

BANK FAILURES AT PHILADELPHIA.

Doors of One of the Leading Institutions of the City Closed.

Carries With it Another Big Concern Under the Same Management.

The Chestnut-Street National Bank in the Hands of the National Bank Examiner, and the Doors of the Chestnut-Street Trust and Savings Fund Company Closed—The Announcement of the Suspension Causes a Sensation.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—A sensation was created in this city to-day by the announcement of the suspension of the Chestnut-street National Bank, regarded as one of the strongest financial institutions in the city. The suspension carried with it the closing of the Chestnut-street Trust and Savings Fund Company, doing business under the State banking laws. William M. Singler, publisher of the Philadelphia "Record," is President of both companies, and the same men, with one exception, act as officers and Directors.

The first information the public received that the banks were in trouble was in the form of a note posted this morning on the door of the building occupied jointly by the two concerns, signed by National Bank Examiner Wm. M. Hart:

"The Chestnut-street National Bank is closed for business, and is in the hands of the National Bank Examiner. WILLIAM M. HART, Examiner."

A crowd of depositors soon gathered, but there was no special excitement. The bank has held a good reputation, but it has been known for some time that its business was not profitable. Profits have fallen off considerably. The suspension was a great surprise, especially in view of the high standing of its officers. William M. Singler is its President and Isaac Cooper Vice-President.

The bank was started in 1887 on a capital of \$500,000, with Robert E. Patton as President. When the latter took his seat as Governor of Pennsylvania in 1891 Mr. Singler succeeded him as President of the bank.

The Chestnut-street Trust and Savings Fund Company, the officers of which are identical with those of the bank, was also closed for business to-day, but to what extent the Trust Company is involved in the bank's affairs has not yet been announced.

The last report of the condition of the Chestnut-street National Bank, made on October 5, 1897, was:

Resources—Loans and discounts, \$2,790,508; overdrafts secured and unsecured, \$3,522; United States bonds to secure circulation, \$50,000; United States bonds to secure United States deposits, \$100,000; premiums on United States bonds, \$10,500; due from national banks, \$226,631; due from State banks and bankers, \$8,851; due from approved reserve agents, \$39,732; checks and other cash items, \$54,287; changes for clearing houses, \$14,287; notes of other national banks, \$3,184; fractional paper currency, nickels and cents, \$2,855; lawful money reserve in bank, \$140,040; redemption fund with United States Treasurer, \$2,250; total, \$3,868,971.

Liabilities—Capital stock paid in, \$500,000; surplus funds, \$150,000; undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid, \$24,924; national bank notes outstanding, \$43,000; due to other national banks, \$506,110; due to State banks and bankers, \$164,771; individual deposits, subject to checks, \$2,655,859; demand certificates of deposit, \$1,520; cashier's checks outstanding, \$126,752; United States deposits, \$94,715; bills payable, \$250,000; total, \$3,868,970.

The bank was a depository, and there were city funds in the bank to the amount of \$280,854. The State of Pennsylvania had on deposit December 1st, \$225,000.

The bank was also a depository of the National Government, but the Government is fully protected against loss by holding \$100,000 United States bonds as security.

It is said that the bank holds the funds of the city, police and firemen's pension fund, the school teachers' pension and annuity fund, and deposits of the Fairmount Park Commission, which latter includes bequests for the park improvement.

During the past few weeks President Singler has made great efforts to enable the bank to meet its liabilities. Yesterday the matter was laid before the clearing-house of the Philadelphia banks, and a proposition to issue \$2,000,000 at 6 per cent. preferred stock of the Record Publishing Company as collateral for loans was considered.

The investigation developed that this offer was not sufficient to justify the banks in advancing the needed funds. The members of the clearing-house say that no other banks are involved in the failure.

Concerning this phase of the case Mr. Singler said to-day: "Arrangements had been made to make an exchange issue of \$2,000,000 by the Record Publishing Company of Pennsylvania. It was thought that would be satisfactory, but somehow or other the plan fell through."

Mr. Singler declined to discuss the bank's troubles. He said the statement which would likely be issued by the Bank Examiner would explain the situation.

Concerning the efforts made in financial circles in the past few days to save the Chestnut-street bank from failure, a prominent financier said this afternoon that the large financial interests of the city had combined to advance the amount of money reported necessary, but final investigation developed a condition which prevented these interests from arranging the necessary relief.

quest was made that the banks, trust companies and other financial concerns should unite in extending aid. It was stated that if Mr. Singler's indebtedness to the bank could be liquidated all danger of failure would be averted, and it was suggested that these various interests should join in subscribing to a proposed issue of \$2,000,000 6 per cent. preferred stock of the Record Publishing Company, the proceeds of which would be used in liquidating the indebtedness of Mr. Singler. A statement was submitted at the same time showing that the profits of the "Record" last year amounted to \$249,000, or sufficient to pay the interest on the proposed issue of preferred stock to-day.

The response was almost unanimous, and as but few of the institutions or individuals invited to co-operate refused to do so, no difficulty was experienced in raising the \$2,000,000 required.

An investigation, however, disclosed the fact that the affairs of the institutions were more deeply involved than had been thought, and the amount of money raised was insufficient to relieve the embarrassment. The large financial interests referred to were therefore reluctantly compelled to withdraw their proffered aid, and the result was the closing of the door of the "Record."

The meeting at which this decision was reached was held last evening, the financial interests being represented by a committee, and it was nearly midnight that it was decided that the catastrophe could not be averted. The bank's affairs have been under scrutiny by the Controller of the currency for some time, and he has paid several visits to this city in connection with the matter.

Among bankers the embarrassment of the Chestnut-street Bank has recently been an open secret. The bank has for some time been a debtor to the clearing house, and on one or two occasions some difficulty has been experienced in meeting its balances. This morning, however, the Chestnut-street Bank was a creditor at the clearing house to the amount of \$12,000.

The liabilities of the bank and the trust company together will aggregate about \$3,000,000, represented by \$1,700,000 deposits in the bank and \$1,200,000 in the trust company. Of the \$1,700,000 in the bank about \$1,200,000 goes to the credit of individual firms and corporations in this city, while the remainder represented accounts of banks in other cities.

The condition of the Chestnut-street Savings Fund Company at the close of business November 16, 1897, was reported to the State authorities as follows:

Cash on hand, \$34,086; checks and other items, \$69,836; due from banks and bankers, \$11,013; call loans upon collaterals, \$68,613; time loans upon collaterals, \$226,589; loans upon bonds and mortgages, \$317,396; mortgages, \$172,375; real estate, furniture and fixtures, \$218,108; overdrafts, \$1,065; miscellaneous, \$15,570; total, \$1,584,538.

Liabilities—Capital stock paid in, \$220,000; surplus fund, \$50,000; undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid, \$52,387; deposits subject to check, \$855,750; deposits special, \$653,273; \$218,108 overdrafts, \$1,065; miscellaneous liabilities, \$14,922. Total, \$1,858,659.

Amount trust funds invested, \$196,794.61. Amount trust funds uninvested, \$41,329.60. Total, \$238,124.21.

President Singler gave out a brief statement to-night in which he said: "We are working to decide upon the indebtedness of the two banks so that they can go into voluntary liquidation and thus avoid a receivership."

In this connection, Deputy Comptroller of the Treasury George M. Coffin, who was sent here from Washington by Com. Eckels to-day, said: "The matter of putting the Chestnut-street National Bank into voluntary liquidation has been taken up by Philadelphia men of great financial ability. Their first step will be to ascertain the value of the assets of the bank. They must first be satisfied that they have a value sufficient to warrant them in assuming the indebtedness."

Mr. Coffin will remain here several days aiding the men who have taken upon themselves the task of extricating Mr. Singler from his financial difficulties. These gentlemen are in consultation to-night, and the belief is strong that they will provide the funds necessary for the voluntary liquidation of the two banks.

A meeting of the Directors of the Trust Company will be held at 10 o'clock to-day to decide upon the course of procedure. It is believed the State Bank Examiner will then take formal possession of the institution. State Bank Commissioner Gilkeson was in the office of the company a short time to-day, and it is said that he has had the long that the institution under inspection for some time past.

NO OTHER BANKS AFFECTED. WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Comptroller Eckels said this afternoon that no other banks were involved, and in his judgment no others would be affected by the failure. Mr. Eckels and Mr. Hart, the Bank Examiner in charge, had a conversation late this afternoon over the long distance telegraph. Mr. Hart said that a joint meeting of the Directors of the two failed concerns with John S. Bullitt, who is acting as counsel for the department, Mr. Coffin, the Deputy Comptroller, and himself was then in progress, and they were working on a plan to bring about a voluntary liquidation, with reasonable hope of success. Among the Directors present were several men of large means, and it was hoped a settlement on this basis would ultimately be reached.

Judge Paxson's Appointment. WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—It is believed that the President has decided to appoint Judge Paxson of Pennsylvania as a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission to succeed Colonel William R. Morrison, whose term will expire in January. The President to-day informed Senator Deboe of Kentucky, who called upon him in the interest of Mayor Todd of Louisville, that the position was promised, and it is thought that Judge Paxson is the man slated for the place.

Taken to an Insane Asylum. LONDON, Dec. 23.—On the advice of Police Surgeons Charles Helmhold, son of the late Dr. Helmhold of New York, who was arrested here on Tuesday last charged with having threatened to kill United States Consul-General Osborne, was to-day taken to an asylum for the insane. It has been ascertained that Helmhold had already been confined six weeks in an asylum under the assumed name of F. C. Evans.

DISASTROUS FIRE AT CHICAGO.

Flames Break Out in a Big Building on Madison Street.

Followed by a Terrific Explosion of Natural Gas.

Wreckage of the Structure Hurling in Every Direction, Falling Among the Large Crowd Outside—Dozens of People Thrown From Their Feet, and Twenty-Three More or Less Injured—Big Fire at Cleveland.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—Fire broke out shortly after 4 o'clock this afternoon in the basement of the five-story building at 104 Madison street, the first floor and basement of which were occupied by the Tosetti Cafe and Restaurant Company, and the second floor by the billiard parlors of Frank Mussey.

A crowd of people gathered on the sidewalk in front of the building to watch the work of the firemen. About one dozen policemen were busily engaged in pushing back the throng, when a terrific explosion of natural gas took place. The building was badly wrecked, the windows and grating, sidewalk lights and manhole covers were hurled into the air, and fell among the crowd.

Dozens of persons were thrown from their feet, and twenty-three were injured. Of these Police Captain Thomas O'Connor was the only one seriously hurt. He was burned about the head, face and body, and may die. The others who were injured sustained burns about the head and face, and more or less painful bruises.

The explosion caused a wild panic in the street, and in the frantic rush for safety many people were thrown down and trampled upon. That many were killed and many more injured was little short of a miracle.

Mussey's billiard parlors were filled with players when the explosion came, and the men, who had paid little or no attention to the small blaze in the basement, appreciated the situation in its proper value when the windows went sailing into the air and the gas began to come down on their heads. The throng in the street was duplicated by the excited billiard players as they plunged down the stairs for safety and into the outer air. Many of them escaped by the stairway, some took the fire escape, and those who were late or who deliberated as to the way of egress were taken out by the firemen.

The fire spread through the building with great rapidity after the explosion, and within ten minutes it was blazing fiercely. Call after call for additional engines was sent by Chief Sweeney, but the fire could only be reached in front and rear, and was difficult of access. The severe weather caused much of the water to freeze, and within an hour the building resembled an iceberg with a furnace in its interior.

The burning building is within fifty feet of the intersection of Dearborn and Madison streets, where the loops of the West Side and North Side cable lines intersect, and from the time the fire broke out until after midnight traffic was entirely suspended on both lines.

The loss is estimated at \$125,000, of which \$90,000 will fall on the Tosetti Company, \$20,000 on Mussey and \$15,000 on Morris Rosenfeld, the owner of the building.

BIG FIRE AT CLEVELAND. CLEVELAND, Dec. 23.—Fire broke out in the business center of the city at 5 o'clock this afternoon, and, fanned by a high north wind, destroyed property worth more than half a million dollars.

The Power Block on Frankfort street, owned by J. B. Jenkins, six stories high, and made of brick, was consumed above the second story. The rear of the brick Winslow Block, six stories high, owned also by Mr. Perkins, and fronting on Superior street, was burned.

The fire started by the explosion of a large can of benzine in the lithographing establishments of Johns & Co. in the Power Block, \$225,000; J. L. Hudson, on stock, \$100,000; J. B. Perkins, on Power Block, \$100,000; J. B. Perkins, on Blackstone building, \$40,000; J. B. Perkins, on Winslow building, \$20,000; H. C. Rouse, on Century building, \$30,000.

The losses of the scores of tenants, especially in the Power and Winslow buildings, the latter of which was occupied mainly by lawyers with their costly libraries, will be very heavy. About 75 per cent of the losses are covered by insurance. Lieutenant McFeeler of the Fire Department fell through the floor in one of the buildings, and was badly though not fatally hurt.

The fire was under control at 9 o'clock.

TRACK TAMPERED WITH. THAYER (La.), Dec. 23.—An attempt was made between here and Murray last night to throw from the track Burlington train No. 2 from Omaha, whether for the purpose of robbery or from maliciousness is not known at present.

About half-past 9 o'clock, as the train was approaching the foot of Murray Hill, the engine left the track. Fortunately no particular damage was done to the train, nor was anyone on board injured.

Upon examination it was found that the track had been tampered with, and

footprints of men were seen on the hill leading away from the roadbed. The spikes had been pulled out of the ties for three rail lengths, the work being done with a wrench and pick-bar, which had been stolen from a car house at Thayer.

The railroad company has offered a reward of \$300 for the arrest of the implicated men.

Declined to Receive Censure. LOUISVILLE (Ky.), Dec. 23.—Rev. M. H. Houston, who was tried and convicted of heresy, appeared before the Louisville Presbytery to-day and declined to receive the censure and admonition that had been prepared for him, and said before he could give up his belief he would give up his calling.

Final action was postponed until the spring meeting of the Presbytery.

A French Cruiser Sails for China. TOULON, Dec. 23.—The French cruiser Pascal sailed for China to-day. The Pascal is a second-class cruiser of about 4,000 tons displacement. She carries four 6.4-inch quick firing guns, ten 3.2-inch guns, eight 1.8-inch guns and four 1.4-inch rapid firing guns and has a crew of 378 men. Her speed is estimated at twenty knots.

Lady Mills Dead. LONDON, Dec. 23.—Lady Mills, widow of Sir John Mills, the late President of the Royal Academy, is dead. Lady Mills was the divorced wife of John Ruskin, who voluntarily gave her up when it was evident that she loved Mills. Ruskin stood by in the church while, in 1855, she was married to Mills.

Found Dead in His Chair. CLEVELAND (O.), Dec. 23.—W. W. Andrews, an attorney, and the head of one of the most distinguished families in the Western Reserve, was found dead in a chair in his office this afternoon. He had been afflicted with heart disease. Mr. Andrews was 61 years of age.

A Kidnaper Given Fifteen Years. ALBANY (N. Y.), Dec. 23.—Albert S. Warner, the kidnaper, was sentenced to-day to Clinton Prison for a term of fifteen years at hard labor. Plaque and chain were put on his wrists, and he served terms of fourteen years and six months at the same place for the same crime.

Police Forced to Retire. VICTORIA (Labuan), Dec. 23.—The Sikh police force, attacking the strong-hold of the insurgent Matalahs, has been forced to retire. Adjutant Jones and six Sikhs were killed.

Blizzard in New York. WATERTOWN (N. Y.), Dec. 23.—One of the worst blizzards that has visited this section in years began last evening and continued all night. Two feet of snow now covers the ground, and it is still coming.

Revenue Cutter Launched. CLEVELAND (O.), Dec. 23.—In a blinding snow storm the revenue cutter Ondonga was launched this afternoon at the yard of the Globe Iron Works on Morris street. The cutter was christened by Miss Louise Allen.

Italian Ships for Chinese Waters. LONDON, Dec. 23.—A dispatch from Rome says that at a meeting of the Italian Cabinet to-day it was decided to dispatch a squadron to Chinese waters.

Christians Massacred. CANDIA, Dec. 23.—Muslims yesterday attacked a caravan near Armino, and killed twenty-three Christians.

COAST AND EASTERN RACES. SEVERAL FAVORITES BEATEN AT OAKLAND. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—The horses ran well up to form at the Oakland track to-day, still several favorites were bowled over. The track was not quite so fast as yesterday, still Martha II. had to run six furlongs in 1:13 1/2 to beat Yale in the last race. The lucky winners were Miss Alice, O'Fleeta, Dr. Marks, Gold Dust, Personne and Martha II. The best price laid against O'Fleeta was 8 to 1, while 7 to 1 was the best obtainable against Personne.

Six furlongs, Miss Alice (Jones), 5 to 2; Carbeneer (Piggott), 8 to 1, third; Snipsy (McNichols), 12 to 1, third. Time—1:16. San Carlos, Al Gora, Flandes, Brambilla, Thibse II and Morabilla also ran.

Seven furlongs, O'Fleeta (Piggott), 8 to 1; Alma (Thorpe), 8 to 5, second; Coda (Jones), 8 to 1, third. Time—1:27. Monitor, Midas, Marcie A., Gold Bug and Floriani also ran.

Six furlongs, Dr. Marks (H. Martin), 6 to 5; Mainbar (Clawson), 5 to 1, second; The Dipper (Hennessy), 8 to 1, third. Time—1:15 1/2. Espirando, Bow and Arrow, Glenower, Fallen Prince, Moringa and Sister Sue also ran.

One mile, Personne (Jones), 9 to 2; Rey Del Tierra (W. Martin), 6 to 1, second; Little Singer (Gray), 25 to 1, third. Time—4:42. Alvin E., Sutton and Break O'Day also ran.

Five furlongs, Gilray won, Dunster second, Nancy Hill third. Time—1:03 1/2. Mile and a half, Courtney won, Charina second, Billy McKenzie third. Time—2:42 1/2.

Six and a half furlongs, What Next won, Argath second, Eton Jacket third. Time—1:23.

Five furlongs, Gilray won, Dunster second, Nancy Hill third. Time—1:03 1/2. Mile and a half, Courtney won, Charina second, Billy McKenzie third. Time—2:42 1/2.

Six and a half furlongs, What Next won, Argath second, Eton Jacket third. Time—1:23.

HOFF WILL BE TRIED FOR MURDER.

The Coroner's Jury Returns a Verdict on Death of Mrs. Clute.

Charges Albert Hoff With Having Committed the Brutal Crime.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—Further testimony was heard to-day by Coroner Hawkins and a jury in the case of Mrs. Mary A. Clute, who was murdered in her flat at 803 Guerrero street, December 15th.

The rooms of the Coroner were again crowded when the inquest was resumed. Chief of Police Lees, Detective Seymour, Hoff and his attorney, Alfred Brand, representing the District Attorney's office, formed a group about the official desk.

Officer George Russell, official draughtsman of the Police Department, was the first witness. He explained to the jury the diagrams he had drawn of the scene of the crime.

John Freese, Superintendent of the San Mateo Electric road, testified that he had formerly occupied the entire house 803 Guerrero street. He lived there three years, and until the 1st of August last. He had never seen the coupling pin in his house. "That pin," he said, "is not used on road like ours."

Mayer May of 1315 Steiner street was then called, and after stating that he was a Jewish minister, he identified the coupling pin as one he had seen in his yard two years ago.

John Freese, saloonkeeper, 119 Seventh street, testified that he knew Hoff, and that the latter showed him a wound in the left hand, and said that he had hurt it with a nail in a plank which he had picked up in the street. The witness took him to the police station, and he was taken to the hospital, and he died there on the 15th of December.

Some one in the place had been reading the papers, and said to Hoff that the police were looking for a man with a soft hat, and may be that Hoff was the man they were looking for. Hoff took up a newspaper and began to read it. The witness thought that the man who had chafed Hoff was named Decker.

A. Goletti, a fruit vender at Twentieth and Guerrero streets, related the story of his having been called to the flat of Hoff, and at that time seeing a woman, December 15th, and of his having found the dead body of the murdered woman lying on the floor.

Robert Goepel, 703 Van Ness avenue, shoemaker, testified that he saw Hoff in the Cosy saloon, Van Ness avenue and Turk streets, District of Police, December 15th, between 4 and 5 o'clock. He had no conversation with him at that occasion.

Dr. Bunnell of the Receiving Hospital testified that he had examined the wound in Hoff's hand in Chief Lee's office the day after the murder. It was a jagged, lacerated wound in the palm of the left hand, semi-circular in form, nine-sixteenths of an inch in length, about half an inch in depth.

At the close of the testimony the jury retired, and thirty minutes later returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased came to her death on the 15th of December, 1897, from cerebral hemorrhage, accompanied by concussion of the brain, caused by wounds inflicted by Albert Hoff. The verdict further charged Albert Hoff with the crime of murder.

The prisoner received the verdict stoically.

SELECTED THE WRONG COOP. Two Prominent Young Men Arrested for Chicken Stealing. EUREKA, Dec. 23.—Two prominent young men of this city, E. McGarraghan and Harry Rask, are in jail charged with burglary, and a result of their arrest will probably be the disbanding of the "One Night Club," an organization composed of well-known citizens who found regular amusement in robbing hen roosts for their late dinners. Unfortunately, they selected the wrong hen roost when they attempted to pilage the coop of Policeman Barnum early this morning. The officer chased the culmen several blocks in his sleeping apparel, firing as he ran, and finally arrested the culprits.

A STOVE BLOWN TO PIECES. STOCKTON, Dec. 23.—The city and county officials were brought to this city this afternoon. He was found in an open boat in the San Joaquin River near the San Joaquin bridge. He had not been drowned, and as he had \$22 50 in his possession, a foul play theory is not entertained. It is supposed he must have died suddenly while rowing.

Rider and Horse Killed. SALINAS, Dec. 23.—Massina Pazzoli, a young ranchman, started on horseback after dusk to drive some cows in. The country is rough and hilly and the young man not returning, a search revealed the dead body of the rider with his neck broken lying near the horse, with its back broken.

The Uber Lynching. CARSON, Dec. 23.—An answer was deferred to the application made for a warrant for the arrest of a supposed member of the Uber lynching party. The application was on information and belief, and the District Attorney deferred issuance of the warrant until he could consult the Attorney-General of the State.

Trial of School Director Webb. LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23.—The entire day was spent in Judge Van Dyke's court in getting a jury to try School Director Walter L. Webb, who is charged with willful and corrupt misconduct in office.

A Child Scalded to Death. PETALUMA, Dec. 23.—Marie Paul, a two-year-old child, climbed to-day on the board which covered a large vat of boiling water. The boards became displaced, the child fell into the vat and was scalded to death.

Suicide at Napa Asylum. NAPA, Dec. 23.—Frederick Martens, an inmate of the insane asylum, committed suicide to-day by hanging.

here. He was passing through the Normal grounds, when two men leveled a pistol at him and ordered "hands up." Mr. Jones raised a mighty scream, and dashed off like a fleeing deer, and continued the screams and flight until safely away, eventually landing at the central station, where he told his story. No trace of the men could be found, as they had evidently given up pursuit in disgust.

CRIMINALS IN ALASKA. Authorities Expect to be Given Much Trouble in the Spring. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—United States Marshal James W. Fhoup of Sitka, Alaska, was a passenger on the steamship City of Pueblo to-day. Marshal Fhoup had with him seven prisoners—two Indians and five whites—charged with various crimes, from murder to larceny, who were sentenced to terms in Seward Prison. The Marshal left on an early boat for the State Prison with his chain-gang.

The Marshal declares he will go back on the Pueblo, and expects to visit this part of the world next month with a batch of twenty prisoners. He added that this was his first trip from the far north in twenty years.

"The criminals are going to give the authorities a great deal of trouble in Alaska next spring," said the Marshal. "A great many hard characters have found their way to the north with the gold hunters, and but for the stern laws enacted by the miners, there would be a great deal of murder and robbery. The United States officers are alert. They are banded together in many districts, and are in force sufficient to awe offenders."

DIED AT AGNEWS. Samuel Johnson, Who Was Found in a Demented Condition. SAN JOSE, Dec. 23.—Samuel Johnson, the refined and educated appearing old man and stranger who was sent to Agnews a few days ago, died there. He has deposit certificates for \$7,000 cash in the Bank of Victoria, B. C., \$50 cash in his pockets and some jewelry. Public Administrator Secord has filed a petition for letters.

It is believed that he has a sister in Ontario, Canada. He was sent here in a weak and demented condition, and sent to a sanitarium. He grew violent, and had to be sent to the asylum. Little is known about him, though he has papers to show that he had served in the United States army. He was 65 or 70 years old. He was of slender build, and nicely dressed.

LED A DUAL LIFE. A Los Angeles Man Who Had Two Wives. LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23.—Mary N. Lozier of Santa Monica was granted a divorce from Frank W. Lozier to-day, and the testimony has developed a peculiar story.

It seems that Lozier maintained two establishments, one at Santa Monica and one in this city, and that a Mrs. Lozier resided in each one. One Mrs. Lozier, the Los Angeles one, died, and a lady friend of the Santa Monica Mrs. Lozier attended the funeral, supposing it to be the other friend. Meeting the Santa Monica Mrs. Lozier alive and well afterwards, she sought an explanation, and an investigation revealed the state of affairs and led to the divorce granted to-day.

ABSCONDER EVERETT. Suit Brought Against Each of His Five Bondsmen. LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23.—A suit brought by the city against the bondsmen of Police Court Clerk W. W. Everett, who absconded with several thousand dollars, and has never been captured, was begun to-day. The suit is for \$1,000 against each of the five bondsmen. The attorneys for the bondsmen will argue that the bonds are invalid, on the ground that the validity of the Police Court of this city itself is now being tested in the courts.

Morris Newton Dead. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—Morris Newton, the well known wholesale commission merchant, died at the Palace Hotel this morning of Bright's disease of the kidneys. Mr. Newton was a native of Rhode Island, and 51 years of age. He came to this State many years ago, and has been engaged in business here ever since. He married Miss California Crooks, of the prominent family of that name.

Found Dead in a Boat. STOCKTON, Dec. 23.—The remains of an unidentified man were brought to this city this afternoon. He was found in an open boat in the San Joaquin River near the San Joaquin bridge. He had not been drowned, and as he had \$22 50 in his possession, a foul play theory is not entertained. It is supposed he must have died suddenly while rowing.

HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS. Islanders Learn of the Situation Regarding Annexation. HONOLULU, Dec. 17 (via San Francisco, Dec. 23).—The Mariposa arrived from San Francisco yesterday, bringing news of the opening of Congress. Regarding the annexation treaty, the Hawaiian Government received advice by wire from Washington on the day the steamer sailed, which state that the opposition is not as strong as indicated in the press dispatches.

L. J. King, who said that the situation had not developed sufficiently to enable one to arrive at a decision as to the course to be followed; that there is no present intention to abandon the treaty, and the Republican leaders are giving the subject earnest attention. He states further that the decision as to the course of action would probably await the return of the President from Canton.

A number of citizens received letters in which different views as to the route to annexation were given. Some say the treaty will go through the Senate with the required two-thirds vote. Others believe there will be a long fight in Congress, with the outcome of the passage of a joint resolution by a rousing big majority in each branch.

Porto Rico's Captain-General. MADRID, Dec. 23.—The Queen Regent has signed the appointment of General Gomez as Captain-General of Porto Rico.

GERMANY'S SEIZURE OF KIAOCHAU.

Japan's Cabinet Discusses the Situation in the Far East.

Decides Not to Meddle in the Affair at the Present Time.

Chinese Papers Report That the Japanese Army is Said to be Full of Russian Spies Disguised as Japs, and That the Russian Army is Being Tampered With by Japanese Emisaires, Who Are Doing Their Utmost to Stir Up Dissatisfaction.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—The following Oriental advices have just been received per steamship China from Yokohama, via Honolulu:

At an extraordinary meeting of the Japanese Cabinet, held at the official residence of Baron Nishi, the Foreign Minister, at which Marshal Yamagata, Lieutenant-General Kawama and Admiral Ito, Commander-in-Chief of the Navy, were present, Baron Nishi laid before the Ministers the reports he had received from the Japanese Ministers in foreign countries relative to the seizure of Kiaochau by Germany. It was decided after a prolonged discussion not to meddle with the affair at the present