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LADY FLORENCE DIXIE.

AN ATTEMPT TO MURDER HER AT WINDSOR.

ATTACKED BY TWO MEN DISGUISED AS WOMEN—HER HANDS AND DRESS ARE CUT, BUT SHE IS NOT SERIOUSLY INJURED.

At Windsor on Saturday Lady Florence Dixie, sister of the Marquis of Queensberry and wife of Sir Alexander B. C. Dixie, Bart., was attacked while walking near some woods by two men disguised as women. At the sight of the daggers of the would-be murderers Lady Florence fell in a swoon from which she did not recover for three-quarters of an hour. She then found that in her struggle she had been cut on the palms of her hands, and that there were two dagger holes in the breast of her dress. One blow had broken a steel of her corset. She was prostrated, but was not seriously injured. She attributes the saving of her life to her struggle while unconscious with the assassins, and to the efforts of her St. Bernard dog. She is well known as a writer and as the author of charges against the Land League officers in relation to the disposal of the funds of the League. No arrests in the case had been made up to last night.

THE ASSASSINS DISGUISED AS WOMEN.

LONDON, March 18.—Lady Florence Dixie was attacked at Windsor yesterday by two men disguised in women's clothes. Her dress was cut with daggers in several places, but she received no injury. Lady Florence was walking in a secluded spot near the woods when the two men asked her what time it was. She replied that she had no watch, and afterward noticed that although they wore women's clothes their faces had been shaved. Much alarmed she started to walk away, and was followed by the men, one of whom seized her. She struggled to escape, but, seeing their daggers, fell in a swoon. This took place at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and she did not recover her senses until 8:45 p. m.

Lady Florence has been prostrated to-day. The story of the affair was elicited from her only at intervals. The saving of her life is attributed to her St. Bernard dog, which, it is supposed, protected her while she lay in the swoon. Lady Florence had no reason to suspect immediate danger, although she had been somewhat fearful since the receipt of letters about the Land League. The last thing she remembers is one of the men pushing a quantity of sand into her mouth. On her recovery she found that both palms were cut across and her gloves severed. There were two dagger holes two inches apart in the right breast of her dress. A broad steel corset rib had been broken by the weapon, which had penetrated to the inner lining of her dress at the first stroke and to her corset at the second stroke. Lady Florence supposes that she unconsciously struggled with the men, assisted by her dog, until the scoundrels were disturbed by a cart passing the woods. She received threatening letters while in Ireland recently. One of the men wore a green dress and a large hat with a veil. The veiled man attempted the assassination.

No arrests have been made. The police have slight clew to the scoundrels. It is believed that the men were bitten in the struggle.

OPINION OF A LOCAL IRISH LEADER.

Michael D. Gallagher, a jeweller, living at No. 48 West Twenty-seventh-st., the president of the Parnell Land League in this city, last night seemed to have been uninformed respecting the attack on Lady Florence Dixie. "She is a fraud," he said, in reply to the question first put him, "and this agitation is all got up by the British Government, we believe. The Land League knows nothing about this; its plans are to have an entirely peaceable agitation. Lady Dixie is regarded by the League as a sort of crank. She keeps repeating a lot of falsehoods about the League that certainly are not very pleasant to its members. Her statements have all been answered thoroughly. I suppose, however, Lady Dixie may believe them herself."

"Do you think that they could have caused these attacks upon her?"

"They might have done it, but not through any instruction on the part of the League. The men who compose the League in this country belong to the best and the most intelligent class of Irishmen. They want to do what they can to aid Mr. Parnell, and to do it peaceably. They don't engage in any of these murderous affairs and they don't countenance them. If they find that nothing can be effected in a peaceable way, as they wish, they will drop the whole matter. It has cost me $2,000, and I don't derive any benefit from it. I would not have had anything to do with the League but for the personal solicitation of Mr. Parnell."

"Can you account for this attack on Lady Dixie in any other way?"

"No; unless it is manufactured for a purpose against Mr. Parnell. Of course, Forster would like to turn the whole Gladstone Ministry over; and then too the English are afraid of Mr. Parnell coming over to the United States and talking with the Irish here. It seems to me they want to find some pretext for arresting him. Perhaps they may make this sufficient to place him under arrest and prevent his coming to the United States."

A SKETCH OF LADY FLORENCE DIXIE.

Lady Florence Caroline Douglas Dixie is the second daughter of the seventh Marquis of Queensberry, who was killed in 1858 by the explosion of his gun. Her mother was the second daughter of Lieutenant-General Sir William Robert Clayton, Baronet. She and her youngest brother, Lord James Edward Sholto Douglas, were born May 25, 1855. In 1875 Lady Florence married Sir Alexander Beaumont Churchill Dixie, Baronet, of Bosworth Park, Leicestershire. She has become well-known to the reading public by her writings, and is known among her friends as an accomplished horsewoman, a good sailor and a traveller. In 1878 this active and adventurous Scotchwoman went to Patagonia "because it was an outlandish place and so far away" and because she was tired of civilization and wanted to escape somewhere. She made up a party consisting of her husband, the Marquis of Queensberry, and another brother, Mr. Julius Beerbohm (who had published a book on Patagonia) and a single servant. The travellers left Liverpool in December, 1878, and after landing at Sandy Point they set out for the interior of Patagonia as soon as they could procure guides, horses and dogs. They had no plan of travel save to reach the base of the high Andes and return to the Straits of Magellan in time to catch a return steamer, and no special motive beyond roughing it and hunting the guanaco and the ostrich. They saw a great deal of wild country, camped in one of the high Cordilleras valleys, in sight of the three huge red needles called Cleopatra's Peaks, hunted to their hearts' content and made their way back to Sandy Point in safety. Lady Florence told the story of these travels in a book called "Across Patagonia," which was illustrated by Mr. Beerbohm. The book does not pretend to be more than an account of a pleasure trip, but it is fresh and breezy and pictures well the wholesome pleasures of out-of-door life and adventure in a strange country. The best chapters are the descriptions of hunting adventures. Her next journey was to Zululand, where she went as the correspondent of *The London Morning Post*. While there she attracted attention by an earnest appeal in behalf of Cetewayo. After her return to England she published "In the Land of Midian."

Lady Florence has taken an active part in Irish affairs for a long time, expressing her views in the English reviews, the newspapers and pamphlets. She devoted herself at one time to relieving the distress in the western part of Ireland. Last year, in a pamphlet called "An Address to the Tenant Farmers and People of Ireland, with Advice and Warning," she urged the advisability of calling upon the trustees of the Land League Fund for a statement of the manner in which the money had been expended. This drew from *The Irishman* this paragraph under the head of "Query": "To put Lady Florence Dixie's courage and frankness to the proof, we shall ask her a question, and we shall expect a plain and straightforward answer. Was she—Lady Florence Dixie—ever expelled from the Court of Queen Victoria? And if she ever was expelled from that Court, will she be frank enough to tell us what was the cause?" Her answer *The Irishman* did not print, but *The Freeman's Journal* gave it a place. In her explanation she said that during one of her many expeditions to foreign parts she had occasion, for convenience sake, to cut her hair short. On her return to England she was presented at Court on the occasion of her marriage, but she unintentionally infringed upon the Court rules by not wearing lace and feathers on her head. A note from the Lord Chamberlain reminded her of this rule the next day, but the matter was dropped after she wrote a note of explanation. Later an order was issued regulating the number of feathers and the length of the veils to be worn on these occasions. Since then Lady Florence has not attended any "drawing-rooms," as it has not been her "peculiar ambition" to do or to wear false hair in order that she might don feathers and a veil. She has preferred to keep her hair short. About a week ago Lady Florence again attacked the Land League, charging, in a letter to *The London Times*, that Messrs. Biggar and Parnell, trustees of the Land League Fund, had not accounted for £152,000 of the money intrusted to them. When the charge was made Irish agitators here ridiculed it. P. J. Sheridan expressed the opinion that she had been made "an innocent and unsuspecting tool of Pigott, late proprietor of *The Irishman* and *The Flag of Ireland*." "Pigott," he said, "I regard as one of the most disreputable Irishmen of the present day." James Redpath and Patrick Eagan also asserted that Richard Pigott had started the story, after attempting to blackmail Mr. Egan. Lady Florence's mother was converted to Catholicism after her husband's death, and became interested in the cause of the National party in Ireland. She gave a liberal sum of money to the wife of the man who assassinated Talbot, the detective, and her son sent a gift four times as large to Talbot's widow. The present Marquis, Lady Florence's brother, is President of the British Secular Union. He is an aggressive agnostic and two years ago he lost his seat as a Scotch Representative Peer because of his conscientious scruples on the subject of faith. Last fall he made a sensation by rising in his seat at the Globe Theatre and protesting against the argument put into the mouth of a free-thinker in Tennyson's "Promise of May." One of his brothers was killed on the Matterhorn in 1865. Another, Lord Archibald Douglass is a priest in the Roman Catholic Church. His eldest sister, Lady Gertrude, who had been assisting her Catholic brother in his school work, ran away with a young baker last year, and is now, it is said, assisting him in his business.

ENGLAND AND IRELAND.

A TALK WITH MR. PARNELL.

THE IRISH PARTY AND THE RECENT EXPLOSIONS—CHARGES AGAINST THE LONDON PRESS—REMEDIAL LEGISLATION.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

BOSTON, March 18.—A cable dispatch to *The Sunday Globe* from London contains an interview with Mr. Parnell. He says: "I have felt compelled to refuse to make any utterances concerning these matters to the English press because, no matter how carefully my expression might be made, my jury would certainly be prejudiced. If not, it would not be packed. England is not in a mood to listen to anything about Irish affairs that is not condemnatory of the Irish people. It is the fashion in England now to cry down Ireland. The surest way to British preferment is the doing this well. Christianity has grown for nearly 2,000 years, and in the country which has published the most Bibles it has come to pass that the greatest public favor is the preferred and the guaranteed reward of the English follower of Christ who can invent the most excuses for suppressing the natural rights of the Irish followers of Christ. The Irish Christian takes less Friday fish from the north side of the English Channel; the English Christian less from the south.

"Why should the Irishman be absolutely a slave and the Englishman be his master? Why should the Irishman give up his struggles to be free? After centuries of strife, the Irish people reached by wonderful patience and wonderful tact that stage of political success wherein their struggles for liberty were confined to Parliamentary efforts. So good was that cause that legislation was secured giving the Irish peasantry some rights on their native soil. So prudent were these peasants in the enjoyment of the fruits of their hard toil that malice has for the time failed, and since the period of the Ministry's concession no unlawful act has been or can be brought home to the real Irish party. If crimes have been committed in Ireland so have crimes been committed elsewhere. But in Ireland everything done by persons not in office must be done by Irishmen; and if the acts are criminal it seems nearly impossible for Englishmen to assign other than revolutionary reasons for their commission.

"I do not care to discuss the crimes now under judicial investigation in Ireland so long as the courts of justice have them in charge, but I do protest against the uncivilized injustice shown by the English press toward the people of Ireland since the recent explosions. The explosions occurred at 9 o'clock at night, the one at the Government building doing some £4,000 damage and the one at *The Times* building doing little, if any. The police and military were at once put in possession, and all opportunity for an impartial investigation was shut off. If the London press were conducted as the American press is, scores of expert writers would have at once investigated the explosions on the spot, and undoubtedly would have fully explained them in all the public prints next day. But secrecy and mystery were secured which naturally surrounded affairs with great importance. The next day the London press without exception, without investigation, without reason, charged both explosions upon the Irish party, describing them as diabolical plots to punish and intimidate the Government. Fair reportorial investigation might have shown that the explosion at the Government buildings was caused by gas, and that the one at *The Times* building was caused by any one of a thousand persons who imagined themselves aggrieved.

"I tell you, notwithstanding all the troubles of the Irish people, there is to-day as much bitter woe in England and Scotland, and as much bitter hostility among the poor and idle of both countries against the lordly power as there ever was in Ireland. The Irish are struggling for fair policies. They are accustomed to being hungry and ill-housed and clad, and are not murmuring on that account. But the laborers in Scotland and England are idle and hungry, and dangerously impatient. You don't see all this in the editorials of the London papers, but you see it in the column where the stories of the poor are told, and in the vastly increased number of crimes and violence. The manufactures and trades of England are in a bad condition. The English people are not Nihilistic and never have been, and if they were there are ten causes in England for Nihilism where there is one in Ireland. The Irish poor are the agricultural poor. The poor in England are the dangerous poor of the large towns and the mining districts.

"I do not assume even to suggest that the acts of violence either in Ireland or London have been concocted by the enemies of Ireland. All I insist upon is that the Irish party is honestly endeavoring to secure remedial legislation through the regular courses of Parliament; that the Irish party has no need to resort to such acts of public violence as have been charged against it; and that the Irish party has every reason to refrain from such illegal acts. I may say further that whether or not the opponents of the Irish party have found it convenient to engender or invent acts of insolence for the purpose of injuring the Irish cause in Parliament and before the English people, the fact that they invariably and without investigation charge the Irish party with having perpetrated all these crimes, produces the same result, and is almost equally criminal. I charge the London press with the political crime of having, without reason and without inquiry, attempted to convince England that a series of outrages which will undoubtedly be proved to be unconnected with the Irish party, were the representative acts of Irish revenge. I charge the London press with the political crime of having done this at a critical period in the stage of Irish remedial legislation, and I lay upon that press all the responsibility for all the delay which may be consequent in the doing of that justice which the Ministry avowed its intention to give to Ireland, and for all the spirit of Irish hostility which may be aroused as a result. I declare that the Irish party is absolutely innocent of all cause for the blame sought to be placed upon it."

MR. PARNELL ARRIVES IN PARIS.

PARIS, March 18.—Mr. Parnell has arrived here.

THE RECEPTION TO MR. PARNELL.

A large and representative body of delegates met in Germania Hall in Third-ave. yesterday afternoon to organize the reception to be given Charles Stewart Parnell. The following bodies were represented: Ancient Order of Hibernians of New-York, of King's County, and of Jersey City; Land League of New-York, of Kings County and of Jersey City; Parnell Land League, of New-York; St. Patrick's Mutual Alliance, of New-York and Jersey City; Temperance Society, of Jersey City; Longshoremen's Union, Wolfe Tone Association and St. Michael's Society, of Jersey City. James Oliver, of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, was appointed temporary chairman.

On the election of Dr. W. B. Wallace, however, to the position of permanent chairman and president of the convention, the Ancient Hibernians, who had understood that their nominee was to be appointed without opposition, left the hall and declared their intention of holding a separate convention.

M. B. Gallagher, president of the Parnell Land League, then presided, and the discussion turned on a resolution that the Reception Committee should not be authorized to go "junketing" down the Bay to meet Parnell on his arrival. The sentiments of the meeting, however, were expressed by Judge Rooney, that "not only shall we go down the Bay, but we shall go down in a special steamer, with the green flag of Erin at our mast and twenty-one guns firing a welcome; that Parnell shall be escorted to Castle Garden, and that there another salute of twenty-one guns shall be fired, so that Britain may know what reception we give our chief. And if it cost us $1,000 or £1,000, let it."

It was then decided that a committee should wait on the Ancient Order of Hibernians and try to re-secure their co-operation.

At the meeting of the Irish Confederation of America at Clarendon Hall last night, E. J. Rowe presiding, a committee of five was appointed to co-operate in the preparations for the reception to Mr. Parnell.

EGAN IN WATERBURY, CONN.

WATERBURY, Conn., March 18.—After a lecture to-night on St. Patrick, by Father Lilly, of Ohio, Patrick Egan, when introduced, said that Ireland is to-day in the hands of a most brutal and coercive foe, who is hanging innocent men, bayoneting women and shooting down children. England, he said, with her spies, informers and packed juries, is trying to crush out the national life of Ireland, but there is a new Ireland on this side of the Atlantic which will hold her to a reckoning. He believed that Ireland's long night of slavery was approaching its dawn, and that the measures for her national independence would be successful.

Father Walsh said that Mr. Egan was not ashamed or afraid at the proper time to give a full account of the Land League funds.

ROSSA'S ASSERTIONS NOT BELIEVED.

Conversation with leading Irishmen in New-York, members of the Land League and of various other societies, shows that the assertion of O'Donovan Rossa and his gang that the distinction of having planned and executed the recent explosion in London belongs to them is received with the utmost derision and contempt. Very few believe that the brotherhood in New-York knew anything about the explosion, and their statements to the contrary are regarded as utterly false.

The views of these men may be summed up in the words of William Hall, delegate of the League at the Chicago Convention; "I represent more particularly, perhaps," said Mr. Hall, "the views of the Nationalists, who hold as stoutly as any men in America that any blow dealt at the British Government on behalf of Ireland is just and laudable. We are bitterly hostile to England. Nearly all of us have brothers and sisters in Ireland, and it is for them we are striving. But we do not recognize dynamite as an agency, and those Irishmen who belong to our ranks owe it to their American education that they do not uphold the dynamite policy. To them O'Donovan Rossa is doubly odious; first, because he seeks the bad credit of having perpetrated the late outrage, and, secondly, because they believe that in claiming it he is lying. We do not believe that O'Donovan Rossa, Patrick Joyce or P. K. Hoogan know one iota about this matter."

THE FIRE RECORD.

INJURED BY A FALLING WALL.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 18.—Another incendiary fire occurred at Bloomington, Ind., at 11 o'clock last night, destroying the barn of Professor Wiley. His granary was fired at the same time, but was not destroyed.

A wall of one of the buildings destroyed on Friday fell to-day, burying four men and a boy, three of whom were probably fatally injured.

DISTILLERY AND CRIBS BURNED.

CINCINNATI, March 18.—A fire at Hamilton this afternoon destroyed the distillery of the Miami Distillery Company, owned by Pattison & Caldwell. The loss is from $75,000 to $100,000, which is well covered by insurance. The bonded warehouse and some outhouses were saved, but the distillery and cribs are a total loss.

THE LOSS OF A MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

CHICAGO, March 18.—A dispatch to *The Inter-Ocean* from Sandwich, Ill., says: "The works of the Sandwich Manufacturing Company were burned this morning. The loss $18,000; no insurance. The loss on the tools of the workmen and two small buildings adjoining is $6,000; partly insured.

MACHINE SHOPS DESTROYED.

NEWCOMERSTOWN, Ohio, March 18.—Fire at New-Philadelphia yesterday damaged Glauser's repair shops and totally destroyed Sharp & Son's machine shops and warehouse. The loss is $11,000, the insurance $1,000.

BLANKETS AND LOOMS DESTROYED.

WORCESTER, Mass., March 18.—A. E. Smith's storehouse, with contents, in Leicester, was burned this morning. In the building were 177 cases of blankets and sixteen looms, owned by Timothy Remick, of Boston, which were destroyed. The loss is estimated at $23,000.

A MYSTERIOUS MURDER NEAR BOSTON.

A WOMAN KILLED AT HER OWN DOORWAY.

BOSTON, March 18.—A case very similar to the still mysterious murder of Mrs. Bell in this city occurred in Watertown, about eight miles from here, to-night. Mrs. Carleton, a respectable lady, living near Norwood Park, in that town, was brutally murdered in her own doorway by some person at present unknown. It has been learned that a man rang the door bell at 7:30 p. m. and that Mrs. Carleton went to the door, when the man stepped inside. The murder was undoubtedly committed immediately afterward, as Mrs. Carleton's daughter, going down stairs to see who the visitor was, stepped upon her mother's body lying at the foot of the stairs. The murderer used a large piece of rock, beating in his victim's skull in a horrible manner. Mrs. Carleton's husband is a liquor dealer in Boston. There has been trouble between him and his wife, and he has not been home for ten days. Watertown officers came here to-night, but at 11:30 p. m. had not succeeded in finding him.

Mrs. Carleton was thirty years old. She had two children, and was far advanced in pregnancy. She had been married about six years.

THE MISSISSIPPI STILL FALLING.

MEMPHIS, March 18.—The river here continues to decline steadily. The track of the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad is free from water, and repairs on that line are actively being made. In many localities between Memphis and Helena the river is within its banks.

A dispatch from Helena, Ark., says: "The river is declining at the rate of six inches a day. The gauge now registers less than forty-five feet, a total fall of over two feet. The bottom lands will soon be free from water, and planting will begin within three weeks. Stringent sanitary measures will be enforced after the water subsides."

NINE RAILROAD CARS WRECKED.

CHICAGO, March 18.—A dispatch from Storm Lake, Iowa, says a mixed train on the Illinois Central road was wrecked this morning. Two passenger coaches and seven box cars were smashed, and the track was torn up for a distance of twenty rods. No person was seriously injured.

TRUST FUNDS MISMANAGED.

METHODS OF THE LATE JUDGE TAYLOR.

EVIDENCE INCREASING THAT LARGE SUMS WERE LOST—SOME OF THE LOSERS—JUDGE TAYLOR'S METHODS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

NEWBURG, N. Y., March 18.—The evidence that the late Judge James W. Taylor used the trust funds committed to his care in an improper manner, continues to accumulate. Persons who call and receive the securities standing in their names from M. H. Hirschberg, who is settling the estate, find that many are unaccounted for. The Philip Verplanck estate apparently will suffer the most. Judge Taylor was the executor of the estate; it amounted originally to about $250,000. Judge Taylor paid over $100,000 in legacies; of the remainder $94,000 is not accounted for. Thomas C. Vernol, of this city, is understood to lose from $50,000 to $75,000. Reuben T. Reeves, of Cornwall, loses about $10,000, and the Tooker estate, of which he was executor, about $8,000.

There were in the possession of Judge Taylor securities to a considerable amount belonging to the estate of the late Dr. Gardner; there are about $8,000 of these missing. The Fleming estate is also likely to lose a good deal. Several building lots belonging to the estate were sold by the Judge and apparently no accounting made. J. T. Headley, the historian, had $4,000 in securities lodged with the Judge; of these $1,000 cannot be found. The Rev. Dr. John Brown, rector for very many years of St. George's Episcopal Church here, had a small amount in Judge Taylor's hands, on which he received interest regularly up to the time of the Judge's death. It is known now that the investment was a bad one and that Judge Taylor received no interest on the investment. He had simply paid the interest in order to prevent an exposure of the fact that the investment was bad and thus lead to an investigation.

ONE OF JUDGE TAYLOR'S METHODS.

One of his plans was to invest in second mortgages, leading the owners of the money advanced to believe that he held a first mortgage. When J. G. Roe, of Cornwall, failed not long ago, it was discovered that there was a mortgage of $20,000 ahead of the one which Judge Taylor had placed. There are new cases coming to light almost daily. It is asserted that there are even bogus mortgages which have been drawn, the mortgagees having no real existence, and the property mortgaged is a myth. Very many of the loans have been made on farms and village property in the counties of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Niagara, this State, and in Wisconsin and Minnesota. A good deal of the loss is due to the depreciation in value of the property mortgaged to cover up losses."

A VERY SERIOUS CHARGE.

It is charged that the Judge sold property and used the proceeds to pay the interest on other mortgages. It is known that he bought in a considerable amount of property at foreclosure sales, and this is held in his own name or that of the Western Land Company, a concern organized by Judge Taylor for the purpose of buying and holding the lands sold under foreclosure. Everything indicates that the Judge had about reached the end of his financial tether at the time of his death. He owned fifty-five shares of the Highland National Bank, of which he was a director, but these were hypothecated for their full value for a loan, and his account was overdrawn $15. He had also hypothecated $15,000 of his life insurance policies. His handsome residence in Grand-st., which is in the name of his wife, is mortgaged for $10,000.

EXPENSIVE LIVING AND SPECULATION.

Those who are in a position to know say that the Judge's embarrassments were due in part to his excessive expenditure in living and keeping up a good deal of style in his business, and in part to speculation in Wall-st. Two weeks before his death, Judge Taylor sold a house and lot belonging to the Clanie estate. He paid some of the heirs. Congressman Beach's wife, whose share was about $3,000, finds that there is no money left in bank to satisfy her claim. The total misappropriation is about $225,000. Mr. Hirschberg, who is settling up the estate, said this evening that he thought there might possibly be a better showing than most persons have believed. There was a good deal of Western property and securities in the Judge's name, and this, of course, would be turned over to his creditors. What would be the outcome he would not pretend to say.

A full inventory of the assets will be begun to-morrow. It will take two or three weeks to complete it. There is a judgment of $31,000 in favor of Judge Taylor against the estate of his former law partner, William E. Hasbrouck, which will also add to the assets of the estate. As is usual in cases of this kind, Judge Taylor was the last man whom the community at large would have suspected of being guilty of anything of the kind.

RAILWAY INTERESTS.

RESIGNATION OF A PRESIDENT.

BOSTON, March 18.—*The Advertiser* to-morrow will say: "In consequence of numerous statements that F. A. Brooks, president of the Vermont and Canada Railway, viewed unfavorably the pending negotiations between the Central Vermont and his road, Mr. Brooks tendered his resignation as president and director. The Board of Directors accepted it and elected Colonel Albert Clark of Boston to succeed him. The board also voted to accept the draft of a $7,000,000 6 per cent mortgage covering both roads, which was approved and presented by the counsel of both corporations. This leaves no obstacle in the way of a settlement of difficulties, with the exception of a few minor matters of a private nature, and an arrangement between the roads is practically completed. A new corporation will be organized to which the whole property will be transferred."

NEW THROUGH TRAINS TO BOSTON.

NEW-HAVEN, Conn., March 18.—The New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad Company propose putting on two new through trains between New-York and Boston, via Springfield, about May 1. Trains composed of drawing-room and ordinary cars will leave New-York and Boston at 9 o'clock, running through without change of cars in from six to six and a half hours.

A CLAIM OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 18.—Judge Cravens, Special Master in Chancery, yesterday made a report to Judge McCrary in the United States Circuit Court, in the Hannibal and St. Joseph bond case. The Master was appointed to report upon the amount of indebtedness remaining due to the State on account of the bonds issued by the latter in aid of the road. The railroad company has paid into the state treasury $3,000,000. The Master reports that on January 1, 1883, there was due the State for unpaid interest from the railroad company the sum of $549,000. The report now awaits the action of the presiding judge.

SITTING BULL TO BE RELEASED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 18.—Trustworthy official information from Fort Randall is to the effect that the Government has decided to release Sitting Bull and his braves, 140 in number, from military custody. They will be taken on May 1 from Fort Randall, where they have been since they were removed from Fort Yates, a year ago, and placed upon the reservation at the Standing Rock Agency. There are no indications of any future trouble with this redoubtable chieftain and his band, of whose earnest desire for a life of peace and industry in agriculture and stock-raising the Government seems fully convinced.

TEN MEN ARRESTED IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 18.—In Clarendon County yesterday Charles Wilson, a deputy United States Marshal, assisted by two constables, arrested nine white men and one colored man, all respectable merchants or farmers. He took them from their homes without allowing them to change their clothing or make any preparation for a journey, carried them to Graham's and locked them up all night. In the morning he took them to Florence, where they are to be held until Tuesday when they will be examined by a United States Commissioner. Wilson said the arrest was for an election offence, but would give the prisoners no more definite information of the charge against them. Bail was offered for all the prisoners, but Wilson refused it, giving as his reason that to do so would deprive him of his mileage. Great indignation has been caused by this proceeding.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

FRENCH COMMUNISTS QUIET.

ONLY A FEW DISTURBANCES—SEVERAL ARRESTS MADE.

PARIS, March 18.—The day has been even quieter than usual. There has been nothing unusual even at the Champ de Mars, where the meeting of Communists was announced to take place, or at the Père la Chaise Cemetery, where many slain Communists are buried. In the provinces the only incidents have been a small meeting at St. Etienne, which was dispersed without resistance, and a similar meeting at Roubaix, the dispersal of which was attended with slight resistance and the arrest of eight persons.

There has been no display of troops in Paris. The city is quiet this evening. Several drunken Anarchists have been arrested.

At a meeting of 500 Socialists at the Brasserie des Paquis an uproar took place, fighting ensued, and the doors of the place were broken. Those present separated. La Chapelle Joffrin, a member of the Municipality, in a speech eulogizing the Commune, advised workmen to abstain from disorderly manifestations.

THE AMERICANS IMPRISONED IN PANAMA.

PHILADELPHIA, March 18.—Captain Dickman, of the steamer Foley, at this port, from Aspinwall, reports that four Americans, B. S. Lewis, C. H. Barnes, G. D. Scott and Alexander Stewart, have been imprisoned at Panama upon suspicion of having been engaged in the robbery of $50,000 in gold coin, which was stolen from the vaults of the Panama Railroad Company on December 31, 1882. Scott and Lewis say that they left Panama on the day after the robbery for Aspinwall on business. On their arrival at Aspinwall they met Stewart, and the three were arrested while at breakfast. They were taken to Panama and imprisoned. Barnes was arrested afterward. Their baggage was searched, but no gold was found. The four prisoners have addressed a protest to the United States Government declaring that they are innocent and asking redress. They say that they have been in prison fourteen days and have not yet been given a hearing.

AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

HONG KONG, Feb. 20.—The French transport with the first instalment of troops for the Tonquin expedition is reported to have arrived at her destination.

It is currently reported in Shanghai that the British authorities propose to resort to forcible measures if private business is obstructed by the Chinese. The British Telegraph Company desires to land a new cable at Shanghai, but has acknowledged doubt of its right to do so, and has asked permission from the Chinese officials, who have withheld their answer for several weeks. The British Foreign Office is said to have telegraphed instructions to land forcibly, if necessary.

THE ANARCHISTS IN GENEVA.

GENEVA, March 18.—An Anarchist meeting was held here last evening at which the existing social system was denounced as organized infamy.

AN AMERICAN CHURCH IN DRESDEN.

DRESDEN, March 18.—Bishop Littlejohn laid the corner-stone of a new American church here to-day. There was a large concourse present at the ceremony.

THE VIENNA ELECTRIC EXHIBITION.

The commission in charge of the International Electric Exhibition which is to be held in Vienna has issued a circular containing a brief account of some of the exhibits that will be shown. Applications have already been made from electricians and companies in England, France, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. The Société Anonyme d'Electricité, of Paris, will be represented in nearly all the departments by elaborate displays, and intends to send a dynamo-electric machine for serving one hundred arc or one thousand incandescent lamps. Charles Foster, of Birmingham, will send, among other things, a number of curiously contrived electric toys. The Compagnie Continentale Edison and the Société Electrique Edison, of Paris, will send exhibits, including a dynamo-electric machine for the impulse of 500 incandescent lamps. A novel feature of the exhibition will be the arrangement of the Wiener Privat Telegraphen Gesellschaft, effecting communication between the Vienna Opera House and the rotunda through telephones by which the music can be heard. Among the others who are to be represented are Heinrich Muchalski, of Lemberg; Zellweger & Ehrenberg, of Uster, Switzerland; Gaston Planté, of Paris; Johann Weichmann, of Munich; Ferdinand Crestin, of St. Petersburg; Dr. Michael, of Hamburg, who will send a lighting apparatus for medical purposes; Dr. Hedinger, of Stuttgart, who will send an electric mirror for lighting up cavities of bodies; the Austrian-Hungarian Company of state Railways, which will send a collection of apparatus and signals, and Professor C. W. Benger, of Prague, who will send several new inventions. An electric railway will also be one of the attractions.

LITTLE WATER IN THE DIAMOND MINE.

BRAIDWOOD, Ill., March 18.—A large number of people gathered at the Diamond mine to-day. The water to be pumped out is now only five feet deep, and the bodies of the miners are expected to come to the surface at any time. Hinged boxes, which fall flat on the removal of a pin, were sent down from Braidwood to-day for handling the bodies when they are recovered.

WORK OF THE MINTS.

PHILADELPHIA, March 18.—Superintendent Snowden, of the Mint, said to-day that the dies for the altered design on the new five-cent pieces would not be ready for two or three weeks. The nickels now in circulation, he said, will not be called in. Colonel Snowden intends to leave the city for New-Orleans to-morrow, to investigate the circumstances connected with the issuing at the Mint there of gold coin found to be below the standard by the Assay Commission.

THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—The Washington annual meeting of the American Tract Society was held in the New-York Avenue Presbyterian Church this evening. Justice Strong presided; the Rev. G. L. Shearer, one of the secretaries, presented the report, and the Rev. C. S. Robinson, D. D., of New-York, and Hiram Price, made addresses. The total receipts were reported as $373,000, and the expenditures $368,000. The donations and legacies amounted to $100,400.

SUICIDE OF BENJAMIN BATES.

RICHMOND, Va., March 18.—Benjamin Bates, age forty-nine, committed suicide this morning by shooting himself through the heart. He was a grand-nephew of Edward Bates, Attorney-General under President Lincoln, and was head of the former large book house of Bates & Waddy Brothers, of this city.

LEFT IN DARKNESS BY A PISTOL SHOT.

Word being received at the Seventeenth Precinct that a fight was in progress in a dwelling in East Fifth-st., Officers Cline and Wiehe were sent to investigate it. At No. 327 Fifth-st. the officers found that Edward Petzall, a boarder, had come home drunk and thrashed a fellow-boarder so thoroughly that the room in which the quarrel occurred looked as if a murder had been committed. When the policemen attempted to arrest Petzall he fired a pistol shot at them. The bullet struck a lamp in the room, leaving it in darkness. The officers succeeded in disarming Petzall and lodged him in the police station. The man he had beaten refuses to make a charge against him.

THE SHOOTING OF DYER ACCIDENTAL.

Richard Dyer, the man who was found in Suffolk-st., on Saturday night with a bullet wound near his left eye is now said to be in very little danger. In conversation with the police yesterday afternoon he said the shooting was done in Monroe-st., near Montgomery, by an intimate friend, and was entirely accidental. He refused to give his friend's name.

THE BODY OF A SUICIDE IDENTIFIED.

John Mulcahey, of No. 329 Livingston-st., Brooklyn, called on Coroner Kennedy last night and identified the body of the man found in the New-York and Brooklyn Bridge Hotel on Saturday as that of his half-brother, William Mulcahey. He had not seen him for a number of years, but described certain marks which were found on the body, so that Coroner Kennedy regards the identification sufficient.

AN ITALIAN SHOT BY A COMPANION.

Antonio Mantello, age nineteen, an Italian, was shot in the left breast at No. 31 Crosby-st., last evening, by a companion with whom he had an altercation. Mantello was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital, where his wound was pronounced to be dangerous. The man who shot him escaped arrest.

MURPHY AND CAMPBELL.

TWEED'S COMRADES AGAIN AT THE HELM AT ALBANY.

THEIR METHODS OF MANIPULATING LEGISLATIVE WIRES — DEMOCRATIC ATTACKS UPON EXCISE AND PRISON LAWS.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, March 18.—If the perturbed spirit of Tweed is permitted to wander about the earth, he must experience a momentary feeling of pleasure on meeting old comrades as he passes through the Assembly Chamber. It could also scarcely escape his notice that two of these men who were trained in his school are the leaders of the Democratic members of the Assembly. For them the "reform" storm of 1871 in New-York City has entirely blown over. One of them, indeed, Timothy J. Campbell, secured a civil justiceship before the storm had half subsided. The other, Michael C. Murphy, only emerged to public view again in 1881, when he appeared here, a very humble-looking Assemblyman from New-York. Now again Campbell and Murphy are in power and united. They were here together as Assemblymen from New-York, when Tweed was "Boss" and Senator, in 1868, 1869 and 1870. It was natural, therefore, that they should feel like companions reunited after a long and troubled separation when they met here at the beginning of the session. All the tricks that they learned in Tweed's day they have put in practice, with each other's approval. They are at present the guiding force of the Assembly.

Murphy has used his position as Chairman of the Committee on Cities to wrest the leadership of the Democratic majority from Erastus Brooks, who is entitled to it by virtue of his rank as chairman of the leading committee—that on Ways and Means. Outwardly of a simple, blunt nature, Murphy has actually a subtle, cunning and able mind. With seeming good nature he reports to the Assembly favorably every bill sent to him, no matter how preposterous it may be. This makes him popular with a majority of the members, who dislike to have their bills too closely scanned. In their turn they vote blindly for all his bills. Most of these bills, as, perhaps, the taxpayers of New-York and Brooklyn have noticed with consternation, are measures intended to deplete their pockets for the benefit of certain Democratic politicians and their "heelers." Mayor Edson, of New-York, has also strengthened Murphy's influence vastly by sending to him to be introduced the "Edson charter" and other measures in regard to New-York. Followed as he is by all of the eighty-five Democrats and by many of the Republican members, Murphy has become the most formidable man in the Assembly. His influence was shown in the Assembly last week in an astonishing manner. He had introduced an amendment to the Supply bill, giving the Catholic Protectory $20,000. The amendment was fiercely assailed by Messrs. Roosevelt and Howe; yet the former was unable even to obtain the yeas and nays against it. Only six men stood up with him to demand the formal vote. All others, Republicans as well as Democrats, seemed cowed, for the moment at least, by Murphy. The amendment was then adopted by an overwhelming majority. When the New-York Aqueduct bill reaches here with its provisions for expending $16,000,000, it is expected that Murphy will reap the heaviest for which he has been so industriously sowing the seed. New-York will then be able to appreciate his influence and that of Campbell, his associate in the leadership.

Campbell does not make the great influence which he possesses at all obvious to his fellow members. He prefers the secret and silent ways of legislation. That was a trick he perhaps learned from Tweed. Certain bills about New-York, money bills, are quietly passed—and then it is discovered that they were Campbell's. His greatest feat has been that of hoodwinking the Assembly about the New-York and Brooklyn Excise bill, so called, which was amended so as to apply to all the cities of the State. The Assemblymen perhaps think to this day that they passed a reformatory excise act. In fact