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The EVENING EDITION World.

PRICE ONE CENT. NEW YORK, FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 1888. PRICE ONE CENT.

The Hawthorne-Byrnes Story.

"SECTION 558,"
A MOST INTERESTING DETECTIVE ROMANCE, WILL BE CONTINUED IN
THE SUNDAY WORLD.
ALSO THE AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF
SING SING PRISONERS.

CUT HIS THROAT IN COURT.

DUTCH FRED, THE BURGLAR, TRIES TO ESCAPE PRISON.

He Draws a Razor Across His Neck in General Sessions in the Presence of Fifteen Fellow-Prisoners—His Wife and Children Near Him at the Time—He was Just About to be Arraigned for Sentence.

A moment after Recorder Smyth took his seat on the bench in Part III. of General Sessions this morning the sound of a heavy fall was heard in the neighborhood of the prisoners' pen in the rear of the court-room.

Cries of "Bring a doctor" were next heard, and Officer Dolan came out of the pen with a blanched face, saying: "A man has cut his throat! Send for an ambulance."

It turned out that a notorious burglar, highwayman and pickpocket named George Harrison, alias Fred Bennett, alias Frank Belmont, alias Dutch Fred, had taken a razor from his pocket and deliberately cut his throat from ear to ear in the presence of some fifteen or twenty of his fellow-prisoners.

A colored man named George Burton saw Harrison take out the razor and tried to stay his hand, but Harrison was too quick, and his life-blood spurted all over Barton's face.

The would-be suicide's wife and two children were in the court-room, and when the tidings reached them their cries of grief added to the confusion. An ambulance came promptly, however, and took the intended suicide to the Chambers Street Hospital, the woman and her children following in its wake.

Harrison, or Dutch Fred, is well known to the police of this and other cities. He has served two terms in the penitentiary and one in Sing Sing, and two years ago made a noted escape from the Long Island City Jail. His picture is No. 81 in the Rogues' Gallery.

His crime was a burgiarious assault upon Edward Ding, a saloonkeeper at 212 Broome street on Dec. 14, 1886.

Harrison, in company with a crook named Edward Riley and another, hid in a closet in the saloon until 2 o'clock in the morning, when Kling was on his way to his bedroom with the cash taken over the counter during the day.

They fell upon Kling in the hallway, when Harrison knocked him down and the others ran away with the money.

Riley was arrested two blocks away by Officer Kellaher, and was recently convicted and sentenced to fifteen years in State prison.

If Harrison had been arraigned to-day he would probably got twenty years, though his counsel, ex-Assemblyman Robert A. Livingston, intended to move for a new trial on the ground of mistaken identity.

Assemblyman Livingston says that Harrison has a "double" named Lennaman, almost exactly like him in face and figure, who was with the prisoner Harrison at the time the latter was arrested in 65 Norfolk street.

Mr. Livingston also claims that Lennaman and not Harrison was the man actually indentified by Kling as his assailant.

Harrison lived with his wife and family at 192 Second street.

The doctors at the hospital say he may recover.

Harrison had been confined in the Tombs for the past three weeks, and his cell and person were searched last Monday. It is supposed he got the razor from some one in the court-room.

BIEDENFELD'S WIDOW SMILES.

The Inquest Over the Jealous Second Avenue Druggist Begun.

Coroner Eidman began an inquest this morning in the case of Halberg Biedenfeld, the German druggist of 3 Second avenue, who died on Sunday last after accusing his clerk, Anders Holm, with having injured him in a quarrel over a game of sixty-six on the Friday night before.

Biedenfeld had a young wife and was jealous. The quarrel grew out of her attentions to a former clerk, Leo Polzer, who was one of the party.

Detective William Rourke, of the Fifth street police, brought Holm into the Coroner's court. Holm is a Swede, twenty-seven years old, and married. His hair and little mustache are straw color. His naturally long, woe-begone face was made sadder by his situation.

His hands and feet were in constant motion, and his large, light-blue eyes wandered from object to object in the distressingly unornamented court-room. His young wife sat in court weeping pitifully.

Maurice Meyer represented young Holm as counsel.

Mrs. Biedenfeld was in the audience. She is a plump, well-rounded little woman, with a pretty face, which was made more attractive by the widow's bonnet and veil. But the round face was not mournful. The cherry mouth smiled and showed pretty teeth.

Coroner Eidman had selected jurors from the neighborhood whom he could vouch for and who knew all of the parties. After two had been excused for deficiency in their knowledge of English, the following remained:

L. Kolostus, 123 East Houston street; Philip Ettel, 127 East Houston street; Henry Lampe, 83 First avenue; John Weiss, jr., 292 East Houston street; F. Dolzauer, 10 Second avenue; C. Baruth, 10 Second avenue; C. F. O'Neill, St. Augustine's Chapel; C. J. Wahlig, 14 Second avenue, and Edwin Hots, 263 Bowery.

Dr. J. G. Rumler, of 31 First street, testified that he attended Biedenfeld at 4.30 A. M. on Saturday. He continued:

Biedenfeld said to me, "I have received a very severe blow from my clerk, Andes Holm, and he is my murderer, for I know I am going to die."

Mrs. Biedenfeld then interrupted, saying: "Don't believe him, doctor. Don't pay any attention to him; he is full of beer and wine and don't know what he is talking about. Mr. Biedenfeld fell over a soap-box and Mr. Holm fell on him."

I found Mr. Biedenfeld under the influence of liquor. On Saturday afternoon Biedenfeld went out on the street.

Coroner Eidman—Were you told when you called Saturday morning that there had been an all night jamboree there? A. Yes, I was told that they had drank beer and wine all night.

To Mr. Meyer Dr. Rumler said:

I think Biedenfeld was under the influence of liquor when he told me he had been murdered. I did not think him in danger of death, but he was not so drunk that he did not know what he was talking about. Mrs. Biedenfeld was sober on both occasions.

Coroner's Physician Scholer testified that he found no marks of violence on the body of Biedenfeld, but there was a rupture of the liver an inch and a half long.

The liver and kidney showed that Biedenfeld was a heavy drinker. The rupture might have resulted from a fall or a blow.

Dr. Franz Serr, of 2 Second avenne, testified that he was called to see Biedenfeld at 1 P. M. on Saturday, and found him in much pain, but thought he was in no danger.

He saw him again at 5.30 o'clock and found him improved.

Dr. G. Treakatis testified, and then a recess was taken.

Clifton Races Postponed.

The races at Clifton were postponed to-day until Monday. Entries to stand.

THE VISTA OF J. G. B'S.

Will the Presidential Lightning Ever Strike the Line?

THEY WILL CLUB NO MORE.

Policemen McGuire and Irving Suspended from Duty.

Policeman Joseph P. McGuire, of the Mulberry street station-house, and John Irving, of the Mercer street squad, who engaged in a fierce duel with long night-sticks in Bleecker street last night, in a quarrel over two women, were this morning summoned before Supt. Murray.

Each blamed the other for the first assault. The evidence seemed the strongest against McGuire, for, as Inspector Conlin expressed it, the blood from the fight was on the north side of the street, in the Fifteenth Precinct, where McGuire had no excuse for going.

The charge against them, when considered with the attending circumstances, is one of the most serious ones that can be made against a policeman.

The Superintendent reprimanded them sharply for their gross misbehavior, which had entailed disgrace upon their uniform and the department to which they are attached, and then took from each one his shield and suspended him from duty.

Complaints were served upon them before they left the building, so that the Commissioners can put them on trial on Monday and openly dismiss them from the force at once or on the following day.

McGuire has been on the force about three years. When in the department only a few weeks he summoned Policeman Powers to his assistance, called a man out of a saloon on Sixth avenue, clubbed him unmercifully and left him lying on the street without making an arrest.

Inspector Williams, who was Captain of the old Twenty-ninth, now the Nineteenth Precinct, put the man on trial, his object being to get rid of McGuire as a man totally unfitted to be on the police force. The trial took place before Commissioner Porter, who, instead of recommending him for dismissal, fined him thirty days' pay and transferred him to another precinct.

Irving has a much better record and has been regarded as a good policeman, but his fate is sealed now, and he will follow McGuire into retirement.

The Mulberry street returns give McGuire as the first assailant, while Capt. Brogan's returns are ominously silent on the subject, the superior officers there not being able to speak a good word for him.

A THIEF IN MRS. CROWLEY'S ROOM.

Wunch Says He Was Mistaken for the Burglar He Tried to Catch.

Mrs. Mary Crowley, wife of the ex-Sergeant of police now serving a term in State Prison, recently removed to 452 Grand street, where she is trying to support herself and her two children by taking in boarders. One of the boarders was Frederick Wunch.

There are no locks on the door of Mrs. Crowley's room. When she retired last night she placed a fur-lined cloak, valued at $15, which she had borrowed from Mrs. Max Porges, over the bedstead. At 3 o'clock this morning a noise in the room awakened her, and by the light of a lamp in the next room she saw Wunch going out of the door with the cloak in his possession.

She sprang out of bed and bravely seized the burglar, who was out in the hallway by this time. Mrs. Crowley's cries brought Policeman Callahan, of the Delancey street squad, to the scene and Wunch was arrested.

Wunch persisted that he was not the burglar. He said that he also had heard the burglar, and when he left his room to catch him Mrs. Crowley nabbed him.

Justice Patterson held him in Essex Market Court this morning for examination.

BOUND THAT WALMSLEY SHALL GO.

The Clark's Factory Girls Think of Enforcing the Contract Labor Law.

[SPECIAL TO THE WORLD.]

NEWARK, N. J., Jan. 13.—The proprietors of Clark's O. N. T. Thread Mills are in a quandary which they did not expect when they retained Supt. Walmsley and permitted the girls to go on strike.

This afternoon a petition will be presented to Mr. Clark asking that Walmsley be discharged and that Foremen Douglass and Spillane be reinstated. No persons have as yet applied for the vacant places.

In the event of non-compliance Judge McCarty has advised that the Federal statutes regulating imported contract labor be invoked, as it is claimed Walmsley was brought from Scotland by the firm under conditions which are prohibited by the law, and under which the engagement for a rector of Trinity Church, in New York, was brought to public notice recently.

Walmsley's complaints were that the girls dressed above their position in life, and that they did not adopt the servile attitude towards him to which he had been accustomed in factory girls in Scotland.

Sad End of a Friendly Call.

Thomas Code last evening called on John Mahler at his home, 377 Furman street, Brooklyn, on a friendly visit. It proved to be an unfriendly one, as the evening grew old. When Code announced his intention of leaving Maher arose to escort him to the door. As they neared the staircase a quarrel arose. At its termination Code found himself lying at the foot of the stairs with a lacerated wound and internal injury of the left ear.

He was taken to the Long Island College Hospital, while Mr. Maher was arrested and held to answer a charge of assault.

DAN DRISCOLL'S LAST CHANCE

A CROWD IN COURT STARTLED BY A REPORT THAT HE HAD KILLED HIMSELF.

The Whyo Chief Safe in the Tombs at the Time—Lawyer Howe Argues a Motion for a New Trial Before Recorder Smyth—Claiming Carrie Wilson Swore Falsely and That McCarthy Killed Beezie Garrity.

The great crowd of people who had gathered in Part III of the Court of General Sessions, to listen to the argument for a new trial for Dan Driscoll, was startled shortly after 11 o'clock this morning, by a rumor that the Whyo murderer had been able to procure a razor and had cut his throat in the prisoners' box. It was soon learned that the would-be suicide was a highwayman awaiting sentence, while the slayer of Beezie Garrity was safely locked in his cell at the Tombs and the disturbance abated.

The long daily calendar of the court was gone through, and it was 12 o'clock when Counsellor Howe began the last plea which which can be made in an earthly court for Driscoll.

Mr. Howe commenced deliberately to state the object of his motion, and said:

"In making this motion before Your Honor a long presentation of facts will be unnecessary as you presided at the trial and will recall all of the facts of the case. So remembering you will agree that the case went to the jury on the evidence of Carrie Wilson and McCarthy.

"You will also remember that we charged McCarthy with the murder, and that the dying woman stated that McCarthy fired the shot which killed her. It is true she afterwards stated that Driscoll did the shooting.

"Carrie Wilson stated that she was at the house 163 Hester street at 3.45 o'clock on the morning of the shooting and that she saw Driscoll shoot at McCarthy and kill the Garrity woman."

Mr. Howe then went on to show the improbability of the Wilson girl's testimony when she said she left the scene quietly, saw several policemen and talked with a woman at her home in Chrystie street and yet said nothing about a murder till she told the story that night to Police Captain Meakim.

GETTING READY FOR 1888.

The Tammany Hall and County Democracy Machines to Organize To-Night.

The Tammany Hall General Committee for 1888 will organize to-night in the big Wigwam. It has more than fifteen hundred members and about four hundred of them are new recruits.

The leaders say that the old Wigwam is stronger and under better discipline than ever before. Gen. John Cochrane will probably be re-elected Chairman of the General Committee.

The delegates to the new County Committee of the County Democracy will meet in Cooper Union this evening. On account of a contest the Seventh District will not be represented.

If a permanent organization is formed, John F. Develin will be re-elected Chairman.

DID THE CLERK GRADUATE?

Mr. Keating May Sue the Druggist Whose Poison Killed His Child.

It has been ascertained by the report of the College of Pharmacy of this city that Edward C. Bentein, the drug clerk in the employ of William F. Maas, the Brooklyn druggist who was exonerated from all blame for the poisoning of the two-year-old son of Martin Keating, of No. 5 Van Sicien avenue, Brooklyn, never graduated from that institution. After failing he went to Brooklyn and was given a license as a drug clerk by the Brooklyn Board of Pharmacy.

Mr. Keating has consulted lawyers with a view of bringing a civil action against the druggist. He said yesterday to a WORLD reporter that after his child became ill after taking Dr. Maas's poison he sent his boy to a doctor on Pennsylvania avenue. This doctor went to the house and left, saying he would return in the evening. He returned, however, several hours before the appointed time, and Mr. Keating says showed a little bottle and asked Mr. Keating for the bottle sent by Dr. Maas. Mr. Keating refused to give it to him.

Coroner Lindsay said last night that he knew nothing of the reported issuing of a warrant for the clerk's arrest. "I had a conference with Mr. Ridgway before the last session of the jury," he said, "and told him all the evidence that I had collected. We discussed the case thoroughly. He and I were in accord. I am satisfied with the verdict of the jury, and I do not believe the District-Attorney has any information that I do not possess."

Saw the Front Door Blazing.

Mrs. Nunemans, who lives on the first floor of the two-story frame house in the rear of 166 Conover street, Brooklyn, was awakened by the smell of burning wood at 2 o'clock this morning. Looking out of the window she saw the woodwork of the front door in flames.

She called her husband, who, with the help of the tenants, succeeded in putting out the fire. The police are of the opinion that the fire is the work of an incendiary. The damage was trifling. An investigation will be made.

Brooklyn Knights of Labor.

It is reported that the Knights of Labor of Brooklyn will make a combined effort next Sunday to obtain control of the Central Labor Union of that city, and a warm time is expected. The independent trades and labor unions hold the supremacy in the Central Union at present, and they will rally in force to maintain it.

New York Markets.

WHEAT.—The bulls in the wheat market made another fruitless effort to boost prices this morning. They succeeded in making the opening figure ⅛c. to ⅛c. above last night's closing price, May selling at 94⅞c., but the heavy cables reporting weaker futures at Liverpool and free offerings by London holders, as well as a rush of selling orders from local exporting houses, broke the market and May was soon selling at 94⅛c. During the forenoon the market continued flat, stale and unprofitable. The provision market was weak and dull.

COTTON.—Dull foreign markets and the continued liquidation of the local long interest set a lower range of prices in the speculative market today. Futures opened at a decline of 2 points from yesterday's close: Jan., 10.26; Feb., 10.35; March, 10.47; April, 10.55; May, 10.64; June, 10.70; July, 10.76; Aug., 10.80. Shortly after the opening the bears raided the market and prices declined 2 a 3 points further.

COFFEE.—After an interval of steady declines, aggregating over ¾c. a lb., the speculative market showed a decided reaction to-day. Futures opened at an advance of 35 to 40 points over last night's closing prices: Jan., 14.50; Feb., 14.55; March, 14.40; April, 14.36; May, 14.30; June, 14.35; July, 14.75; Aug., 15.05. The market was firm during the forenoon and the volume of transactions was large. The covering of a large short interest on the theory that bottom prices have been reached, is supposed to have been the stimulating element.

PETROLEUM.—Without developing special features of interest the oil market to-day was firm and active. A large volume of business was done during the forenoon at prices ranging from 96¾ to 96⅞, the opening price being 96¾. The market as yet shows no indication of having reached top prices, and as it is being strongly held at the present range, there is very confident talk among the bulls of a further boom just as soon as the short interest in the market warrants it. There is no disposition to go short even at present prices, except among the scalpers, who expect to realize upon a quick turn.

DESPERATE PRIZE-FIGHT.

The Terror of Washington Market Meets the Fat Man of Jersey City.

"Chicago Billy" Edwards, who has long posed as a pugilistic terror among the restaurant waiters near Washington Market, and Ed. Nugent, of Jersey City, met in a dancing hall in Bergen County, N. J., at 1.30 o'clock this morning, to fight to a finish with light gloves for a purse of $50, which sixty sporting men had contributed for the occasion.

"Chicago Billy" weighed in at 128 pounds. Bob Smith was his second. Nugent was a short, fat man of 160 pounds weight. William Foley, of Jersey City, looked after his interests.

In the first round both men struck viciously at the empty air, but did not come near enough to strike each other. When time was called not a blow had been struck.

During the second round the Washington Market "Terror" and "the Fat Man from Jersey" slugged the empty air with great fierceness. No blows were struck. The sixty sporting men got mad and said things of a disrespectful nature.

In the third round the Terror touched the Fat Man's stomach and nearly ended the fight. The sports laughed.

When the fourth round was called the Fat Man made a speech. He said that he sick, but that to please the crowd he would fight one round more. The crowd howled. Then the gladiators got near enough to tap each other gently about the face and ribs. The Fat Man was so surprised at his own prowess that he lost one of his gloves.

This ended the fight. The referee threw the $50 purse into the middle of the room with the remark that the whole thing was a "skin," and started back to New York.

SAYS THE MAYOR WAS WRONG.

Commissioner Adamson's Explanation of That Too Bulky Report.

The Commissioners of Accounts do not concur with Mayor Hewitt in the opinion that they do not conduct their office properly. The Mayor made a bulky report on the Dock Department the text of his expression of disapproval.

Commissioner Joseph B. Adamson read THE WORLD's story this morning and said: "This is the first intimation which I have had that the Mayor is dissatisfied with our work.

"We are required by the Consolidated act," he continued, "to make quarterly reports of the condition of the Finance Department to the Mayor. This we do regularly, and this is the only report which is made mandatory by the law.

"The Commissioners are empowered to examine into the workings of other departments as they deem fit, and usually do so at the request of the Mayor.

"Mayor Hewitt has often asked for information of this character, and it has always been given him as we were best able to give it.

"The report concerning the Dock Department was made to the Mayor in the latter part of October, and it was undoubtedly voluminous, containing, as it did, a great mass of testimony. Late in December Mayor Hewitt asked for a supplemental report, which was furnished him yesterday.

"We do not content ourselves merely with reporting the testimony taken, but always sum up the result as we find it, and this report of conclusions reached accompanies the testimony and other exhibits in the case."

Concerning the cost of running the office Mr. Adamson said that the Consolidated act increased the powers of the Commissioners and added fresh duties. From mere accountants it made them examiners, with power to summon witnesses. This necessitated an increased force.

THEODORE HOUSTON'S DEATH.

Dr. Conway Thinks His Recent Illness May Have Caused Suicidal Impulse.

No arrangements have yet been made for the burial of Theodore Houston, the railroad man, who shot himself at 80 Madison avenue yesterday morning. The family are awaiting the arrival of a brother from Milwaukee.

Except that the right eye, near which the bullet entered, is blackened and the muscles slightly distorted, the dead man's face looks natural.

Deputy Coroner Conway thinks that Mr. Houston's recent illness may have produced congestion of the brain and a suicidal impulse, which lasted only a minute. Mr. Houston was a man of great muscular strength and will power. Several times after he had shot himself he tried to rise from his couch and walk.

The next story in the Police Captains' series will be printed in Monday's EVENING WORLD. *It will be furnished by Capt. Anthony Allaire, for years of the Eldridge street station, and now of the Broadway Squad.*

Amateur League Entertainments.

The cast has just been announced for the play of "Caprice," which the Amateur League will produce at Adelphi Hall on Feb. 2. It is as follows:

Mr. Leeson.....W. J. Bingley
Matthew Bates.....B. R. Throckmorton
Hon. Augustus Collander Yawn.....Miles Haffenden
Charles Clinton.....W. D. McClintock
Tom Teet.....Henri Lee
Laura Leeson.....Miss Ella G. Green
Fanny Fact.....Miss Kate Allen

"London Assurance" will be produced by members of the League on March 6, at the Lexington Avenue Opera-House.

The next "smoking concert" of the League will occur Thursday evening of next week, at the Hotel Hungaria, in Union square.

A Bride in the Minerva Home.

Miss Henrietta Pound, a pretty blonde, twenty-one years of age, has been for four years past a protegé of Mrs. J. Minerva Judge, who conducts the Minerva Home at No. 139 West Sixteenth street. Last night she was married to Henry Legendre, a marble polisher. The ceremony was performed by Father Brady, at the Church of the Holy Cross on Forty-second street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues. Mrs. Judge gave the bride away. After the ceremony the bridal party returned to the Home, where a supper was served to about forty guests. Mr. and Mrs. Legendre went to the house on West Thirty-sixth street where they intended to live. This is the first wedding that has taken place from the Home during the six years of its existence.

Devoted to College Interests.

The *University*, a new weekly journal devoted to interests of the colleges of the United States, has just been started in this city. The first number contains interesting letters from special correspondents at all the leading colleges, and the frontispiece is a handsome artotype of the champion Yale football team.

A Free Dinner to the Poor.

Mrs. J. M. Lamadrid will give a free dinner to the poor next Sunday, in observance of the first birthday of the St. Andrew's one-cent coffee stands, at 126 Madison avenue.

Caw's "Dashaway" Pen.

A double-feed fountain pen that never fails. Caw's Ink and Pen Co., 160 Broadway, opposite John st.

TOM PLATT BEATEN

His Residence Was Not in the City of New York.

Gov. Hill Sustained by the Jury's Verdict.

Not Eligible to the Office of Quarantine Commissioner.

The Boss Will Take the Case to the Court of Appeals.

[SPECIAL TO THE WORLD.]

ALBANY, Jan. 13.—Judge Mayham's courtroom was jammed this morning in anticipation of a verdict in the Platt case.

The jury, which had been locked up all night, filed into the Supreme Court Chamber about 10 o'clock. Each member of it looked as if he had enjoyed very little sleep.

A hush pervaded the crowd of spectators as the Court, in response to an inquiry as to whether a verdict had been agreed upon, was handed a large envelope. The clerk read its contents.

It declared that it was the unanimous decision of the jurors that at the time Mr. Platt was appointed Quarantine Commissioner, Jan. 9, 1880, he had no legal residence and domicile in the Metropolitan Police District; therefore he was not only ineligible to the office, but has held it illegally for eight years.

Mr. Moak, realizing that this meant nothing more nor less than that Platt was no longer a member of the Board of Quarantine Commissioners, immediately moved for a new trial.

The Court denied the motion.

The case will now be taken to the Court of Appeals.

Boss Platt was not in Court at the time the jury rendered its decision.

Frank H. Platt, his son and bondsman, was present, however, and received the announcement with little apparent astonishment.

"It's no more than I anticipated," said young Platt to THE WORLD correspondent, "with such a Judge and such a jury."

There was gloom in the office of the Quarantine Commissioners this morning, and any one with news from Albany in regard to the legal position of Commissioner Platt in the Board was hailed with delight. The Commissioner remained at his desk in the office of the United States Express Company during the morning. AN EVENING WORLD reporter brought him the first intimation of the adverse action of the jury.

He was too busy to read the story in the extra edition of THE EVENING WORLD, the only paper on the street with the news, but said that while he had not yet heard what the result of the trial was he was not at all surprised that it was unfavorable to him.

"In the first place," he said, "everything was against me from the first. The Judge even was unfair; his rulings were unfavorable to me, and as for the jury, it was hardly as intelligent a body of men as one would like to have sit in judgment on any matter of importance. Why one member did not even know who the President of the United States was.

"Still, the whole thing was done for political purposes and to make political capital."

"We thought so," was all the comment made at the office of the Commission when they read THE EVENING WORLD. The remaining members of the commission were late getting downtown to-day and could not be seen.

Bishop O'Farrell's Lecture.

The lecture on "Volunteers of '82 and Grattan's Parliament" to be delivered by Bishop O'Farrell, at Steinway Hall on Jan. 16, in aid of the Irish Parliamentary Fund, promises to be a great success. The treasurer, John P. Lynch has received letters commending the object of the lecture, and also subscriptions from Eugene Kelly, Henry Amy, Recorder Smyth, Judges Daly, Cowing and Van Hoesen, Commissioner Coleman, Congressman Lloyd S. Bryce, School Commissioner Wood, Capts. Cassidy and Meakim, Drexel, Morgan & Co., Steinway & Sons, Police Commissioner Fitz John Porter and many others.

Fled From Fire into the Snow.

The tenants of the three-story frame building 34 Mann street were aroused at 1.30 o'clock this morning by a fire on the first floor, occupied by Patrick Manning as a liquor store. The women and children rushed out into the blinding snow-storm only partly dressed. The overheated stove which caused the damage was found by the firemen in the rear red hot. Engine Company No. 20 had no difficulty in extinguishing the flames, and the tenants after being out of their beds half an hour went back.

It is Between Labor and Capital.

[SPECIAL TO THE WORLD.]

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 13.—There is no longer doubt that the battle between the Reading Railroad and its employees is a struggle between capital and labor, and that the merits or demerits of the strike do not enter into the case to any extent. While it is reported that efforts at a compromise are being made, it is certain no real progress towards a settlement has been made, and the prospects are a long and bitter fight.

Affairs of Workingmen.

The Gas-Fitters' Union elected officers for its beneficiary fund last night at Stuyvesant Hall.

Walters' Union No. 1 met at Central Labor Union Hall last night and resolved to push the boycott against halls and Milwaukee beer.

Dr. McGlynn and Henry George will speak at the Academy of Music next Sunday on the occasion of Miss Agatha Munier's benefit.

Cards are out for a complimentary benefit to Everett Glackin, ex-President of Typographical Union No. 6, at Arlington Hall, on Feb. 4.

The silk weavers' local assembly, one of the largest in the city, comprising a membership of more than seven hundred men and women, has withdrawn from the Knights of Labor.

Every poor working girl who can possibly attend the meeting in Clarendon Hall to-night should do so, and hear what labor reformers have to say about work and wages and the benefits of organization.

The Wendell Phillips Association, an organization of workers, meets regularly every week at 28 Columbia street for the purpose of holding debates on current questions. The next subject to be discussed is "Should Emigration be Restricted?" W. Grossman, William Schneider and Fred Phipps will take part in the debate.

Thirty-five organizations of longshoremen, at various ocean and lake and river ports, have notified Secretary McGrath that they will send delegates to the convention which is to meet in this city March 1 for the purpose of organizing a National District Assembly. A circular letter has been addressed to all the longshoremen's unions in this city and vicinity, calling on them to aid in the movement.

BOSS PLATT BOUNCED.

The Law's Club at Last Reaches the Quarantine Usurper.

STRAYED AWAY FROM HOME.

Three Persons Who are Anxiously Looked for by Their Friends.

Sergt. Lamey, of the Second Precinct Police Station, received a letter yesterday from a lady relative in Philadelphia saying that her son, J. R. Welsh, an artist and designer, living at 411 Albion street, has been missing since Dec. 21.

Mr. Welsh, at the advice of his physician, started for Atlantic City for a few days' rest. No trace of him has been found since he left Camden. He was suffering very much from overwork. His mother and sister, who are greatly distressed at his sudden disappearance, fear that he has met with foul play. He was thirty-seven years old and unmarried.

Henry E. Jones, of 28 West Twenty-fifth street, called at Police Headquarters this morning, and reported that Hannah Doyle, seventy-two years old, had left home on Jan. 11 to visit Mrs. Gerrity, at 1930 Lexington avenue, but had not been heard from since. A general alarm was sent out.

The Morrisania police sent out a general alarm to-day for Louisa Bossert, thirty-eight years old, who has been missing from her home in that district for several days. She was of dark complexion, with gray hair. She wore a dark cloak trimmed with fur, a brown hat and buttoned shoes. She was demented.

INSPECTOR BYRNES'S LOST SECRET.

Blaming Mr. Abbey for Disclosing the Supposed Mexican Swindler's Arrest.

If Inspector Byrnes has Charles Bourton in custody on a charge of swindling the Mexicans out of $20,000 by representing himself as Abbey's agent for the Patti concerts he will not admit it.

"I have nothing to say on the subject one way or another," he remarked to an EVENING WORLD reporter to-day. "Two men representing Henry E. Abbey called upon me last night concerning the fellow who falsely represented himself to be a brother of Marcus Mayer, and I told them that I would keep my end of the case and advised secrecy for the present. I said nothing about the case and it looks as though Mr. Abbey had told some reporters about it."

"If Bourton is a prisoner he will not have to be taken to court?" was asked.

"Well, that depends," returned the Inspector. "He may have been there and remanded, and it may not be necessary to take him there."

Mr. Marx, Henry E. Abby's associate, called at Police Headquarters this morning and fully identified Bourton as the swindler.

Scarlet Fever Patient Attempts Suicide.

[SPECIAL TO THE WORLD.]

CANANDAIGUA, N. Y., Jan. 13.—The family of Frank Pierce, who resides near Parma, Monroe County, were recently stricken with scarlet fever. They went through the dreaded disease very fortunately and were convalescent when Pierce himself caught the disease. Yesterday morning he became delirious and rushed upstairs and cut his throat with a razor. He was seized, bound and the wound sewed up, but he afterwards jumped from a window to the ground, 20 feet below, and will die.

Munkacsy's Latest Work.

"The Last Days of Mozart," the fine painting by Munkacsy, owned by Gen. Russell A. Alger, ex-Governor of Michigan, will be exhibited, commencing to-morrow, (Sunday), in the art gallery of the Twenty-third Street Tabernacle. The religious painting, "Christ on Calvary," by the same artist, will hold its place in the main hall. There will be no increase in the rate of admission, and privilege tickets will be received as usual.

Gen. Terry's Eyes on Florida.

Major-General A. H., Terry, U. S. A., though still confined to his comfortable quarters at the Grand Hotel, is much improved in health. The General has not been seriously ill, but being threatened with rheumatic gout, he took his doctor's advice and has kept indoors for some little time. He will probably leave for St. Augustine, Fla., early next week.

A Blinding Gale Off Cape Cod.

[SPECIAL TO THE WORLD.]

PROVINCETOWN, Jan. 13.—The entire coast of Cape Cod is being swept by a blinding snowstorm. Shipping will fare hard. The air is thick with snow.

More Cold Weather Coming.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—*Weather indications for the twenty-four hours commencing at 8 P. M. to-day:*

For Connecticut and Eastern New York warmer, followed by colder weather; rain or snow, followed by fair weather; brisk to high winds, diminishing in force, becoming northwesterly.

Every scholar in the public schools, and every parent of a scholar, will be interested in the Roll of Honor to be published in to-morrow's EVENING WORLD.

Notes from Everywhere.

The socialists will hold an international Congress in London next August.

Five soldiers were killed by a gunpowder explosion at Fort Andulmas to-day.

Twenty-five thousand pounds has been contributed to a pension fund to nurses of the poor by four London merchants.

The announcement that Mexico has negotiated a conversion loan of £10,000,000 with Bleichroder, the Berlin banker, has been confirmed.

The steamer Celtic, which has been detained at her dock in Liverpool for several days on account of fog, departed for New York to-day.

Fire on the top floor of the two-story brick carpenter's shop of A. R. Hopkins, at 22 West Fiftieth street, this morning did about $00 damage.

3 O'CLOCK

IKE VAIL,

The King of Confidence Men.

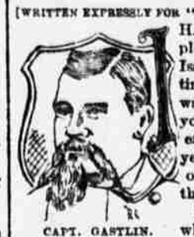
BY

POLICE CAPT. GASTLIN,

Of Pier A Station.

PART I.

[WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR "THE EVENING WORLD."]



CAPT. GASTLIN.

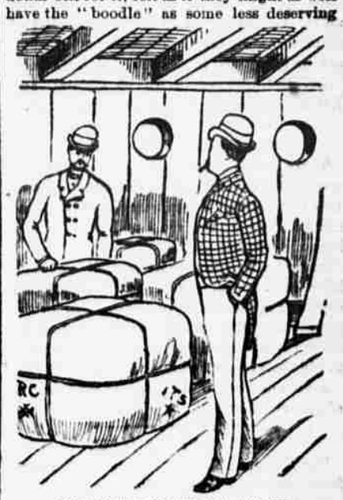
HAVE not had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Isaac Vail for some time. The last occasion was when that genteel young man had just cit Sing Sing after one year and a half there, or which he had to thank me.

He did thank me when he got sentenced. He thought he was sharp enough to keep out of my clutches, and he eluded them for some time. It was long enough to make it seem pretty good to me to drop on him, and if he didn't enjoy it I did.

There is no telling when I shall have the pleasure of meeting with him again, for I have not heard of his "getting in" any of his special work, and he may have dropped it or taken himself elsewhere to get it in better. Times are quieter now along the river front than they were. West street used to be a terror to any respectable man who chanced to walk along its disreputable sidewalk late at night or in the early morning. It swarmed with wharf-rats, thieves, cutthroats and all the confraternity of rogues that do business along the North River.

There were plenty of them. But they have been pretty thoroughly squelched, and some of the sharpest operators in illegitimate lines of work have actually been forced into honest employment to make their living.

During the day time the confidence men used to work their little pocketbook-dropping game. This is a small business, but it would surprise the community to know how many respectable seeming men would let themselves be inveigled into giving two thieves $10 or $15 for a fat pocketbook, which seems wadded with bills, and which the sharps make the victim believe they thought he had dropped. Of course, an honest man wouldn't take it, unless with the idea that he could restore it to the owner, and usually a man doesn't want to go to that trouble. But there were plenty of men who, when they saw a chance to get a pocketbook stuffed with money simply by paying a ten-dollar bill for it, felt as if they might as well have the "boodle" as some less deserving



LOOKED AS INNOCENT AS A DOVE.

chaps, and jumped at it. They didn't feel so comfortable when they would get off a few squares and open the thing only to find two or three wads of cheap brown wrapping-paper and some broken glass in it, and not a nickel.

That game is played out and the confidence men are lying very low, too. But sometimes a pretty interesting specimen of humanity used to show up in the person of a fly operator at the confidence game. It is surprising how many people got beaten with this old "chestnut" in the line of fraud. Sometimes I would ask them: "Why, haven't you read about this thing being played on greenhorns?"

They would say: "Yes. I ought to have known better, and I deserve to lose the money; but the fellow was so plausible and such a respectable seeming man that I never suspected him."

That is just it. Most people are built so that they don't suspect everybody and everything, and though their case being so like others they have read about ought to put them on their guard, it doesn't one-quarter as often as anybody would think.

I had the satisfaction of bagging the best of these fellows. His name was Isaac Vail, and he was called the "King of the Confidence Men." I dropped on him and had him sent up the first time he was ever run in.

He was a fine-looking fellow and belonged to a respectable family. He was the black sheep of the flock. He was black enough to shade the largest kind of a family. He stood fully six feet two in his stockings, was well built and was a very slick fellow.

It was pretty hard to catch him. He was as slippery as an eel. Once that I had enough to pull him up for I brought him here to the station and held him till I had got my men together.

"Boys," said I, "all you need to do

(Continued on Second Page.)