blanche Lamont only began her attendance at the Normal School, to which Durrant had gone in the afternoon, two days before the murder. She attended another school in the morning, and even Durrant would not have known that she was at the Normal School in the afternoon had she not told him on the morning of the murder. It was in the morning, counsel said, that the defendant made an appointment with the dead girl to meet her in the afternoon. He said the reason given by Mrs. Vogel for having particularly noticed the defendant in front of the school was the best that could have been given. She had money in her house and feared Durrant was a burglar. Mrs. Vogel might have been mistaken in her identification, but it was physically impossible that both she and the three school girls could have testified to the details of a circumstance and all be mistaken. The element of conspiracy could not be considered for a moment. Mrs. Vogel had seen the defendant opposite her outside the schoolhouse, and had watched him until she saw him take a seat with a girl he met coming from the school, on the outside of the car. Miss Edwards, a schoolmate of Blanche Lamont, had testified to the meeting between the two just as Mrs. Vogel had done and had described the position they occupied on the car in the same way. Two other schoolmates of the dead girl had seen the car pass and Miss Lamont and the young man they recognized as Durrant escorting her had been described on the same spot on the car where the two former witnesses had located them.

Barnes declared that there was not in the history of the world a case where four intelligent witnesses had been mistaken under such circumstances. He referred at some length to the case of Professor Webster, who was hanged in Massachusetts for the murder of Dr. Parkman, and said the evidence did not compare for strength with that against Durrant. Chief Justice Shaw, who presided at the trial of Professor Webster, had, he said, laid down the proposition, not as one of law, but as the opinion of an able jurist, that circumstantial evidence was stronger than the testimony of witnesses, for the element of perjury was removed by it. It was difficult to get witnesses who would perjure themselves in sustaining a case of circumstantial evidence, and not break under cross-examination. It was not even charged that the identifying witnesses for the prosecution of Durrant were testifying falsely, but only that they were the victims of hallucinations. It was, he said, impossible that all of them, young and old, had been at once afflicted with visual defect.

The case, he said, had been begun on the 23d of July. The first testimony was taken on the 4th of September. A total of 205 witnesses had been examined, and he hoped the jurors would not after all the testimony that had been taken fail to use their privilege of deducing opinions from the facts presented.

Barnes, during his argument, arraigned Durrant in scathing terms. He ridiculed him as the tip-top dandy, and hero of the strawberry festival and chicken dinner, and called him a satan and a serpent who would convolute his slimy folds about innocence. Durring all of this Durrant sat unmoved. When the District Attorney pointed a finger at him the accused man returned a look without moving a muscle.

Barnes will occupy to-morrow with his argument, and the jury will be charged Friday.

HIGHWAYMAN CAPTURED.

Accused of Twice Robbing the Coulterville Stage.

MERCED, Oct. 30.—The man who has twice robbed the Coulterville stage near Snelling, in this county, during the past six weeks, was captured near La Grange last night by Constable T. A. Mack of Merced.

Mack had been on his track for four days, and found him last night in the residence of Jim Long, a short distance from La Grange. Mack covered him with his rifle and told him to throw up his hands, which he did.

Then the highwayman started to reach for a big revolver in his belt, but was warned that if his hands dropped another inch he would be shot dead. So he peacefully surrendered, gave up his arms and cartridge belt, and was brought to Merced by Mack and placed in the County Jail.

He was easily identified, having been shot in the knee several years ago by an officer in Fresno County, from which wound he still walks lame.

He has done time twice at San Quentin, the first time being sent from Fresno County for horse stealing. He goes by the name of "Tex," but his right name is Kellett. He lived in Merced County at one time years ago.

Sheriff Warfield refuses to allow the prisoner to be interviewed.

DEATH OF J. L. ATWOOD.

Was for a Number of Years a Resident of Sacramento.

ALAMEDA, Oct. 30.—J. L. Atwood died yesterday afternoon at the Veteran's Home, Yountville. Mr. Atwood came to Alameda five years ago, with his family, from Sacramento, and engaged in the contracting business, which he followed up to about six months ago, when, from ill-health, he decided to enter the Veterans' Home.

Deceased was troubled with a pulmonary complaint, which he contracted while in the army. He also suffered from heart trouble, which is attributed as the cause of his death.

He enlisted as a private in the Thirteenth Volunteer Infantry of Ohio at the outbreak of the war, and served for about six years. After his enlistment he joined the army, and when he left the army he was a Brevet-Major in the Fourth United States Heavy Artillery. He came to California in 1876, and was for many years on the police force of Sacramento. He did much to advance the interests of the National Guard, and was Captain of the Light Battery, N. G. C., of Sacramento. He was a native of Ohio, and 56 years of age. The funeral will take place to-morrow morning, and the interment in the veterans' plot at the home.

DIAMOND DUST.

The Circuit in the State Next Summer to Compose Six Cities.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 30.—Arrangements have just been completed by the California Baseball League whereby a circuit of six cities will be played during the coming summer. Clubs will be located in San Francisco, Sacramento, San Jose, Stockton, Fresno and Oakland. The league will take local men before looking elsewhere, but it is understood that should the local enterprise in the interior towns prove unequal to the formation of the teams, Eastern capital and Eastern talent will be brought here to supply the sufficiency. The season will open March 28th, and close September 28th. The California League is already a part of the National League, it having paid the first installment of its entrance fee.

At Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 30.—There was a much better crowd to witness to-day's races, and the programme was the best yet offered. Summaries:

Special trot, purse $1,000, Erastus won, General Beverley second. Best time—2:22.

Trotting, three-year-olds, 2:27 class, purse $1,000, Zombro won, Stam B. second, Jasper Ayers third. Best time—2:13.

Special pace, 2:15 class, Marvey Mac won, Fresno Prince second, Del Norte third. Best time—2:14.

Special trot, 2:27 class, Carrie C. won, Los Angeles second, Stella third. Best time—2:21¼.

Oil for Steaming Purposes.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 30.—It is understood that the Southern Pacific will soon commence experimenting with local oil for steaming purposes. Assistant Superintendent Prior of the company said this morning that it was likely the Master Mechanic in the shops here would shortly commence the work of fitting up two engines with oil burners. The Santa Fe is meeting with much success in the use of oil, and nearly every engine running over the company's lines in Southern California has an oil burner.

Got But Fifteen Cents.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 30.—Burglars blew open the safe of the Southern Pacific Railroad's station at Burbank last night, but had their trouble for their pains, as they secured but fifteen cents. Agent Powell sleeps at the station, but before he recovered from the fright caused by the explosion the burglars had disappeared. Detectives have been placed on the case, but so far no clew has been obtained.

Death of Mrs. Stephen T. Gage.

OAKLAND, Oct. 30.—Mrs. Stephen T. Gage died last night a few minutes before 11 o'clock. During the day she had seemed to rally somewhat, and from noon until 10 o'clock last night was resting easily. At the latter hour a change came and death quickly ensued. Mrs. Gage was a native of Tarrytown, New York. She was 45 years old.

Cut to the Water's Edge.

PORTLAND (Or.), Oct. 30.—The steamers Bailey Gatzert and T. J. Potter collided near Kalama at 1:30 o'clock this morning during a dense fog, resulting in the Gatzert being cut to the water's edge and the damaging of the Potter's stem. The Potter sustained but slight damage, while the Gatzert was in condition to put back to Kalama.

A. N. Towne's Estate.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 30.—Isaac L. Requia, Walter S. Newhall and Arthur A. Towne, appraisers of the estate of the late Albin N. Towne, filed their appraisement of the estate to-day in the Probate Court before Judge Slack. The total valuation is fixed at $381,535 93.

Burglars at Napa.

NAPA, Oct. 30.—The safe in the office of Hatt's large grain warehouse here was worked on by burglars last evening, but the operators were probably frightened away, as they failed to get the safe open.

Verdict of Manslaughter.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 30.—The jury in the case of Kennett, charged with the murder of Detective Lawson, returned a verdict of manslaughter this evening.

DISAPPOINTED SPORTS.

Little Likelihood of Corbett and Fitzsimmons Meeting To-day.

THE AUSTRALIAN REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED.

Two Students Expelled and Fourteen Others Indefinitely Suspended for Hazing by the State College Faculty at Bellfonte, Pennsylvania, and in Addition Many, or All, May Have to Appear in the Criminal Court.

HOT SPRINGS (Ark.), Oct. 30.—James J. Corbett is safely housed under a friendly roof in Hot Springs. By the articles of agreement which bear his signature he guarantees to be in this city to-morrow to contest for his present title of champion heavyweight boxer. He is here and prepared to fill his part of the bargain. On the other hand, Robert Fitzsimmons is speeding on his way to Little Rock in the custody of officers of the law acting for the Governor, and into whose hands, if advices received here be true, he surrendered himself in preference to accepting the protection of those who would have brought him safely to Hot Springs and Corbett's vicinity.

This is the condition of affairs on the eve of the day of what gave promise of being one of the grandest pugilistic contests of modern times. Excitement in the city reached a high pitch to-day. Little else than the prospects of Fitzsimmon's arrival was talked of on the streets, in the stores, about the hotels and around the Courthouse and Postoffice. Even the country folks and mountaineers that came in for their weekly mail seemed to have caught the contagion and plied the clerk at the delivery windows with queries as to whether the fight was sure to come off with as much earnestness as that exhibited by the true-born sports.

During the morning news from the Cornishman's party was a scarce commodity, but after dinner, when a dispatch announced that the party was then between Marshall and Texarkana, and that Sheriff Houpt of Hot Springs, with his package of "friendly warrants" in his inside coat pocket, was their privileged guest, the spirits of the members of the Hot Springs Athletic Club and of the visiting sports who by this time had made quite a respectable crowd, soared high, and joy was unconfined.

But as on every day for a week or more past their jubilation was short-lived, and the numerous talk that pestered everybody who would listen to them with the story of how "they had said so all along," in reference to Fitzsimmons being on the ground to-morrow, found their tongues suddenly tied. A private dispatch came in with the information that Fitzsimmons had given the Hot Springs Sheriff the go-by, preferring to intrust himself to the care and protection of the officers from Little Rock. This was at first received with incredulity, both by many of the friends of Corbett and by the Fitzsimmons following, but when it was confirmed by later advices to other parties, there was weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth, and the folks who have been persistently declaring that the kangaroo was a bluffer, etc., and would not be seen to-morrow within a good many miles of this ridge of the Ozarks, were able to raise their voices high, and find none to contradict them.

Naturally enough, the members of the local athletic association, which is practically the Citizens' Committee, were the ones the most disturbed by this unexpected eleventh-hour addition to a ten days' record of comics and complications, when those rendezvoused as usual at the Arlington Hotel met at night there was an anxious look on their faces, and for the first time since the proposition to bring the fight off was mooted they were inclined to be considerably reserved and uncommunicative.

After views and opinions appeared to have been freely exchanged, one of the principal members of the club was asked what steps would be taken to meet the latest emergency. To this he replied: "We are in a quandary. It is hard to believe that Fitz has played as false. Our latest information is to the effect that Sheriff Houpt was also arrested, and if that it is the case, then it would appear that he was overpowered by superior numbers and had to give way to the Pulaski County officers and their Miller County contingent. At any rate, we shall do nothing definite in the case until we know what actually transpired at Hope, or wherever the arrest took place. We had a special train in waiting at that place, and expected the entire party here this evening without molestation. If Fitz and Julian are blameless in the matter, of course we will see to it that peace bonds are furnished at the hearing to-morrow in Little Rock, but if, on the other hand, it is shown that they deliberately tried to do us up.—well, then——." And here the speaker turned on his heel as though the prospects of a committal of the pugilist and his manager would not be particularly distasteful to him.

Naturally the news was received with grim satisfaction in the Corbett camp. What the champion himself thought or said on the subject is known only to himself or Brady, and the latter individual alone of the crowd in the rotunda knew where his principal was housed, even the champion's brother being kept in the dark on this point. John Donaldson, Steve O'Donnell, Billy Delaney and the other well-known pugilists who have been assisting in getting Corbett into condition, together with scores of local and visiting sporting fraternity, congratulated each other upon the fact that they had insisted from the start that Julian was simply engaged in a big bluffing act, and had no intention at the time he left Hot Springs last week of bringing Fitzsimmons to the city. Defenders of the latter were few and far between.

As for Brady, his set teeth and lips and the wicked look in his eyes showed that he was mad through and through. Thrice had the champion overruled his proposition to pull up stakes and go East, and thrice as many times has Corbett declared that he would wait till October 31st, and take his opponent at his word. That date was but a few hours off, and the prospects that Corbett's belief in the good faith of Fitzsimmons would be realized was slimmer than ever. When at length his equanimity had been restored, he said to a reporter: "It is to be hoped that the country will understand that we have acted in good faith, and with honesty from the start. We brought Corbett into the country weeks ago, when we were under no compulsion to do so, and we have allowed him to be dragged from court to court and subjected to numerous inconveniences, to say nothing of the interruptions to the training in our effort to make good our word to the people.

"Does it look to-night as if he will be here?" he said. "Does it look as if his failure to be here can be attributed to misadventure? Let the people read the facts and judge. As for ourselves, let it be announced that in accordance with the articles of agreement, I stand ready to produce Corbett in the city of Hot Springs at any time between to-night and midnight of to-morrow, prepared to meet any contestant for the world's heavyweight championship."

Corbett's departure from his training quarters at Spring Lake was masked beth by mystery and celerity. He was training in the morning as usual, when visitors went out in the afternoon he had vanished. It was said that he had given the Deputy Sheriff who had him in charge the slip, and Brady partially confirmed this when he said that his man was not in the custody of the law to-night and would be equally free to-morrow. Corbett could not have come into the city or been smuggled into any of the hotels without being recognized, unless he was in disguise, and he has a particular aversion to subterfuges.

The most plausible explanation of his whereabouts to-night is that he is a guest at one of the numerous families in the aristocratic section of the city, the heads of which are known to be in sympathy with the mill being brought off without further interference of the Executive.

LITTLE ROCK, Oct. 30.—Governor Clarke at 3 o'clock this afternoon countermanded the order sending the militia to Hot Springs. This was because Attorney-General Kinsworthy telephoned the Governor from Hot Springs to the effect that Corbett would be tried before a Justice of the Peace in Hot Springs, and after that has consented to come to Little Rock for trial before Chancellor Martin. Chancellor Martin to-day issued a warrant for the arrest of Sheriff Houpt in Arkadelphia, charging him with conspiracy. Houpt left Hot Springs to arrest Fitzsimmons before the Governor's emissaries could get at the lanky Australian.

TEXARKANA (Ark.), Oct. 30.—Robert Fitzsimmons will not be able, granting that he has always been willing, to make good his boast of being in Hot Springs on October 31st to fight Corbett if civil or military authorities did not interfere. The Australian pugilist, accompanied by Manager Julian and others, had no sooner crossed the line which divides Texas and Arkansas than officers of Arkansas who had been on the train served a warrant of arrest on him. There was an exciting clash on the train between Sheriff Houpt of Garland County and Sheriff Dillard of Miller County, in which this city is situated.

After Fitzsimmons had been made a prisoner for the purpose of effecting his removal in a legal manner to the capital, his captors left the Iron Mountain train at Fuller, twenty miles from this city, and doubled upon their tracks so as to take another train to-morrow morning from Texarkana for Little Rock via Pine Bluff.

The carrying out of this plan effectually stops Fitzsimmons from appearing in Hot Springs to "claim the forfeit money," as he has so often talked about lately, from his training quarters at Corpus Christi. When the Iron Mountain train carrying Fitzsimmons and Julian, their wives and the other members of the party arrived at Marshall, Tex., several men entered the car where the pugilistic party was escorted. They were officers from Arkansas, but clothed in no authority to make arrests until Texarkana was reached. Sheriff Houpt of Garland County was there with "friendly warrants" for the arrest of Fitz and Julian on the same line as the warrants for the Corbett party, the plan of the Hot Springs people being to have their Sheriff escort Fitzsimmons through Arkansas to the present Mecca of sports, so as to give him an opportunity to keep his pugilistic engagements by going through the Corbett Justice Court performance.

But Sheriff Dillard of this county was on the Texas line, and he was on the train to enforce his better right to take the fighter and hold him for the benefit of the Governor. He was aided by Deputy Sheriff Howard of Pulaski County, in which the capital is located, and several other deputies from Miller County, to be used in case of a forcible resistance to the authority of the law. Deputy Howard was sent by the pugnacious Ex-executive of Arkansas as his trusted lieutenant to guard against any hitch in the scheme to thwart the light designs of the Hot Springs citizens.

Part of this city is in Texas and part of it is in Arkansas. When the line was crossed the contending Sheriffs of Garland and Miller Counties confronted Fitzsimmons and proceeded to read their warrants. Sheriff Houpt was the first to begin and claimed the prisoner, but Miller County's Sheriff sharply ordered him to keep his hands off, as he had no authority. The Little Rock warrants were sworn to by the Attorney-General as the legal representative of the State. Upon this fact, as well as that of Sheriff Houpt being outside his county, Sheriff Dillard and Deputy Howard insisted on their better right to Fitzsimmons. Sheriff Houpt submitted and proceeded to Hot Springs.

Fearing some attempt to take his prisoner away, and desiring to keep him as far as possible from Hot Springs, Sheriff Dillard and party left the train at Fulton, twenty miles north of here, and arrived here with Fitzsimmons at 7 o'clock to-night, Julian accompanying them. The Sheriff and his prisoner will take the morning train on the Cotton Belt line at 7:50 for Little Rock, via Pine Bluff. The rest of the Fitzsimmons party proceeded to Hot Springs to tell of the misfortune which befell their chief.

HOT SPRINGS (Ark.), Oct. 30.—Late to-night it was decided that Corbett should appear at Whittington Park between 10 and 12 o'clock to-morrow in order to claim the forfeit from the club. A force of carpenters is working to-night on a temporary ring, in order that all conditions may be complied with.

HAZING UNPOPULAR.

Two Students Expelled and Many Suspended in Pennsylvania.

BELLFONTE (Pa.), Oct. 30.—Two students have been expelled from the State College and fourteen indefinitely suspended for hazing, and in addition most of them, or may be all of them, may get into the criminal courts before the affair is at an end.

As is usual at the opening of each college year, the higher men undertook to initiate the freshmen in the usual way by giving each one a good hazing. Among the freshmen were two brothers who had room and board in the family of William Shiveley, in the village. These the students were unable to catch until one night recently, when a large crowd of the higher classmen got together and surrounded the house of Mr. Shiveley and demanded the surrender into their hands of the two young men. The demand was refused, whereupon the crowd opened fire with one of the college cannons they had surreptitiously taken with them, and which had been loaded for the occasion with stones, old tomato cans and most every kind of dirt, right in the house. Windows were broken, furniture inside of the house was badly demolished and the outside of the house was badly defaced and besmirched.

Two shots were fired, by which time all of the inmates of the house were pretty badly frightened except Mr. Shiveley and one of the students. They were equal to the emergency. Each one of them hastily secured a double-barreled shotgun and sallied forth into the crowd, demanding their immediate withdrawal, under threats of being fired into if they refused. Acting with discretion, the crowd began to withdraw.

The names of most of the students taking part in this night's work were known and reported to the faculty. Two of the number, the ringleaders, were expelled, and fourteen others were suspended.

NEW YORK POLITICS.

Senator Hill Addresses a Democratic Meeting at Albany.

AGAIN CRITICISES ASSERTIONS OF WARNER MILLER.

The Widely Extended and Long-Continued Drouth in Western and Central Kansas Broken—The Ground Soaked by Snow and Rain—Bourgeois Summoned to Form a New Cabinet in France.

ALBANY (N. Y.), Oct. 30.—Senator D. B. Hill returned to Albany to-day from his trip through the State of Ohio, where he has made several political speeches. To-night he addressed an immense Democratic mass meeting at Harmanus Bleecker Hall. He was escorted there amid a blaze of fireworks by the Democratic Phalanx and several local Democratic organizations. Ex-Senator Warner Miller again came in for considerable criticism at the hands of Senator Hill for his recent utterances in regard to the excise question. The Senator said: "Mr. Miller in his recent speeches in endeavoring to explain as to what he personally believed in, and as to what his party advocated, became somewhat confused, and asserted an entirely new doctrine of Republican faith. He made a most remarkable statement, which I quote from the New York Tribune of October 16th, published the next morning after his speech the night before. This is what the Tribune reports Mr. Miller as saying: 'In fact, Republicans of this State to-day favor what is known as the Ohio law. In Ohio all excise boards are abolished, and engaging in liquor there is free to everyone; but the moment a place is open for the sale of intoxicating drinks the State officer steps in and levies the tax, which is uniform throughout the State, and many of our people think that that would be a desirable condition in this State. Certainly the operations of the Ohio law have proved very favorable in Ohio.'"

In conclusion, the Senator said: "Our Republican friends say I am deeply interested in the election of a Democratic Legislature, that I may be returned to the United States Senate. No one has been authorized to state that I seek a re-election. The Legislature to be chosen this fall does not elect my successor. So far as I am concerned, the field is open to every loyal Democrat that wants to aspire for the place. Give us the Legislature now. The question of electing a United States Senator can be disposed of two years hence. Cleveland and Hill and all true Democrats want Democratic success above all things. I have in my hand the following telegram received in this city to-day, which illustrates the interest which all Democrats have in our success:

"Executive Mansion,
"Washington (D. C.), Oct. 30, 1895.

"To Charles Tracey, Albany, N. Y.: I have your letter, and beg you to convey to my Albany friends and former neighbors at the Democratic ratification meeting my cordial congratulations on the wise and patriotic declaration of their State platform concerning the leading questions before the American people, and the assurance of my earnest wish for the succes of our excellent State ticket.

"GROVER CLEVELAND."

The reading of the above created intense enthusiasm, and the speaker was roundly applauded as he concluded his remarks.

POWDER FOR NAVAL GUNS.

Annual Report of the Chief of the Ordnance Bureau.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—The annual report of Captain W. T. Sampson, Chief of the Naval Bureau of Ordnance, which has just been presented to the Secretary of the Navy, contains an estimate of $6,647,947 for carrying out the plans of the bureau for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897. Included in this amount are items of $25,000 for arming and equipping naval militia, $500,000 toward the armament of auxiliary cruisers, and $4,390,204 toward the armament of vessels authorized.

The report says that attempts to secure a satisfactory powder for the thirteen-inch guns met with failure. The California Powder Company has succeeded in manufacturing excellent powder for the eight-inch, as well as the five-inch guns, and is now in position to make prismatic powder for all calibers. Lack of means of testing powder in the larger guns on the Pacific, with the consequent necessity of shipping samples to the naval proving grounds here for test, prevents the bureau from ordering powder for the ten-inch, twelve-inch and thirteen-inch guns from this company at present.

The difficulty of obtaining a satisfactory brown powder for the larger calibers, as well as the many inconveniences attendant upon the use of brown powder, emphasizes the necessity for the development of a smokeless powder for all calibers.

Captain Sampson earnestly renews his recommendation of last year that a yearly appropriation be made for the manufacture of guns and mounts for merchant steamers capable of efficient work as transports and cruisers, and submits an estimate of $50,000 for commencing the work.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—If Secretary Herbert accepts the recommendation of the Board of Bureau Chiefs, the old cruisers Pensacola and Swatara will be appraised and sold. The vessels are now at the Mare Island (California) Navy Yard, classed as "unserviceable."

RAILROAD STRIKERS' CASES.

Argument in Appeal Heard in the U. S. Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—The cases of the Californians convicted in the prosecutions growing out of the railroad strike of 1894 were before the Supreme Court of the United States to-day, endeavoring to secure a new trial. They were convicted in the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of California for conspiracy to obstruct and retard the passage of the mails over the Southern Pacific Railroad, and sentenced by Judge Ross to imprisonment for eighteen months each. The appeal was argued for the convicted men—W. H. Clune, Isaac Ross and Philip Stanwood—all members of the American Railway Union, by Robert Christy, and by Attorney-General Harmon for the United States. Mr. Christy contended that the evidence adduced by the Government upon the trial was not sufficient nor of such a nature to justify the verdict, while the Attorney-General insisted that everything charged in the indictment was abundantly proved.

RAILWAY PRESIDENTS.

What Was Done at the Meeting at New York Yesterday.

NEW YORK, Oct. 30.—The following official statement was made at the conclusion this afternoon of the meeting of the railroad Presidents:

"The trunk lines and Western connections were fully represented at the meeting to-day. The Presidents received a decided and further amended contract submitted to them by the Committee on Revision. By reason thereof, and of additional suggestions received from counsel and others, a further meeting of the Presidents and another meeting of the committee was deemed desirable, to be held on dates to be hereafter announced. No dissent was expressed, and the Boards of Directors of the roads have acted favorably upon it."

The next meeting of the Presidents will be held on November 19th. One of the principal points of discussion to-day was a proposition to restrict representation in the Board of Control. It was held that if small roads were given the same voice as the large systems there would be too great a risk of obstructive tactics on their part. The Pennsylvania was particular to insist that no clause or feature of the new agreement should in any way conflict with the interstate commerce law.

One reason for the adjournment was to obtain further opinions of counsel as to the legality of the compact. The meeting was entirely harmonious. All present expressed themselves as in favor of the agreement.

CUBAN REVOLUTION.

A Strong Expedition Lands Safely on the Island.

NEW YORK, Oct. 30.—Word has been received at Cuban headquarters here of the safe landing in Cuba of the expedition under Carlos H. Cespedes, which left Philadelphia October 20th. The expedition disembarked on the east coast of Cuba on the 26th. It is composed of 107 men and was well provided with arms and ammunition. The expedition was fitted out in Canada and sailed from there over three weeks ago. The reason for going to Canada was embodied in the fact that the neutrality laws of the United States were such that the filibusters did not care to strain them. The wisdom of this was manifest in the result. It never was disturbed in any manner, and a safe clearing was made by the vessel.

Cable advices tell of a Cabinet meeting at Madrid yesterday, where the Cuban situation was discussed. Prime Minister Canovas del Castillo stated that there was no truth in the rumors that the United States Government had shown sympathy toward the Cuban rebels.

Tomas Estrada Palma, chief delegate of the Cuban revolutionary party in this city, said yesterday: "I shall see President Cleveland and lay the cause of my countrymen before him. Our friends in Cuba are in need of arms and ammunition. The Spanish Government has always denied that it is engaged in war with the Cubans. If that be true then I see no reason why the United States authorities should prevent us from sending merchandise to Cuba."

WAR OF THE REBELLION.

Address Delivered at a Banquet of the Vermont Reunion Society.

RUTLAND (Vt.), Oct. 30.—At the annual meeting and banquet of the Vermont Officers' Society last evening, Congressman H. H. Powers of Morrisville delivered an address on the general subject of secession as one of the great subjects settled by the rebellion. He took as his text Governor Woodbury's now famous statement at Chattanooga that Northern children should be taught that the South was wrong. He reviewed the question in a semi-official and historic way. He said:

"When the South fired upon the flag at Fort Sumter it said to the Nation, 'I turn my back upon the common judge we have both created, and now war shall be the final judge between thee and me.' When General Lee handed his sword to General Grant at Appomattox, the doctrine of secession was forever buried from sight. It was then and there settled that the cause of the South was wrong. It was then and there settled that under the Constitution we are a nation and not a combination; that we are a unit and not an aggregate, and that what God has joined together no man could put asunder. Conceding to the Southern people all the sincerity of purpose they may claim the dogma for which they contend, the cause for which they fought was an everlasting wrong."

THREE PERSONS KILLED.

Result of the Collision on the Missouri Pacific Road.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 30.—In a head and end collision last night between two suburban trains on the Missouri Pacific Railroad, just outside of the city, the killed and injured were:

Killed—John Harper, engineer of the west-bound train; Charles H. Catron, engineer of the east-bound train; George True, fireman of the east-bound train.

Fatally injured—George Dunbar, fireman of the west-bound train.

Seriously injured—Mrs. J. Janopoulo, ankle sprained and a severe twist of the hip; J. Janopoulo, leg badly lacerated; Herbert Taylor, left collar bone broken, left ear torn nearly off; John Bayless, brakeman on the east-bound train, collar bone broken; William A. Williams, conductor on the east-bound train, right arm fractured in two places, left collar bone broken.

Slightly injured—H. E. Ewing, Mrs. O. Hull, David Ormsby, William Lee and his father, J. T. Bailey, William Campbell.

EX-LIEUT.-GEN. SCHOFIELD.

Decision That He Shall Draw Only Three-Quarter Pay.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—Paymaster-General Stanton of the army has directed that Lieutenant-General Schofield, retired, is not entitled to the full pay of active rank, but to three-quarters of that amount.

The decision of the Paymaster will be a matter of grave disappointment to General Schofield and to many of his friends, who supposed that in the Act of Congress reviving the grade of Lieutenant-General for General Schofield the precedent established by the retirement of General Sherman was followed of allowing him to draw the full pay of an officer in the active service. The pay of a Lieutenant-General in active service is $11,000. The pay for the same grade on the retired list is $8,250.

The question reached the War Department on an inquiry from Deputy Paymaster Candee at Chicago whether General Schofield's pay was to be on the basis of a retired officer or that of an officer retired by special Act of Congress with the full pay and allowances of an officer in the active service.

Drought Broken.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 30.—Reports from Western and Central Kansas are to the effect that the widely extended and long continued drought has been broken. In Ellis County four inches of snow has fallen. Barton County is thoroughly soaked by rain. At Larned snow fell today, the earliest ever recorded in that section.

French Cabinet Crisis.

PARIS, Oct. 30.—President Faure this afternoon summoned M. Bourgeois, Republican Radical, to the palace and requested him to form a Ministry. Bourgeois promised to consult with his friends and give the President a reply to-morrow.

An American Ship Sunk.

HONGKONG, Oct. 30.—The American ship Wandering Jew, Captain Nichols, caught fire in this port yesterday, and was scuttled and sunk. The cause of the fire is unknown. The ship was loaded and ready to sail for New York.

A TEXAS BANK LOOTED.

Burglars Make a Rich Haul in the Town of McGregor.

TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS AMOUNT OF BOOTY SECURED.

A Chicago Police Officer Picks Up a Satchel Containing Securities Amounting to Sixty or Seventy Thousand Dollars, Believed to be the Property of a Minneapolis Citizen.

M'GREGOR (Tex.), Oct. 30.—This morning the First National Bank of this place was looted by burglars. The robbers effected an entrance to the building by prying open the front door. The vault was opened by means of the combination, which was successfully worked. The large steel safe was next attacked with dynamite and blown open. The amount of booty secured is $10,000. The money taken was gold and paper, the silver being untouched. Mutilated silver coins were scattered about the floor. The bank is fully insured in the Fidelity and Casualty Company, and will suffer no loss.

PRESIDENTIAL POSSIBILITIES.

An Indiana Editor's View of the Situation.

DETROIT, Oct. 30.—Henry S. New, editor of the Indianapolis Journal, was in the city to-day. Speaking of the many interviews regarding the candidacy and non-candidacy of ex-President Harrison at the Russell House, Mr. New gave the Indiana political side of that question.

"That is a question no man except General Harrison himself can authoritatively speak on," said he. "The feeling in Indiana is one of intense loyalty to the ex-President. They are proud of him. Indiana Republicans feel there is no man better qualified to give the country a true American administration, and in the name of General Harrison goes before the next convention he will get the solid Indiana delegation. He is doing no political work in Indiana to secure delegates, but that would be unnecessary, as the party is solid and true to the ex-President. Indiana has a good live candidate for the head of the Democratic ticket in Governor Matthews. If Harrison does not go into the convention, it is uncertain where the vote of the State will go."

Ute Indians Roaming at Large.

DENVER, Oct. 30.—Governor McIntire wired the Indian Agent at Fort Duchesne, Utah, calling attention to the fact that a large number of Utes were roaming over Routt County, hunting in regions which never belonged to the Utes, and urging the agent to call them back, in order to avoid a conflict. He stated that these Indians are showing passes written by the agent's clerk permitting them to "visit friends." Major Randlette replied that he has sent out runners with orders for all hunting parties to immediately return. This ends the present anticipated trouble.

Serious Railway Accident in Iowa.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 30.—A special to the Chronicle from Webster City, Iowa, says that Freight Conductor Dan Gammon of Estherville was fatally and Engineer Parmenter and Fireman Wagner of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Northern passenger train were seriously injured, and many passengers were badly shaken up in a wreck that occurred at Hardin this morning. An extra freight had pulled into Hardin and had not cleared the main line on the side track. The passenger engine ran into the caboose, completely demolishing it.

Timber Fire in Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 30.—A special to the Chronicle from Nevada, Mo., says: One of the largest fires in years has broken out in Montevallo Township. Four hundred acres of heavy timber and 300 acres of corn have been destroyed. The losses will reach several thousand dollars. Hundreds of people are fighting the flames. A man near Harwood carelessly threw a burning match on the ground, burning four farmers' crops, amounting to 125 acres of corn and meadows, before it could be checked.

Valuable Papers Found at Chicago.

CHICAGO, Oct. 30.—A satchel containing valuable papers and securities to the amount of $60,000 or $70,000 was picked up by a police officer here to-night. The satchel appears from its contents to be the property of W. E. Baker of Minneapolis. It was found under a board walk near the river. The police believe that the satchel had been robbed of currency and possibly negotiable paper before it was discarded, and are now trying to find if Baker is in the city and get information of what was stolen.

Death of a Naval Officer.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—Mr. Partello, United States Consul at Sonneberg, Germany, cabled the Department of State to-day from London as follows: "Commander Oscar Heyerman of the navy died on the Havel at sea October 27th." Commander Heyerman was in command of the Kearsarge when she was wrecked on Roncador reef. For that he was suspended from duty, and recently went on the retired list.

Florida's Orange Crop.

JACKSONVILLE (Fla.), Oct. 30.—Captain J. A. Enslow, Jr., who makes regular business tours through the State, has just returned from the extreme southern part of Florida, where there are orange groves which were not hurt by the freeze. He says the crop will not exceed 60,000 boxes. Nearly one-tenth of the crop has been sold at $1 50 to $1 75 per box, and some have been sold as high as $3 75.

Moreno Unable to Procure Bail.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—Celso Cæsar Moreno, who was yesterday convicted of criminally libeling Baron Fava, the Italian Embassador, is still in jail, having been unable to find bail. His attorneys have moved for a new trial, which motion the court has taken under advisement.

Explosion in a Starch Factory.

WAUKEGAN (Ill.), Oct. 30.—The cooker at the American Starch Works blew up to-day with terrific force. The detached brick building in which it was situated and the contents were destroyed. Three employes were badly scalded.

Good Day for Sleighing.

BEAVER CITY (Neb.), Oct. 30.—Six inches of snow fell last night, and there has been good sleighing all day. It is of great benefit