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SAMUEL D. BABCOCK ROBBED

THIEVES CAPTURED AND THE STOLEN PROPERTY RECOVERED.

TWO YOUNG BURGLARS HAD JUST LOOTED MR. BABCOCK'S COUNTRY HOME AT RIVERDALE, WHEN THEY AROUSED THE SUSPICIONS OF TWO DETECTIVES ON A CENTRAL TRAIN—HAD ROBBED COLONEL APPLETON'S HOUSE, TOO.

Detectives Carey and Aloncle, of the Highbridge Police Station, who were formerly detective sergeants under Superintendent Byrnes, made a clever capture of two burglars late Saturday night on a New-York Central train bound for the Grand Central Station. The prisoners had just looted the country home of Samuel D. Babcock, at Riverdale-on-Hudson, about half a mile north of the Riverdale station of the Central Railroad. They had in their possession two large bronze statues and a valise full of solid silver articles made by Tiffany and Starr.

The two detectives boarded the Croton local, which makes all stops from Tarrytown down, at the Highbridge station a little after 10 o'clock Saturday night. They were bound down to the city and they took a seat in the second coach, next to the smoker. They noticed two well-dressed, smooth-faced young men, who sat in the seat just in front of them. The two men appeared to be taking extreme care of a lot of baggage they had with them. It was in four lots. Two big bundles, that appeared to be heavy when the young men moved them, they had placed on the floor of the car near their feet. A yellow leather valise, about fourteen inches long, that also appeared to be heavy was on the seat between them. One of the two also carried a medium-sized bundle on his lap. The two appeared to be anxious that their conversation together should not be overheard. When they got out at the Grand Central Station the weight of the bundles was so apparent by the way the two men carried them that the detectives were convinced that they were loaded with plunder of some character. They followed them out of the train shed into the big vestibule at the southeast corner of the building. When the detectives saw the two strangers take the two heaviest bundles and after a whispered conversation check them at the parcel stand, they stepped up to them and asked them what they were carrying.

COOL UNDER EXAMINATION.

The men under suspicion acted coolly. They wanted to know who were asking the question. When Carey and Aloncle told who they were the young men replied that they had made a mistake; that they themselves were typewriter repairers, and that their valise contained tools and typewriter parts. The detectives did not take their explanation. They were too anxious to explain things satisfactorily and contradicted themselves several times. Carey and Aloncle finally told them that they were under arrest, and took them back to the Highbridge station. As there was no train out on the New-York Central railroad at that hour, the party went over to Forty-second-st. and Sixth-ave. and took an elevated train up to the end of the line at One-hundred-and-fifty-fifth-st., and there transferred to a New-York and Putnam train. It was after midnight when Highbridge was reached.

At the station the prisoners said that they were Stephen A. Sutherland, twenty-two years old, of No. 235 West Twenty-third-st., and Warren A. Sutherland, of the same address. When arrested Stephen was carrying the bag. A revolver, fully loaded, was found in his pockets when he was searched.

The examination of the bundles and valise was a revelation. The bundles, which were left at the Grand Central Station on account of their weight, contained two handsome bronze statues about twenty-four inches in height. Both were covered with white muslin, under a thick wrapping of newspapers, just as they had been lifted from their places in the Babcock house at Riverdale. The smaller bundle contained a brass candleholder with a parabolic reflector.

The valise was packed tight with little articles of plunder. This is a list of them:

Two small silver picture frames.
Silver umbrella handle marked K. S. B., 636 Fifth-ave. (Mr. Babcock's town house.)
Fire-gilt picture frame holding the picture of a small boy in sailor's jacket.
Silver picture frame with picture of a young woman.
Rhinestone picture frame.
Silver pincushion.
Silver powder box.
Silver blotter holder.
Three silver jewel boxes.
Two silver match boxes.
Silver lead pencil.
Two silver candlesticks.
Two metal ornaments.
Man's gold chain and charm.
Silver picture frame.
Silver paper weight.
Pearl and silver paper-cutter.
Silver paper-cutter.
China and gold pen.
Physician's pocket thermometer in case.
Silver charm.
Gold charm.
Silver souvenir spoon.
Gold pencil in shape of key marked "M. B."
Silver needle emery.
Small jewel case of silver marked "L. B."
Silver charm in the shape of a whip.
Small silver bar.
Small silver figure supporting a clock.
Rubber pencil holder with gold tip.
Two meerschaum cigarette-holders.
Heavy ivory hand mirror.
Ivory hand brush marked with same monogram.
Three razors.
Pair of nail scissors.
Lady's pocket-knife.
Small pocket-book with small coin and buttons in it.
Badge bearing the name of S. D. Babcock and lettered "Chamber of Commerce Committee."
Four pocketbooks.
Three cardcases.
A pair ladye's clasp scissors.
Membership card in League of American Wheelmen, bearing the name "Schuyler R. Smith."
Silver comb, penknife, pencil and fountain pen.
Three pairs of gloves marked D. Kellog.
A small hammer.
Glass-cutter.

REMANDED IN COURT.

Most of the small silver articles bore the makers' marks of Tiffany and Theodore B. Starr. The total value of the plunder could hardly be estimated by the police on account of the artistic worth of the two bronze pieces and some of the silver. The hammer, glass-cutter, and possibly the gloves may have belonged to the burglars.

The Sutherlands were taken to Morrisania Court yesterday morning and remanded to the care of the police. They admitted to Magistrate Cornell, at a brief examination, that they had robbed a house at Riverdale. Before going to court they had made a full confession to Detectives Carey and Aloncle of the burglary of Mr. Babcock's house at Riverdale. They said that they had gone up to the place in the evening and found only a single light burning in one of the lower rooms. After watching for a long time and seeing no signs of the presence of anybody in the house, they went up to one of the big windows leading from a drawing-room to the long piazza that faces the Hudson River.

They loosened a blind, cut a hole in the window, so that they could unlock it, and entered that way. They had the whole house to themselves. They searched everywhere and got the bag full of silver. They hesitated a long time before trying to carry off the two heavy statues, but finally decided to take them. The statues were the cause of their arrest.

They got out of the house and across lanes to the Riverdale station, where one of them bought two tickets, while the other waited outside on the platform with the bundles.

The two burglars are better looking than most burglars are. The young men are of medium build and bright-looking fellows. Magistrate Cornell was struck by their appearance, and seemed to doubt their guilt till they confessed it.

They say that they have lived in New-York only about a year and that they formerly lived at No. 94 Broad-st., Kansas City, Mo. The police doubt this. Scratched on the handle of Stephen Sutherland's revolver was the name "W. Wheeler." He said that he had bought it lately in a pawnshop.

Samuel D. Babcock is a member of the banking firm of Hollister & Babcock, at No. 80 Broadway. He has a town house at No. 636 Fifth-ave.

Late in the afternoon the Sutherland brothers confessed to Captain Killilea, of the Highbridge station, that they had also robbed at Riverdale the country home of Colonel Daniel Appleton, of the well-known publishing firm, on December 28. A pawnticket for a clock stolen from the Appleton house was found in their possession.

Three pairs of gloves enumerated in the list of articles stolen are said to be the property of D. Kellogg, whose home is next to that of Mr. Babcock. A membership ticket to the League of American Wheelmen, in the name of Schuyler R. Smith, Boston, Mass., which was also found in their possession, it is thought by the Captain will connect them with a recent Boston robbery.

Mr. Babcock, when seen at his home, No. 636 Fifth-ave., last night, said that the value of the property taken from his country home by thieves was, he thought, comparatively small. The silverware had been removed to the city house, he said, and nothing of any great value was left in the Riverdale house. He expressed his satisfaction at the arrest of the two prisoners, and said that he would prosecute both of them to the full extent of the law.

BLIZZARD RAGES IN THE WEST

WINTER DESCENDS UPON THE PLAINS.

HEAVY RAINS FOLLOWED BY A COLD WAVE AND A DEEP SNOW.

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 3.—A blizzard is blowing to-night in this section over an area 400 miles north and south and 600 miles east and west. Over most of Minnesota it has been snowing from fourteen to twenty hours, and there is from seven inches to sixteen inches of snow on the ground. The wind is blowing a gale from the north. The snow is damp and packs so solidly on the railway tracks that it is difficult for the snow ploughs to work through it. The snow has also made a wreck of telegraph wires to the north and west of St. Paul. All trains are still moving, though some of them are hours late. South Dakota dispatches say the storm extends as far west as the Black Hills. In the region along the Mission River from Chamberlain, S. D., south to the North Dakota line, railway trains are having great difficulty in moving, some of them having been abandoned for the night. The temperature is from 15 to 18 degrees above zero, though at 9 o'clock it was rapidly growing colder. There will be suffering among live stock if the mercury drops to zero.

St. Louis, Jan. 3.—The heaviest rainstorm of recent years has prevailed throughout Missouri, Northern Arkansas and Indian Territory during the last thirty-six hours. In many places in Western Missouri the streams are overflowed and in some places railroads have suffered from washouts. Last night the rain turned to sleet, and to-day a furious snowstorm is raging. The temperature has fallen forty degrees in Missouri and Eastern Kansas in the last twenty-four hours, and in the latter section a genuine blizzard is sweeping over the country.

At Bagnell, Mo., the Osage River has risen fifteen feet, and Warsaw reports a rise of twenty-two feet and a repetition of last winter's flood is feared. At Osceola the river is out of its banks and the bottom lands are submerged. At Fayette the electric light power-house is flooded and the city is in darkness to-night. A number of washouts have occurred on the railroads and traffic is badly delayed. In the vicinity of Sedalia every stream is reported out of its banks, and the rainfall continued until this morning, when it turned to sleet and later in the day a heavy snowstorm set in. At Lamonte and Knobnoster a small tornado prevailed last night, many trees being uprooted, but no large amount of damage to property has been reported so far.

Webb City reports heavy damage to property by rain and wind. Clinton, Warrensburg and Shelbina suffered serious damage from the downpour, the rainfall being the greatest since the floods of 1895. In many places in Western Missouri the mercury has fallen almost to zero, and this drop in temperature will probably result in checking the flood.

In St. Louis a heavy rain has fallen during the last twenty-four hours, but at 7 o'clock to-night it was checked by a decided fall in temperature, and at 9 o'clock the mercury had fallen thirty-five degrees and was accompanied by a high northwesterly wind.

Kansas City, Jan. 3.—The unprecedented rains of the last three days have been checked by a cold wave and Kansas is to-night experiencing its first winter weather. Snow has fallen all day in various parts of the State. At Larned, Kan., snow is piled in drifts four to six feet deep. Traffic on the Larned-Jetmore extension of the Santa Fe is completely blocked. Travel overland in any direction is almost impossible.

Abilene reports heavy snow, accompanied by a wind reaching the proportions of a blizzard. It is feared that loss of cattle will result from the storm, particularly in the western and northern sections of the State.

In Northern Arkansas, and as far west as Fort Smith, rain fell during twenty-four hours up to noon to-day, when it turned to snow, accompanied by a drop of thirty degrees in temperature.

Guthrie, Okla., reports a drop of sixty degrees since last evening and a severe snowstorm prevails in the western portion of Indian Territory.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—The rainstorm which has prevailed over Northern Illinois uninterruptedly for three days has been the severest experienced in this locality for two years. The observations taken at the Weather Bureau in this city this evening showed that the rainfall was 2½ inches since the beginning of the storm early New Year's morning. The temperature fell 20 degrees in Chicago within the last eight hours, and at 11 o'clock to-night the rain turned to snow. It is not expected by the Weather Bureau that the thermometer will reach the zero mark, although they predict a temperature considerably below freezing before to-morrow evening.

In Chicago considerable damage was done by the downpour of rain in the suburbs, where sewers were insufficient to carry away the volume of water. Reports of flooded basements from the southern and western portions of the city were numerous, while at Grand Crossing and nearby suburbs the streets were inundated and the damage heavy. In low places it is impossible for pedestrians to move without wading in deep water, and boats were utilized.

At Austin and Oak Park and the West Side the conditions were annoying. The basements are flooded with several feet of water, and furnace fires in many localities are extinguished. The pumping works at Bridgeport are being operated with great difficulty. It was thought at one time this evening that the pumps would have to be shut down on account of the rapidly accumulating water, but the floodgates were resorted to and the water sent on its journey down the canal. The rain continued steadily all day, and at times the precipitation was in the nature of a cloudburst. The downtown streets were deserted, and continuous shows and other resorts lacked patrons.

A concrete sidewalk surrounding the Lincoln Bank, at Michigan and Clark sts., collapsed during the afternoon as a result of the rain. C. B. Power, a barber, at Ravenswood, was the only person in front of the building. He was precipitated to the basement, a distance of four feet, but was rescued uninjured. A fence was hastily erected about the opening, which made necessary the closing of the bank.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 3.—Nebraska is enjoying an old-fashioned blizzard, the most serious one of the winter. New Year's Day was springlike and mild, but Friday night the temperature began to fall, and the mercury has continued its descent since. Last evening a snowstorm set in, and it is still general throughout the State. High winds are drifting the snow, and if they continue throughout the night may make the situation on the plains alarming. Omaha seems, so far, to have escaped the worst of the storm, but all trains entering the city during the day were somewhat late. The streetcar lines are badly crippled, and the lines are kept open with difficulty.

At 10 o'clock to-night the thermometer at the local Weather Bureau registered 3 degrees above zero, and the chances are that the temperature will fall several points before daylight. On the level tracts in the western and central portions of the State, where the wind has full sweep, it is much colder.

From every section of the State come reports of heavy winds driving the snow in blinding clouds before it, so that it is dangerous for any one to venture out.

At Meadow Grove the storm began about midnight Saturday night and a blizzard has been raging ever since, with no signs of abatement. Drifts are over ten feet high. Hardy reports eighteen hours of continuous snow and wind and serious drifting. From that place and Central City come stories of a like nature. There is much stock being cared for on the ranges in Nebraska, and it will be several days before news is received as to how the herds and those in charge of them have been affected.

TRAINMEN KILLED IN A WRECK.

Holden, Mo., Jan. 3.—Early this morning a freight train on the Missouri Pacific Railway ran into a landslide near this place. Three of the crew were killed. The dead are Gomor Evans, engineer, married; Harry Hukop, fireman, married, and J. McQueen, brakeman, unmarried. Two other members of the crew were slightly injured. The recent heavy rains caused a huge mass of earth to slide down upon the track, and the train crashed into the obstruction while running at a rate of twenty miles an hour.

WEYLER'S RECALL CERTAIN.

PRESS RUMORS CONFIRMED BY A REPORT FROM MINISTER TAYLOR.

WHAT LITTLE SUCCESS WEYLER HAS ATTAINED SAID TO BE DUE ENTIRELY TO POSITIVE ORDERS FROM MADRID—HIS PERSONAL WORK A FAILURE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Jan. 3.—Is General Weyler to be succeeded as Governor-General of Cuba? There are good reasons for giving an affirmative reply to this question, and for saying that that official's days as director-in-chief of Cuban affairs are numbered. Recent press dispatches from Madrid have intimated that Prime Minister Canovas, certain members of his Cabinet, and some leading Spanish papers are dissatisfied with Weyler's course in Cuba. The General has accomplished too little as a soldier to please the authorities and press of Madrid. It is true that some words of praise have fallen to Weyler, but these have not been numerous or hearty.

The intimation made that Weyler is to be called home is not based so much upon what is being said in Madrid as upon a report made to the State Department by Minister Taylor. Mr. Taylor has shown a good deal of zeal of late in keeping Secretary Olney advised as to what is going on at the Spanish capital. Minister de Lome's activity in keeping his Government informed about what happens at Washington is probably no greater than that displayed by the American Minister in reporting happenings at Madrid. Generally that which Mr. Taylor communicates to Secretary Olney is held in such strict confidence that little intelligence he conveys reaches the public. Information has, however, sifted through official sources that Mr. Taylor has informed the Secretary of State that General Weyler is likely to be relieved of his command at an early date, and that his successor has been practically decided upon.

Minister Taylor informed Secretary Olney several days ago that the authorities at Madrid were on the point of relieving General Weyler of his command in Cuba, and of appointing as his successor Captain-General Primo de Rivera. Reasons were given in brief why a change was deemed advisable, and a statement was made as to the probable time when the orders would be promulgated. It is learned that the Madrid Government is displeased at the fact that General Weyler, with about 200,000 troops, has not put down the Cuban revolt. He has expended large sums of money, but so far has made no decided headway in accomplishing his main object, that of quelling the insurrection and restoring peace and good order in Cuba. His troops have been victorious on occasions. But they have also met defeat, and the total result, considering Spain's outlay in life and treasure, is far from satisfactory. Too much may have been expected of Weyler, just as the exaction was too great in the case of Campos. Still, the one great requirement—success—has not been fulfilled, and Weyler has consequently fallen in official esteem in Madrid.

Mr. Taylor does not say so, but it is well known here that Weyler's present activity in the field in the Province of Pinar del Rio is due to positive and specific orders from Madrid. A private letter received here a few days ago said that Weyler's present display of zeal was not a matter of choice; that he much preferred to remain in Havana and direct operations from his comfortable quarters there, and that he was now at the front because strict orders demanded that he should be there.

General Primo de Rivera was once Spain's Secretary of War, and in that office showed much administrative ability. He is a Captain-General in the Spanish Army, and in favor with the Canovas Government.

WILL ACCEPT NO COMPROMISE.

Cleveland, Jan. 3.—A large and enthusiastic mass-meeting in the cause of Cuban independence was held in this city last night under the auspices of the Cuban-American League. President Wolcott of the league presided, and addresses were made by Secretary Fidel G. Pierra, of the Cuban Junta of New-York; Dr. Henry Lincoln de Zayas, secretary of the Cuban Junta; George W. Pepper, ex-United States Consul at Milan; Rabbi Moses J. Grier, and Treasurer Paine of the Cuban-American League. Secretary Pierra, who made the principal address of the evening, devoted a considerable portion of his speech to a review of the reasons why Cuba would never consent to any of the schemes of the compromise now reported to be under consideration by the Spanish Government. "We struck the word 'compromise' from our vocabulary two years ago," said he. "We will have no home rule—nothing that will keep the Spanish flag on Cuban soil. Home rule would mean only a few months' representations and broken promises and a renewal of hostilities in a few months. We want independence or we want war."

Mr. Pepper made a severe denunciation of the inactivity of the United States Government.

A popular subscription was started and nearly $300 was raised, principally in small sums. The meeting unanimously adopted resolutions indorsing the action of the Congressmen who voted favorably on the Cuban resolution and strongly denouncing any attempt at compromise.

THE LAURADA SAILS FOR HOME.

Gibraltar, Jan. 3.—The American steamer Laurada, the report of the intention of which to call at Valencia, Spain, caused such a commotion in that city, the Laurada having, it is said, been engaged in filibustering in Cuba, sailed to-day for the United States, without having touched at a Spanish port.

NOT TO BE OUTDONE BY SUNDAY LAWS.

AN ENTERTAINMENT HELD AFTER MIDNIGHT, WHEN IT WAS FORBIDDEN IN THE EARLY EVENING.

The Hungarian Ladies' Aid Society was to have held a reception, ball and entertainment at Central Opera House, in Sixty-seventh-st., near Third-ave., last night. Two plays, entitled "Freaks; or, Fun in a Museum," and "Never Touched Me," were to be produced. About 7 o'clock, Detective Herlihy, of the East Sixty-seventh-st. station, hearing that the actors were to appear in costume, informed the manager of the hall, Frederick Meisser, that this was a violation of the Sunday law. Mr. Meisser then told the actors and members of the society that he could not permit the entertainment to proceed if the performers were to wear costumes, as it was a direct violation of the law. A howl was set up by the people present, but afterward they cooled down, and agreed to hold the entertainment after 12. Dancing was then begun to pass away the time until midnight, when the entertainment was begun.

SERIOUS CHARGE FROM A JUDGE.

SYSTEMATIC WRECKING OF LOAN ASSOCIATIONS IN CHICAGO ALLEGED.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—In an opinion touching certain phases of litigation in the matter of receivers for the International Building Loan and Investment Union, Judge Payne yesterday made the charge that there is in Chicago a conspiracy to wreck building and loan associations.

Judge Hancey last Wednesday appointed two temporary receivers for the association—a corporation which Judge Payne believes to be perfectly solvent, save for the attacks made upon it. The concern has done banking for about 2,500 people to the extent of $800,000, and the suit is but one of many pending in the Chicago courts. The case first came under the notice of Judge Payne some days ago, when he declined to appoint receivers because they were too costly, and named a Board of Directors to take charge of the affairs. The old Board considered itself in power and declined to recognize the new one. Judge Payne said the two receivers had been appointed "ill-advisedly and without full knowledge of the situation," and in emphasizing his point, said:

There seems to be in this city an organized effort to destroy building associations, to get receiverships for building associations and having got them to have the assets of the association sold, purchased by the directors and a fortune made by people who grow fat upon the savings of the poor. It has come to me that bills will be filed in the name of some unsuspecting stockholders, who will ask for a receiver against a perfectly solvent association; other bills will follow and such a clamor will result that the stockholders will conclude that the association must be insolvent, and they will fly to the very people who are endeavoring to destroy them.

Judge Payne then indorsed his action of a week ago and named three men to serve as a Board of Directors without compensation. The action is construed by many as a rebuke to Judge Hancey.

PLATT MAY DECLINE IT.

SOME DOUBT AS TO HIS DESIRE TO BE A SENATOR.

NEVER LIKED OFFICIAL LIFE AT WASHINGTON—MR. COLVIN'S DINNER—TAMMANY VOTES FOR BOSS M'LAUGHLIN.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

Albany, Jan. 3.—One of the most important duties which the Legislature will have to perform early in its session will be that of electing a United States Senator to succeed David B. Hill, whose term expires on March 4. Some time in the course of the week beginning January 18, according to the laws of the United States, the Senator must be elected. There are thirty-six Republicans and fourteen Democrats who are members of the State Senate, and 115 Republicans and thirty-five Democrats who are members of the Assembly. Upon joint ballot, therefore, the Republican vote is 151, and the Democratic vote only 49. The Republican majority, therefore, is the extraordinary number of 102. Not even a man of feeble wits could doubt that the Republican party will elect the Senator.

Only two Republicans have thus far been considered by the Republican members of the Legislature for Senator, and they are Joseph H. Choate and Thomas C. Platt. It was clear also from what the Senators and Assemblymen said who were here attending Governor Black's inauguration ceremonies that Mr. Platt at present has the larger number of supporters and will be elected Senator unless he declines the office. The canvass which "The Albany Evening Journal" has been making shows that 72 Republican members of the Legislature have already declared that they favor his election and 76 votes in the Republican caucus is all that he needs to insure his election.

But will Mr. Platt, after marshalling his political forces and indicating that he can have the office of Senator, take that position? There are some Republican politicians who doubt it, and who say they suspect that just before the caucus of the Republican members of the Legislature is held on January 13 he will declare that he does not desire the office, and will use his influence to confer it upon some one else. Eminent Republican politicians say that they believe Mr. Platt intends to go to the Senate, and yet they cannot help recalling from time to time his declarations to them that he never liked Washington life as Congressman or Senator, that his home life in New-York is very pleasant, and that his business interests in New-York need constant attention. Under these circumstances, they say, they should not be surprised if Mr. Platt should "spring some new man" for Senator on the Legislature before the Republican caucus is held. They will therefore watch Mr. Platt's political movements with keen interest the approaching week.

Addison B. Colvin, the president of the Republican League, has made arrangements for the holding of a big Republican banquet at Harmanus Bleecker Hall in honor of whoever is elected United States Senator. This banquet will be partaken of just one week later than the day on which the United States Senator is elected. Vice-President-elect Hobart will be one of the chief guests. There will be seats for 500 persons at the banquet, which are now on sale at $5 each. The dinner will begin at 6:30 p. m., and it is hoped that it will be completed by 7:30 p. m. Then the galleries of Harmanus Bleecker Hall will be thrown open, and persons who desire to listen to the speeches will be admitted. The seats in the gallery will be $2 50.

The Democratic Senators and Assemblymen apparently may discard David B. Hill and vote for Hugh McLaughlin for United States Senator if he will permit. The Tammany Hall Senators say they intend to vote for McLaughlin unless he declines to accept their vote. It is probable that this complimentary vote for McLaughlin has some relation to the desire of the Tammany Hall leaders to establish harmonious relations with the Democrats in that portion of Greater New-York which is situated on the east side of the East River. The Greater Tammany will be found wrapped up in the laurel branch extended to McLaughlin.

The followers of Henry D. Purroy, of New-York, in the Legislature, Senator Guy intimates, may have a Democrat of their own as a candidate for Senator. What they desire is a rabid silver Democrat. Some Bryan Democrat, therefore, may be selected.

FAIRBANKS IN THE LEAD.

APPARENTLY SURE TO SUCCEED VOORHEES IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

Indianapolis, Jan. 3 (Special).—The lobby of the Denison House, Republican headquarters from time immemorial, has begun to fill with members of the Legislature and boomers of Senatorial candidates, in preparation for the organization of the Legislature on Thursday. The candidates for the Senate have been narrowed down to Charles W. Fairbanks, General Lew Wallace, of "Ben Hur" fame, and W. Riley McKeen. Each has headquarters with a corps of lieutenants in charge. General Wallace was the latest comer in the field, but there is a detachment of Montgomery County politicians on hand taking care of his interests. After having written a letter saying that he would not be a candidate if he had to make a strenuous fight for the honor, he found that it would not go to any one in that manner, and his friends have organized as strong a following as they can. His strength, however, is yet inconsiderable, and his only hope is that a deadlock may occur between Fairbanks and McKeen. His chief support is with the old soldier element, which is trying to rally the veterans to his support all over the State. The number of veteran legislators is, however, smaller than ever before during Republican control, and it is not probable that the movement will seriously affect Fairbanks's chances. McKeen and Fairbanks fought out their fight in the pre-election conventions, and Fairbanks won, so that it is likely that he will be the nominee of the caucus. Robert S. Taylor, of Fort Wayne, seems to have dropped out of the contest.

There is a movement on the part of the Fairbanks following to hold an early caucus, probably next Thursday night, but there is opposition to this from friends of the field candidates. It is probable, however, that the Fairbanks people, who claim sixty-six votes out of the eighty-three, will insist on a caucus early in the week, so that this element of obstruction to important legislation may be removed. Those in opposition to Fairbanks say that he has promised all the Federal patronage in return for support, but this is strongly denied.

THE SITUATION IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 3.—Members of the Legislature, which meets Wednesday, are arriving in great numbers. As rapidly as the Populists arrive they are called on by prominent Republicans in the interest of Senator Pritchard. It is learned that some of the Populists already here tell Pritchard's friends they favor him. Odds of 100 to 50 are offered by Republicans on Pritchard's re-election. The Republicans will hold a caucus on Tuesday night. They say they are desirous that the Populists shall hold a joint caucus with them on all matters. The Populist State Chairman reiterates his statement that there will be no joint caucuses. He declares he is well pleased with the situation, but declines to say more. The Democrats say they expect overtures from Senator Butler. The whole matter hinges on one thing, this being Butler's ability to keep the Populists in line. There are confessedly three classes of Populists, the Middle-of-the-Roaders, those of Republican proclivities and those who lean toward the Democrats.

The Democrats say they believe Butler can control a majority of their caucus. They positively deny that the Republicans have seventy-two votes in the Legislature, as claimed. Ex-Congressman Ewart, said to-night, "You can say for me that Senator Butler cannot now prevent Pritchard's election."

THESE WANT MR. PLATT.

Patrick Egan, ex-Minister to Chili, has sent a letter to William D. Guthrie, dissenting from his sentiments in favor of Joseph H. Choate for United States Senator. Mr. Egan says that he doubts Mr. Guthrie's statement that there is a demand for Mr. Choate's election from the plain people, who make up the strength and stability of the Republican party.

More letters from Assemblymen replying to Senator Pavey's circular letter asking them to support Mr. Choate were made public last evening at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. A. B. Gray, of Poughkeepsie, wrote that he had not been able to find a dozen Republicans of Dutchess County who favor Mr. Choate, and so he intends to vote for Mr. Platt if he is a candidate. T. M. Costello, of Altmar, Oswego County; O. H. Budd, of Hector, Schuyler County; Joel Clark, of Cameron, Steuben County, and F. L. Whritner, of Suffern, Rockland County, wrote long letters, telling why they will support Mr. Platt instead of Mr. Choate. Mr. Clark said that if he should vote for Mr. Choate and he should fail to stand with the Republicans on tariff legislation he (Clark) might as well emigrate from Steuben County. For this reason he "will not risk a vote for Mr. Choate."

THE FIGHT IN PENNSYLVANIA.

CHARGES OF BRIBERY FREELY MADE—PROPOSITION OF THE WANAMAKER LEADERS.

Harrisburg, Penn., Jan. 3.—There has been no change in the Senatorial situation since last night. It is reported that Detective McSweeney, of Scranton, has a warrant for the arrest of Dr. Mackey, one of the Lackawanna County members, on the charge of accepting a bribe. It is also understood that a warrant is in the hands of the detectives for a Wilkesbarre saloonkeeper, who is charged with having bribed delegates to the various legislative conventions of Luzerne County. There are detectives at every turn.

The Penrose people claimed yesterday that the voters of Philadelphia are overwhelmingly in favor of their candidate. The Wanamaker leaders replied to-day to this assertion by offering to put the question to the test at the Republican primaries in Philadelphia on January 12, by allowing the voters of that city to cast a vote for their choice for Senator. If the vote is favorable to Penrose, then the Wanamaker people agree to let him have the entire legislative delegation from Philadelphia, but if favorable to Wanamaker the delegation is to vote for the latter. The Wanamaker people further offer to bear all the expenses of the vote in Philadelphia.

Dr. Theodore L. Flood, of Meadville, Penn., the editor and proprietor of "The Chautauquan," and for many years one of the most prominent Republicans of that State, is visiting the city on business, and is accompanied by his wife. The doctor was one of the delegates-at-large to the Republican National Convention at St. Louis, and although a warm personal friend of Major McKinley he stood with the majority of the Pennsylvania delegates for Senator Quay.

"Although Pennsylvania has had a member in the Cabinet of every Republican President, I believe with one exception (that of President Hayes)," said Dr. Flood, when asked what he thought of the Cabinet outlook, "it is my impression that our State will not be represented in the list of Major McKinley's constitutional advisers. Why this is so I do not care to say at present. It is my belief, however, and I think that you will find it correct."

Dr. Flood is just from Harrisburg, where he stopped over a day or two and saw most of the prominent Republicans gathered at the State capital.

"How is the fight for the Senatorship between Penrose and Wanamaker coming on?" the doctor was asked.

"I saw Senator Quay at his headquarters in the Lochiel, at Harrisburg, yesterday," he replied. "The Senator was in his shirt sleeves and hard at work for Penrose. In answer to my questions he said that Penrose's election was assured beyond a doubt, but he was not relaxing his efforts in the least. I think that Mr. Quay said that his column of Penrose votes footed up 148, which is a handsome majority of the Legislature, to say nothing of the caucus."

A VIGILANCE COMMITTEE.

PEEKSKILL'S CITIZENS ORGANIZE TO PROTECT THE VILLAGE FROM BURGLARS AND THIEVES.

Captain John Smith, chief of the new Peekskill volunteer police force, or Vigilance Committee, which now consists of over one hundred and thirty-five men, called together his Executive Committee and advisors on Saturday afternoon, and for nearly three hours matters were discussed and plans perfected. There were present besides Captain Smith, Stephen D. Horton, president of the village; Secretary George E. Briggs, and these members of the Executive Committee: Ex-Supervisor James H. Haight, ex-Water Commissioner James T. Sutton, Edward C. Wilson, Charles Nassau Wells and John Lynch. A plan was mapped out which provides for thirty picket outposts, the majority of them at the corners of streets on the outskirts of the village. Five men are assigned to each station, men being selected who live close to these stations. Each one of these squads will be in charge of a sergeant, or head man. Each of these stations or outposts is near a telephone, either in an office or private house. If a burglary should occur at night the alarm will be given as soon as discovered, and a long blast blown on the village fire whistle. On this signal these men will turn out and report as soon as possible. Some fifty men have no posts, but will report immediately at headquarters, the Corporation office, and be sent out in details by the captain. Each member will have a card and whistle. His card will have his name on it, and also the names of the five men at his post, and instructions what to do, and when, how and where to do it. A password has also been given out. The system will be a thorough one, and in two weeks there will be 200 men on the force.

At a meeting of Vosburg Post, No. 95, G. A. R., on Thursday evening the post unanimously offered its services to the new police force. It is expected that the Peekskill Rifle Club and the Peekskill Gun Club will do the same at their next meetings. Both are composed of young men of the town, all excellent marksmen, and within a week and thereafter it will go hard with any burglars, robbers or thieves who endeavor to ply their trade in the village. Peekskill means that it shall have no Bedford Station tragedies. Captain Smith was a lieutenant in the 6th Heavy Artillery in the Civil War. He was at the front and saw some very hard fighting, and is regarded as just the man for the work he is now organizing.

PROPOSED NATIONAL GUARD REFORM.

THE LEGISLATURE MAY REDUCE THE GOVERNOR'S STAFF TO AN ORNAMENTAL BODY.

Albany, Jan. 3 (Special).—As one of the consequences of ex-Inspector-General McLewee's criticism of the National Guard, it is said, a bill may be introduced in the Legislature transforming the Guard into a division of four brigades, with a major-general permanently in command of it. Then the Governor's Staff would be merely an ornamental body.

This measure, it is said, will be submitted to the National Guard Association for its approval or disapproval on its meeting here on January 19. At the Guard headquarters here the Adjutant-General would have permanent headquarters, but his authority would be greatly reduced. The real commander of the Guard would be the major-general commanding it, subject, of course, to the Governor, the Commander-in-Chief.

A BOY WANTED FOR MURDER.

RELEASED FROM PRISON IN PHILADELPHIA JUST BEFORE WORD CAME OF HIS CRIME.

Philadelphia, Jan. 3.—A few days before Christmas two boys, giving the names of James Hagen and Edward Burns, of New-York, were arrested for picking pockets. Hagen was identified as a boy who had served on Blackwell's Island for picking pockets in New-York, but nothing was learned of the Burns boy. Both boys were convicted and sentenced to two years' imprisonment in the Huntingdon Reformatory.

On Friday a middle-aged woman and a well-dressed young man visited Judge Yerkes, who sentenced Burns, and told him they were the mother and brother of the boy. They said their name was Canover, and that they lived in Chicago, and Mrs. Canover told the Judge how she heard her boy was in prison here and that she had come on for him. She made such a piteous plea that yesterday Judge Yerkes had the boy brought into court and, after giving him some good advice, set him free. Not two hours after the happy mother and her boy had left the courtroom came a telegram from Chicago saying that Edward Burns was wanted there for murder. The Chicago dispatch contained no details. The police here think the boy is the one wanted, but they have been unable to get any trace of him or his mother and brother. The boy is only fifteen years old and wears knee breeches.

CURIOUS PHENOMENON IN LOUISIANA.

THE SUN'S RAYS REFLECTED FROM HEAVY CLOUDS PRODUCE A REMARKABLE EFFECT.

New-Orleans, Jan. 3.—An extraordinary celestial phenomenon was visible here about 7 o'clock this morning. Thick, heavy clouds were rolling and it was as dark as it is an hour and a half earlier. At that hour suddenly the sky was overcast with a peculiar pinkness and the rays reflected gave the earth the appearance of being on fire. The remarkable display lasted perhaps ten minutes, but it was startling during its brief existence.

It was followed by a fierce gale along the lake front. Persons living at West End declare that in eleven years they have witnessed no such storm. The people there were much frightened. The waters of Lake Pontchartrain were driven in and overflowed Spanish Fort and all the roads leading from the city to the lake, in some places reaching a depth of three feet. Nothing has been heard from Mandeville and places on the other side of the lake.

FOG THICK ENOUGH TO CUT.

THE CITY, HARBOR AND RIVERS ENVELOPED IN MIST.

STEAMERS, FERRY AND SOUND BOATS DELAYED—THE PILGRIM COMPELLED TO ANCHOR OFF RIKER'S ISLAND—NO ACCIDENTS REPORTED.

An unusually dense fog that set in about 9:30 p. m. on Saturday enshrouded the city in misty gloom all of yesterday and until late last evening. River navigation was seriously impeded, and all save three of about fifteen sea-going steamships which were due from different ports were prevented from entering the harbor. There was a continuous and discordant din of fog bells at ferry landings, and steam whistles sounded from the ferryboats and tugs while they groped about the North and East rivers and the upper bay. The Staten Island ferryboats succeeded in making their trips with reasonable regularity, but on most of the other ferry routes there were long and vexatious delays, and the ferry-houses were almost constantly crowded with impatient passengers awaiting the arrival or departure of the unavoidably belated boats.

Late on Saturday night four tugboats, towing eight large railroad freight-car floats, tied up at the pier of the Liberty Island boat at the Battery for safety, and remained there till noon yesterday. Another lot of floats were tied up there last evening. The Liberty Island boat made two trips and the Ellis Island boat only one trip. The Sunday boats for the Fishing Banks did not venture to leave their piers.

The Sound steamers were unable to complete their trips on time. The Pilgrim, of the Fall River Line, which was due at her pier at Park Place and West-st. at 7 a. m., came to anchor off Riker's Island, in the Sound, at that hour, and her 250 passengers were landed at Port Morris pier, East One-hundred-and-thirty-eighth-st., by the tugboat Edna King, which made six trips from the steamer to the pier for that purpose. The passengers made their way homeward by the different streetcar lines. The Pilgrim, the Richard Peck, of the New-Haven Line; the City of Lowell, of the Norwich Line, which landed her passengers at Whitestone, and the Stonington Line boat all arrived safely at their piers about 10:30 p. m.

The Government tugboat Atlantic, which runs between Governor's Island and the Battery, broke one of her rudder-chains in the morning, and was compelled to lie idly in her slip, while General Ruger's launch was used in her place.

Although the fog was so dense at Quarantine that it was impossible at times to see a greater distance than about fifty feet, the Wilson Line steamship Hindoo, which had anchored there