New-York Tribune.

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CLEVELAND IN A BAD WAY.

HIS DEMOCRATIC FRIENDS DESERTING HIM.

NO MORE ELECTION OFFICERS ARRESTED—THE MAYOR'S RIDICULOUS AND WEAK DEFENCE—AN APPEAL TO REPUBLICANS TO POLL THEIR FULL STRENGTH.

Contrary to the general belief, no more of the rascally election officers were arrested in Jersey City yesterday. There was an anxious group of Democratic office-holders on hand at the Court House early in the morning, however, and a goodly array of liquor-sellers were present, prepared to go on the bail bonds of any of the election officers who should be brought in. These people watched the movements of the judges and counsel with keen alarm. About noon, after a prolonged consultation with Judges Lippincott and Knapp and County Prosecutor Winfield, ex-Judge Hoffman, who had been retained by the body of citizens who are pushing the complaints against the criminals to assist Mr. Winfield in the prosecution, announced that no more arrests would be made until after election, but that the case would be pushed to a close then. This decision evidently took a great load off the minds of the ring of office-holders.

Everything is in readiness for to-day's contest. Enthusiastic meetings in favor of Mr. Perkins's candidacy were held in several of the districts last night. There is every reason to hope that to-day will see the overthrow of the worst gang of office-holders that have ever risen to the surface, even in Jersey City, long noted for being the hotbed of corrupt local politicians. The Republican City Committee has taken steps to have a strong force of watchers at the polls in the Democratic strongholds along the river and Morris Canal, where the greatest frauds were perpetrated last fall. The Perkins Campaign Committee issued the following notice:

The attention of all supporters of Perkins and reform is especially invited to the following statement with reference to the election to-morrow.

At any polling precinct in the city, if any officer of elections, judge, clerk or inspector does not appear for duty at the opening of the polls in the morning, the voters who are present are authorized and required to immediately fill the vacancy caused by the absence of such election officer.

Any legal voter may be, in this way, appointed to perform the duties of an officer of elections, but both political parties are to be represented in the board, each party having at least one.

A large number of the officers of elections in certain precincts of the city, who are accused of having committed, and permitted, gross frauds at the election in November last, have been arrested and held to bail to answer for their alleged crimes. But these election officers have the legal right to act at the election to-morrow in their several precincts. It is believed, however, that they will not all have the impudent assurance to appear and attempt again to handle the ballots of honest voters, and there may consequently be found, on Tuesday morning, vacancies in several of the election boards.

We therefore recommend to all voters who propose to vote for George F. Perkins for Mayor that they attend at their several voting precincts at the opening of the polls, at 6 o'clock a. m., and elect, to fill the vacancies, citizens who will faithfully and honestly perform the duties of election officers. We regard this as an important matter, and hope that any good citizen, Democrat or Republican, who may be chosen in the matter above indicated to fill a vacancy, will consent to give his services as an election officer to the cause of Perkins and reform, and aid in rebuking the criminals who have corrupted the ballot, and thereby disgraced the city.

It was said yesterday that legal steps, in the shape of evidence and affidavits, have been prepared, with a view to securing a recount in case the returns show a majority for Cleveland for Mayor. The padded registry lists afford ample ground on which to demand a recount. Thus, no matter what frauds the ring may commit at the polls, a thorough revision of the returns and count of the ballots will be taken to nullify them.

As rats desert a sinking ship, so some of the Democratic candidates for Aldermen are trying to save themselves by abandoning Cleveland. They realize that nothing else than a miracle will prevent the defeat of Cleveland, and they have no desire to go down in the general ruin. Warnings against any Aldermen selling out the head of the ticket were printed conspicuously in all the ring newspapers in Jersey City yesterday evening.

In reply to the mass of evidence of disgraceful transactions on his part during the last thirty years in Jersey City politics, Mr. Cleveland wrote a "bluffing" letter to the newspapers supporting him in Jersey City yesterday, characterizing the charges against him as "villainous, malicious and outrageous," and saying that he was "inclined" to seek the courts for protection. It is safe to say that he will never go beyond the "inclination." He makes this astonishing statement in his letter, astonishing even to those who know Mr. Cleveland's assurance:

I never was interested, directly nor indirectly, nearly or remotely, in any contract for public work here or elsewhere in my life, and never had anything to do with payment of any kind, as stated or otherwise, nor with the construction of any reservoir, nor the purchase or sale of any estate, Harrison or other, by the city nor for it.

The disgraceful and ruffianly conduct of the police at the last election created so much complaint that Chief-of-Police Murphy yesterday issued instructions to the members of the force defining their duties at the polls, and warning them against such a partisan interference with the voters as happened last November. The entire force of 200 men will be on duty from the time the polls open at 6 a. m. to the hour they close, 7 p. m. How much effect Chief Murphy's warning will have remains to be seen. It is probable that with the example of the Police Commissioners actively engaged in bulldozing at the polls for votes, as is always the case in a Jersey City election, the warning will go for naught.

Mayor Cleveland, in a characteristic address at a Democratic meeting at the "Three Bells" on Henderson-st., on Friday night, said that he had refused and still refuses to sign large numbers of warrants drawn in payment of claims against the city, which he believed to be fraudulent, passed or incurred during the administration of his Republican predecessor, ex-Mayor Collins; that the claimants threatened mandamus proceedings, but still he would refuse to sign their warrants. How much truth there was in this statement is shown by the following statement made in a public letter written by Mr. Collins:

I feel it my duty to say that if Mr. Cleveland made such a statement he stated that which is untrue. There are no such unsigned warrants.

There were some warrants presented to me just as my term was expiring about which I had doubts, and which I left unsigned, with instructions that my successor should be apprised of those doubts that he might make inquiry; but I find on inquiring at the City Clerk's office this morning that even those have been signed. I found but one unsigned warrant for a claim for services to the city during my administration, and that is in favor of Hugh Christy for $38 50, for work alleged to have been done in February, 1886. The warrant itself is dated May 18, 1886, some weeks after my term ended, and of course it never came before me.

An address to the public was issued yesterday, reciting the causes for which the ballot-box stuffers were arrested on Saturday, and calling upon voters to forsake a party that shields and protects them, and vote for Perkins for Mayor. The address is signed by J. R. Abarbanell, J. T. Altemus and Myron A. Wolfson, Democrats, and Henry C. Gruber and the Rev. John L. Scudder, Republicans.

As a result of ring rule a delegation of taxpayers appeared before the Street and Water Commissioners yesterday to remonstrate against the final maps for the improvement of Tonnelle-ave. They asserted that the street was not properly graded and the flagging was bedded in dirt and stable manure, instead of sand.

With an honest vote and a fair count there is every reason to believe that George F. Perkins, Republican, will be elected Mayor of Jersey City to-day, but to elect him the Republicans have got to turn out and get their friends out. Every vote will be needed, for a closer election has never been contested in Hudson County, or one with local issues of greater importance at stake.

CHIPPEWAS NEAR STARVATION.

MISERY ON THE SHORES OF LAC COURT D'OREILLES IN WISCONSIN.

Ashland, Wis., April 7 (Special).—"The Daily Press," to determine the truth or falsity of the stories about suffering among the Chippewa Indians on the reservation at Lac Court d'Oreilles, sent a reporter to the scene. He found that the Indians are reduced almost to their last sack of flour, and that unless relief is speedily obtained there is a likelihood that many of the aged and infirm will die of starvation. There is left to the Indians less than 30,000,000 feet of pine, and unless the Indians are allowed to cut and dispose of it now at fair prices, there will be little of it left in five years more. Then, destitute of pine and dependent entirely upon stump-land, which the Government has never taught its wards to till, their condition will be a miserable one. The Indians are 1,278 in number, and have two villages on 70,000 acres of land. At present they are not allowed to cut the timber or sell their land except by way of trading with the Government, which offers to take it in return for supplies furnished. Agent Leahy, in charge of the reservation, reported to the Interior Department the urgent need for immediate help and an appropriation of $75,000 was voted promptly. Just at the time when the money was to be spent for supplies, a special agent came here, heard one side of the story and departed to report that there was no want or need of help. That is how it happens that with a $75,000 appropriation at hand, these Indians are allowed to suffer the greatest privation verging on starvation.

Federal employes know that it will be only a few years at best before the Indians must get their living out of the ground or starve. Yet the Government has never offered to give or sell its wards a farming tool or to teach them how to get a living from the ground. A post-farmer so-called is stationed among them without tools or appliances of any kind, or even any encouragement in his work from his superiors. An attempt is made to teach the rudiments of reading, writing and arithmetic to several hundred children in a tumble-down shed hardly large enough for forty-five students. Catholics and Presbyterians are doing what they can in a small way to feed and educate the helpless children, but make little headway, owing to other adverse circumstances. Politics aside, it is notorious that during several administrations the policy of the Government toward these Indians, so far from being paternal has been that of an exacting landlord to a poor tenant. The Indians have paid in pine and other considerations for bread and they get a crust by begging for it.

HIS DISGUISE DID NOT AVAIL.

A GERMAN HIGHWAYMAN AND MURDERER ARRESTED FOR KILLING HIS WIFE IN WISCONSIN.

Ashland, Wis., April 7 (Special).—Joseph Foucks, the Ashland County murderer, is captured. He was taken in Besse's lumber camp, near Butternut, where he worked all winter in disguise. In a fit of jealous frenzy he murdered his wife on the Wisconsin Central Railroad track, near Merr. The crime was committed on July 10, and it is stated that the two eye-witnesses have identified Foucks beyond all doubt. He stabbed his wife with a dull jackknife and left the weapon sticking in her body.

District-Attorney Rossman says that ten years ago Foucks, who is not less than thirty-five years of age, was a well-known highwayman in Germany. His latest exploit there was the robbery of a mail coach. In order to get away, he found it necessary to shoot and seriously, though not fatally to wound, the driver and one male passenger, and to kill a woman passenger outright. After that he fled to America. On the way over, he fell in with a party of Germans from another province who had known his father, but were not acquainted with the man's career. One of them was a beautiful young daughter. By assiduous attention, Foucks won her confidence and ruined her. He was recognized by a German Consular employe as the Foucks, who was wanted in Germany for the mail-coach robbery and murder. The Consul was moved to mercy by the fact that Foucks's relatives were people in good position, so he took the money stolen from the mail-coach and allowed his prisoner to go free. Foucks came West on a ticket furnished him by the Consul, and after eight or nine years in the far West, by chance settled in the neighborhood in which his victim of the ocean voyage was living with her people. The Germans forced him to marry the girl. He was uneasy about the past, suspecting that his wife was trying to betray him to the authorities in the East. He watched her very closely, and, at length, becoming satisfied that his suspicions were correct, wrote a letter to supposed friends in Germany. These persons promptly informed the German Consul at New-York, who had meantime received orders to get Foucks dead or alive. The Consul sent instructions to District-Attorney Rossman. It is probable that if Foucks escapes summary justice at a rope's end, he will first be tried here for the murder of his wife, and then, if not sentenced to be hanged, will have to meet the charge of murdering the woman in the German mail-coach ten years ago.

DECREASING THE TAX ON BANK STOCK

A BILL IN THE NEW-JERSEY LEGISLATURE AFFECTING MUNICIPAL REVENUES.

Trenton, N. J., April 7 (Special).—There was a sensation among city officials to-night when it was learned that a bill decreasing the tax on National bank stock had passed the Senate last Wednesday and was strongly supported in the House. At present bank stock is taxed at the local rate, or about 2 per cent on the market value of the stock, which averages more than 25 per cent above par. The bill in question reduces this tax to 6 mills on the dollar and provides that the stock shall be assessed at the par value of the tax thus levied. One-half is to be given to the State and the municipality would thus get only 3 mills on the dollar of par value. Its effect would be to reduce the income of cities from bank stock to less than one-seventh of the amounts realized at present. The bill was introduced by Senator Pfeiffer, of Camden, in the interest of a Camden bank, and the National banks throughout the state of course favor it warmly, as it would relieve them materially. City Counsel Coult, of Newark, said to-night:

"The bill would destroy legislation that has been subjected to the scrutiny of the United States Supreme Court and would sweep away a source of income of the greatest importance to Newark and all cities having National bank stock in any amount. Every bank in Newark now pays 10 per cent dividend and the present tax is borne easily and is always collected in full. To disturb it now would be a hard blow to Newark, while there is no plea on which such a change could be based, save that of intense selfishness." An effort to secure reconsideration of the bill to-night in the senate failed and now a strong effort will be made to defeat it by the municipalities.

CHARLESTON EPISCOPALIANS AND THE NEGRO.

Charleston, S. C., April 7 (Special).—The Easter election in the Episcopal churches to-day brought out a large vote, the issue being the admission of the negro clergymen into the Diocesan Convention, which meets in May. The returns are not all in yet, and it will be some time before they will be received. In some of the parishes the delegates to the convention are elected by the congregation. In others they are elected by the vestrymen. The returns from the city churches, nine in number, are all in. Of the nine churches, two are colored; of the white churches, one, St. Paul's, refused to elect delegates to the convention. Two of them elected delegates who will vote for the admission of the colored rector of St. Mark's. The colored congregations did not elect delegates. The principal fight was in St. Philip's Church, where there were two tickets voted, one the negro ticket, and the other what is called "The compromise ticket." The latter ticket was elected. It is therefore probable that the colored rector of St. Mark's will be admitted to the May convention, and that an amendment will be adopted debarring negroes from admission to the convention hereafter.

AGAINST THE VIRGINIA DRESSED-BEEF LAW.

Richmond, Va., April 7 (Special).—In the United States District Court here to-day, Judge Hughes delivered his opinion as regards the charge of 1 cent a pound charged by an act of the last Legislature to be paid by owners of dressed meats killed 100 miles from the place of sale. Judge Hughes reviews the act of the Assembly and declares it unconstitutional. The State will appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States and meanwhile Armour & Co. will continue to ship beef to this state.

CHANGE IN THE WORLD'S FAIR DIRECTORY.

Chicago, April 7.—It was discovered to-day that W. D. Kerfoot, supposed to have been elected one of the directors of the World's Fair as the representative of the Chicago Real Estate Board, is defeated. By a clerical error Mr. Kerfoot was credited with 2,000 too many votes. The defeat of Kerfoot lets in W. H. Colvin, who represents simply himself and his personal friends. This leaves the real estate dealers of the city without a single one of their number a director.

EX-DICTATOR PIEROLA IN PRISON.

ALTHOUGH A PERUVIAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE HE TRIED TO STIR UP RIOTS IN LIMA.

Lima, Peru, April 7, via Galveston.—Senor Pierola, the ex-Dictator, finding that he stood no chance of winning in the coming Presidential elections, attempted to stir up riots in this city. He was promptly committed to prison by the Government, whose action has the entire support of public opinion, which refuses to tolerate any more such lawlessness. Pierola has withdrawn his candidature, and an agreement has since been effected between the other two candidates, with the sanction of the Government. It is believed, in consequence of this agreement, that the election, to be held on Sunday next, will pass off quietly.

BUFFETED BY GALES IN THE BAY OF NAPLES.

Naples, Italy, March 22.—The American squadron has experienced a disagreeable week. Unusually fierce equinoctial squalls have swept the beautiful Bay of Naples, and heavy rain, accompanied by lightning, has prevailed almost unceasingly. At one time on Tuesday it looked extremely likely that the Atlanta, which is moored at the end of the breakwater, would have to slip cables and moorings and stand out to sea in order to avoid collision with the Italian bark Silenzio, which was moored between her and the Chicago. A terrific squall from the southeast caught her on the starboard quarter and wrenched one of her large steel bitts, to which her weather moorings were fastened, out of its socket. The moorings were speedily shifted to the mainmast, and the Admiral's permission was requested to get up steam. After an hour or so, however, the wind shifted to another quarter during a rain squall, and the ships were enabled to ride to their moorings with much more comfort.

The Yorktown experienced severe weather at Castellamare, and on Sunday narrowly escaped drifting on the mole and injuring her propellers.

On the weather clearing up for a short time yesterday morning the three ships exercised at general quarters, in accordance with the squadron routine, and afterward the important exercise "abandon ship" was gone through.

The squadron leaves to-morrow morning for Corfu, at which ports the naval brigades will doubtless be landed for field exercises. The health of the crews of the four ships is good.

ABYSSINIA TO FIGHT THE SLAVE TRADE.

Rome, April 7.—Emperor Menelek of Abyssinia has written a letter to Prime Minister Crispi, authorizing Italy to represent him at the Brussels Anti-Slavery Congress, and affirming the intention of his country to follow the example of civilized nations and to repress the slave trade. The letter asks that Italy allow the free passage through her territory of arms required by Abyssinia to fight the dervishes.

Mechacha has arrived at Massowah. He is accredited by Emperor Menelek as Ethiopian Resident, and will co-operate with the Italian commander in the administration of the Tigre Province. Emperor Menelek will withdraw from the Tigre Province, his enemies having surrendered. The province is unable to supply provisions for a large force of troops.

ILL-TREATMENT OF CHRISTIANS IN CRETE.

Candia, Crete, April 7.—Bodies of Turkish troops have pillaged Christian churches and insulted Christians in the province of Candia. At the request of the foreign Consuls, Chakir Pacha, the Governor, has ordered an inquiry to be made into the outrages. The mixed commissions will inquire as to the extent of the losses the Christians have suffered, and the Turks will be compelled to compensate them when the amount is ascertained.

ONE MILLION IN GIFTS TO A UNIVERSITY.

Montreal, April 7.—At the annual convention of McGill University, which takes place at the end of this month, it will be officially announced by the principal, Sir William Dawson, that gifts amounting to $1,000,000 have been made, Sir Donald Smith giving a quarter of a million for a woman's branch, and a handsome new building will be erected. William C. McDonald, a rich tobacco merchant, gives nearly $500,000 for a school of architecture and science.

RACING IN ENGLAND.

London, April 7.—At Manchester to-day the race for the Lancashire Handicap Steeplechase Plate was won by G. Masterman's six-year-old Rex.

The Kempton Park Easter Handicap race was run at Kempton Park to-day and was won by J. Dover's five-year-old Brucca.

A MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AT LISBON.

Lisbon, April 7.—A decree has been issued creating a special Ministry of Education, with Senhor Arroyo at its head. Among the functions of the new Ministry will be the regulation of the right of public meeting, and the empowering of officials to prohibit entertainments at which institutions or persons may be attacked. The liberty of the press is guaranteed under certain regulations.

LE CARON TO BE TAKEN CARE OF.

Dublin, April 7.—"The Freeman's Journal" says that Major Le Caron, who became notorious because of the testimony given by him for "The Times" before the Parnell Commission, is now living in a suburb of London. He has grown a gray beard and mustache, which have so completely changed his appearance that his most intimate friends could not recognize him. "The Journal" also says that he has been promised a further Government engagement in Australia.

THE KAISER'S REFORMS IN HIS ARMY.

Berlin, April 7.—It appears that Emperor William's recent order with reference to commissioned officers in the army does not increase the pay, but lowers the scale of private incomes necessary to secure commissions. Hereafter aspirants for commissions in the Rifles, Foot Artillery and Pioneers need have private incomes of no more than 45 marks monthly; those who seek commissions in the Field Artillery 75 marks monthly, and in the cavalry 150 marks monthly.

THE BEHRING SEA NEGOTIATIONS.

Ottawa, Ont., April 7.—C. H. Tupper, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, accompanied by his private secretary, C. C. Chipman, started for Washington this afternoon. The negotiations in reference to the Behring sea matter are to be resumed at the United States capital this week, requiring the Minister's presence there to assist Sir Julian Pauncefote.

WELCOMING PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR.

Cairo, April 7.—Prince Albert Victor of Wales arrived here to-day on his way from India to England. He was met at the railway station by Sir Evelyn Baring, the British Minister, and a number of prominent Egyptian officials, who welcomed him to the city.

THE GERMAN EMIN EXPEDITION.

Zanzibar, April 7.—The German officials are hastening the preparations for the departure of the Emin Expedition. They are engaging porters at increased wages. It is believed that the first objective point of the expedition will be the lake district.

THE TURKISH MINISTRY LIKELY TO RESIGN.

Constantinople, April 7.—Despite the fact that the Ministry supports the conversion agreement entered into by the Finance Minister and a banking syndicate the Sultan does not approve the project. It is expected that the Ministry will resign.

"NIXIE" FAVORABLY RECEIVED IN LONDON.

London, April 7.—"Nixie," the new play written by Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, was produced at Terry's Theatre to-day. It was favorably received. Miss Lucy Webling took the part of Nixie.

DISORDERLY BOOTMAKERS ARRESTED.

Vienna, April 7.—Several thousand bootmakers met at Rudolfsheim to-day and marched through the suburbs of the city. There was considerable disorder and a number of the men were arrested.

MR. STANLEY LEAVES CAIRO.

Cairo, April 7.—Henry M. Stanley left here to-day for Brussels.

A FLOOD CAUSING A WATER FAMINE.

Dallas, Tex., April 7.—In consequence of inundation of machinery at the city waterworks, there is almost a water famine prevalent. There is no water to sprinkle the streets or to run electric street lights, and last night the city was in darkness. The pumps, it is thought, will possibly get started to-morrow night. The Trinity River began falling to-day.

SOUTHERN TOUR OF THE PAN-AMERICANS.

Washington, April 7.—The members of the International American Conference will leave Washington on the proposed Southern tour Friday, April 18, at 11 p. m., and will return to Washington May 10, at 2 p. m.

SISTARE'S SONS SUSPEND.

DEFALCATION IN THE PHILADELPHIA BRANCH.

THE PARTNER THERE, WHO IS NOW DEAD, AN EMBEZZLER TO A LARGE AMOUNT—HOPING TO RESUME BUSINESS—DIFFICULT TO MAKE AN ESTIMATE OF THE LOSS.

The suspension of the stock brokerage firm of George K. Sistare's Sons, at No. 16 Broad-st., was announced yesterday afternoon at the Stock Exchange. Accompanying the announcement was the confession that there had been a large defalcation in the Philadelphia branch of the house. Wall Street was somewhat startled by the news, but there were not a few concerns whose surprise was lessened by the fact that recent indications had come to them pointing to the weakening financial condition of the suspended house. According to the statements made in behalf of George K. Sistare's Sons, the suspension is expected to be only temporary. One member of the firm says that the house hopes to resume business this week. The failure created no excitement in the Stock Exchange, but there was considerable comment indulged in, owing to the reputation which had been enjoyed for many years by the house.

The letter sent to President William Lanman Bull, announcing the failure, read as follows:

Owing to the discovery of a very large defalcation and embezzlement on the part of our late resident partner in Philadelphia, we are compelled to announce our suspension. All stocks bought and sold by us to-day will be delivered and paid for.

Under the rules of the Exchange, there were bought in for account of the suspended firm 7,000 Texas Pacific second income bonds, 100 shares of Pacific Mail stock, 100 shares of St. Paul common, 200 shares of Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, 400 shares of National Lead Trust, and 400 shares of American Cotton Oil Trust receipts. The greater part of the outstanding contracts of the concern was settled privately. The only member of the firm who could be seen by reporters in the afternoon was Harold Clemens, who said: "We can give no idea at present of the extent of liabilities or of the amount of the defalcation. We are busily engaged on our affairs, and when we have all the facts and details in our possession we will be glad to make everything public. All we care to say now is what has been given officially to the Stock Exchange. Is the defalcation over $100,000? Yes, but how much more I cannot state. You can deny emphatically that the suspension was due to any connection of ours with any railway or to any operations whatever in the New-York office. We hope to be able to resume business this week."

Mr. Clemens also declared that the failure was not due in any degree to the losses suffered a few years ago through the Detroit manager of the house.

The counsel of the firm is Henry S. Bennett of Davison & Fischer, No. 45 Broadway. It is probable that an assignment will be made to Mr. Bennett or to one of the firm to-day.

The popular estimate of the extent of the Philadelphia defalcation fanges from $150,000 to $250,000. The defalcation was discovered shortly before the death of the Philadelphia partner, Douglas Hilger, on Saturday last. Mr. Hilger has been connected with the firm for several years. The New-York members are William H. M. Sistare and Harold Clemens, and as now constituted the firm has been in existence since November 6, 1886. Its life dates back, however, some forty years, when George K. Sistare was living. He founded the house, and during the Tweed regime conducted an extensive business in negotiating bonds for the city. He is also said to have been the broker for the members of the Tweed ring in some of their stock speculations. Mr. Sistare, however, always enjoyed a high reputation, and when he died in 1880 he left a flourishing business and handsome fortunes for his sons, William and George. The last-named son retired from the firm of George K. Sistare's Sons in 1886. William Sistare is the board member of the existing firm. He has been a member of the Stock Exchange since October 3, 1865. He was a governor from 1888 to 1889. The firm has branches at No. 137 South Third-st. and in the Colonnade Hotel, Philadelphia, at No. 517 Fourteenth-st., Washington, D. C., and in the Campau Building, Detroit. There is a branch office in this city at Fifth-ave. and One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st. The house has done a large business of an investment character, besides exceedingly heavy speculative orders. It has had for a long time a large part of the patronage of Addison Cammack, the well-known "bear" operator, although it is said that Mr. Cammack has not employed the firm as brokers for the last few months.

About two years ago the firm lost $150,000 through a deficiency in the accounts of A. M. Stanton, who conducted the Detroit branch, but it is said that this loss was fully recovered.

HILGER SAID TO HAVE SPECULATED.

Philadelphia, April 7.—The only member of the firm of George K. Sistare's Sons who has lived in Philadelphia was Douglas Hilger, who died at his home here about a week ago after two weeks' illness. At the time of his death there was quiet talk on the street that Mr. Hilger's accounts with the firm were heavily overdrawn, but no public announcement of the affair had been made until the receipt of the dispatches from New-York to-day announcing the failure of the firm in consequence of a defalcation in the Philadelphia office. At the office of the firm, No. 115 South Fifth-st., nothing could be learned this afternoon regarding the matter. A couple of young clerks were the only persons in the office, and they informed all inquirers that they had been instructed by the firm in New-York to give no information to the public beyond the statement that the firm had suspended payment. They referred all newspaper reporters to the New-York office for information.

Baltimore, April 7.—George L. Howell, who represents in this city the New-York house of George K. Sistare's Sons, has been informed of the failure of his principals. He says no Baltimore house is affected.

Caleb H. Needles, who acted as manager of the office of Sistare's Sons, located at the Colonnade Hotel, stated to-night that he understood that Mr. Hilger speculated in stocks through Philadelphia brokers and lost a large amount of money, exactly how much he did not know, but he thought it would reach the sum stated in the New-York dispatches ($250,000). Morris Sistare, it is said, has been in this city for nearly a month past, straightening out the affairs of the Philadelphia branch.

Mr. Hilger, who lived in a rented house at No. 2,210 Spruce-st., with his wife and one child, died on March 28 of typhoid fever. The family indignantly deny the rumor that he committed suicide. He was ill for two weeks previous to his death, and during the last three days of his life he was unconscious from the effects of his disease. A reputable physician, who attended him during his illness, certified that he died of typhoid fever. Mr. Hilger was about forty years old. He came to this city from New-York when his firm established its branch ten years ago.

ROBBED BY THEIR DETROIT MANAGER IN 1887.

Detroit, April 7 (Special).—A. M. Stanton, who for five or six years had been resident partner and manager of the Detroit office of G. K. Sistare's Sons, mysteriously disappeared March 28, 1887. An agent was sent on from New-York, who soon found that Stanton's accounts were about $28,000 short. An advertisement to the effect that Stanton was no longer connected with the Sistare house was immediately published, and created a sensation in Detroit society, in which he was widely and favorably known. When asked how the shortage occurred the New-York agent of the firm said: "I first noticed that Stanton's accounts were not sufficiently protected about a month before his disappearance. He had neglected to furnish margins. I spoke to the firm about the matter, and they pressed him to remedy the defect. Stanton replied that the men for whom he was acting were all right financially, but needed a little time. As the names sent in were all those of Detroit men favorably known to the firm the affair seemed on its face to be all right. But Stanton had used their names without the slightest authority to cover up his own private speculations. The firm believed in Stanton to such an extent that he might just as well have taken ten times the amount he did take." Since Stanton's disappearance no effort has been made to discover his address or to prosecute him.

CONDUCTORS SUDDENLY DISCHARGED.

Fort Wayne, Ind., April 7 (Special).—A sensation was caused in railroad circles to-day by the discharge of four of the oldest conductors in the service of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad Company. They are Joseph L. Gruber, James P. Gray, Johnson P. Jackson and Patrick Traverse. They are all residents of this city, highly respected and have been in the employ of the company for over fifteen years. Gruber has served a term as Councilman. No explanation was given for their discharge. It is hinted that more dismissals will follow.

DID FOOTPADS KILL HIM?

A YOUNG MAN FOUND DYING FROM A FRACTURED SKULL—HE CAME HERE TO BUY A STORE.

George Schutt, a machinist, who lives on the second floor at No. 62 First-st., started to go to his shop at half-past 6 o'clock yesterday morning. As he opened the front door he stumbled over a man who was lying on the doorstep in a pool of blood. He shook the man, but could not arouse him. Policeman Kelly was a short distance down the street and Schutt went after him. Schutt and the officer came back to the unconscious man, and after they had shaken him for a short while he opened his eyes and asked to be taken home. He was not able to tell where he lived, and he was carried to the Fifth-st. station. He brightened up for a moment, and said that his name was Robert O'Sullivan, and that he lived at Auburn. While he was talking a stupor came over him, and he could not tell how he was injured. Both his eyes were black, his nose was broken, his face swollen and scratched, and there was a large wound in the scalp in the back of his head. He said several times: "Go away! Do not strike me!" He was taken to Bellevue Hospital in an ambulance, and died at noon. He had a large fracture at the base of the skull.

At the police station O'Sullivan was searched, and several keys, a knife and a letter were found. Two of his pockets had been turned inside out before Schutt found him. The letter was from the Rev. Morris O'Sullivan, resident chaplain at the convent at Mount St. Vincent, to whom a message was sent by the police. The priest went to the Morgue and identified the dead man as his brother. It was learned from the priest that his brother came to this country from Ireland several months ago, and went to Auburn with the intention of buying a store. The place did not suit him and he came to this city about two weeks ago and called at the convent. He told the priest that he had come here to buy a grocery store. He had about $1,000 with him and a watch and chain. O'Sullivan said when he left the priest that he would call again as soon as he got through with his business. This was the last that the priest saw of his brother.

The police were not able last evening to find out where O'Sullivan had been living in this city, but it is believed that he was attacked by footpads early yesterday morning and robbed. Several detectives were sent out by Captain McCullagh to investigate the case.

MOSES FRALEY FAILS A THIRD TIME.

THE ST. LOUIS SPECULATOR TURNED BEAR AT AN UNFORTUNATE TIME—A CALL ON HIM FOR $210,000.

St. Louis, April 7 (Special).—Moses Fraley scored his third failure as a wheat plunger to-day. He was called for $210,000 in margins and could not respond. He has been carrying the stock of contract wheat (No. 2 red) in this market for several months. At the time this wheat was delivered to him Mr. Fraley was a strong bull on wheat and a firm believer in higher prices. As the market did not go his way, but kept on declining, he turned bearish and unfortunately for him he changed in his ideas on the market at nearly the lowest point the market touched. Since then he has been an uncompromising and aggressive bear, selling wheat steadily and freely. His sales of cash wheat were small, because of the prices he asked and the tenacity with which he held to his cash holdings. It is probable that this cash wheat will come out for sale unless he is able to make arrangements with the firms through whom he had it bought to carry it for him. The market of the last few days has been going against him, culminating to-day in an advance of two cents. This appears to have caused him to call a halt, and he has taken similar action to that of his two previous failures.

The general expectation is that Mr. Fraley will offer to settle at a certain price and pay all differences based on that price, whatever that may be. It is understood that, besides his shortage in May wheat, he had large lines sold for June and July. No news was received from Chicago, and how he stands there could not be ascertained. His shortage is estimated at 4,000,000 bushels, and he holds 1,500,000 bushels of cash wheat. He has been selling May wheat from 76 up. May closed to-day at $1 1-2 cents. Fraley's losses are estimated to be over $500,000 in St. Louis and Chicago.

A MILK WAR IN ORANGE COUNTY.

OPENING SKIRMISH OVER THE PRICE FIXED BY THE PRODUCERS' UNION.

Newburg, N. Y., April 7.—A milk war is on in this section of Orange County. The milk producers' branch union has made a stand against the creamery-men, and since April 1 all the creameries have been boycotted except one, where the farmers faltered, but it will probably be brought into line also. The creamery-men refuse to agree to the union terms, and the farmers are keeping back their milk. The firmness of the farmers was surprising, as, with the one exception named, they have complied with the order almost to a man. The producers' branch union is holding a meeting in Newburg to-day to discuss the situation and determine what further action to take.

At a meeting here to-day of the Homer Ramsdell Transportation Union, a branch of the Milk Producers' Union, there was adopted a resolution to the effect that all sections of that branch should withhold their milk until further orders from the executive committee of the branch union, and that the committee send a man to New-York City to sell all the milk of this branch union. Such creameries as have formed co-operative societies are excepted from this order, providing they have disposed of their milk in conformity with the union regulations.

EX-SPEAKER RANDALL DYING.

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATESMAN SINKING RAPIDLY—UNABLE TO RECOGNIZE HIS FAMILY.

Washington, April 7 (Special).—Ex-Speaker Randall is in a dying condition, a fact which is now realized and believed by his family. Until to-day his wife, who has been most faithful in her attendance upon him, has been strong in the hope and expectation that her husband would pull through. Now she is prepared for the inevitable. Mr. Randall has been low all day. During the last forty-eight hours he has failed to recognize any of his family. It is apparent that he is sinking steadily, and his death is imminent.

ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE AND WORLD'S FAIR.

Chicago, April 7.—It is said that Governor Fifer will call a special session of the Legislature at once to deal with the World's Fair matters. The principal work will be to provide for the state exhibit at the Exposition. This will involve the appropriation of a liberal sum of money to defray the expenses of such an exhibit, and the appointment of a commission to superintend the disbursement of the fund. Next will be the action of the Legislature with regard to the issue of Fair bonds to the extent of $5,000,000, by Cook County, or the City of Chicago. Under the present state constitution such municipal indebtedness could not be incurred by either city or county. To enable it to be done a constitutional amendment would be necessary. A constitutional amendment can be made only by a vote of the people, but in order that it may be submitted to the people legislative action is necessary. The $5,000,000 obtained by these bonds is necessary to raise the Fair fund from the $5,000,000 already subscribed to the $10,000,000 prescribed by the World's Fair bill. The Legislature would also be called on to cede to the World's Fair Association temporary possession of the state interest and riparian rights in the lake front, should it be decided to hold the Exposition on that site.

EVERY HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE WRECKED.

Louisville, Ky., April 7.—It is just learned that Harper's Ferry, Henry County, was almost destroyed by the tornado. The village, composed of less than two dozen houses, is a considerable distance from any railroad. The houses were not far apart, and all of them were directly in the course of the tornado. Men, women and children were buried beneath the ruins. Not a house remained standing, and the surrounding country was covered with wreckage. Mrs. Laura Thomas, the wife of a farmer, was found dead by the side of a large tree about 100 yards from her home. An infant child of a farmer named Fletcher was found under the ruins of its father's house, smothered. Seven or eight persons were injured badly, but none fatally. Those who escaped injury immediately took the others in charge, and carried them to a schoolhouse in the hills, where they remained until morning. The property loss will amount to $20,000.

THE ALDERMEN EXPOSED.

A. R. CONKLING DOES IT.

SOME AWKWARD EVIDENCE FOR MR. DOWLING TO EXPLAIN.

ATTEMPTS AT BRIBERY CHARGED—THE HUMBUG OF ALDERMEN'S CLERKS AND THE CITY LIBRARIAN ADMITTED BY CLERK TWOMEY—SHOULD THE BOARD BE ABOLISHED?—SUGGESTIONS FOR ITS REFORMATION—THE INVESTIGATION OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE ENDED.

The State Senate Committee on Cities, sitting in Part III of the Supreme Court, with State Senator Hendricks, the chairman, presiding, yesterday finished the investigation of the Sheriff's office, and, as soon as it was "off with the old love" was "on with a new"—the Board of Aldermen.

The Sheriff inquiry ended in a mass of figures, tame by contrast with the interesting facts that spice the earlier part of the record. One interesting morsel, however, was added to the array of charges of illegalities in the administration of the Sheriff's office in the testimony of Police Justice Kilbreth, who said that in his opinion the Sheriff performed an unnecessary work in reporting police court convictions to the Secretary of State, and that he had no right to receive appropriations of money for this service.

The inquiry into the Board of Aldermen's affairs opened in a most lively manner. The second witness called on this subject was ex-Alderman A. R. Conkling, whose story of his experiences during his two years' membership of the Board was one of scandals, "boodle," improprieties, undue influences, attempted extortion and corruption. Much of what Mr. Conkling said was "hearsay" evidence. But the efforts of Corporation Counsel Clark to have the witness confess that he was only retailing mere gossip resulted in discomfiture. Mr. Conkling disappointed Mr. Clark by furnishing a few names and a few specific instances. In two of the instances ex-Alderman Dowling was concerned. It had come to Mr. Conkling's knowledge that men interested in the East River Tunnel and in the College Point Ferry Company, which applied for franchises, had been "approached on the subject of money," and the man who made the "approach" in each case was ex-Alderman Dowling.

The first witness called was Henry M. Taitt, accountant, who explained the statement of the Sheriff's legal fees and expenditures put in evidence on Saturday, and printed on Sunday in The Tribune.

Deputy Controller Storrs was examined as to appropriations by the Board of Estimate, and Mr. Ivins asked him to explain by what legal right appropriations were made for reporting police court convictions. The witness produced a written opinion by Mr. Lacombe, when Corporation Counsel. Said Mr Ivins:

Q.—But is there any question involved in this opinion other than that of the actual number of convictions charged for? A.—The question involved was as to the legality of the bills of the Sheriff.

Q.—But there was no discussion of the authority of law by which the