

EXTRA. 2 O'CLOCK.

WILLIAMS TO BE CALLED TO-DAY.

The Inspector Will Be Questioned by Counsel for the Lexow Committee.

LEXOW SAYS THERE IS NO DEAL.

Last Week of the Session Promises to Be Fruitful in Sensations.

MORE RUMORS OF CONFESSIONS.

One and Perhaps Two Inspectors Said to Be Ready to Tell About Police Blackmail.

The holiday sessions of the Lexow Committee, which resumed its hearings in Part I. of the Superior Court this morning, promise to interfere sadly with the enjoyment of many a high police official in the usual celebration of the festive season.

In fact, it is not improbable that Christmas week of 1894 will go down into history in the annals of the New York Police Department as the most gloomy and distressing period of its entire existence.

Matters were in such a shape this morning as to arouse public interest in the closing days of the investigation to a fever heat, and it was the general expectation among the crowds that gathered about the Committee room at an early hour, that a sensational climax was about to be reached in the work of the Committee.

Favorable Outlook for Sensations. The outlook was favorable for such a result. A Christmas day batch of subpoenas had been sent up to Post Office headquarters and had been distributed by Supt. Byrnes among his subordinates, including three inspectors and nine captains. The inspectors summoned are Alexander S. Williams, William W. McLaughlin and William McAvoy, and the captains are Ryan, of the Highbridge station; Washburn, of the Kingsbridge Westervelt, of East One Hundred and Fourth street; Killilea, of West One Hundred and Fifty-second street; Gallagher, of East Twenty-second street; Straus, of East Sixty-seventh street; Murphy, of West One Hundredth street; Delaney, of Charles street, and Martens, of East Thirty-first street.

Besides this, it was said that the Superintendent himself had also received a Christmas greeting from Mr. Goff in the shape of a subpoena, which requested him to appear in person and produce before the committee certain most old records of the Police Department, which a number of clerks said to be the greater part of the holiday yesterday in looking up and arranging in order. This is a big list of names, and who would be the first to be called was as much of a mystery this morning, as it has been at the commencement of every day's hearing in the past. No one outside of Mr. Goff himself, however, has been able to forebode what a day would bring forth, and the chief counsel ever has often been uneasy in his nerves and ignorant of how much they would be willing to tell.

Committee on Rumors at Work. There were plenty of rumors in circulation this morning, however, in regard to the general of the captains, who had been summoned, as well as possibly two of the inspectors, who were expected to confess, and tell all they knew about the corruption and blackmailing practices of the Police Department, that they had decided to do this in the hope of saving themselves from future prosecution and possible disgrace.

Task of the "deal" alleged to have been arranged with Platt for the protection of police commissioners, Martin and Sheehan, and inspectors Williams and McLaughlin was received by Supt. Byrnes, and that Supt. Byrnes would surely escape a trying ordeal at the hands of the committee, and be called to the witness-stand, despite the persistent efforts of Dr. Parkhurst and his representative, Mr. Moss, to have that official put through the mill and handled without gloves, just the same as other witnesses.

Chairman Lexow, who was the first member of the Committee to arrive, said that all such reports were absurd.

Lexow Denies a Deal. "It is not a question of shielding anybody," he said, "but of completing the work in hand in time to prepare a report for the Legislature, and to be ready by Jan. 15."

"It is not fair to the Committee to compel it to work right up to the time of the convening of the Legislature. It gives too little opportunity for preparation of the report."

"We have as yet had no formal consultation with much more testimony we will take until we have ascertained what the character of the case is, and, possibly, then, to receive testimony, and the rest of the time at our disposal will probably be given up to executive sessions."

Williams, but Not Byrnes. "Have you any idea whether Supt. Byrnes will be called to-day?" he was asked. "I understand that he will not be called to-day, but that Inspector Williams will be put upon the stand."

Inspector Williams at this time was in the Court-room, but had not come into the Committee room. He stood out with a number of the counsel, talking with Lexow and Capt. Westervelt, and accompanied him down there.



BIG INJUN! HEAP KILL! UGH! UGH!

Capt. Washburn was already on hand. Both the inspectors were in uniform. They declined to talk upon the subject of their examination.

ON A MURDERER'S TRAIL.

It Leads to Mountain Caves in a Dreary Woodland. (Special to The Evening World.) FLEMINGTON, N. J., Dec. 25.—Up to 12 o'clock to-day Murderer Samuel Goldman, who shot and instantly killed Rutherford Williams, at Lambertville, yesterday, was at large. A posse of men, armed with shotguns, are scouring Sourland Mountain, where Goldman is supposed to be hiding. As Sourland Mountain covers an area of about ten miles long and one and a half miles wide, it is believed, it will require a number of hours before he is captured.

The mountain is covered with massive rocks and high trees and brush. There are several big caves in this dreary strip of land, and if Goldman is concealed there he may not be searched for food. The report that Goldman fled as far as the mountain, where the trail was lost. An inquest over the murdered man's body will be held to-day.

It is known that some of the Assistant District-Attorneys have been busy drawing up indictments based on the evidence given by the police officers who have confessed. These indictments have been prepared in advance, as it is quite certain that the Grand Jury will order them on the evidence.

It is known that the cases against Capt. Schmittberger, and Policeman Thorne have been practically dropped by the District-Attorney's office. When Col. Fellows was asked whether the indictments were dropped, he said that he was not prepared at the present time to talk about them, but that they would have a statement to make.

He did say that neither of the men had been promised immunity by the District-Attorney or his assistants, but it is known that both understood that they would be permitted to make the confessions in order to escape prosecution. This was communicated to them without the District-Attorney directly appearing in the matter, but they were given a understanding very plainly that it was the best thing for them to do.

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EXTRA. 2 O'CLOCK.

STEPHENSON SENTENCED.

The Convicted Captain Must Go to the Penitentiary for 3 Years and 9 Months.

ALSO TO PAY A FINE OF \$1,000.

Commutation for Good Behavior Reduces the Time by Ten Months.

DOES NOT LOSE HIS NERVE.

Attempts of His Counsel to Secure Further Postponement Unavailing.

John T. Stephenson to the bar. What have you now to say why the sentence of the Court should not be passed upon you?" called out the Clerk of the Court. Stephenson stood as straight as an arrow at the bar and Justice Ingraham said:

"Stephenson, you have been convicted of bribery by a jury upon evidence which was absolutely convincing of your guilt. The crime of bribery is a crime against the people of the State, and a serious one. You were not tried for taking \$5 worth of peaches, but for prostituting your public office.

"The size of the bribe is of no account; that makes no difference. I am sorry, that in punishing you, I must distress innocent persons, your wife and family. I regret, exceedingly, that they should suffer, but I cannot let you off on that account."

"I have received letters from all of the urymen and from many prominent business men, asking mercy for you."

"On the other hand, I have received Richard Welstead Croker was born in Blackrock, County Cork, Ireland, Nov. 24, 1848. He is of sturdy frame, stockily built, standing about 5 feet 6 inches. His weight is in the neighborhood of 180 pounds, and he is, therefore, one of the shortest men in the heavyweight class to-day.

As a pupil at the East Twenty-seventh Street School in this city his fistic prowess was first developed by impromptu encounters with his mates. His first real fight was against "Reddy" Maskins in the cellar of a tenement. He was victorious. He next beat Pat Kelly in a saloon at Third avenue and Thirty-fifth street. Later a fight was arranged for him with Owen Goehagan, but it never took place.

Croker fought Dickie Lynch in Jones' Woods on a Sunday morning in 1866, and pounded his adversary into such shape

that he had to be carried from the ring. He knocked out Matt Green and served Danny Leary the same way, the dates being unknown. As an instructor in the fistic art, he became famous, his pupil, Pete Maguire having been matched to meet Abe Hicken, of Philadelphia, near Baltimore, Feb. 5, 1868. A row occurred on the train en route to the battleground and a free fight broke up the arrangement.

At Jim Cusick's dog-pit, in a free fight, he upheld his fame as a rough-and-tumble fighter, and as leader of the famous "Tunnel Gang," his fistic abilities were far-famed—in fact, his command of his "managers" earned him the leadership. As a member of Engine 25, in the Volunteer Fire Department, he was famous as one of the most expert and redoubtable pugilists among the fire-ladders.

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"THE EVENING WORLD'S" GALLERY OF SPORTING CELEBRITIES.

No. 1.



"RICHARD HIMSELF AGAIN!"

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EXTRA. 2 O'CLOCK.

MRS. ASTOR LOST HOPE.

She Was in a State of Melancholia for Nearly Three Months.

SECRECY AT THE CASTLE.

It Is Said that Cliveden-on-the-Thames Was Wrapped in Gloom.

MR. ASTOR MAY SELL THE PLACE.

Rumor Says He Will Come to New York, but It Is Not Generally Credited in London.

(Copyright, 1894, by the Press Publishing Company, New York World.) (Special to The Evening World.) LONDON, Dec. 25.—The strict seclusion observed by the Astor family at Cliveden the past three months has been much discussed in the neighboring village of Taplow, as The World correspondent found on making inquiries there to-day.

The Astors preserved a secrecy touching Mrs. Astor's illness which is usual only with royalties, and it is stated on all sides that far less was known about the affairs of the mansion in the vicinity than when it was tenanted by the Duke of Westminster and other men who live in history.

The World correspondent learned, however, that the principal feature of the deceased lady's illness was a profound depression which could not be dispelled, rendering her case almost quite hopeless from the first.

Mr. Astor suffered from a severe illness early in the year. Since then her health had never been robust, but it transpired only about three weeks ago, owing to the visits of a leading London doctor, that she was again sick.

It is said now that though her physical ailments were complicated, they might have been amenable to treatment if the patient had seconded the efforts of her doctors by any attempt to fight against them.

Death came somewhat suddenly, and quite unexpectedly, it being believed by those who saw her, that the physicians thought there was no immediate danger, though little hope of ultimate recovery was entertained.

Her husband was completely prostrated by the blow, weakened as he was by apprehension, which had oppressed him so long. For several weeks he had been seen nowhere in society, though he rarely missed going to London for a few hours each day to attend to business at his handsome office in Thames Embankment.

It has been Mr. Astor's custom to see his wife, and his accountants almost every day, and to confer with the editors of his various publications. He often dictates articles to shorthand clerks and, indeed, he exhibits a business shrewdness and capacity for details which long ago convinced all brought in contact with him that he had inherited a fortune, he certainly would have made one.

His wife's illness and death have accentuated Mr. Astor's increasing distaste for social pleasures, and practically made him a recluse.

When able to be seen, Mrs. Astor took an active personal interest in the extensive alterations of Cliveden, which were effected mainly according to her ideas. Taplow people tell how, on recovering from her first illness, she had all the work accomplished during her absence done over again at great expense.

Though the Astors spent much money in their immediate neighborhood, the people express disappointment that they did not entertain on as lavish a scale as they anticipated. The house seems to have impressed the people of the neighborhood as being a very different atmosphere of gloom—very different from what it was in the hands of its former residents.

It is now common rumor in Taplow that Mr. Astor, who has been so long in the Westminster, who always regretted selling it.

It is also thought in Taplow that Mr. Astor will return to live in America, but an active personal interest in the extensive alterations of Cliveden, which were effected mainly according to her ideas. Taplow people tell how, on recovering from her first illness, she had all the work accomplished during her absence done over again at great expense.

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THE GRAND JURY'S DRAG NET.

Said to Be Spreading It for More Police Officials.

Confessions of Schmittberger, Creedon and Thorne Cause Activity.

This was a very busy morning at the Criminal Court-House. The Grand Jury, which adjourned last Friday until to-day, met at 10.30 o'clock, and, judging from the large number of witnesses that thronged the ante-room to the Grand Jury room, they had plenty of work to do.

It is known that some of the Assistant District-Attorneys have been busy drawing up indictments based on the evidence given by the police officers who have confessed. These indictments have been prepared in advance, as it is quite certain that the Grand Jury will order them on the evidence.

It is known that the cases against Capt. Schmittberger, and Policeman Thorne have been practically dropped by the District-Attorney's office. When Col. Fellows was asked whether the indictments were dropped,