New-York Tribune.

VOL. LVI....No. 18,344. NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1897.—TWELVE PAGES. PRICE THREE CENTS.

MR. CAMMACK TO RETIRE.

THE WELL-KNOWN OPERATOR SELLS HIS STOCK EXCHANGE SEAT.

IT IS PURCHASED BY HENRY I. DITTMAN FOR $18,000—INCIDENTS IN THE FAMOUS "BEAR'S" LIFE.

One of the ablest and most successful operators that Wall Street ever knew retired from that field of speculation yesterday when Addison Cammack sold his seat in the New-York Stock Exchange, which he had held since March 19, 1875. The purchaser was Henry I. Dittman, who has charge of the arbitrage and bond business of Lazard Freres, No. 10 Wall-st., and the price paid was $18,000. The sale of the seat in the Exchange was accepted as conclusive evidence that Mr. Cammack's withdrawal from the Street was permanent and not a piece of "speculative strategy." A person who is not a member of the Exchange is obliged to pay a commission of one-eighth of one per cent on the par value of stocks dealt

ADDISON CAMMACK.

in to have his orders executed on the Exchange. A member of the Exchange who does not "clear" his own stocks may have his orders executed for "three and a shilling," or in other words $3 25 per 100 shares, which makes the commission one-thirty-second of one per cent. At one-eighth, the commission on 50,000 shares is $6,250. At one-thirty-second the commission is $1,562 50. The difference is $4,687 50. The great advantage to a speculator in belonging to the Exchange is made apparent by these figures. In periods of great speculative activity Mr. Cammack often dealt in 50,000 shares of stock in a day. Mr. Cammack could well afford to have retained his seat, which carried with it an insurance of $10,000. The name of the purchaser of the seat will be "posted" for two weeks, at the end of which time, on February 18, it will be acted upon by the Committee on Admissions.

HIS RECORD IN WALL STREET.

There have been men identified with Wall Street—Commodore Vanderbilt and Jay Gould, for instance—who have made more in one way or another in stocks than Mr. Cammack, but probably no one in Wall Street has ever made so much money in purely speculative operations and retained it. Commodore Vanderbilt and Mr. Gould made their great wealth chiefly through the issues of stocks of railroads which they controlled. Mr. Cammack was never in control of a railroad. During his connection with Wall Street he never was anything but a speculator. Strangely enough, nearly all of his profits were secured on the "short side" of the stock market. For more than a quarter of a century he has been the recognized "bear" leader in the Street.

Mr. Cammack first became prominent in Wall Street when he formed a copartnership with the late Charles J. Osborn, under the firm name of Osborn & Cammack, to act as stock brokers in 1870. The firm was very successful, but Mr. Cammack left it in five years and never afterward engaged in the brokerage business. He was thenceforth a speculator and nothing else. He was often concerned in deals with Commodore Vanderbilt, William H. Vanderbilt and Jay Gould. He and William H. Vanderbilt were close friends. One of the few occasions on which he was a bull on stocks was in the famous West Shore deal in 1884. He was short of stocks in the great Grant & Ward smash in May of that year, and he looked forward to a long period of depression. In June, William H. Vanderbilt secured control of the West Shore Railroad, which paralleled the New-York Central and Hudson River Railroad, the chief Vanderbilt road, and had been waging a fierce and costly warfare on the New-York Central. Mr. Vanderbilt persuaded Mr. Cammack that the acquisition of the West Shore completely changed the speculative situation. The late Charles F. Woerishoffer and Henry N. Smith were at the time working with Mr. Cammack on the short side of the market. Mr. Woerishoffer turned over to the long side with Mr. Cammack. Mr. Smith remained on the short side. Mr. Cammack and Mr. Woerishoffer made a great deal of money. Mr. Smith lost $3,000,000 and carried down William Heath & Co., who acted as his brokers.

BROUGHT ABOUT COLLAPSE IN STOCK.

It was Mr. Cammack, Mr. Woerishoffer and Mr. Smith who brought about, in 1883, the collapse in Northern Pacific Railroad stock, while the property was under the administration of Henry Villard. While Mr. Villard was driving the golden spike which connected the Eastern and Western divisions, in the presence of a company of extensive investors from Germany, they were planning for the downfall of the price of the road's securities. They made a large sum in this operation. Since Mr. Cammack has been active in the Street he has been the leading spirit in all bear movements of consequence.

The understanding is that Mr. Cammack retired from Wall Street by the desire of his wife, who thought that he had reached a time in life when he should give up business altogether. He is seventy-one years old, but there are few men of fifty who are as well preserved. Mr. Cammack married some eleven years ago, his wife having been a Miss Hildreth, of Washington. He has two children, both boys, one ten and the other seven years old. On his marriage, it is said, he presented to his wife securities worth $1,000,000. He has since placed considerable real estate in her name. He accumulated every dollar of his wealth himself.

Mr. Cammack was born at Hopkinsville, Ky. His parents were comparatively poor. When a young man he obtained a place as clerk with J. P. Whitney & Co., who were then the largest shipbrokers in New-Orleans. He displayed so much ability that he was later taken in as a partner in the firm. In the early part of the war he went to Havana to aid in the passing of cotton through the blockade, which was a profitable but risky business. In 1863 he went to London, where he engaged in speculation in cotton. In 1866 he embarked in the wholesale liquor business in New-York with J. W. George, under the firm name of J. W. George & Co. He remained in this firm only two years. He then resumed speculation in cotton, in which he continued until he and Charles J. Osborn formed a copartnership as stockbrokers. For the last few years Mr. Cammack has made his headquarters in the office of George B. Hopkins & Co., No. 56 Broadway.

Mr. Cammack lives at No. 46 West Fifty-seventh-st. He has a country place at Tuxedo.

BUSINESS BLOCK IN SALT LAKE BURNED.

Salt Lake, Utah, Feb. 3.—The Scott-Auerbach Building, one of the largest business blocks in the city, was destroyed by fire late last night. The damage will aggregate at least $30,000, and the insurance is only $125,000. The lower floor was occupied by J. M. Scott & Co., wholesale hardware dealers; Joslin & Park, jewellers, and Calloway, Hoock & Co., glassware. The fire was caused by the explosion of a lamp on the top floor, used for sleeping apartments. It made its way down the elevator shaft. The second and third stories were occupied by offices, and nothing was saved.

MR. HANNA'S CHANCES WANING

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR JONES WILL PROBABLY SUCCEED SHERMAN.

GOVERNOR BUSHNELL TO CARRY OUT A PREVIOUS UNDERSTANDING—A BATTLE ROYAL MAY BE LOOKED FOR OVER THE FULL TERM.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Columbus, Ohio, Feb. 3.—Speculation as to the probable successor of John Sherman in the United States Senate has continued without settling any point definitely until to-day. While the latest developments may not be the exact solution of the problem that has perplexed public men, yet there is every reason to believe that Lieutenant-Governor Asiel W. Jones will be the one to whom the honor is to fall.

For several days it has been well understood that the Foraker-Bushnell faction had agreed upon a line of action and that this was unfavorable to the selection of Marcus A. Hanna, despite the fact that a majority of the Republicans of the State prefer the latter. This afternoon a Sherman Republican, a personal as well as a close political friend of President McKinley, came to Columbus direct from Canton. In discussing the Senatorship he said that it could be safely stated now that Lieutenant-Governor Jones would be appointed to the vacancy by Governor Bushnell.

"The selection of Mr. Jones comes," said he, "as a part of the Zanesville agreement.

"The Foraker men were anxious at Zanesville to have General Jones on the State ticket. The General was not favorably inclined to the proposition. So the promise of the support of the faction for the United States Senatorship was held out to him as an inducement, and it had the desired effect.

"Of course, this vacancy could not be foreseen, but the full term was then under consideration. I am not informed as to the terms under which the appointment is given to General Jones, but there is little room to doubt that he is to agree not to be a candidate for election to the full term. This will be fought for on the Foraker side by Governor Bushnell, and there will be a battle royal between him and Mr. Hanna."

General Jones, while rated as a member of the Foraker faction, has never been offensive from a factional point of view, and, next to Mr. Hanna, his appointment will undoubtedly be regarded with more favor by the McKinley-Sherman leaders than that of any man who could be named.

UTAH ELECTS A SENATOR.

EX-CONGRESSMAN J. L. RAWLINS BREAKS THE DEADLOCK AT SALT LAKE CITY.

Salt Lake, Utah, Feb. 3.—Ex-Congressman Joseph L. Rawlins was elected United States Senator this afternoon by the Legislature, receiving thirty-two votes, the minimum number being necessary to elect. Mr. Thatcher, the next leading candidate, received twenty-nine votes, and two votes were scattered.

The breaking of the deadlock came suddenly and was the result of an arrangement with the supporters of Judge Henderson, who, seeing they could not elect their candidate, flopped almost unanimously.

Thatcher owes his defeat to the action of the Mormon Church leaders, who opposed him bitterly during the entire campaign. Henderson was the Church candidate, but, despairing of electing him, they compromised on Rawlins, not because they wanted Rawlins, but they would have taken almost anybody to defeat Thatcher.

The four Populists and one Republican voted for Thatcher, one Republican voted for Brown and the other voted for Rawlins.

J. L. Rawlins is a Gentile, and was born in Salt Lake County, March 28, 1850, and lived upon his father's farm until he was eighteen years of age. He completed a classical course in the University of Indiana, but returned to Utah before graduation. He was professor in the University of Deseret, in Salt Lake City, for two years, until 1875, when he was admitted to the bar and has followed the profession of law ever since. He was elected Delegate to Congress from the Territory of Utah in 1892 on the Democratic ticket, defeating Frank J. Cannon, now United States Senator.

When in Congress he did great service in the passage of the act enabling Utah to form a constitution and be admitted to Statehood. He also obtained the passage of a special act of Congress providing for the relief of the Mormon Church of about a half-million dollars' worth of property escheated by the Government ten years ago.

SENATOR SQUIRE ACCUSED OF BRIBERY.

ALLEGED TO HAVE OFFERED $13,000 TO A LEGISLATOR TO BUY VOTES.

Olympia, Wash., Feb. 3.—Before the House Investigating Committee yesterday Representative Warner, who is charged with having been bribed by Senator Squire, testified that he was approached by the latter, who offered him $13,000—$1,000 for entertainment, $5,000 as a contingent and $7,000 with which to buy Populist votes.

Several days ago a club of twenty members was formed to break the deadlock. Warner testified that Squire, on hearing of this, sent for him and made the above offer, which Warner refused to consider. Squire sent for him again and repeated the offer. The offer was again spurned.

Senator Squire testified on Monday that Warner came to him with the proposition, and that he refused to consider it.

Many subpoenas have been sent out and a big sensation is promised.

ARRESTED FOR A BIG STAMP ROBBERY.

A GOVERNMENT CLERK CAUGHT HERE WITH A LOT IN HIS POSSESSION.

Hamilton F. Colman, a clerk in the General Land Office at Washington, was arrested by Postoffice Inspectors Morris and Jacobs yesterday on a charge of having stolen large quantities of postage stamps. He was held in $2,000 bail for examination before Commissioner Shields on Wednesday next. Five thousand five hundred and sixty dollars worth of "periodical stamps" were found in the possession of Colman when he was arrested. It is said that he and others have been systematically robbing the Stamp Department in Washington and selling what are called "sets" of stamps, ranging in value from one cent to $80 each to philatelists for from $120 to $125 a set.

Colman was arrested at Barclay-st. and Broadway, as he was on his way to the Astor House, he having just arrived in town from Washington. Among other things found in his pockets were a number of envelopes bearing the imprint of Burger & Co., dealers in stamps, at No. 53 Nassau-st. Mr. Burger said yesterday that he did not know Colman, and could not imagine how he came into possession of any of his envelopes. He had never had any transactions with him.

Colman takes his arrest coolly and says he can establish his innocence, but the postoffice inspectors are of the opinion that in the capture of Colman they have secured one of the leaders in a systematic series of thefts of stamps which have averaged over $100,000 a year for several years.

It appears that the stamps found in Colman's possession were sold to Rudolph F. Albrecht, a dealer in stamps, of No. 30 Nassau-st., about three weeks ago by A. C. Townsend, a philatelist having an office in the Loan and Trust Building in Washington. When Mr. Albrecht sought to dispose of the stamps, inquiry as to how he came by them was instituted by the philatelist papers. Then Mr. Albrecht wrote to Townsend about the matter. The result was that Colman came to New-York to take up the stamps, which he did, and was arrested a few moments after he had received them from Mr. Albrecht.

Washington, Feb. 3.—At the General Land Office no one could account for the stamps found in possession of H. F. Colman, a clerk in that bureau. He is a $1,200 clerk, born in New-York and appointed from that State. He left here for New-York City yesterday. It was said at his office that Colman was a good clerk and of excellent character. It is said that he presented to his chief yesterday a telegram saying that his father was dying and thus got leave of absence.

Postoffice Department officials are investigating the case.

RAILROAD TIED UP BY A STRIKE.

Lebanon, Ind., Feb. 3.—The entire force in the Chicago and Southeastern Railway shops struck yesterday for seven months' back pay. As a result the entire road is tied up. Citizens are circulating a petition asking that the mail contract with the road be rescinded and overland routes established.

NOT PACIFIED YET.

INSURGENTS STILL ACTIVE IN PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE.

THEY BLOW UP A TRAIN WITH DYNAMITE, KILLING SEVERAL PEOPLE—WEYLER'S MOVEMENTS—NOTHING SHORT OF INDEPENDENCE WILL SUIT THE CUBANS.

Key West, Fla., Feb. 3.—The following Havana advices have been received: Another incident contradicts Weyler's assurances that Pinar del Rio Province is virtually pacified. On Monday morning a pilot engine, with an armored car and steering passenger train, left San Cristobal. Arriving at a culvert at Bacunagua, near Faco Taco, two dynamite bombs exploded, wrecking the engine and car completely. Four civilians were killed and also the captain of the volunteers and five soldiers. The engineer, fireman and eight soldiers were wounded. The culvert was destroyed. Traffic is still interrupted with Pinar del Rio.

It is reported that Weyler, with 12,000 men and twenty-five pieces of artillery, has started from headquarters at Cruces in the direction of the Siguanea Hills, west of Cienfuegos, with the intention of attacking or dislodging Gomez, who, it is rumored, is encamped in those hills. No encounter is expected unless Gomez, aided by a naturally strong position and sufficient forces, thinks it advisable to meet the foe, in which case a fierce engagement will occur.

The proposed Cuban reforms are the sole topic of conversation. All here agree—Spaniards and Cubans alike—that the reforms are humbug. They will surely make no impression on the insurgents. The feeling among the Cubans in arms is intense. The dominant spirit is to resist to the end and accept no compromise with Spain unless in case of absolute independence. Marcos Garcia, commissioned by the Government to make overtures to Gomez, fears that his life would be endangered if he personally presents the proposals, and has written a letter to Marquis Ahumada declining the commission.

Trains are now running into the suburbs of the town of Guanabacoa, carrying armored cars and large armed escorts.

REFORMS FOR CUBA DISCUSSED.

CREATION OF A LOCAL ASSEMBLY THE CHIEF FEATURE OF THE SPANISH MINISTRY'S SCHEME.

London, Feb. 3.—A dispatch to "The Standard" from its Madrid correspondent says that at a meeting of the Cabinet held to-day the Ministers discussed for several hours the scheme of reforms for Cuba prepared by Señor Canovas del Castillo, the Spanish Premier, and Colonial Minister Castellano. The reforms include much broader municipal and provincial administrative decentralization than the recently formulated reforms for Porto Rico. The principal feature of the plan is the creation of a local assembly styled the Council of Administration, consisting of twenty-one members, part of whom shall be elected by direct limited franchise and part by corporations and commercial interests, in a similar manner to that in which the Spanish Senate is elected.

The powers of the Governor-General are much developed under the scheme, but the Cuban Chamber will be empowered to make a colonial tariff on the condition of always securing a high protection for Spanish imports. Apart from this concession the Chamber will only have the control of local affairs, the Cortes continuing to vote the budgets and conclude all legislative treaties. The Cuban representation in the Senate and Chamber of Deputies will remain unaltered.

A dispatch received by a news agency here says that the scheme of reforms was finally agreed on by the Ministers and will be signed by Queen Regent Christina to-morrow. This dispatch, however, gives no details of the reforms proposed.

Madrid, Feb. 3.—It is expected that the reforms decided upon for Cuba will be gazetted on February 9, but the date for their going into effect has not yet been fixed, the time depending on the progress of military operations in the island.

THE VAMOOSE NOT LOST.

Jacksonville, Fla., Feb. 3.—"The New-York Journal's" dispatch boat Vamoose, which has been reported lost, is at Miami, where her captain, McIntosh, is held under bond for assaulting Captain Denny, of the launch Ozone.

A STRAY CAT'S WARNING OF FIRE.

IT PROBABLY SAVED SEVERAL LIVES IN A HARLEM FLATHOUSE.

A fire occurred in the five-story flathouse on the southwest corner of One-hundred-and-sixteenth-st. and Park-ave. at 4:30 o'clock yesterday morning. Property to the value of $15,000 was destroyed, and a number of the tenants narrowly escaped being suffocated or burned. There are twenty-seven apartments in the building and the tenants number 150.

William P. Davenport, who has an apartment on the second floor of the house, did not reach home until 3:30 o'clock. As he passed upstairs he saw a strange cat in the hall. The animal purred, rubbed itself against his legs and acted in such a friendly way that he had not the heart to drive it out of the house. His kindness to the cat probably saved many lives and much property. Mr. Davenport went to bed and was about falling asleep when he heard the cat making a great noise in the hallway at his door. He stood the noise for a short time, and then, with imprecations on the cat, went into the hallway to drive the animal into the street. As he opened the door of his apartment he found, to his astonishment, that the halls and stairways were full of smoke and that a tongue of red flame was running up the elevator shaft. Mr. Davenport shouted to alarm the other tenants of the house, and then rushed back into his rooms to look after the safety of his family, which consisted of his wife, Miss McNiece, a boarder, his infant child and a colored servant. The entire Davenport family and many of the tenants escaped by the stairway before the smoke became too hot and dense, but the others, to the number of fifty or sixty, were compelled to take to the roof and the fire-escapes.

The men of the hook and ladder company set to work to rescue the people, who were crowded on the fire-escapes in all kinds of undress, and in a few minutes had them all safely housed in the neighborhood. The tenants who escaped by the roof were thoroughly frightened at their predicament, as there is a space of six feet between the house and the one adjoining, but Allen D. Marr, who lives on the fifth floor of the house, made a bridge of a board, and all passed over it in safety.

The firemen soon had the flames under control, but not before about $5,000 damage had been done. The fire started in the basement.

THE CONSTABLE CAUGHT A TARTAR.

MRS. KLAMISKIE'S FIGHTING QUALITIES LIKELY TO LAND HER IN THE PENITENTIARY.

Shamokin, Penn., Feb. 3.—The fighting qualities of Mrs. Mary Klamiskie would bring honor to her in an amazonian army, but when exercised against officers of the law, as they were to-day, they are more likely to land her in the penitentiary. Mrs. Klamiskie has little reverence for orders of a court, and when Constable Elias Gottshall went to her house to-day to serve a bench warrant on her he found it barricaded for defence. Little reckoning what was before him, the constable assailed the barricade, and, as he was climbing over it, was repulsed by a kettle of scalding water dashed upon his head and shoulders by the female defendant of the fortification. Gottshall fell back in pain and astonishment, and then Mrs. Klamiskie made a sortie with an axe. She laid the constable low with one blow, cutting a fearful gash in his head. She then aimed another sweeping stroke at him and buried the blade of the axe in the floor by his neck. In terror of his life Gottshall screamed for help, and, throwing his arms around the woman's ankles, managed to pull her to the floor. The constable and the woman struggled and fought together on the floor, and the opportune arrival of a man who had heard Gottshall's cries for help probably only saved the constable from utter defeat.

After a desperate struggle the woman was taken into court before Judge Savidge, who fined her $100 for contempt of court, and instructed the Grand Jury to find a bill against her for assault and battery with intent to kill. A month ago officers went to serve a warrant on Mrs. Klamiskie for perjury. She crawled under her house and defied them to come and take her, and held her position until driven forth by hunger and coal.

FATAL DUEL OVER AN INDIAN GIRL.

Guthrie, Okla., Feb. 3.—Johnson Harris and William Littling, both white men, fought a duel near Arbecka yesterday over the affections of Wanneta, a pretty half-breed Indian girl, and both were killed.

AFTER THE BUCKET-SHOPS.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE PLANNING FOR THEIR EXTERMINATION.

SEEKING TO DEVISE MEANS OF KEEPING FROM THEM THE EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS—SOME SCHEMES WORKED BY ALLEGED BANKERS AND BROKERS.

The Stock Exchange is planning for the extermination of the bucket-shops. These shops exist because they have access to the Stock Exchange quotations. The Exchange is seeking to devise an effectual means of keeping the quotations from them. The subject was before the Governing Committee at a special meeting yesterday afternoon, but no definite conclusion was reached. The understanding is that the programme or method which the Governing Committee may adopt will be submitted to a vote of the members of the Exchange at the annual election on Monday, May 10. The subject is the most important one for the Exchange that has come up in years.

The quotations now are collected by reporters employed by the Exchange and are distributed by two "ticker" companies, the New-York Quotation Company and the Gold and Stock Telegraph Company. The latter is owned by the Western Union Telegraph Company. A majority of the stock of the New-York Quotation Company is owned by the Stock Exchange. Most of the remainder is owned by John W. Mackay, the president and chief owner of the Postal Telegraph Company, which is a competitor of the Western Union Company. The New-York Quotation Company supplies quotations to members of the Stock Exchange. The Gold and Stock Company supplies "outsiders." Each company pays the Exchange $30,000 a year for the quotations. Their contracts, for five years, with the Exchange expire June 30 next. One proposition is to cut off quotations entirely to all except members of the Exchange. Another proposition is to supply members with the quotations as the transactions are made and to hold back the quotations supplied to outsiders for fifteen or thirty minutes. The Exchange could well afford to lose the revenue derived from one of the "ticker" companies if it could close up the bucket-shops. They get business which would go to the Exchange if they were closed up.

Besides, if the Exchange can find a way of closing the bucket-shops, as it appears bound to do, it will suppress a great evil. Many of the shops hold back and otherwise manipulate the quotations to defraud their customers. There is a new style of speculation on the bucket-shop order which should be stamped out, as it is, as conducted for the most part, stealing, and nothing else. It is the "discretionary order" business. People send their money to so-called "bankers and brokers," who use their "discretion" in "investing" it. In many cases the "brokers" make up bogus statements showing that the money has been lost, when in reality it has gone into the "brokers'" pockets. If the "bankers and brokers" do not steal the money in this way they may buy and sell the same stock at the same time through regular brokers. Whichever transaction shows a profit the "bankers and brokers" will take to themselves. The one that shows a loss will be placed in the name of the person who sent money to them. Thousands of dollars are daily sent to irresponsible brokers in Wall Street from all parts of the country.

VOTE FOR A NEW SITE TAKEN.

MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY OF DESIGN CAST SECRET BALLOTS—THE RESULT NOT KNOWN.

Members of the National Academy of Design met last evening at the Academy, Fourth-ave. and Twenty-third-st., to listen to a report from the Committee on Site and Plan, and to take action for the selection of a new site. The meeting was well attended, and was in session until a late hour. The proceedings were conducted behind closed doors, and little could be learned as to what took place.

From what was said to a Tribune reporter by several of the members as they were leaving the building, it appears that the Committee on Site and Plan, after going over the matter thoroughly, had decided to report in favor of two or three of the most suitable and available sites, and leave the ultimate decision to the members. This is at variance with the conditions under which the committee was appointed, namely, that its choice of a site should be final.

One member said that there was a deadlock in the committee, presumably over the old question as to whether the new Academy should be above or below Fifty-ninth-st.

At last night's meeting each academician made his choice from the sites recommended by the committee. The votes were put in a sealed box and will be counted later by the committee. The result may not be announced for two or three days.

The selection of a new site has been discussed by the Academy for many months, and it is probable that last night's meeting will settle the matter finally. The price paid by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company for the present Academy Building and site was $605,000. Some of this money, however, has already been devoted by the Academy to other purposes, and it is understood that the present available building fund is about $517,000.

DECLINES TO PAY THE RAINES TAX.

THE KINGSTON CLUB UNWILLING TO BE PUT ON THE LEVEL OF A SALOON.

Kingston, N. Y., Feb. 3 (Special).—Indications are that the State Commissioner of Excise, Mr. Lyman, is about to sue the Kingston Club and thus make a test case whether clubs must take out a license certificate. Inspector Benton on Saturday called upon Judge Clearwater, the president of the club, and said his business was to require the club to take out a certificate under the Raines law. The Judge asked Inspector Benton to put his request in writing, which he did, and last evening when the matter was brought before the Board of Governors it was decided that it was not necessary under the law to take out a certificate. The club was organized in 1892, and among the members are Justice Parker, Surrogate Betts, District-Attorney Cantine, Public Printer Benedict, ex-Senator Linson and nearly all the prominent men of the city and county, and it is thought strange the Kingston Club should be picked out for a test case. The governors care little about the amount which would have to be paid for a certificate, but they object to the club being turned into a place of public resort. They say the Supreme Court has held that every club taking out a liquor-tax license under the Raines law is compelled to keep its clubhouse open to the public and to sell liquor to all persons who demand it who are not under age or intoxicated. They can have no curtains, screens or blinds upon their windows during the prohibited hours that would obstruct the view from the sidewalk. The governors of the club object to being put upon the same basis with a saloon.

The law makes it the duty of the inspector immediately to inform the District-Attorney of the county in which any violation of the law occurs by a statement under oath of the fact of such violation, and it is the District-Attorney's duty to prosecute any person guilty of the offence charged. District-Attorney Cantine is a member of the Kingston Club and therefore disqualified from prosecuting in this case. When the District-Attorney is disqualified to prosecute a criminal proceeding, it becomes the duty of the Attorney-General to undertake the prosecution. This may bring Deputy Attorney-General G. D. B. Hasbrouck into the case as prosecutor. Judge Clearwater is also disqualified from trying the case. The Grand Jury will be in session on February 15, and the matter may be considered then.

ESCAPE FROM THE BURNING MINE.

Houghton, Mich., Feb. 3.—The fire in No. 3 shaft of the Tamarack Mine was extinguished at noon. William and Antoine Tomoczhevsky succeeded in reaching the cage, which had been kept running constantly since the fire started, and got to the surface safely. They had tapped the air pipe, and escaped suffocation by the liberal use of compressed air.

Peter and William Lempin were rescued from the shaft at 1 o'clock this afternoon. They had not suffered seriously from their experience.

CROKER WAS THERE.

A MEMORABLE DAY FOR TAMMANYITES IN WASHINGTON.

THE "BOSS" VISITS THE CAPITOL AND THE FAITHFUL BASK IN HIS PRESENCE—A SHORT-LIVED TRIUMPH FOR SULZER.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Feb. 3 (Special.)—Yesterday was "ground-hog day"; to-day was another day, and one not less memorable in the simple annals of the poor politicians in Washington who still worship at Tammany's shrine—as why should not they? "Boss" Croker—he is called "Colonel" here—honored the Capitol with his presence. Everybody—that is, Cummings and Sulzer and McClellan and others—had been advised of his coming, but they knew not the hour. Pickets were stationed at every approach to the Hall of Representatives, and unmounted videttes were placed at every outpost. There was "a hurrying and a scurrying" of Tammany private secretaries such as one never sees except on paydays. Wild rumors were not only afloat, but bearing with relentless and resistless energy toward the chamber in which the representatives of the American people were supposed to be trying a contested election case. "Croker is here!" "Dick has arrived!" "Murphy has him in tow!" "Sulzer has captured him, after all!" These were some of the ejaculations heard.

And there was a pause before the "man-out-of-politics" appeared. He was not half so impressive or self-important as was Sulzer, who selfishly led him straightway to a seat in the gallery which by the rules of the House of Representatives is reserved for "members and their families." But Sulzer's selfish triumph was short-lived. He couldn't shut out Cummings or McClellan. Both of them made excellent time, and, judging by appearances, Henry Clay was not long allowed to monopolize the ear of which he had obtained possession while strolling with the "Colonel" through an obscure corridor of the Capitol. It is true that McClellan did not succeed in placing himself where the effulgent rays of his "Boss" could hit him fair, but he basked all the same.

As for Amos Cummings—proud possessor of a medal of honor which he earned—everybody knows that he never shines by reflected radiance. He certainly did not to-day. He planted himself before the distinguished visitor, and, with his back toward the rest of mankind and his coat-tails outspread and his hands in his pockets, began to talk. That is to say, it must be supposed he did, because Croker's countenance relaxed and Sulzer's hold on Croker's left ear was loosened, and even McClellan edged out of his corner and seemed to enjoy the occasion better than ever.

And Croker appeared to be in a joyous frame of mind also, for members in their seats on the floor and visitors in their seats in the public galleries (which are open to the common people) nudged one another and pointed toward the distinguished quartet. It must not be supposed that Sulzer, Cummings and McClellan were the only statesmen who paid homage to the "man-out-of-politics." No, indeed. There were—but why prolong the list? Only one feature of this historic scene was lacking. The ex-Queen of Hawaii failed to appear as advertised.

AN ATHLETE DIES IN AN ARMORY.

HE WAS EXERCISING, WHEN HE FELL TO THE FLOOR AND EXPIRED IN A FEW MINUTES.

Robert Marmont, a professional athlete, met death last night while exercising in the gymnasium of the 12th Regiment Armory, Sixty-second-st. and Columbus-ave. Marmont spent the evening at the house of Frank St. John, a member of Company K, of the 12th Regiment, who lives at No. 759 Columbus-ave.

Both men after dinner went to the gymnasium and donned their athletic costumes. Marmont had just grabbed the Mexican rings, and was swinging about ten feet from the floor, when St. John turned to arrange his belt, and at the same moment heard a fall and saw his companion lying on his face on the floor. He turned him over, and as he did Marmont murmured a request for some water.

An employe of the armory entered the gymnasium at that moment, and St. John sent him out for an ambulance, which reached the armory in a few minutes, but on its arrival Marmont was dead.

Marmont was twenty-seven years old. He came here last June, leaving a wife and child at Portsmouth, England, where his father is said to be a well-known lawyer. St. John is a clever high diver and double-somersault leaper. Marmont was not a drinking man, and the only reason that his friends can give for his death is that he was stricken with heart disease, as he had been suffering from heart trouble for some time. The body lay in the armory late last night, awaiting the arrival of the Coroner. Marmont lived with a Mr. Armour, at No. 121 One-hundred-and-twenty-first-st.

MAY CONVICT THEIR FATHER OF MURDER.

THE CHILDREN OF FRANK N. SHELDON TESTIFY AGAINST HIM—DRAMATIC SCENE IN COURT.

Auburn, N. Y., Feb. 3.—When it became known to-day that William Sheldon was to be called to testify against his father, Frank N. Sheldon, who is on trial, charged with the murder of his wife, the crowd that besieged the courthouse was beyond precedent. William is the eldest son of the accused man, and ever since the tragedy has given the impression that he thought his father murdered his mother. In the court he has shaken hands with his father daily since the trial opened, and it was rumored that he had experienced a change of heart. These speculations, however, were quickly set at rest.

As young Sheldon entered the court to-day he shook hands with his father, and a few minutes later told the story of the tragedy, giving the most damaging testimony against his father yet brought out. His direct testimony occupied one hour and a quarter, and the cross-examination was equally long. Under the sharp cross-fire he never winced, and when, in response to an oft-repeated question of the defendant's counsel, the witness positively refused to answer, there was a sensation in the courtroom. It seems that, at the request of his father and his uncle Clarence, he had gone to the barley field and pretended to show the spot where he stood when he heard the pistol shot. As a matter of fact, the place he pointed out was far from the spot where he now says he stood. When asked if he had reasons for deceiving his father and uncle, he said he had, but no amount of urging could induce him to tell what they were. After recess the District-Attorney insisted upon an answer, and the reply came:

"I thought my father had killed my mother, and I didn't want to have any conversation with him upon the subject."

The most damaging point in his testimony, however, was his statement that while at work in the field he heard the shot that killed his mother, and fifteen minutes later he saw his father drive away from the house. This is the most important link in the chain of circumstantial evidence, as the father says he was in Jordan at the time of the tragedy.

Jennie Sheldon, aged thirteen, the youngest of the family, followed her brother. She was at school when the tragedy happened, but she told of her father's surly treatment of her mother and his infatuation with the hired girl, Ella Sullivan.

The court took a recess at 5 o'clock until to-morrow. May Sheldon, the twenty-one-year-old daughter, who has been the most pronounced against her father, will go on the stand to-morrow.

FOUR LIVES LOST IN A RAILWAY WRECK.

Arlington, S. D., Feb. 3.—A wreck occurred on the Northwestern Railway at this point at 9:30 last evening, in which four persons were killed and a large number were injured. The killed were: R. Addington, conductor; F. L. Hosac, brakeman; John Loftus, of Kismet; Samuel Harris, of Arlington. The train which was wrecked was unable to take the side track, the switch being clogged with ice. The engine from the approaching train struck the passenger car, completely wrecking it.

WRECK IN NEW-HAVEN HARBOR.

New-Haven, Conn., Feb. 3.—For the first time in fifteen years a vessel went to pieces in the local harbor this morning. The schooner Angler, owned in Smithtown, N. Y., and bound for New-London, from Pennsylvania, with a cargo of coal, put into the harbor last Friday and was driven ashore off Quarantine. Yesterday and to-day she has been at the mercy of the waves and the ice, and this morning her port side and stern were demolished. She is expected to break in two at any minute. She lies flat on the bottom of the harbor, filled with water, and her cargo of coal has been washed out by the waves.

HOWLING FOR THE SPOILS.

MACHINE MEN PLAN TO OVERTHROW THE COMPETITIVE SYSTEM.

QUELL AND LEXOW CONFER OVER A BILL WHICH IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMPLISH THIS PURPOSE—TAMMANY IN THE SCHEME, TOO.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Albany, Feb. 3.—The Constitution's command that the examinations for places in the civil service shall be competitive is bothering the men who wish to evade it. A new plan of getting around it was disclosed to-day, in which leading politicians of both parties are apparently to be engaged. The statement was made that Congressman Benjamin B. Odell, jr., chairman of the Executive Committee of the Republican State Committee, who, in the absence of Senator-elect Platt, is in charge of the Republican machine, had advised that a general bill be framed "to beat the Constitution," and that therefore Assemblyman Reinhard's bill giving District-Attorney Olcott authority to name his own civil-service examiners should be laid aside. Whatever Mr. Odell's advice may have been, the Reinhard bill was laid aside under the pretext that there was a mistake in it, and it was not pressed. "Abe" Gruber is said to be greatly grieved over the fate of his masterpiece and to hope that it may yet be taken up and passed. Lawyers who are well acquainted with the Constitution say that the bill is plainly unconstitutional.

Mr. Odell, it is said, had a talk with Senator Lexow on the subject of whipping this devil of competition around a stump, and as a result the Senate Judiciary Committee to-day appointed a sub-committee, consisting of Senators Lexow, Krum and Cantor, to draw up a bill to defeat the purpose of the Constitution and throw open the doors of every State and city department to the spoilsmen. The fact that Senator Cantor is to serve on this committee is a sufficient indication that Richard Croker intends to give his aid to the attack on the Constitution. The Assembly Judiciary Committee is also to name three members of the proposed conference to bring about a revision of the Civil Service laws.

An attempt will be made to commit Governor Black to the bill to be drawn up by those engaged in the conspiracy. Mr. Black in his annual message said that the civil service regulations would work better if they had "less starch" in them, and this expression of his, as interpreted by the spoilsmen, means that he favors a relaxation of the present rules regarding Civil Service examinations. Possibly Mr. Black will be more conservative after he has obtained the views of the heads of State departments respecting the workings of the Civil Service laws. He is said to have solicited such opinions within a few days. Mr. Black, it is said, will have a conference with the leading Republican State officials next week. He will consult Mr. Palmer, Secretary of State; Controller Roberts, Attorney-General Hancock, State Treasurer Colvin, State Engineer Adams, George W. Aldridge, Superintendent of Public Works, and Frederick D. Kilburn, Superintendent of the Banking Department, and obtain from them their ideas respecting the merits and demerits of the present Civil Service examinations. It is probable also that the Governor will hold consultations with the leading Republican members of the Legislature on the same subject. Edward Lauterbach, the chairman of the Republican General Committee of New-York, and Congressman Odell, it is reported, will be here next week to push the bill to abolish competition for Civil Service places.

One reason why it has proved so difficult to frame a bill which would cripple the competitive system is that the courts have so resolutely upheld the Constitution. The recent decision of Justice Keogh, of the Supreme Court, has been especially a bar to drafting a bill of this character, but the hope is now expressed that the Appellate Division will overrule Justice Keogh's decision.

TWO WORKMEN KILLED BY FALLS.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE NEW ASTOR HOTEL BUILDING AND ON ONE AT BROADWAY AND BLEECKER-ST.

Bernard Jansen, of No. 1,125 St. Mark's-ave., Brooklyn, Frank S. Harrison, of Englewood, N. J., and Edward Meade, who lives in Greenwich-ave., in this city, were at work on the new hotel building at Thirty-fourth-st. and Fifth-ave. at 10 o'clock yesterday when Jansen, who was at work on the third story arranging a coping of a window, fell to the pavement, a distance of nearly forty-five feet. His companions heard his screams as he lost his footing and looked out in time to see his body strike the pavement. Dr. Ousley, who came with an ambulance from Bellevue, pronounced Jansen dead, and had his body removed to the West Thirtieth-st. station. Jansen was an assistant foreman and was considered a careful man.

James Bonner, a colored window-cleaner, thirty-six years old, of No. 115 West Thirty-second-st., was killed yesterday while working on a new building that has been constructed on the southeast corner of Broadway and Bleecker-st., the site of the old Empire Bank that was destroyed by fire on election night, 1895. Bonner fell from a window on the seventh flo