SPORTING EXTRA.

The EVENING EDITION World.

SPORTING EXTRA.

PRICE ONE CENT. NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1891. PRICE ONE CENT.

EXTRA.

ALBANI TO SING.

The Great Soprano Will Appear at the Newsboys' Dinner.

"Home, Sweet Home," "Robin Adair" and "Yankee Doodle" the Selections.

The Greatest Treat That New York's Newsboys Ever Enjoyed.

All Preparations for "The Evening World's" Christmas Dinner Made.

MME ALBANI.

Gentlemen of the Press:

Will the amenities of Christmas-tide permit me to waive conventionalities of good society and address you, dear newsboys?

I have something very important to tell you.

You know Mme. Albani, don't you? Yes; the lady here in this column smiling at you with her eyes. Well, she is in love with you! Of course this will be news to you.

Yesterday she came down in Newspaper Row and without knowing it you captured her heart.

Guess what she said.

"God bless you merrie gentlemen!"

Then she sighed, touched her smiling eyes with a little white handkerchief and, after looking at you all, she wants to meet you!

Wants to say how do you do; I love you, and God bless you merrie gentlemen.

She says you can draw tears from stones and make men and women, saturated with selfishness, weep buckets of brine.

She says you are the bravest and at once the most blithesome members of American society; that you read the world better sermons and truer stories of courage and moral sublimity than the pulpit or press can publish.

She says you have a mission in life and that you are performing it like a noble army of little martyrs.

In short, she is gone on you small agents of the press and she is going to your dinner-party to-morrow morning.

Not to dine, but to sing for you.

She will supply the dessert, as it were! Now, isn't that a jolly treat?

A baby grand piano will be sent to the Everett Hotel banquet hall and set up on a platform where everybody can see her.

Sig. Vianesi, impresario of the Abbey Opera Company, will preside at the piano and accompany Mme. Albani.

She will sing "Robin Adair" or "Pop Goes the Weasel" and "Home, Sweet Home."

Now, young friends, just let me tell you that this is a tremendous compliment the famous artiste is paying you. Nothing like it has ever occurred in New York in all the history of music and the newsboys. Troupes of singers have come to town and gone away again with pockets full of money, but they didn't have time to meet the boys or even say "God bless you, merrie gentlemen."

And I'll tell you another thing. If Master Chauncey M. Depew or Master Cornelius Vanderbilt wants to hear Mme. Albani it will cost him a five-dollar bank note.

Now do you appreciate the value of the compliment she is paying you?

All you have to do is to pay attention.

And I don't mind conding to you that the beautiful lady is just the least little bit afraid!

Some people living at the Windsor Hotel belied you all. They told her you were a wild set. That you wore bread knives in your belts and carried bedstead casters in your pockets; that you guyed every man who wore a linen collar and every woman who pinned her back hair up.

Of course Mme. Albani does not believe a word of this, but you know one can't always control her feelings, and these evil reports have been disturbing—just a little disturbing.

You can, however, reassure her the very moment she enters the Everett House by maintaining a loud silence and applauding her with your heart beats and folded hands.

In other words, keep still and she will carry you off your feet the moment she opens her mouth. If you shut your eyes, lean back in your chair and listen with all your might, you will feel as though you were in heaven listening to the solo singer in the angel chorus.

Last September she went to Balmoral Castle to sing for Queen Victoria. That august lady had just finished eating her dinner and was sitting at the table with her napkin tucked under her chin, feeling comfortably full of soup, roast beef and black coffee.

She ordered the famous singer to be brought in to the bosom of her family, as it were, and sing her a little tune.

Mme. Albani did so. She chose "Robin Adair," and Her Majesty beat time with her spoon. Then she sang "Home, Sweet Home," by request, and made her sovereign cry very hard. Next day a $500 breastpin was sent to the lady, with a personal letter from the Queen. Mme. Albani wears the breastpin every day of her life, but she keeps the autograph letter in an iron safe, and no one has ever read it but her husband and little boy.

To give you an idea of its value there are dealers in MS. in this town who would gladly give you enough spot cash to pay for a four-story tenement-house for the Queen's letter telling what she thinks about "the soul in the singer's voice, the sweetness of 'Home, Sweet Home' and the charm of 'Robin Adair.'"

Now then, you know the treat there is in store for you—the sort of a Christmas present you will get from the most soulful soprano singer in the world—on one condition. That you behave like the "Merrie Gentlemen" she says you are.

I believe I have told you everything now that Mme. Albani said.

To her sweet "God bless you Merrie Gentlemen" I say amen. Earnestly,

NELL NELSON.

ALL READY FOR THE DINNER.

Mme. Albani Will Sing to the Newsboy Diners.

The EVENING WORLD'S freckled guests, the 600 newsboys of New York City, when they sit down to a grand Christmas dinner at the Everett Hotel, 102, 104 and 106 Vesey street, at 11.30 o'clock to-morrow, will enjoy a treat not often accorded for money to the grandest artistocrats of the "Upper Ten Thousand."

The great Mme. Albani, whose fame reaches around the world and extends almost from pole to pole, will be present and will sing to the snub-nosed little venders of newspapers—sing as she would to her most refined and cultured audiences.

Think of that!

Mme. Albani, the most famous singer in the world, and one of the most charming women, too, has a deep interest in the newsboys, and in the Christmas dinner to which they have been invited by THE EVENING WORLD, and she has volunteered to attend the banquet and sing to the youngsters while they dine!

Sig. Vianesi, the musical director of the Metropolitan Opera-House, will accompany Mme. Albani and Messrs. Steinway & Sons will send a grand piano to be used on the occasion.

Mme. Albani made her first appearance this season in New York at the Metropolitan Opera-House last evening in "Rigoletto," and her audience unanimously voted her even a greater singer than when she last appeared.

The morning papers all agree that her voice is as rich and full as ever, and that she is unquestionably the most marvellous singer in the wide, wide world.

As for the arrangements for the banquet itself, they are complete even to elaboration, and the most famous gourmet in New York, or the city's best acknowledged epicure, will dine no better to-morrow than these jacketed and knickerbockered newsboys will dine with THE EVENING WORLD.

The great dining-room of the famous Everett Hotel, where from 6,000 to 7,000 business men and women breakfast or dine or sup every twenty-four hours, is passing through a wonderful transformation to-day. It is being beautifully decked in holiday attire for the newsboys' Christmas dinner.

The walls and ceilings and pillars of the banquet hall will be lovely in holly wreaths, evergreens, bunting and flowers, a veritable bower, and Manager George B. Washburn, who has successfully conducted the Everett Hotel these seven years, says that every one of his plans has matured admirably and that the dinner to which the newsboys are to sit down to-morrow will be the finest dinner that newsboys ever dreamed of. The cuisine of this great hostelry is already justly famous, and its facilities have been taxed to the utmost for this grand occasion.

To-night, while the city is sleeping with one eye open in anticipation of to-morrow's grand holiday, the forty cooks of the Everett, in forty white caps and forty white aprons, will be hurrying and scurrying in preparation for the appearance of the regiment of keen appetites that will swoop down upon the dining-room to-morrow, and when New York is taking its Christmas breakfast the forty cooks will be taking from the big ovens 200 great, juicy mince pies, with crisp, brown crusts, and the odor of roasting turkeys will fill the air about the big hotel.

Oh, it will be a great day for the newsboys—and THE EVENING WORLD.

The youngsters will gather at the Pulitzer Building, Frankfort street side, at 10 o'clock, every boy dressed in his best and prepared to be the true gentleman that he always is when he is the guest of THE EVENING WORLD.

With an escort of one big roundsman and six handsome policemen from Capt. Slevin's squad to the music of THE EVENING WORLD March, composed for the occasion by H. A. Hall and played by the famous Old Guard Band of more than twenty musicians in gorgeous scarlet and gold uniforms, they will advance upon the breastworks and—what a carnage will follow among those turkeys and the mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, mince pies and redolent coffee!

The Old Guard Band will "spell" Mme. Albani, playing a programme of operatic selections, patriotic and popular airs.

The boys will be divided into three squads of 200 each, in order that they may be served with the careful elegance that characterizes dinner at Delmonico's or the Brunswick or the Imperial.

They will sit four at a table and be served by fifty first-class waiters.

They will have a glorious dinner as guests of THE EVENING WORLD.

QUEBEC IS SHORT $2,223,000.

Profitable Private Contracts of Capitalist Philip Vallieres.

[BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

MONTREAL, Dec. 24.—Astounding revelations are being made as to the operations of the Mercierites during their control of the Provincial Government.

The late Government's last financial statement estimated the deficit for the year at $600,000. There has been found an item in the books called "special expenditure" which swells the total deficit or excess of expenditure over receipts to $2,223,000.

The Department is now engaged in tracing where this extra $1,600,000 has gone to. In doing this the fact was stumbled on that for the past four years Philip Vallieres, who indorsed Editor Pacaud's and Minister Mercier's notes in the late Chaleurs scandal, has had a private contract with the Government by the terms of which he furnished all the public buildings in the Province with everything in the way of furniture, but no price was stipulated, no limit made. His accounts were regularly audited without question and paid, some of the prices and quantities of goods being outrageous.

Vallieres, who is rich, also backed paper for the Ministers when they were short and put bills through the banks for the Government when it was in a hurry for money, on the latter transaction charging a substantial bonus, which was always paid without question.

Wire News in Brief.

The North Dakota State Alliance has decided to send delegates to the National Convention of the People's party at St. Louis, in February.

Ex-United States Senator Herford died yesterday at his home in Monroe County, W. Va., of pneumonia.

Ottumwa, Pa., has 2,000 cases of the grip.

C. J. Harris has been elected Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation to succeed J. B. Mayes, who died last week. Stephen Talkee was elected Second Chief.

The Pennsylvania Railroad is to be double-tracked all the way from New York to Chicago, in order to be ready for the large Chicago business during the World's Fair.

Lowenthal, Livingston & Co., shipping and commission merchants, fail for $220,000 at San Francisco. Creditors chiefly English firms.

LAWYERS CLAIM BIG FEES.

Special Counsel in Aqueduct Cases Demands $38,000.

Corporation Counsel Clarke presented to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment a bill of James C. Carter and other special counsel retained by the city, to defend the Aqueduct claims suits, for $38,000. Of this enormous claim, $8,000 was for stenographer's fees.

The Board did not make provision for its payment, referring it to the Comptroller for a report.

RAT-BAITERS RAIDED.

Twenty-two Alleged Sports and Four Dogs Held in Police Court.

As the result of a raid on a rat-pit in a stable at 42 West Sixty-second street Justice Grady to-day held twenty-two men in $100 bail each for trial Dec. 30 and turned over four rat-terriers to the Bergh Society.

Policeman Fox, of the West Forty-seventh street station, saw the baiting going on through a knot-hole, and called out the reserves for the raid.

A "Musical Moke" Dead.

[BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

CONOES, Dec. 24.—Tom Pynes, known in minstrel circles as Jim Sandford, of Sandford and Wilson, musical mokes, died here last night. Three days ago he slipped and fell to the sidewalk, breaking his leg.

Dartmouth Mills Assign.

[BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

BOSTON, Dec. 24.—The Dartmouth Mills, manufacturers of woollens, New York City and Lawrence, Mass., have assigned to Chas. H. Sprague, of this city. The capital stock of the Company is $100,000, all paid in. It is expected that the corporation will have no difficulty in effecting an amicable adjustment and going on in business.

ROTH DECLARED TO BE INSANE.

The Crank Who Shot at Dr. Hall Will Go to An Asylum.

The trial of John George Roth the crank who fired at Dr. Hall, was concluded this afternoon in the Court of General Sessions.

The case was submitted to the jury by both sides upon Judge Martine's charge.

In less than fifteen minutes the jury returned with a verdict of not guilty on account of insanity.

Roth will be committed to the State Lunatic Asylum.

TWELVE DEATHS FROM GRIP.

List of the Epidemic's Victims Daily Increasing.

Of the 150 deaths reported by the Board of Vital Statistics, to-day, twelve were caused by grip and its complications.

There are 149 names on the police sick list, only three or four, however, being ill from grip. A statement yesterday that 141 policemen were sick from grip was erroneous.

Hotel Burned—Guests Escape.

[BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

MALVERN, Ia., Dec. 24.—The Foster House has been entirely destroyed by fire. There were about twenty-five guests, and several narrow escapes were reported. Loss, $25,000, uninsured.

Washington's Sick-List.

[BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Representative Wright, of Pennsylvania, who is confined to his residence by an attack of the grip, is reported to be slightly better to-day.

Congressman Mills's health continues to improve.

Speaker Crisp is better to-day.

Young & Smyle's "Acme" Licorice Pellets pronounced invaluable by users. Try them. *.*

FLATTERY.

Wins the Third Race at Guttenburg in a Heavy Rain Storm.

SAM MORSE BEGINS THE SPORT

Milt Young and Tioga the Favorites Among the Winners.

[SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.]

GUTTENBURG RACE TRACK, Dec. 24.—The horsemen at Guttenburg suspiciously scanned a paragraph in a morning paper which said that Charley Post had unexpectedly fallen heir to about $20,000 and intended purchasing a racing stable. As Charley is a son-in-law of "Father Bill" Daly, the horsemen immediately sized up the situation which was that Father Bill intended making a "fake" sale to Post for the purpose of evading the resolution recently adopted by the Board of Control.

The horsemen immediately went to the Executive Committee of the Hudson County Jockey Club and protested, for those who will stay at Guttenburg are desirous of standing fair and above board, and don't want to have any horsemen sailing under false colors. The matter will be discussed after the races.

The Hough Bros. declared to-day that they would not be dictated to by any Board of Control, and that they are with Guttenburg.

The racing was continued at Guttenburg to-day under dispiriting conditions, for an easterly rainstorm deluged everything and converted the track into a mudhole.

The card was a good one, and but for the weather good racing might be expected.

Stratagem was the favorite in the first race, but instead of finishing first, as the talent expected him to do, he reversed the order and straggled in last.

Sam Morse was a good thing, and was pounded all around the ring. He won handily from Comet, a 20 to 1 shot, who beat Graduate a head.

The second race went to Milt Young, the favorite, who won easily from Virgie, Second choice.

The favorite also won the third race. The finish was exciting, Flattery only beating McKeever by a head.

FIRST RACE.

Purse, $400; selling allowances; five furlongs.

Starters.	Weights.	Jockeys.	Strt.	Hlf.	Fin.
Sam Morse	107	H. Penny	2	3	1
Comet	116	Dingley	1	1	2
Graduate	111	J. Bergen	5	6	3
Ottawa	102	T. Flynn	3	2	4
Miss Olive	102	Irving	4	4	5
Aunt Jane	102	Barrett	7	7	6
Enola	102	Blake	6	5	7
Stratagem	114	Talor	8	8	8

Betting—Stratagem, 11 to 5 and 4 to 5. Graduate, 3 and even; Sam Morse, 3 and 6 to 5. Ottawa, 7 and 15 to 2. Comet, 20 and 8. Aunt Jane, 20 and 8. Miss Olive, 40 and 12. Enola, 40 and 12.

Comet led into the stretch, with Ottawa and Sam Morse next.

Then the latter came through, and, taking the lead, won handily by a length from Comet, who beat Graduate a head. Time—1.04¾.

Mutuels paid: Straight, $7.60; place, $5.15. Comet paid $17.85.

SECOND RACE.

Purse $400; selling and a half furlongs.

Starters.	Weights.	Jockeys.	Strt.	Hlf.	Fin.
Milt Young	102	Lambley	1	1	1
Virgie	93	Shields	7	5	2
Mabel R. Pomeroy	90	Keefe	4	4	3
Algebra gelding	107	J. Barrett	2	4	4
A. O. H.	114	Gorman	3	2	5
La Grippe	119	Weyburn	6	6	6
Empire Kelly	111	H. Penny	5	7	7

Betting—Milt Young, 3 to 5 and out; Virgie, 7 to 2 and 9 to 10; Empire Kelly, 8 and 2; Mabel R. Pomeroy, 12 and 3; A. O. H., 15 and 4; La Grippe, 40 and 10; Algebra gelding, 40 and 10.

Milt Young led from start to finish, winning easily by two lengths from Virgie, who was the same distance in in front of Mabel R. Pomeroy. Time—1.26¾.

Mutuels paid: Straight, $3.10; place, $2.15. Virgie paid $2.70.

THIRD RACE.

Purse $400; for two-year-olds; six furlongs.

Starters.	Wts.	Jockeys.	Strt.	Hlf.	Fin.
Flattery	105	Pickenchen	1	1	1
McKeever	105	Blake	3	2	2
Quartermaster	105	J. Metlone	4	3	3
Abundance colt	105	J. Bergen	2	4	4
Capt. Garland	105	Davis	5	5	5

Betting—Flattery, 7 to 5 and 3 to 5; McKeever, 11 to 5 and 3 to 5; Abundance colt, 3 and 7 to 10; Quartermaster, 12 and 3; Capt. Garland, 80 and 20.

Abundance colt, Flattery and McKeever cut out the running to the stretch, where Flattery and McKeever drew clear.

In a pretty finish Flattery won by a head from McKeever, who was a half length in front of Quartermaster. Time—1.19½.

Mutuels paid: Straight, $4.40; place, $2.75. McKeever paid $2.60.

FOURTH RACE.

Purse $400; selling allowances; five furlongs.

Starters.	Weights.	Jockeys.	Strt.	Hlf.	Fin.
Tioga	111	Penny	1	1	1
Blackwood	108	Lewis	5	4	2
Nubian	102	Lambley	2	3	3
Mike Watson	108	J. Berger	4	2	4
Go Lucky	105	Irving	6	6	5
Torchlight	114	Barbee	3	5	6
Pilgrim	108	Jones	7	7	7

Betting—Tioga, 7 to 10 and out; Mike Watson, 3 and 1 to 10; Go Lucky, 10 and 2; Pilgrim, 12 and 3; Blackwood, 25 and 8; Nubian, 30 and 8; Torchlight, 40 and 10.

Tioga got the best of the start and stayed in front all the way, winning easily by two lengths from Blackwood, who was a length in front of Nubian. Time—1.04¾.

Mutuels paid: Straight, $3.05; place, $2.50. Blackwood paid $24.50.

FIFTH RACE.

Purse $400; selling allowances; mile and a furlong.

Starters.	Weights.	Jockeys.	Strt.	Hlf.	Fin.
Lord of the Harem	114	Barbee	2	2	1
Lepanto	104	Lambley	1	1	2
Cassella	110	Irving	4	3	3
Theodosius	101	J. Mooney	3	5	4
Handrum	96	Blake	5	4	5

Betting—Cassella, 7 to 10 and out; Lepanto, 2 and 2 to 5. Lord of the Harem, 10 and 2. Theodosius, 20 and 6; Handrum, 20 and 6.

Lepanto cut out the running to the stretch, where Lord of the Harem came through and, taking the lead, won easily by three lengths. Lepanto was five lengths in front of Cassella. Time—2.03¾.

Mutuels paid: Straight, $8.20; (Lepanto) place, $2.80. Lord of the Harem, place, $5.90. (No straight tickets sold on the winner.

SIXTH RACE.

Purse $400; selling allowances; six and a half furlongs.

Starters.	Wts.	Jockeys.	Betting Straight.	Betting Place.
Bohemian	127	Barbee	8-1	3-1
Menthal	122	Coleman	25-1	10-1
Wigwam	127	Blake	15-1	6-1
Gettysburg	127	Marshall	4-1	6-5
Repeater	124	H. Lewis	5-1	2-1
Count Luna	124	Ray	10-1	4-1
Shotover	130	Jones	40-1	20-1
Fitzroy	127	Redfield	60-1	20-1
Sparling	127	H. Penny	6-5	2-5
Rustic	124	J. Bergen	25-1	8-1

Won by Sparling, Repeater second, Count Luna third. Time—1.27¼.

LAIDLAW TO SUE.

Russell Sage's Shield Will Demand $100,000 Damages.

Claims the Broker Held Him Before the Dynamiter.

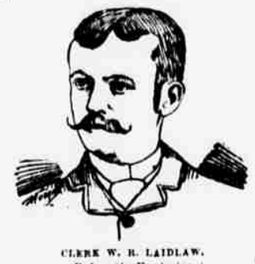
The Injuries He Sustained Would Have Killed the Millionaire.

Maimed for Life, the Young Clerk Holds Mr. Sage Responsible.

Unless a compromise is effected Russell Sage will probably be made defendant in one of the most novel and interesting suits ever brought in a court of law.

The preliminary steps have been taken to bring an action against the multi-millionaire put-and-call broker for heavy damages for having used Broker's Clerk W. R. Laidlaw as a shield to save himself when Norcross, the dynamiter, exploded his bomb in Sage's office at 71 Broadway on the afternoon of Friday, Dec. 4.

It is understood that the amount of damages to be claimed has been placed at $100,000.



CLERK W. R. LAIDLAW.
(Before the Explosion.)

The suit will be based upon the allegation that the millionaire deliberately held the broker's clerk between himself and the menacing dynamiter, with the result that Mr. Sage's life was saved at the expense of horrible injuries to Mr. Laidlaw.

CLERK LAIDLAW.
(As he looks in the hospital.)

It will be further alleged, it is understood, that Mr. Sage was fully aware of the great peril in which he stood, and that when he held Mr. Laidlaw in front of him he fully realized that he was jeopardizing the young clerk's life, and that he utilized him as a shield with the knowledge that in doing so he was deliberately imperilling Mr. Laidlaw's life to save his own.

Since the day of the terrible explosion Mr. Laidlaw has been an inmate of St. Vincent's Hospital on West Twelfth street.

HIS ESCAPE FROM DEATH A MARVEL.

One of the wonders of Norcross's awful deed was that Mr. Laidlaw was not instantly killed, and that he has survived his terrible injuries is doubtless largely due to the fact that he was blessed with a robust constitution.

Mr. Laidlaw has so far recovered that he is able to sit up in an invalid's chair occasionally, but it will be weeks before he can leave the hospital, and then it will probably be months before he can return to his business.

His body and limbs are yet swathed in bandages, and he cannot support himself on his feet. The hair which was singed off his head is being replaced by a new crop and a stubby growth is appearing on his upper lip, which a luxurious mustache adorned before the explosion. But he still lacks eyebrows and eyelashes, which were burned off by the lightning-like flash which followed the drop of the bomb on the floor of Sage's office.

In speaking of the reasons for bringing a suit for such heavy damages against Millionaire Sage, a friend of Mr. Laidlaw this morning said to an EVENING WORLD reporter:

"You remember, of course, the circumstances which took Mr. Laidlaw to Russell Sage's office the day of the explosion.

"Mr. Laidlaw was a clerk for John Bloodgood & Co., the brokers at 15 Broad street. He was a stalwart, muscular-looking young man, a member of the New York Athletic Club, and at one time considerable of an athlete.

"On Friday, Dec. 4, shortly after noon he went to Russell Sage's office on a business errand for his firm. When he entered the office Mr. Sage was parleying with the dynamiter.

"Upon seeing this stalwart young man enter, Sage grasped him by the shoulder and hand, and, pulling him in between himself and the dynamiter, held him there while he endeavored to escape the danger menacing him.

"Mr. Laidlaw was held with his back to the dynamiter, with the result that when the bomb exploded he received the force of the explosion in his back.

"He was thrown forward against Sage, knocking the millionaire down. Fortunately for Mr. Sage, however, Mr. Laidlaw's body had acted as a cushion or buffer, and the life of the millionaire was saved.

"A heavy piece of timber with the end shaped like an inverted V, was thrown up by the explosion and struck Mr. Laidlaw in the back, just above the hips. It made a great hole in the young man's back, and this wound may give him trouble all his life.

THIS WOULD HAVE KILLED SAGE.

"But for holding Mr. Laidlaw in front of him Mr. Sage would have received the full force of this blow in the abdomen, and according to physicians the sharp-pointed piece of timber would have disemboweled him.

"Mr. Sage had read the madman's typewritten demand for $1,250,000, with its ultimatum of destruction. He was standing there face to face with death, as his manner of parleying with Norcross showed that he fully realized.

NOT EFFUSIVELY CORDIAL WITH CLERKS.

"Mr. Sage is not accustomed to treat the brokers' clerks who call upon him with effusive cordiality. He has never been known to shake hands with one of them. On the contrary, his manner is gruff and he chills them with his austerity.

"That he clapped one hand familiarly on Mr. Laidlaw's shoulder and grasped the young man's hand with the other is, taking these facts into consideration, conclusive proof to the average mind that when Mr. Sage pulled Mr. Laidlaw between himself and the dynamiter he did so deliberately and with the intention of making Mr. Laidlaw suffer the effects of any attempt upon his own life.

"These are the allegations which will be made in the suit against Mr. Sage for exemplary damages. I do not believe that on the witness stand Mr. Sage will dare deny the truth of Mr. Laidlaw's story.

"Mr. Laidlaw's character is of the highest. His reputation for truth and veracity is unquestioned. Of course, if the suit comes to trial it will propably result in a question of veracity between Mr. Laidlaw and Mr. Sage if the latter denies the truth of Mr. Laidlaw's testimony.

"The one witness that could have been summoned to testify in Mr. Laidlaw's favor is dead. I refer to young Benjamin Norton. But we will be satisfied to go to trial upon Mr. Laidlaw's unsupported evidence, and have no doubt as to the successful outcome.

MAY BE AN INVALID FOR LIFE.

"Mr. Laidlaw has a family. By Mr. Sage's act he has not only been grievously injured, but he may be an invalid for the rest of his life.

"His employers have been very kind to him. John Bloodgood & Co. are paying all the expenses of his maintenance and attendance at St. Vincent's Hospital. They also continue his salary. In fact, the generosity of the firm towards its unfortunate employee is of the most liberal nature. They simply have with the best medical attendance to be obtained in the city, and his confinement in the hospital is as cheerful as the expenditure of money can possibly make it.

"In strong contrast is the conduct of Mr. Sage, who was selfishly responsible for the young man's pitiable condition.

"For eighteen days Mr. Laidlaw lay in one position in bed. His sufferings have been terrible. But in all this time Mr. Sage has never deigned to send even his card to the sufferer, whose body he used to save his own.

"Not so much as an inquiry from Mr. Sage has come to the hospital. Such neglect, under the circumstances, cannot help but engender a feeling of bitterness on the part of the young man's friends."

Mr. Laidlaw was seen at St. Vincent's Hospital by an EVENING WORLD reporter, and asked whether it was true that suit had been brought against Mr. sage.

WHAT LAIDLAW HIMSELF SAYS.

"I have been urged to bring suit," he replied, "and may say that such action is in contemplation. At present, however, I do not care to say more about the matter, as further steps cannot be taken until I am well enough to leave the hospital.

"That Mr. Sage deliberately used me as a shield to save himself from the bomb-thrower's fury, I have not the least doubt.

"When I entered the office Mr. Sage was talking to the man who has since been identified as Henry L. Norcross. Mr. Sage was saying: 'If I can trust you, you can surely trust me.'

"He appeared to be much excited, and I was more surprised than I can tell you when he grasped me by the hand and began shaking it.

"He had never before shaken hands with me, and when he familiarly laid the other hand on my shoulder and pulled me between himself and the man, I did not know what to make of it.

"Young Norton was standing at his desk a few feet away, smiling and tapping a lead pencil. I looked at him and winked.

"I was somewhat amused at Mr. Sage's strange cordiality to me and thought the man was one of the kickers who often went to Mr. Sage's office and that wanted to get rid of him and therefore was going to lead me into his inner office as an excuse.

"I can now see that Mr. Sage's actions were the result of the thoughts of escaping the danger that menaced him, and that he realized the instant I appeared that if he could get me between him and the man, and could hold me there, he would be comparatively safe from bullets and whatever other weapons the man might have.

KNEW THAT HE WAS IN DANGER.

"He had read the typewritten demand and knew that the man was dangerous. He would have shown a more Christian spirit if he had told me, unconscious as I was of danger, to step outside and wait until he was at leisure as he had always done before when he was engaged.

"But no, he would sacrifice me to save himself, and as soon as he took hold of my hand, he grasped it tightly and began shaking it excitedly. Then he put the other hand on my shoulder, and with me between him and the stranger began backing away.

"I don't think the man threw the bomb, as he evidently intended to get out of the way himself first. The bag he carried apparently dropped out of his hand in his excitement.

"If I had any idea of what was coming I would have struck out for my life. But I was entirely unsuspicious of danger, and before I realized what Mr. Sage's object could be the explosion came.

"As you know, the big stick of timber that made the hole in my back would have struck Mr. Sage in the stomach if he had not held me before him.

"Look at my back, my legs and my arms. These wounds show that my back was turned to the stranger.

"Why a piece of the bag as big as a half dollar was blown into my back. The hole is just there, the waistband of my trousers comes and low I am going to wear trousers for months to come I don't know.

DECLARES THE ACTION WAS DELIBERATE.

"No one who knows Mr. Sage can doubt that he deliberately drew me in front of him. My mind is perfectly clear on that point, because, being in imminent danger, I was not excited and remember distinctly the occurrences before the explosion.

"I consider that Mr. sage's use of my body saved his own life, and that he should at least have had sufficient humanity to call or send me a word of sympathy. But not a word has come from Mr. Sage, and I have an idea that he is afraid to express any sympathy for fear that I should ask him to reimburse me for my expense and loss of time, not to say anything about my clothes and hat, which were blown all to pieces."

Mr. John Bloodgood, senior member of the firm employing Mr. Laidlaw, was non-committal when an EVENING WORLD reporter called upon him to inquire about the suit against Mr. Sage.

"I do not care to say anything about the suit," he said, "but I believe Mr. Laidlaw's story that Mr. Sage deliberately used him as a shield and thus escaped injury at the young man's expense."

"It would be premature to say anything about the case," said Mr. Thompson, of the law firm of Foster & Thompson, 52 Wall street counsel for John Bloodgood & Co.

CHRISTMAS STOCKING SERIES.
No. 4.

TAKEN OFF A FIRE-ESCAPE.

Women and Children Rescued from a Burning Building.

Policeman O'Loughlin of the Fifteenth Precinct, Brooklyn, this afternoon rescued by means of a ladder, two women and two children from the fire escape on the fourth floor of the brick tenement house at 117 Atlantic avenue.

Fire broke out at 3.15 o'clock in the jewelry store of Thomas T. Evers, on the ground floor. The smoke filled the building, and the seven families above the store became panic-stricken.

Three alarms were sent out, but the fire was confined to the jewelry store.

The amount of damage is not learned.

STOLE FROM THE MAILS.

This Postal Clerk Was Getting Lots of Christmas Presents.

John J. Smith, a clerk in the mailing division of the General Post-Office, was arrested by C. C. James, inspector-in-charge, and General Inspector Jacobs on the charge of embezzling packages of mail matter.

When searched in the inspector's room, two gold rings, a gold toothpick, a silver thimble, a silver pin, two silver garter buckles and two unoped mail packages were found in Smith's possession.

When arraigned before United States Commissioner Shields to-day he waived examination and was committed in default of $2,000 to await the action of the Grand Jury.

Thieving Letter Carriers Sentenced.

William Cohen, Matthew L. McGrath, and Merwin J. Page, postal clerks and letter carriers, who were convicted for abstracting letters from the mail were each sentenced to two years imprisonment by Judge Benedict in the United States Circuit Court to-day.

SECRETARY ELKINS SWORN IN.

Accompanied to the War Department by Secretary Blaine.

[BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Secretary Elkins was sworn in to office to-day.

Secretary Blaine accompanied him to the War Department and Chief Clerk Tweedale administered the oath of office.

The new Secretary spent a few hours receiving officials, and left the city on an afternoon train for Elkins, W. Va., where he will spend Christmas with his family. It is understood that he will not enter actively on the discharge of his new duties until after New Year's Day.

JOHN A. DAVIS OUT OF PRISON.

Gov. Hill Shortens the Term of Rochester's Ex-City Treasurer.

[BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

AUBURN, Dec. 24.—John A. Davis, ex-City Treasurer of Rochester, received a Christmas present from Gov. Hill last night in the shape of a special commutation of his sentence to Auburn Prison.

Davis was received at the prison March 28, 1890, on a five years' sentence for embezzling $61,000 of the city funds of Rochester. No reason is assigned for the Executive clemency. Davis bade adieu to the prison officials this morning and boarded a train for Rochester.

OFFICER GALLAGHER'S SENTENCE

Newswoman Kennedy's Assailant Gets Six Months in Prison.

Policeman John J. Gallagher, of the Oak street squad, who was convicted on Monday in the Court of General Session of cowardly assault upon Mary Kennedy, a newswoman, was to-day sentenced by Judge Cowing to six months' imprisonment in the Penitentiary.

The San Francisco for Chili.

[BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—The cruiser San Francisco will sail for Chili next Saturday, as sealed orders have been received by Admiral Brown.

Dear Friends.

[From Comic.]

First Pair One—But, darling, I have many social engagements this season, you know.

Second Pair One—Oh, indeed; as a chaperone, I presume!

LOCAL SPORTING DATES.

Racing at Guttenburg daily, 2 P. M.
Tug of war tournament at Madison Square Garden nightly.

December.

25.—Team and individual pigeon shoots of the Seaside Land and Water Club.
26.—Finals of the Bank Clerks' Athletic Association, 8 P. M.
Ulan A. C.'s entertainment, 8 P. M.
28.—Athletic games of Company E, Ninth Regiment at 8 P. M.
Heard Athletic Club's entertainment, 8 P. M.
31.—Boxing entertainment of the Harlem Yacht Club, 8 P. M.
"Stag" of the Riverside Wheelmen, 8 P. M.
Varuna Boat Club's "stag," 8 P. M.

January.

1.—Open shooting tournament at South Side Range, Newark.

Elysium's Fair Bowers.
You can get visions of them in the leatherette pouches of NABOB CHEWING TOBACCO. 5c. *.*

EXTRA.

THE TURF.

Board of Control's Edicts Precipitates a Bitter Fight.

PURSES TO BE MADE RICHER.

Warfare Will Injura Prospects for Jersey Race Legislation.

The resolution passed by the Board of Control, which bars from the Monmouth Park, Morris Park, Sheepshead and Brooklyn jockey clubs all owners, trainers, jockeys and horses taking part in Winter racing at Guttenburg, has precipitated one of the greatest turf wars ever seen in this country. Now that it has begun, no one can surmise where it will end. The Hudson County Jockey Club is wealthy and powerful, and its stockholders and managers are practical men, well versed in racing in all its phases. The management declares that it will carry on the war to the bitter end. It will offer purses as large as those given at the big tracks. The Association will also offer several good-sized stakes to be competed for, and in every way efforts will be made to furnish good racing. The Club has a large surplus in its treasury, and every penny of it will be used to fight the tracks under the jurisdiction of the Board of Control.

* * *

If the resolution of the Board of Control does not prove a boomerang then the writer will be very much mistaken in his summing up of the future. It is difficult to see in what way Guttenburg can be injured. It has a peculiar clientage of its own. The horses that run there could not possibly earn money at the big tracks unless, perhaps, in selling races. The crowd which visits Guttenburg also prefers that track to any other, for it is a well-known fact that the public will get a fairer run for its money there than anywhere else. Neither the horses nor the crowd will desert Guttenburg for any other course. Of course, the rule will have the effect of causing men like M. F. Dwyer, D. T. Pulsifer, W. C. Daly and a few members of the small fry order to take their horses away, but their absence will not be noticed. Indeed, in some cases it would be a cause for congratulation.

* * *

Now, on the other hand, it may be well to sum up the effect of the resolution on the big tracks. The chief sufferer will undoubtedly be Mr. D. D. Withers and his associates in the Monmouth Park Club. This association will be compelled to race at Jerome Park next Summer. This is a settled fact unless a bill should be passed by the Jersey Legislature, which at this stage of the game isn't at all likely. With Guttenburg running in opposition to the Monmouth Park races at Jerome the latter meeting is bound to come out second best. The meeting at Jerome Park last summer is all the precedent that is necessary to show this. The average attendance at those races was but a trifle over a thousand a day. It will be remembered, also, that the racing was very poor and that steeplechasing had to be resorted to to fill up the programmes. Jerome Park is also very hot in midsummer. On the hill at North Bergen cool breezes always blow. Of the two the latter is infinitely preferable.

* * *

In conversation with the writer yesterday, a prominent turfman advanced views which go to show that Guttenburg has all the best of it. He said:

"I would be will