

DEER CREEK FIRE BUGS

THEY BURNED MARY CRIPPE'S HOUSE WHILE SHE WAS AT CHURCH.

Heirs Bring Suit to Recover Public Parks Deeded to Montpelier by its Founder.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. KOKOMO, Ind., Jan. 9.—Thursday night while Mrs. Mary Cripe was attending church at Deer Creek, some one entered her house and set fire to it by scattering coals from the stove over the carpet and beds. The contents were consumed and the house badly damaged. A short time ago Mrs. Cripe was made defendant in a forged will case and she charges friends of the plaintiff with burning her house.

THE MONTPELIER PARKS. Heirs of the Original Owners Suing to Recover Public Land.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. HARTFORD CITY, Ind., Jan. 9.—There will come up in the Blackford Circuit Court at the term now in session a suit which has attracted widespread attention. The suit is that of Abel Baldwin against the city of Montpelier. The valuation of the property in question is estimated at \$5,000 and consists of public real estate in the form of parks. Sixty years ago Abel Baldwin, a native of Montpelier, Vt., settled at Montpelier, Ind. In laying out the town he planned a park system such as is to be seen at the Vermont Montpelier. In the center part of the city was reserved sixteen corner lots, each thirty-six feet square, and gave them to the city for park purposes. In 1837, however, the town held undisputed possession, then the real estate and speculators conceived a plan to acquire possession of the valuable property. About two years ago a man from Connersville was sent here to work on an investigation of the title held by the city. The park was found that Abel Baldwin had neglected to record with the county the transfer of the parks to the town, and the clerk concluded at once that the property rightfully belonged to the heirs of Abel Baldwin. The heirs had long since left Montpelier, and C. A. Tancinbaugh, a former attorney of this city, was employed to search out residence of these heirs and secure their quitclaims to the parks. This he did after spending many weeks in the West, with the exception of one which he slipped back and found that the real estate was located in the business portion of the city. The clerk then opened correspondence with the other heirs, and the result is the suit now pending to set aside the quitclaim and the suit to give the parks back to the heirs.

Young Farmer Shoots Himself. Special to the Indianapolis Journal. FRENCH LICK, Ind., Jan. 9.—Isom Collins, son of Young Collins, a farmer living four miles south of this place, while in the woods hauling wood to-day, is supposed to have shot himself with a rifle by neighbors who were passing lying beside the wagon with a revolver in his hand. The bullet struck him in the chest, and he died in a few hours. Circumstances indicate the shooting was accidental or with suicidal intent. He was twenty-three years of age and unmarried.

Elkhart Rehearsals Lose \$1,000. Special to the Indianapolis Journal. ELKHART, Ind., Jan. 9.—The Daughters of Rebekeh, of this city, will lose a bequest of \$1,000 by Miss Lizzie Harter's will, which was unwitnessed. Miss Harter was a seamstress, and died recently, leaving \$2,000 in money. Among her effects was found a paper which she evidently intended to be her will. It made a number of bequests, among others one of \$1,000 to the local lodge of the Daughters of Rebekeh, but as there were no witnesses the will is invalid and the lodge will get nothing. A brother whom she had no idea of existed for twenty-three years of age and unmarried.

Insomnia Causes Suicide. Bookkeeper of a Covington, Ky., Bank Cuts His Own Throat.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 9.—Taylor Brent, individual bookkeeper of the Covington, Ky., German National Bank, committed suicide during the night by cutting his throat with his razor, in bed. His accounts with the bank are said to be correct and the cause of his death is temporary insanity, caused by insomnia. He was unmarried, was a brother-in-law of Hon. Richard P. Erwin, late candidate for Congress in the Sixth Kentucky district.

Aged Preacher Wry of Life. CLINTON, Ill., Jan. 9.—Rev. James Rucker, eighty years of age, who has been one of the most powerful Methodist preachers in central Illinois, made two desperate attempts yesterday to kill himself. He first wrote his will and informed his housekeeper where he had placed it. Then he went uptown, reaching a secluded place, he inflicted wounds in his breast with a knife, and also cut a vein in his left wrist. This falling to cause speedy death, he threw himself in front of an engine, but a railway worker rescued him and he was immediately taken to a hospital. He recently killed himself, has gone. Mr. Rucker bore a life as a lawyer, but subsequently spent fifty years in ministry, and is well known in the central part of the State.

Informant and Disappointed. FOND DU LAC, Wis., Jan. 9.—Owen Ferguson, for the past six years clerk of Fond du Lac county, shot himself last night twice, each time a little too high to hit the heart. About a year ago his wife died; at the last election he was defeated for reelection to the position of county clerk. Five months ago he broke his leg, and previous to that was a cripple. He has been drinking hard of late, and it is reported that he has a shortage of funds in the county. He is still alive.

Student Takes Morphine. LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 9.—Francis Murray, a student at the Baptist Theological Seminary, was found dead in his room at that institution this afternoon, having committed suicide by taking morphine. It is believed that the student had taken morphine for some time. No cause for the suicide is known. Murray was apparently well supplied with money.

TOO MUCH REALISM. Duel Scene in "Heartsease" Ends Disastrously for Mr. Wheatcroft.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 9.—During the performance of "Heartsease" at the Hyperion Theater, in this city, Nelson Wheatcroft was attacked so violently by Henry Miller in a duel scene that he received a fatal wound, owing to the continued illness of him for work for some time. The duel scene occurs at the close of the third act, and immediately after Wheatcroft was hurt the curtain fell. He appeared in the last act with a bandaged eye.

Its Last Performance. DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 8.—"The Strange Adventure of Miss Brown" Company played its last performance on any stage at the Detroit Opera House to-night. The company disbanded, and the members left for New York. The piece, which made a tremendous success in London, and which will continue to be played in this country. The play is considered to possess elements of popular success and was cleverly staged. The company played the play in the city and was in honor of Professor Ogg's recent election as president of the Ogg Teachers' Association.

Saloon Keeper Not Guilty. Special to the Indianapolis Journal. BRAZIL, Ind., Jan. 9.—The case of William Cummins, the prominent saloon keeper of Carbon, for the murder of William Shaw, on Christmas night, 1895, which has been on trial in the Circuit Court here for the last two days, which will adjourn at 5 o'clock last evening, and after five hours' deliberation the jury returned a verdict in favor of the defendant.

Mrs. Brazzel Loves Another. Special to the Indianapolis Journal. COLUMBUS, Ind., Jan. 9.—Samuel Williams of Henryville, celebrated his ninety-eighth birthday yesterday. He was born in 1798 and at the age of five months he was taken to vote for McKinley, he having been a Republican since that party's organization. He expressed an intention to live until 1900, when he will have lived in three centuries.

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TO DEEPEN ERIE CANAL

IMPROVEMENT OF AN OLD WATERWAY FAVORED BY ENGINEERS.

Less than \$5,000,000 Required to Make a Passage for Vessels from Tidewater to the Great Lakes.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The secretary of war has transmitted to Congress a report from his engineers, which will be of interest to the producers of Indiana and the West. It is on a proposition to deepen and widen the Erie canal to admit of the passage of torpedo boats and gunboats. The engineers report that the work can be done for between \$2,000,000 and \$5,000,000, and that the canal, as improved, will not only be of great strategic value, but that it will also be of benefit to commerce, and will be the means of greatly reducing the cost of transportation of cereal and other products from the West to the Eastern markets. This is not a new thing, of course, but it is always good news to Western interests to know that official approval is being constantly given to plans for the deepening of the Erie canal. This is particularly important in view of the fact that it has been the aim of railroads for forty years to destroy the Erie canal and break down the great leveler of freight rates.

THE WORLD'S MARKETS. Governments, Instead of Individuals, Are Now Striving for Them.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—No longer is private enterprise to be left alone in the struggle for the world's markets, but hereafter the nations themselves will be obliged to contend with their merchants and with expeditionary work open up new fields for the cultivation of home trade. This is the view of United States Consul Sawyer, at Guangzhou, who, in a special report to the State Department, chronicles the growing competition of the nations to send out a deputation of experts to study and observe in detail the commercial, industrial and political conditions of the East. The entire expense is to be assumed by the government, and the deputation will be headed by the German consul at Canton, Mr. Knapp, points to the fact that France and England are now carrying on similar schemes of commercial exploitation, which have certainly great future possibilities, and he warns that the German move towards China is a serious menace to American trade with a vast country, just at a time when it is about to open wider its doors to trade.

Indian Appropriation Bill. WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The Indian appropriation bill for the next fiscal year was completed to-day by the House committee on Indian affairs and reported to the House by Chairman Sherman. The bill carries a total of \$7,465,000, which is somewhat less than the appropriation of the current year. The allowance for schools, however, is increased to \$2,000,000. Provision is made for starting the new schools at Chamberlain and Rapid City, S. D., whose establishment was provided for by the last bill. Mr. Williams received his appointment as minister to Hawaii. He married Miss Florence Dulaney in 1876. His first wife was Albert S. Willis, Jr., who is at Honolulu.

Warden French's Work. WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—J. W. French, warden of the United States Penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth, an old Indiana man and known throughout the country as one of the greatest authorities in prison management, is in a fair way to see some of his advanced ideas in prison reform carried out. It was reported that a large number of the Leavenworth Penitentiary that the effort to authorize a new penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, has been approved having been made last year for the building. To-day, in further advancement of the plan, the new penitentiary, appointed William S. Eames, of St. Louis, architect for the new prison.

Booth-Tuckers See Mrs. Cleveland. WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—Commander and Mrs. Booth-Tucker, the leaders of the Salvation Army in the United States, were received this morning by Mrs. Cleveland at appointment at the Executive mansion, where a cordial and friendly interview with her. Mrs. Booth-Tucker presented Mrs. Cleveland a special copy of the "Mother of the Salvation Army." Commander and Mrs. Booth-Tucker returned this afternoon to their headquarters at the Hotel Sherman.

General Notes. WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—To-day's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance, \$23,443,388; gold reserve, \$138,895,773. The Senate committee on census held a meeting to-day and heard Commissioner Wright, in charge of the Census Bureau, who argued in favor of a permanent census bureau. The committee was favorably impressed with the commissioner's plans and it is probable that a bill will be reported to the Senate embodying Commissioner Wright's ideas. After the funding bill is disposed of in the House, the delegation and other Western congressmen will get together and see what they can do towards pushing the proposed census bill. The census plan has yet been agreed upon within the delegation. A report of the government deep-waterway commission was submitted to the President to-day. It is a voluminous document, and will be laid before the Cleveland for consideration early next week.

Verre de Vere Repose. I don't know whether it has gone out of fashion to have an expressive face, or whether the muscles of the modern face are so atrophied that they can't express anything, but I do know that the utter inability of contentment we Americans are acquiring is something wonderful to behold. I stood at the corner of F and Thirtieth streets on Monday evening, as I perfectly remember the day, and saw two parading horses, come up Thirtieth street. Electric cars were whizzing by, and the pedestrians were looking at the carriage was pushed against the curbstone and was in imminent danger of upsetting. The liveried coachman's face did not change a muscle. As the carriage struck the curbstone, a young man within opened the door, and the pedestrian, who had been in a haste, stepped out. The elderly woman within leaned back in her corner calmly, and the pedestrian, who had been in a hurry, stepped out. The young man walked to the head of the rearing, plunging horses, and grasping the bit of one of them, led them across the street. Then he resumed his seat in the

DUEL ON A STEAMER

Second Officer of the Madeleine Killed by the Chief Engineer.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 8.—The steamer Newport, from Acapulco, to-day, brought word of a duel fought on the French steamer Madeleine, resulting in the death of the second officer. The Madeleine is due here from Callao, Peru, for repairs. She has been plying along the South American coast. Shortly after she left Callao for this port her boilers exploded, killing several men. The chief engineer compelled her to put into Acapulco, where after receiving necessary repairs she resumed her northward voyage. About seven hours later she returned to port flying a police flag. The second officer, who was challenged the other and they fought a duel on the steamer's deck. The second officer was killed and the chief engineer was retraced his vessel's course to Acapulco. The owner of the steamer was aboard the Newport bound for this city, and he is detailing the trouble was sent to him with a request for instructions. The owner complied with the request, and the chief engineer communicated the facts to the French minister in Mexico, who ordered the Madeleine to be detained at Acapulco for investigation. The Mexican officials claim jurisdiction in the matter and regard the officers as a common murderer.

MORTGAGE FOR \$20,000,000. Commercial Cable Company Issuing Bonds to Pay for the Postal.

CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—A mortgage for \$20,000,000, given by the Commercial Cable Company, New York, to the Farmers Loan and Trust Company, was filed with the Registering Clerk Cochrane, of the county recorder's office to-day. The company, under the mortgage, issues coupon bonds payable in gold and bearing 4 per cent. interest. The instrument states that the cable company has bought all the franchises of the Postal Telegraph Company and the Postal Telegraph Company will pay the indebtedness of the company and for the purchase of the property, shares and capital stock of the two companies. They are to be made up of partly coupon and partly registered. The bonds will mature Jan. 1, 1907, and bear interest from date, which will be 4 per cent. at 4 per cent. a year. According to the terms of the instrument the bonds may be converted into English gold, which is to be known as debenture stock. The mortgage is a first lien on the stock of both companies. The property on which the mortgage is given consists of two parts—the rights and franchises of the Commercial Cable Company and the Postal Telegraph Company.

WANT CHARTER REPEALED. Louisville Labor Unions After the Street-Railway Company.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 9.—A suit was brought this afternoon by ten labor unions, representing all the unions composing the Central Labor Union, against the Louisville Railway Company and the General Council of the city, asking for a prohibition to restrain the company from operating the road, and for a mandatory injunction to compel the General Council to repeal the ordinances granting the franchises to the company. The grounds alleged are that the ordinance granting the franchises is illegal, that the streets are obstructed by poles, wires, tracks, masts, etc.; that no vestibules are provided for the protection of the cold weather; that no conductors are furnished; that the fare should be reduced to cents. It is alleged that the General Council has failed and refused to repeal the charter of the company, and the court is asked to compel that body to act. The company controls all the street-car lines of the city.

ROT TEN BANK. E. S. Dreyer & Co.'s Concern Nothing but an Empty Shell.

CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—Sensational charges concerning the business of E. S. Dreyer & Co., the bankers, whose assignment was forced through the collapse of the National Bank of Illinois, were made in Judge Freeman's court in an interview with the reporter brought in by Mrs. Mary Leitch. It is charged that property mortgaged as security for a note of \$3,000, on which Mrs. Leitch had regularly paid interest, has been disposed of without her knowledge, and that the scheme of the bank was to convert the property into cash, and the receiver will be greatly increased if other charges of a similar nature upon the bank should be made. The receiver has stated that the mortgages scheduled as assets will really become liabilities. The Economist says, referring to the bank, "The receiver shows that the bank was an empty shell, with some \$1,000,000 of liabilities when the bank closed and only \$50,000 cash on hand."

Other Business Troubles. CINCINNATI, Jan. 9.—The Walker Building is to be sold to the City of Cincinnati. The property, located on Broadway and Broadway street, confessed judgments for about \$30,000 and was taken charge of by a deputy sheriff in the month of August. The property is \$50,000. No statement of its liabilities has been made. The recent sudden drop in the price of the property, and the financial backer, brought about a pressure of creditors. A receiver will be appointed to liquidate the property.

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 9.—At Clarksville the appointment of a receiver has been asked of Chancellor Tyler for the firm of Clarksville, Tenn., and Houston, Texas. The business consists of a large line works and stock factory, valued at about \$25,000. Differences between the partners is the cause. About \$100,000 worth of property is involved.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Jan. 9.—The book and stationery firm of Thomas W. Durston & Co. has closed to-day. The firm had a local book store in Syracuse, and one to a brother for \$1,500. The senior member of the firm has been in business for thirty years in the city. The assets and liabilities are not given.

ALMA, Neb., Jan. 9.—The First National Bank of Alma, Neb., has been reorganized by order of the controller of the currency, and is now in the hands of the bank examiner. The assets are about \$25,000, with assets of about the same. The chief item of indebtedness is a State deposit of \$40,000.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—The Stewart Ceramic Company, manufacturer of wash tubs, basins and ceramic ware, to-day assigned to the First National Bank of New York, N. Y., a large amount of property in the Shores Mining Company, Shores Lumber Company and Shores Building Association. The property is to be sold to a receiver for the Shores Lumber Company.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 9.—The First National Bank of St. Louis, Mo., has been reorganized by order of the controller of the currency, and is now in the hands of the bank examiner. The assets are about \$25,000, with assets of about the same. The chief item of indebtedness is a State deposit of \$40,000.

POOLSELLERS SET FREE. ST. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 9.—In the Court of Criminal Correction to-day Judge Murphy discharged the defendants in the case of the pool-selling law, which was held to be unconstitutional. The defendants were charged with the violation of the law, which was passed in 1895 and was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court on the ground that it was class legislation.

TOBACCO FACTORY BURNED. DANVILLE, Va., Jan. 9.—Fire broke out to-day in the big leaf-tobacco factory of the Danville Tobacco Company, and the building, with all its contents, was destroyed. The walls fell in and the millinery and valuable machinery and millinery were a total loss, estimated at \$100,000. The company has a new building under way.

MR. HANLEY ACQUITS THE

SANTA FE'S TRAFFIC MANAGER NOT GUILTY OF GIVING REBATES.

The Interstate-Commerce Commission Bitten in an Important Case.

CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—The jury in the case of General Traffic Manager G. R. Hanley, of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway, charged with violation of the interstate-commerce law, returned a verdict to-day of not guilty. The jury retired at 5 o'clock last evening with a charge from Judge Grosscup, in which even the strongest partisan of the prosecution could not find a word to lean upon. He told the jury to be cautious in giving any weight to a participant of the crime. John G. Taylor, the former live stock agent of the Santa Fe road, was the sole witness against Hanley and he testified that he had no story to tell. He admitted his own part in the rebate transactions and the defense presented a number of witnesses to show that Taylor had frequently informed his associates that he had no control over the rebate. The jury only defense Attorney Forrest made for his client, and Judge Grosscup told the jury it was a pertinent question. The jury reached a verdict within ten minutes after it had retired last evening and sealed it until this morning.

ACCOUNTING ASKED. B. & O. Sued by the Central Ohio Railway Company.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 9.—Willard E. Case, of Scioto, Cayuga county, New York, filed a petition to-day in the United States Court in which he asks for an accounting by John K. Cowen and Oscar Murray, receivers of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, to the stockholders of the Central Ohio Railway Company, for 35 per cent. of the gross earnings of the latter road. Judge Morris signed an order directing the receivers to answer the petition that under an agreement made in 1896 and amended and ratified by the stockholders of the Central Ohio Railway Company, for 35 per cent. of the gross earnings of the latter road. Judge Morris signed an order directing the receivers to answer the petition that under an agreement made in 1896 and amended and ratified by the stockholders of the Central Ohio Railway Company, for 35 per cent. of the gross earnings of the latter road. Judge Morris signed an order directing the receivers to answer the petition that under an agreement made in 1896 and amended and ratified by the stockholders of the Central Ohio Railway Company, for 35 per cent. of the gross earnings of the latter road.

The Mileage-Book Question. CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—The Western Passenger Association accomplished very little at the meeting recently held in St. Louis. All of the committees having important matters before them said they were not able to make a final report and asked for further time. It was decided, however, that no change will at present be made in the form of the mileage book used by the Western roads. This matter is scheduled for consideration at the meeting of the Western Passenger Association, which will be held in this city next week, and it is possible that some action may be taken, but the probability is very small. The small amount of sales of interchangeable tickets sold by the Central Passenger Association has had a dampening effect on some of the roads, which have been staunch supporters of the ticket to date.

To Correct Pass Abuses. CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—The general managers of the Western roads have decided on a new departure in the use of annual passes during 1897. Heretofore it has been the custom when a pass was presented for the conductor to simply take a look at it and pass on. In very many instances no report was made to the road of the present use of the pass. The new departure has determined that whenever a pass is presented the holder will be asked to sign the mileage book, and the conductor will learn how much the passes are used, and it is expected that the abuse of them will in a great measure be relieved.

Oregon Short-Line Sold. SALT LAKE, Utah, Jan. 9.—The sale of the Oregon Short Line and the Utah Northern Railway under consolidated mortgage to the Western Passenger Association has been completed. The sale was made to-day by Zera Snow was present, representing the American Loan and Trust Company, of New York; Samuel Carr, Walter G. Gorman and Henry G. Nichols, representing the reorganization committee, purchased the property for \$4,400,000. The Utah Northern road was bid in by the same parties for \$750,000. They also purchased the Southern Railway, which is a general manager of the company.

New Through Line to be Sold. CINCINNATI, O., Jan. 9.—Four roads will unite Jan. 24 to make a new through line from Cincinnati to Chicago. The roads are the Cincinnati, Hamilton, Dayton, in connection with the Monon, the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern and the Baltimore & Ohio Eastern. The new line will be a new train from Chicago at 2:45 a. m.; Indianapolis, 7:35 a. m.; Cincinnati, 12:30 p. m.; and Washington at 6:30 a. m. returning, leaves Washington at noon; Cincinnati, 3:20 a. m.; Indianapolis, 6:20 a. m.; and Chicago at noon.

A Missouri Road to be Sold. ST. LOUIS, Jan. 9.—The United States Circuit Court to-day ordered the foreclosure sale of the St. Louis, Salem & Arkansas Railway. Daniel G. Taylor, of this city, was appointed special master to conduct the sale, which is to take place at St. Louis, Mo., at 10 o'clock on Jan. 15. The price per share was fixed at \$50.00. The Mercantile Trust Company, of New York, began foreclosure proceedings against the St. Louis, Salem & Arkansas road a few days ago for nonpayment of interest on a bonded indebtedness of \$100,000.

Practical Profit Sharing. Success of a London Gas Company's Scheme. London Daily Mail. A beautiful colored "Happy Christmas" card was sent by the directors of the South Metropolitan Gas Company yesterday to 2,500 of its employees. The striking thing about the Christmas card is that it is a holiday announcement which is the welcome of the employees' interests in the company. The card is a beautiful one, and is valued at 121.38, as against an increase of £15.00 in 1896, and that they have now in stock in the company for their own names. The card is a beautiful one, and is valued at 121.38, as against an increase of £15.00 in 1896, and that they have now in stock in the company for their own names. The card is a beautiful one, and is valued at 121.38, as against an increase of £15.00 in 1896, and that they have now in stock in the company for their own names.

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