PRINTING ABUSES STOPPED.

A NEW AND GOOD RULE OF THE HOUSE.

TO MORE BILLS TO BE PRINTED FOR THE PAPER MILLS—LONG-NEEDED LEGISLATION.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The new rule of the House which provides for the printing of only 500 copies of public bills and 100 copies of private bills will save the Government hundreds of dollars, and it is one that should have been adopted long ago. For many years the practice has been to print 1,000 copies of every bill introduced into either House of Congress, and the annual number of bills introduced reached the enormous aggregate of from 10,000 to 15,000, according as it is a long or short session. Each Senator and Representative has a copy of every bill printed placed upon a file under his desk by the pages every morning, and this file is kept constantly at hand for reference. Each committee to which a bill is referred receives a number of copies for the use of the members in the committee room, and they are there filed in patent binders for reference; this absorbs about 500 copies, and the remainder of the 1,000 are usually sold for waste paper at the close of the session. In the House and Senate document rooms tons of useless bills have been piled up every session, occupying space that is needed for other purposes and requiring the attention of several clerks to look after. At the close of every session these rooms have been cleaned out and the waste paper sold to the junkshops to be sent back to the paper mills. The receipts from the sale of waste paper in either house of Congress amount annually to several thousand dollars, but, of course, that does not represent more than a very small proportion of the original cost of the material purchased by the Government Printing Office and the labor of composing and press work made necessary.

About two-thirds of the bills introduced at every session of Congress are old-timers. Some of them have been printed a dozen times and will continue to be printed a dozen times more before they are put upon the statute books or are abandoned by the men who advocated them. The average number of bills passed during each Congress is about 4 per cent of those introduced, and that includes all the pension bills that come in at every session. The great proportion of all the bills introduced are for the payment of claims that have been pending for many years and the cost of printing and reprinting these amounts to enough to pay for a great portion of the just debts of the Government that come to Congress in this form. Last year Mr. Springer introduced a bill to refer all claims of this sort to the Court of Claims for adjudication. There were at the time 1,811 bills pending before the Committee on claims alone, nearly all of them requiring the investigation of disputed facts, a task for which judicial tribunals are specially adapted, but from which Congressmen always shrink. They have neither the time nor the disposition to examine evidence or investigate the merits of the claims, and the result has been that honest claimants have been denied justice, while dishonest ones have succeeded in getting their bills through Congress by persistent efforts and political influence. Many of these claims have been before Congress for a quarter of a century, and some are now being prosecuted by the children and even the grand-children of the original claimants.

A certain bill that might be mentioned has passed one house of Congress twelve times, but has never been able to reach the President. Mr. Springer estimated that the cost of printing these private bills for the last twenty-five years has been over $500,000, and during the last Congress alone the expense was nearly $12,000. The claimant comes and goes, and dies, leaving his claim against the Government as a legacy to Congress, and subjects those interested in it to annual expense which is often greater than the sum asked for.

DESPERATE FIGHTING WITH YAQUIS.

MEXICAN TROOPS ENGAGE THE INDIANS TWICE—SEVERAL SAVAGES KILLED.

NOGALES, Ariz., Dec. 23.—Information is received from the commander of the Mexican troops at Sonora, at the recently established military post town of Bonacita, to the effect that a detachment of troops under the command of Captain Encisco, 28th Regiment, attached a party of Yaqui Indians who were preparing a raid at a place called Laguna Del Paris, Sunday morning. The fight lasted three hours. The troops succeeded in driving the Indians from their hiding-place among the rocks at the first volley. The battle was a desperate one and the Indians had to be charged many times before they would give up their stronghold. One Indian was killed and one wounded. Two squaws were captured and sent to Bonacita.

Chico Senaders (Little Poisoner), one of the shrewdest warriors in the tribe, was at the head. After they were forced to retire from the rocks, he covered their retreat with great skill. The soldiers who followed him were ambushed several times, and would have been horribly slaughtered had not the Indians run out of ammunition.

One night recently Captain Encisco, Lieutenant Holguin and twenty-five infantry gave chase to a band of Indians that had been discovered in the hills near Bonacita. The Yaquis had taken refuge behind a ledge of granite rocks. The captain charged the Indians, but was forced to retire. He then deployed the troops in squads of two and three, with the intention of concentration from different points, but the Indians broke through the lines amid rapid firing, during which Holguin was wounded. The pursuit was abandoned and the troops returned to Bonacita. The next morning they went to the scene of the battle for the purpose of taking up the trail from it. The previous night they had killed one Indian and wounded several others. A Remington rifle belt with cartridges was found at the side of the dead Indian. Further on the command found two more dead Indians riddled with bullets.

PUGH IN DEFENCE OF TREASON.

HIS SPEECH IN BEHALF OF LAMAR ON AN ANNIVERSARY OF SECESSION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (*Special*).—It was on Monday last that Senator Pugh, of Alabama, made an argument before the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, of which he is a member, in behalf of the confirmation of Secretary Lamar as a Justice of the Supreme Court Bench. The burden of Mr. Pugh's argument was that a difference of opinion is not treason, that Mr. Lamar sincerely believed in the right of a State to secede, and that when his State did secede from the Union Mr. Lamar, as a loyal citizen of that state, had to go with it. Mr. Pugh said that he himself and others now in the Senate went into the secession movement with the States of which they were citizens, feeling that it was the only course open to them. In his autobiography which appears in the Congressional directory, Mr. Pugh says he "retired from the XXXVth Congress when Alabama ordained to secede from the Union." It is a curious fact that on the very day when Mr. Pugh was making this defence of Mr. Lamar, he was celebrating the twenty-seventh anniversary of the publication of a very remarkable document, which was signed on December 12, 1860, and first appeared in the newspapers on the 15th of that month. It read as follows:

To our Constituents:

The argument is exhausted. All hope of relief in the Union through the agencies of committees, Congressional legislation or Constitutional amendments is extinguished, and we trust the South will not be deceived by the appearance on the prolonged new guarantees. In our opinion the Republicans are resolute in their purpose to grant nothing that will or ought to satisfy the South. We are satisfied that the honor, safety and independence of the Southern people require the organization of a Southern Confederacy—a result to be obtained only by separate state secession; that the primary object of each slave-holding State ought to be its speedy and absolute separation from the Union.

This was signed by thirty Senators and Representatives in Congress from the Southern States. At the very head of the list is the name of James L. Pugh, then a Representative from Alabama. Near the tail is the name of John H. Reagan, then a Representative from Texas and now a Senator from that State. It was the first official declaration of secession; it was the first document issued by organized treason in the United States; it preceded and incited every ordinance of secession, and gave the name of the Southern Confederacy to the rebellion in the States—and on the twenty-seventh anniversary of its publication James L. Pugh, a paroled rebel, addressed the Judiciary Committee in defence of treason.

THE NEW SUPREME COURT MARSHAL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Major J. M. Wright, of Louisville, Ky., has been appointed marshal of the United States Supreme Court in place of Colonel J. G. Nicolay, who has held that position about fifteen years. Major Wright, whose appointment will take effect on January 2 next, is the son of General George Wright, U. S. A., who commanded the Department of the Pacific during the war, and who was lost on the steamship Brother Jonathan in 1865 while going from San Francisco to Oregon. He was himself at West Point at the beginning of the war. In 1861 he resigned his cadetship to accept an appointment as assistant adjutant-general of volunteers on the staff of Major-General D. C. Buell. He accompanied General Buell to the West and served there on his staff throughout his campaigns. After the war he settled in Louisville and began the practice of law. He served four years as a member of the Kentucky Legislature and four years as Adjutant-General of that State. He was subsequently president and general manager of the Southern Exposition, which President Arthur formally opened in 1883. As superintendent, he organized the Louisville Board of Trade and served for some time as its manager. He has been for a number of years a contributor to the newspapers, and for nearly three years was an editorial writer on *the Courier-Journal*.

INSPECTOR MARSLAND CENSURED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—In November last Aspinwall Fuller, president of the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association of New-York, preferred charges against Edward Marsland, Local Inspector of Steam Vessels, of having illegally issued an engineer's license to William E. Wilson. The charges were investigated by Inspector-General Dument, and the result of the investigation submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury. In a recent letter to Inspector Marsland Secretary Fairchild states that the truth of the charges has been sustained. The Secretary continues:

The Department desires to express its unqualified disapproval of your inadvisable action in inducing a Mr. Bromley, a witness at the investigation, to apply for a license, for which you had previously declared him ineligible. In consideration, however, of the recommendation of the Supervising Inspector-General and the fact that you have repaired the wrong done so far as you could by revoking the license granted, the Department has concluded to take no further action in the case, with the understanding, however, that you will not in the future furnish any just cause of complaint of a similar kind, and that the duties of your office shall be conducted hereafter strictly in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the same.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Dec. 23, 1887.

FOURTH-CLASS POSTMASTERS.—The Postmaster-General has appointed the following fourth-class postmasters: Edward M. Patrott, Greenwood Ironworks, N. Y.; John W. Knapp, Easterdale, N. Y.; Henry Downey, Osbornsville, N. J.; Mrs. Alice N. Quimby, Salisbury, N. H.

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES.—Among the bills introduced in the House under the new rule yesterday was one by Representative Boutelle, of Maine, appropriating $60,000 for the construction of four bridges across the St. John and St. Francis Rivers, where they form the boundary between Maine and New-Brunswick, provided that the Government of Canada shall appropriate a like sum for the purpose.

DISCHARGED.—Secretary Whitney has informed W. H. H. Smith, Chief Clerk of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, that his services as Chief Clerk will not be needed after January 1. Mr. Smith has been in the Navy Department twenty years.

PROMISES OF GOVERNOR M'ENERY.

AN HONEST COUNT SEEMS POSSIBLE IN LOUISIANA AT LAST.

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 23 (*Special*).—In the light of recent events the proverb, "When rogues fall out honest men get their due," may be paraphrased to read: "When Louisiana Democrats fall out, Louisiana Republicans get a square deal." The fight between two factions of the Democratic party, one headed by Governor McEnery and the other by ex-Governor Nicholls, for the nomination for Governor is so bitter that it threatens to cause a permanent split in the party, which unless healed by the nomination of a third man will enable the Republicans to elect a State ticket and will certainly give them control of a number of parish offices, and such an increase in their representation in the Legislature as may enable them to hold the balance of power in the selection of a United States Senator. This result would, of course, depend on an honest election. Last night Governor McEnery in a speech made in this city, said:

I pledge you here to-night that not only in the city of New-Orleans, but throughout the State of Louisiana, I will see an honest and fair election, that I will see that every vote cast is counted as deposited, and that no substitution of ballots is practised, but that the voice of all the voters in the State as deposited in the ballot box shall find expression and receive recognition and the officers elected commissioned. To that end I will remove any register or returning officer in the city or State that I have reason to believe will aid in the suppression or changing of the popular will.

"The Times-Democrat," in commenting on the speech this morning, said:

There is no mistaking the meaning of Governor McEnery's remarks. They are too plain and explicit not to be understood by all, and every one who knows him knows that he never makes a pledge that he does not intend to carry out.

The next Legislature is to choose successors to Senators Gibson and Curtis. Senator Gibson is a candidate for re-election. He has been a leader of the Nicholls party, and to his skilful management is due the success of the Nicholls men in a number of parishes which were regarded as certain for McEnery. The feeling against him in the McEnery ranks is intense, and if anybody will lose by a large increase in Republican representation in the Legislature it will be he. Under these circumstances the speech of McEnery is regarded as significant, and it is generally believed that Governor McEnery meant every word he said and that the next election will be a fair one. The result may be the defeat of Gibson and the election of a Republican from the State to the United States Senate.

TAKEN FROM A SINKING SHIP.

TIMELY RESCUE OF THE CAPTAIN AND CREW OF THE SCHOONER MATTIE W. ATWOOD.

PROVINCETOWN, Mass., Dec. 23.—The schooner John Kranz, from Mobile for Boston, arrived here last night. She reports lost sails off the coast yesterday. She will be towed to Boston. Captain Pitcher says on December 18 he sighted the dismasted wreck of the schooner Mattie W. Atwood, of Wellfleet, and took off Captain New, comb and the crew. The Atwood left Norfolk with coal, to be landed at the Fitchburg Railroad wharf in Boston. On December 17 she was struck by a heavy gale from the east, shifting to north, and lost all spars and sails, stove forward deckhouse, lost boat, sprung a leak, and the vessel became unmanageable. They left the vessel in a sinking condition, soon after being abandoned she took fire from an overturned stove, and at 8 p. m. Sunday night disappeared beneath the waves. The Atwood was a double-deck three-masted schooner of 653 tons, and was built at Essex in 1872. There is little insurance on the vessel.

A BLIZZARD IN THE NORTHWEST.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 23.—The cold snap of yesterday changed suddenly last evening to a blinding blizzard, about three inches of snow falling which drifted badly. This morning a slight snow fell but was of short duration. The wind is still strong. No serious blockades are as yet reported though the trains are more or less delayed.

THE SACO CLOSED TO NAVIGATION.

BIDDEFORD, Me., Dec. 23.—The Saco River was closed to navigation last night. It has remained open longer than at any season for a number of years.

JACOB SHARP AT HIS COUNTRY SEAT.

HE ARRIVES AT ROME, WHERE HE WILL SPEND THE HOLIDAYS.

ROME, N. Y., Dec. 23.—Jacob Sharp and his wife, who left New-York at 11 o'clock last evening, arrived here at 7:30 o'clock this morning. Mr. Sharp came out of the sleeping car muffled, but was helped off the steps to his sleigh by his grandson, Mr. Rogers, and Mr. Olney, the husband of his granddaughter. He greeted his relatives who met him at the station, and expressed his pleasure at seeing them. The family sleigh was driven through the snow-covered streets of the city and thence to the country seat in the suburbs, where Mr. Sharp will spend the holidays and probably some time longer.

NO FLURRY OVER MR. SHARP'S TRIP.

Dr. H. P. Loomis, who has taken his father's place in attending Jacob Sharp of late, said yesterday that his patient had on his advice gone to the country to recuperate.

"How is he feeling?" asked the reporter.

"Oh, first rate," was the reply. "He will be back to the city in about a week."

When the news of Mr. Sharp's departure first was spread abroad it was received with some incredulity, and considerable surprise was expressed that he should have been allowed to go unchallenged to a point that commands three easy and direct roads to Canada. But no uneasiness was felt in the District-Attorney's office. Mr. Martine and Mr. Nicoll said that as Sharp was at liberty on bail he had a perfect right to go wherever he chose as long as he was on hand when called for trial.

THE LATONIA JOCKEY CLUB'S STAKES.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 23.—The Latonia Jockey Club has announced its list of stakes for 1888-'89 and '90, with increased added money and new events, all to close January 15 next. There are for the spring meeting, 1888, three two-year-old stakes—the Clipetta, the Harold and the Sensation, with $1,000 added to each; the Ripple stakes for three-year olds, with $500 added, and four all-age stakes with $1,000 added to each.

For the fall meeting of 1888 there are three stakes for two-year olds, with $1,000 added to each. For the spring of 1889 are the Latonia Derby, with $2,000 added; the Hunyar and the Oaks, each with $1,000 added.

One of the important new events is the Latonia Matron stakes. It is of the produce or futurity character and will be an annual fixture. In this stake nominations for mares are to close January 15 next, for foals August 15, 1889, and the race will be for two-year-olds and will be run at the spring meeting 1890. The entrance fee for mares and foals is $5 each, and the club adds $2,000.

NO ESCAPE NOW FOR THE PLUMBERS.

The Board of Health and the Commissioner of Public Works have come to an agreement by which dishonest plumbers will be brought to terms without a fight in the courts every time defective plumbing is discovered in new houses. After January 1 no permits for water connections will be granted at the Department of Public Works, unless the applications for permits are accompanied by certificates from the Health Department that the plumbing in the houses to be furnished with water is satisfactory.

NO MORE WAR ABOUT WHARFAGE RATES.

Joseph L. Arguimbary, chairman of the Committee on Wharfage of the Foreign Fruit Exchange, yesterday sent to the President of the Fruit Exchange the following form of agreement, which it is expected will be signed by the steamship companies' agents and the importers of green and dried fruits: "It is hereby mutually agreed by the undersigned that for twelve months from January, 1888, wharfage on Mediterranean cargoes shall be charged and paid on this basis: On green fruit (oranges, lemons, grapes and onions) five days from date of entry of steamer at the Custom House to be allowed free of wharfage. On the sixth day wharfage to be charged and paid at the rate of five cents per ton per day. On dried fruit and general cargo, forty-eight hours to be allowed free of wharfage from the time of discharge, it being understood that the time for discharge each day be taken as 6 o'clock p. m.

CHRISTMAS FUN ON 'CHANGE.

STOCK BROKERS MAKE UP A BIG PURSE.

THE PRODUCE MEN SHAKE SOME OLD BURS OFF THEIR CHRISTMAS TREE.

The generous disposition of Wall street brokers was shown yesterday in the amount of the gifts for the benefit of the employes of the Stock Exchange. The sum exceeded $5,000, although the largest limit in previous years has been $4,500, and the number of employes has been reduced during the past year. Business has not been good at the Stock Exchange and the recent salutation between members has been: "Merry Christmas—next year." The clerks and doorkeepers realized the difference in the absence of private gifts. While the amount of the official contributions was the largest in the history of the exchange, the employes complained that they had not received anything approaching the usual tips. Some of them expressed their disappointment in strong terms, apparently for the very reason that the public subscription had reached an unusual size. There was no celebration of the Christmas holidays that come only once a year. A solitary piper was carried into the board room and he reaped a rich harvest, but his tunes had a melancholy air and the diversion was brief. It was said that the chairman failed to fine any one for the breach of decorum.

At the Consolidated Stock and Petroleum Exchange there was little merry making, the brokers being engaged in business in both the railway stock and petroleum department. Both markets showed strength, but that of oil was more noticeable in view of the difference in the character of the speculation as compared with that of last Christmas. For the employes of the Exchange the handsome sum of $1,327 was raised by subscription. After the official close of business R. K. Cooke, the superintendent, was presented in behalf of the employes with a handsome pair of gold-rimmed eye glasses and gold cuff buttons. Mr. Cooke was genuinely astonished at the tribute to his popularity and made a vow that he would try in the new year to reduce the friction between himself and his subordinates as much as possible. Collector Magone yesterday signed an order closing the Custom House on Monday, except between 9 and 10 a. m.

All the business Exchanges, except the Petroleum and Metal, will be closed to-day for the Christmas holidays, and remain closed until Tuesday morning.

QUAKER CITY BROKERS MAKING MERRY.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23 (*Special*).—As a prelude to the Christmas adjournment all the members of the Petroleum and Stock Exchanges hired a band this morning and proceeded to have a good time. Conventionalities were thrown aside and all joined in one great effort to make things lively. One member, armed with an expanded globe of rubber tied to the end of a stick, amused himself by battering in the headwear of his best friends. Another made a little old apple-woman happy by buying all her stock, which he used in throwing at the heads of his fellow-members. Flour was liberally used, and more than one member emerged from the crowd covered with it.

The Board of Brokers reserve their fun for the last day in the year.

MAJOR JAMES HAGGERTY'S FUNERAL.

DOCTOR M'GLYNN CAME TO EULOGIZE THE DEAD MAN—RENO POST, G. A. R., TOOK CHARGE.

The funeral of Major James Haggerty took place last evening at his home, No. 225 East Forty-ninth st. It was seen early in the evening that it would have been wise to have taken the body to some large hall or church, for during the services the rooms and vestibule of the house were filled to suffocation with crowds of sympathizers, including the officers of the Manhattan branch of the Irish National League, members of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Home Club, an uptown Democratic organization, and with many of his influential Irish friends not affiliated with any societies. Major Haggerty's sword and medals were laid across the coffin, over which the National flag had been thrown. At the head was placed a large bank of flowers, while other floral designs were the offerings of Reno Post, No. 44, G. A. R., of which he was a member. The officers and members of the New-York City Woman's Suffrage League and of the Manhattan branch of the Irish National League sent a large harp. During the day and after the funeral crowds continued to file past the coffin and view the body.

The officers of Reno Post who looked after their part of the arrangements were Commander Henry C. Forley, Senior Vice-Commander Philip S. Inglin, Junior Vice-Commander Robert Walsh, Adjutant John Wassner, and Quartermaster Louis Hess. The Manhattan branch of the Irish National League was represented by Secretary John McCarthy, Dennis Loonie, Eugene Parker, P. J. Moran, J. P. Farrell and Adjutant James Moran. From the Home Club there came among others Bernard Gallagan, Thomas Duffy, T. A. Lysight, Charles A. McBride, Joseph Scully, John Carroll, Martin R. Brown, Captain John H. McCullagh, ex-Police Captain Mount, Dennis A. Spellissy, Assistant District-Attorney James Fitzgerald, Major Edward Duffy, and many others.

At a o'clock Father McGlynn entered. His arrival was a surprise to at least half of those present. He was accompanied by Harry Appleton, Major Haggerty's stepson. It was the dying wish of the Major that Father McGlynn, whom he greatly admired—even loved—should be present at the services and say something. Many bitter political opponents of the doctor among the Democrats formed and made way, and many others of them grasped his hand as he took his seat at the foot of the coffin. Chaplain William R. McMillan and Commander Forley each read a prayer of the Grand Army memorial ritual, after which Commander Forley delivered an impressive address that lasted during fifteen minutes. The Rev. Clark Wright also spoke.

THE AMERICAN CHURCH TO THE POPE.

CONGRATULATING LEO XIII. ON THE JUBILEE OF HIS PRIESTHOOD.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 23 (*Special*).—The following is a literal translation from the Latin of the letter sent by the Catholic Hierarchy of America to Leo XIII., congratulating him upon the attainment of the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, the letter was presented to the Pope to-day at the Vatican:

MOST HOLY FATHER: As the devotion of all Christian people the signing of your sacred and the importance of the day, both by its intrinsic design and the whole world, thus congratulates you on the fiftieth jubilee of your priesthood, we, the Catholics of the United States, gladly embrace the occasion that offers to us of the 19th century, to express our joy. Just half a century has elapsed since you dedicated yourself wholly to God and solemnly pledged yourself to serve in propagating the sacred mysteries of Christ among divine people. Nor have your prayers been unheard, nor your labors fruitless. Most Holy Father, we do not speak of the great progress made by our Church, which, as we are all aware, has grown so much in extent and in the virtues of her children, when you became a priest, for your fellow-citizens in every virtue. Then, when you were honored with the episcopacy, nothing was greater your heart than the duties of your office, which you fulfilled and satisfied the rules and regulations of the holy Church, in which laws and regulations, but, when the providential wisdom of your predecessor appointed you to aid in carrying on the public business of the Church, from statesmanship, with what prudence, what wisdom and what happy success you acquitted yourself of your charge.

And now, Most Holy Father, you were elevated to that exalted station to which your virtue, your divinely conferred genius and the other endowments of your mind have holden you, you already have seen not only that the expectations which elected you in that time have been fulfilled, but that the hopes of men have risen to these evidences, for, material of which has been done by your predecessors and falling in the footsteps of these, who under the same name which you bear have with so great honor occupied the chair of St. Peter, you have left nothing untrodden to bring back, to the north and south, to the east and west, and those who had strayed from the fold who have strayed from Christian truth, often indeed, have you recalled to their minds and held strange before them in solemn terms the eternal law of God, without support of which either the family, nor human society, nor even civil government can stand. Nor, when the church is in danger from sinister, secret or open attacks, and, in the shift of fortune, it was many more than feet and better established pillaredness, wrongly so called, have now for three centuries strown to remove from the human minds and from the minds of all nations. This time, as with such perfect prudence, such divine wisdom, such skill, you seem to turn from entrapped by these fallacies and to be burned heal long to rain by the onset of the growing error.

Deeply, in truth, were we relieved, Most Holy Father, when lately, with such wisdom and success, you asserted the heaven-born majesty and power of the Church, the first foundation of the human people of Europe. It seemed to us that these happy times, that almost returned when the Roman Pontiff was hailed, then as the Father of all princes and of all Nations who glory in the Christian name, in carrying through these two additions such evidence was manifested by you such humanity, such sincere love of peace and concord, that for distant posterity will wonder how out of powerful enemies you made friends and almost sons.

But, when we remember the many benefits with which you have enriched the American Church, we are moved to render you thanks with our whole soul, and would fain, we were able fully to do so. The one thing created us to perform, that we do, and to day most willingly we join with our brethren spread throughout the entire world, and we, the anniversary of our elevation to the priesthood, we offer you our most heartfelt congratulations. We beg for you from Almighty God all happiness and prosperity, and especially that he may preserve you as long as possible for the good of the Christian Commonwealth. Prostrate at the feet of your Holiness, we most earnestly beseech the apostolic benediction.

The letter is signed by Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, and all the archbishops and bishops of the country.

AN OLD HIGHWAYMAN CAUGHT AGAIN.

William Koch was knocked down and robbed of $110 by thieves in front of his liquor store, No. 143 Mulberry-st., at 1 o'clock on Thursday morning. He was beaten severely on the head with some blunt instrument, and was kicked in the ribs while on the sidewalk and injured internally. Alexander Scharer, Mr. Koch's bartender, ran to his assistance and was stabbed twice in the left arm. Mr. Koch was able to give a good description of his assailants, and last night Officer West, of the Mulberry-st. station, arrested Frank Geldhar, alias "Slim," who was identified as the man who took the money. Geldhar is one of the "Bender" gang who was sent to Sing Sing for three years in 1881 and was pardoned and restored to citizenship in 1883 by Governor Cleveland. Geldhar was arrested in January, 1886, charged with the murder of Nellie Fibes in the notorious House of Blazes. Mr. Koch was robbed several nights ago in Hester-st. of a diamond pin valued at $175. "Tony" Gilbert was arrested for it, but Mr. Koch was unable to identify him.

Ex-Senator Albert Merritt,

82 Park place, N. Y., says: "I was sick and feared that I was fated to endure the torments of Dyspepsia and a cancerous affection of the kidneys. After using Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy I grew steadily better, could eat, digest, sleep, work without a clear head, and felt strong and well." For impure blood was done you good by Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy? All druggists. $1 a bottle, four bottles for $5. Sent to any address by Dr. David Kennedy, Rondout, N. Y., for his book on Kidney, Liver and Blood disorders. Mention this paper.

THE BURGLAR AND THE PASTOR.

AN EXHORTATION CUT SHORT.

FINDING HIS OWN COAT ON THE SINNER HE WAS TRYING TO CONVERT—A PLOT TO BREAK JAIL.

After Judge Bartlett, at White Plains yesterday, had sentenced John Powell to seventeen years and six months in Sing Sing for robbing Mr. Bradley's house recently at Dobbs Ferry, the Rev. Alonzo Hill, pastor of the Methodist Church at Rye, called at the jail, and told Sheriff Duffy that he would like to see Powell's confederate, William Mason, who had entered a plea of "not guilty" and was remanded for trial. The dominie entered into conversation with Mason and said:

"My man, I am sorry to see you here. Have you a father and mother, or any friends?"

The burglar made no reply, but shifted a large cud of tobacco in his mouth. The dominie continued:

"They tell me you have been engaged in crime for years, but you do not look like a hardened criminal. My man, did you ever pray?"

At this the burglar looked amazed and began to grin. The dominie suddenly stopped questioning the prisoner, and after closely scrutinizing him from head to foot turned to Under-Sheriff Schirmer, with a much-amazed look, and whispered something in his ear. The Under-Sheriff then sternly said to the expert burglar:

"Mason, where did you get that coat you have on?"

"I bought it after I left Massachusetts," coolly replied the burglar.

"You are mistaken, my man," spoke up Mr. Hill, "that is my coat, and it was stolen from my house on Saturday night last. Some silverware was stolen at the same time."

Mason looked sheepish and hung his head. Under-Sheriff Schirmer broke the silence by saying: "Come, Mason. Peel off and give the gentleman his coat." Mason reluctantly took off the garment and handed it over. The pockets of the coat were examined and in them were found Mr. Hill's gloves.

Mason also received a visit from Sheriff John Crosby, of Berkshire County, Mass., who called to see if there was any prospect of Mason being turned over to his custody, he having escaped from the Berkshire County Jail about ten days ago by sawing the bars of his cell. Sheriff Duffy yesterday discovered a plot of the two cracksmen to break jail by intercepting a letter which Powell wrote in the jail to one of his female "pals." The following is a copy of the letter:

"MY DEAR PUG:

"I suppose you know all about my misfortune by this time. I would have let you know sooner, but did not want them to know where I live and have them searching around there. I hope there is nothing to be found. I sent this out on the quiet. My dear Fanny, it will be a dreary Christmas for both of us. I think they will railroad us. If I had been only able to leave you comfortable I would not care for myself. I would like to see you at once. You know the saws and frame for holding them, that we got for Cody. If I had one of them I could get out of here. You can buy one of them frames and half a dozen saws for about one dollar and a half. You would ask for saw blades and frame for cutting iron, if you would go to Tom Shortell's place of business. There is one of his cards on the mantelpiece. He would know exactly what you want. If I do not have them by Thursday or Friday I am afraid they will be of no use. You can carry them under your skirts. They will let you come down to my cell. No one is listening or looking at you. You must do it right away or it will be useless, for there is twenty years staring me in the face. I will say good bye, and if I do not get them things I am afraid, my dear Pug, it will be good bye forever. Your poor and unfortunate Snooks,

"J. POWELL."

At the Essex Market Police Court yesterday morning Michael Cleaney, another Pittsfield burglar, age twenty-six, with half a dozen aliases, was remanded for ten days by Justice Duffy to enable the sheriff to procure the necessary papers for his extradition.

MR. HUTCHINSON NOT TO BE PROSECUTED.

DECIDING THAT NO CONVICTION CAN BE HAD ON THE INDICTMENTS—THE CHARGES.

William J. Hutchinson, the broker who was arrested last August on three charges of grand larceny has been relieved from further prosecution. The indictments were obtained on the complaint of George K. Sistare's Sons who charged that Mr. Hutchinson had appropriated certificates for 250 shares of the Youghiogheny River Coal Company, in May, 1884, and in August, 1884, certain other securities including stock of the Toledo, Wabash and Western Railway Company, bonds of the Denver, Rio Grande and Western Railroad Company and other bonds. The three indictments were dismissed yesterday by Recorder Smyth on the recommendation of Assistant District-Attorney Nicoll, approved by District-Attorney Martine.

Mr. Nicoll's recommendation is the result of a careful examination of the witnesses and of the surrounding facts. He reported to Mr. Martine that he believed that no conviction could be had in the cases. The coal company's stock was left with George K. Sistare's Sons in May, 1884, as margin, and the firm obtained a loan upon it and other securities of $18,000 from the Wall-street Bank. Mr. Hutchinson afterward obtained it and sold it for $20,000 which he divided between the bank and George K. Sistare's Sons. The other securities were given to Mr. Hutchinson to raise a loan on them. It was charged that he afterward sold them and after paying off the loan transferred the balance to his wife.

Mr. Nicoll says that the defendant could not be convicted without evidence of a criminal intent and that the conduct of Sistare's Sons had done much to acquit the defendant of that intent. A civil suit was begun by the firm against Mr. Hutchinson and his wife for $66,740.11, and these securities were included in the bill of particulars filed in that suit. A settlement of the suit was reached in March, 1886, when Mr. Hutchinson paid the plaintiff $37,500 in full for those and all other claims. A suit against the receiver of the Wall-street Bank resulted in a verdict for George K. Sistare's Sons. W. H. H. Sistare told Mr. Nicoll that he was aware of all these transactions of Mr. Hutchinson when he compromised the civil suit, but he was told by his counsel that the settlement of the civil action would constitute no defence in a criminal action. "While this is true," says Mr. Nicoll, "yet the fact that the settlement was entered into in the spirit expressed in the paper in which its terms were set forth, goes far to relieve the defendant from the imputation of a criminal intention to deprive the complainants of their property."

Mr. Nicoll concludes his report by saying: "I do not intend in this paper to express my opinion as to whether the defendant committed any penal offence in one of the instances complained of, nor to express an opinion on the question of his criminal intent. In my judgment these questions are not before me. I am of the opinion that no conviction can be had because the people would not be able to say beyond a doubt that the defendant was actuated by the criminal intent of which the complainants charge, namely, a fraudulent intention to deprive the complainants of their property."

Ex-Judge Fullerton appeared as Mr. Hutchinson's counsel.

NOW THE RAFT SHOULD BE FOUND.

A REVENUE CUTTER STARTS OUT WITH A ROVING COMMISSION—WAITING FOR NEWS.

The wanderings and the possible abiding place of James D. Leary's big raft continued to be an absorbing topic yesterday among all who have business on the seas. Reports from the men-of-war Enterprise and from the steamer Mosse, as well as from incoming vessels, were looked for in vain throughout the day. There were rumors in abundance floating around the Maritime Exchange. The steamship Warwick, from Liverpool, Captain Morice, picked up a boat long before reaching port, and the report of this expanded into the rumor at the Exchange that the Warwick had encountered the raft and towed it over to some fishtogs, which were bringing the leviathan into the harbor.

Captain Davis, of the revenue cutter Grant, was rushing around all day to get his vessel into shape for departure to join in the search. He found it necessary to make two calls on Collector Magone, the second at 2:30 p. m. As he hurried away he stated that the Grant would start by 5 p. m. at least. It was only 4 o'clock, however, when the Grant set out from Quarantine, Brooklyn. Captain Davis was instructed to cruise within 100 miles, although, if he deemed it advisable, he was authorized to extend his field of search. Belief grew yesterday that the winds and the rough seas of the past few days would break the raft to pieces. Mr. Leary, however, retains his faith in Mr. Robertson's opinion and in his confidence and that of Captain Littlefield that the raft will hold together and will be saved.

At the office of Dowring & Archibald it was said that there was nothing new in the situation. The firm has not been served with papers in a suit for damages.

ALL AMERICANS ON THE RED STAR LINE.

The statement published yesterday that in view of a possible outbreak of hostilities between Russia, Austria, and Germany, there would be a wholesale dismissal of English captains on Belgian steamships and a substitution of German ones, especially on the Red Star Line afforded much amusement in shipping circles. The Red Star Line is the only passenger line under the Belgian flag, but the commanders of all of its vessels, excepting the Vaderland, are American born and the commodore of the line, Captain Randle, is also an American.

NUTTALL'S LAWYER WILL NOW EXPLAIN.

Charles A. Curtis, a young Jersey City lawyer, was arrested there last night at the request of the New-York police authorities. Curtis is a young man who, it is alleged, collected $128.50 for John Nuttall, the insurance agent who was in custody in New-York for grand larceny, and reported that he had to pay it to Assistant District-Attorney Fitzgerald for fees. Curtis said that he was willing to go to New-York without a requisition and proceeded not to know what he was arrested for. A short time ago Curtis was arrested in Jersey City, charged with passing a worthless check for a small amount to William A. Sutton's successors. The matter resulted in the money being paid and the case was dropped. Detective Phillip Reilly, of the District-Attorney's office took Curtis to New-York last night.

EVEN THE POOR SHOULD HAVE CIVILITY.

Mrs. Catherine Troop, of No. 104 Twelfth-st., whose brother, John O'Shea, a sailor, died at the Long Island College Hospital on Monday from natural causes, complained yesterday to Coroner Rooney that she had been harshly treated at the hospital when she went with her friends to get the body. She claims she was told that "a lot of paupers" were not wanted about the hospital. Dr. Shaw, whom she charged with brutality and offensive behaviour, denies the allegations. Although the Coroner had held an inquest in the case he took the woman's statement and promised to look into the matter.

STREET RAILWAYS AMALGAMATING.

A MILLION DOLLARS TO CHANGE HANDS.

THE BROOKLYN CITY RAILROAD LEASES THE LINES OF THE BUSHWICK COMPANY.

The Brooklyn City Railroad Company proposes to increase its plant by the purchase of the lease in perpetuity of the lines of the Bushwick Railroad Company. The Bushwick Company owns and operates the Bushwick, Cypress Hills, Greenpoint, Lutheran Cemetery, and Tompkins Avenue lines, which run in Brooklyn and outside of it in Queens County, centering at the ferries in Broadway. The charter was secured in 1867, and the company was capitalized at $500,000. The cost of the road and equipment was $1,122,321. The length of road is twenty-three miles and in 1886, 7,863,500 passengers were carried and 300 men employed. The net earnings in that year were $74,837.40. A dividend of 6 1-2 per cent was declared.

The president of the Bushwick Company is William H. Husted, who, by the death of his father, Seymour L. Husted, became largely interested in the Brooklyn City Company and the consolidation now about to be effected was in accordance with his father's wishes. The officers of the Brooklyn City Company have been desirous of enlarging the scope of their work, as advantageous connections can be made in the newer parts of the city. It is likely that possession of the lines of the Broadway Railroad Company will be effected as soon as its president, Edwin Beers, is vice-president of the Bushwick Company. The Brooklyn City Company expects to secure the lease of the property of the Bushwick Company during the charter life of the company and any increase thereof. The consideration is said to be over $1,000,000. The directors of the Bushwick Company authorized the transfer on Thursday and the directors of the Brooklyn City Company will act shortly in the matter.

FREIGHT RATES REDUCED ALMOST TO NOTHING.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—The war on freight rates between Chicago and St. Louis ended this evening in complete demoralization. The Wabash having met the 10 per cent cut of the Chicago and Alton made yesterday, the officials of the latter road at once announced to its patrons and shippers that the rates by the Alton were 10 per cent less than by any competing line. This meant a further cut of