New-York Tribune.

VOL. LVII. ..No. 18,521. NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1897.—TWELVE PAGES. PRICE THREE CENTS.

FOR A SEALING CONFERENCE

GREAT BRITAIN ACCEPTS THE PROPOSITION OF THE UNITED STATES.

INTERNATIONAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON IN THE AUTUMN—INTERVIEW WITH JOHN W. FOSTER.

London, July 30.—The British Foreign Office notified to Ambassador Hay this morning that Great Britain accepted the proposition of the United States for an international conference on the question of pelagic sealing in the Behring Sea, to be held in Washington during the coming autumn.

John W. Foster, the United States Special Commissioner on the sealing question, will sail for New-York to-morrow by the St. Louis from Southampton.

In an interview to-day Mr. Foster said:

"Wherever I have been, at St. Petersburg, Berlin, Paris, or here in London, I have been received in the most cordial manner. Whatever may be the feeling in the United States anent the often reported antagonism to our Government displayed by foreign Powers, I have seen nothing of it.

"Everywhere I have had evidence that the foreign Governments wish to meet any question raised by the United States in a spirit of the utmost frankness and open-mindedness. Perhaps it is needless for me to say that this is most gratifying to me officially and in my private capacity.

"The British Government has agreed to accept our proposition for a sealing conference. I am now returning to make an immediate report to President McKinley. I have had long and entirely candid conferences with Mr. Chamberlain, and last Sunday I passed the day with Sir Richard Webster, the Attorney-General, who is the adviser of the British Government on the points of law involved. My statements met with the frankest and most impartial consideration.

"As to the Hawaiian question, I may say that in London, Paris, Berlin and St. Petersburg I have had ample opportunity to ascertain the prevailing sentiment in political and commercial circles. In all these capitals annexation is generally regarded as the natural, if not inevitable, result of the large growth and expansion of the United States on the western coast of America.

"As it could not be expected that any other foreign Power would be permitted to occupy the islands, owing to their strategic importance, the proposed annexation would be acquiesced in by the European Governments, although the position which it would give the United States in the Pacific would not be welcomed by nations seeking supremacy in that quarter of the world."

London, July 31.—"The Times" this morning editorially congratulates its readers upon the fact that the negotiations regarding the question of pelagic sealing in the Behring Sea have resulted in an agreement for an international conference on the subject to be held at Washington in October. "The Times" thinks that Russia and Japan will take part in the conference, which will not have revising powers.

"We are glad to note," the paper says, "that the United States Government has so far modified its view since the sending of the Sherman dispatch, apart from which there was never any real difficulty, both Governments desiring to protect a legitimate industry and only differing as to facts and methods."

ATTACKING JOHN W. FOSTER.

PROFESSOR ELLIOTT'S LETTER TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAY ON THE SEALING QUESTION.

Cleveland, July 30.—Professor Henry W. Elliott gave out the complete text of his recent sensational letter to Judge Day, the Assistant Secretary of State, regarding the seal fisheries. It is as follows:

Lakewood, Ohio, near Cleveland, July 15.

The Hon. W. R. Day, Assistant Secretary of State, Washington.

Dear Sir: In the "Morning Recorder," of this city, appears the text of a letter to Lord Salisbury, dated May 10, 1897, and signed by John Sherman, Secretary of State, on the fur seal question. This letter is prefaced by an account of the great embarrassment which its publication has caused the President, and that it has been held up for several days at the request of John W. Foster, who now fears the effect of his own work a few weeks earlier.

Inasmuch as I have a closer personal knowledge of this present question than any other man living, and vastly more extended, and inasmuch as I am the author of the modus vivendi of 1891-'93, which is the only creditable step taken by our Government toward settling this seal dispute since it began in 1886 up to date, I desire to say that after a careful perusal of this letter of May 10, above cited, the President has reason to feel greatly embarrassed, because it lays the State Department open to a crushing reply from the keen wit of the Canadian Office, and you will be in the same mortifying fix that Blaine found himself in during 1886, when the Canadians simply crushed his contraband mores letter by the data which they promptly furnished in rebuttal.

Inexperienced and ignorant men should not write such letters dealing with data about which they know no more than so many parrots. John W. Foster is utterly ignorant of the truth in regard to the salient features of this seal question on the islands. That letter of May 19 is like all other preparations from his hand on this subject—full of gross errors. His dulness in making up the American case in 1892-'93, cost us that shameful and humiliating defeat which we met with at Paris in 1893. Had he been bright and quick-witted, we never would have met with such disaster.

Taking this commonplace man up now, after this record of flat failure is stamped all over his anatomy and putting him in charge of your sealing question will only thrust you deeper into the mire than he and your predecessors have been placed before by the bright men over the line at Otawa.

I am moved to write you on this point because a Senator of the United States recently said to me that Foster had assured the President that the information which I gave the British in 1890 caused the defeat of the American case at Paris in 1893. The meanness and untruth of this charge will be quickly seen by your turning to my report of November 17, 1890, which contains this information. Mr. Foster and his stupid associates tried to suppress this report, because it contained the proof of my authorship of the modus vivendi of 1891-'93, which he meanly stole from me—plagiarized, in fact; but he was unable to suppress it. And, now that he comes forward again to figure in this question, I intend that he shall be required at the proper time and before the proper tribunal to give a full account of his wretched record as the agent of the United States before the Behring Sea Tribunal at Paris in 1893.

This whole sealing business from the day the trouble began, in 1886-'91, up to date has not been in the hands of a competent man for one moment. It has been and is now the sport of the Canadians, and the languid contempt of the British Queen's Council is all that it receives when it comes up there. Very truly yours, HENRY W. ELLIOTT.

A SICK DOG AND HIS PHYSICIANS.

HE WAS A QUIET, INOFFENSIVE LITTLE BEAST, BUT ATTRACTED LOTS OF ATTENTION.

A friendless little dog of Irish setter lineage, lay down to rest last night at the Boulevard and Eighty-fifth-st. At first the pup was unnoticed, but some one at last started the mad dog cry and a crowd gathered.

"Send for a policeman!" shouted one. "He's mad!" "Only sick!" "Wants a drink!" "Get him some milk!" And many other wise suggestions were offered by the crowd for the dog's benefit.

One man brought the beast some milk, and another brought some water. The poor pup was too sick to drink much, but he feebly lapped a few mouthfuls.

Policeman Kiernan, of the West Sixty-eighth-st. station, and Bicycle Policeman Ormsby, had to disperse the crowd several times, but a new lot of curious people quickly gathered. Policeman Kiernan said at least two thousand people stopped to talk or advise the best thing to do with the pup. At 11 o'clock the dog was still there, and advice was not lacking. The Bergh Society was informed and will get the dog this morning if he has not moved on.

DR. ANDREWS IN A NEW SCHEME.

HE IS TO BE PRESIDENT OF A "CORRESPONDENCE UNIVERSITY."

Providence, R. I., July 30.—Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, who recently resigned as President of Brown University, has accepted the presidency of a new university to be founded by John Brisben Walker and known as the Cosmopolitan University. It is to be modelled after the Chautauqua School and be conducted by correspondence.

Rockwood's Photographs of Children beat the world! $6 per dozen. 1440 Broadway.—Advt.

PROSPERITY SURE TO COME.

WHAT BUSINESS MEN EXPECT UNDER THE NEW TARIFF LAW.

AN INTERVIEW WITH EX-POSTMASTER-GENERAL WANAMAKER—A STEADY REVIVAL LOOKED FOR NOW THAT THE WILSON LAW IS DONE AWAY WITH.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Philadelphia, July 30.—Ex-Postmaster-General John Wanamaker, in an interview which "The Public Ledger" will print to-morrow morning, gives his views on tariff questions and the Dingley bill, in part, as follows: "The LVIth Congress was Republican, and did a great deal of work on the Tariff bill. Mr. Dingley had it practically framed when the extra session was called. Its quick passage in March greatly pleased the country. When the Senate dallied, the great public nerve, sore from nearly five years of business prostration and partial stagnation grew restive over what seemed to be unnecessary delay.

"To-day, however, the settled facts are these: A dead halt has been called to the Wilson-Gorman bill and whatever business evils grew under it. New stepping-stones have been placed, and business men know where they are to walk for a time—the longer the time the better. Three years isn't long enough fully to try the Dingley tariff. I would like to impress this fact. Half of three years will be passed before the overimports are used up and all the old industries are under way again. We are now only on the front doorstep of an empty house, with the key in hand. We must sweep down the cobwebs, stop the leaks and furnish up a bit before we can cook any meals to spread upon the table. Prosperity is not one letter, but ten. You write one at a time, and you will get prosperity little by little, one day at a time, but you can wait many days and whistle every day if you are really getting what you are after.

"Add to the two settled facts above stated certain other facts: First, advanced prices for wheat and cotton, thus bettering conditions for farmers; second, reported marvellous crops for this year of wheat, cotton and corn; third, a pretariff movement that purchased all merchandise in sight before the tariff passed, which has made clean boards for many manufacturers; fourth, low prices of iron, favoring building, and making employment for railroad earnings; fifth, the reported declaration of the Secretary of the Treasury that the new tariff removes all fear of deficits in the Treasury for the future.

"It will do no good to spend our time picking out the flaws of the Dingley bill and saying who ought to have been and what might be better. Let us look at the good that is in it. It is now the established tariff of the Government, and the sooner we adjust ourselves to it and make its best provisions available, and such clauses as are unsatisfactory as little hurtful as possible, the sooner the country will feel the throb of new life and start on its onward bound of prosperity."

SIGNS OF A REVIVAL EVERYWHERE.

WHAT EX-CONGRESSMAN GRESHAM SAW ON A TOUR OF THE COUNTRY.

Washington, July 30 (Special).—Ex-Congressman Gresham, of Galveston, Tex., is staying here for a day on business. Mr. Gresham when in the House of Representatives was a member of one of the committees having to do with finance, and always showed great familiarity, with financial and economic subjects. A man of business and broad ideas, his observations on a business trip through the various sections of the country, excluding the extreme West, are valuable just at this time. They are the more important because, while a sound money man, he is not a protectionist, and what he says tends to strengthen the hold the Dingley bill has on the public.

"I left home on the 16th," said Mr. Gresham. "In Texas things are moving on conservatively, with some progress and encouragement. I found a decidedly better business tone than formerly in St. Louis. There was a 'boomy' feeling among the Chicago business men and bankers when I got there. Whether it was due to the good crops, especially wheat, or to other causes as well, I cannot say. It was then foreseen that the Tariff bill would pass, and it may have had something to do with the anticipation of prosperity. New-York showed more activity than I expected to find in stocks and general business. I had a talk with my old fellow-Congressman, Mr. Hendrix, who is president of the National Union Bank. He told me he was quite sure that there would be a revival of business, that all the signs pointed to it, and that it would have something permanent in it. He and I hold very much the same general ideas on political and economic matters. Boston was more conservative, and there was somewhat less stress laid on the revival of business, but even there I saw evidences of it. In Philadelphia, as in New-York, the business men were hopeful and more disposed to increase the volume of business and embark in new enterprises. In all these cities, East and West, there is more activity, less reserve and suspicion. The feeling is much more elastic. A part of this is undoubtedly due to settling the tariff question for the present, at least. The unrest of the last three or four years, the country going rapidly from one position on the question to the opposite, was decidedly unfavorable to trade and industry. There was no chance for development, and the contraction of enterprise, throwing many thousands out of active or sufficient employment, produced a state of stagnation, of discontent and of partial pauperism. All that is changing.

"What do I think of the Alaskan and Clondyke gold discoveries and the effect on business and the economic condition of the United States and the world?

"It is true that in previous periods, such as the California gold finds of '49, there was an excess of normal gold production which temporarily affected the price of silver through the appreciation of gold. But it is my belief that these things have been overestimated. There will, in my judgment, be no considerable influence exerted on the financial policy of the civilized nations by extensive discoveries of gold fields. On the contrary, my study and observation convince me that the effect will be slight and transient; that, while silver nations like Chili will for ages remain silver nations, they will, as Japan, come to adopt the gold standard in their foreign commercial intercourse. The single standard is the result of a high civilization. Bimetallism in the old sense of the word will not be restored by enlightened commercial nations. Freer use of silver may well come among them, but in no other sense will we have bimetallism again."

RAILROAD MEN REPORT IMPROVEMENT.

SIGNS OF A STEADY AND HEALTHY BUSINESS REVIVAL ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

The railroad presidents of the Joint Traffic Association have been meeting downtown for several days and discussing the outlook for business. There is a remarkable unanimity of opinion that the passage of the Tariff law has done much to improve business and that the era of prosperity so long promised has come at last. Melville E. Ingalls, president of the Big Four and of the Chesapeake & Ohio railroads, said yesterday:

"There is no doubt that there has been a healthy revival all over the country. The railroads are the thermometers of a nation's prosperity, and already we who are running the roads see a gradual and gratifying growth of business. As yet there have been no great grain shipments, for the farmers over the country are bulls on the situation. They think times are going to be still better and they are waiting. Business is improving wonderfully, however. Everything is harmonious in the Joint Traffic Association, and we have things well under way. There is no danger of a back-set."

Oscar G. Murray, of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, spoke in a like tone. The Baltimore & Ohio has been spending a great deal of money in improvement lately, and has added greatly to the equipment of its road. "We have done this" said Mr. Murray in the course of a conversation, "because we felt that we would be repaid. Business that has long been stagnant and depressed is now well on the road to recovery. Times are getting better. Confidence is restored and I think this year will see a wonderful revival. There is the greatest harmony everywhere and a disposition to take hold and help. I can see nothing to stop the wave of returning prosperity."

Ex-Judge Stevenson Burke, of Cleveland, who is also a railroad man and interested in coal mines, was at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. He said that in Ohio the people had confidence in the Republican party and were proud of its stalwart record in redeeming its pledges. He said that Ohio was bound to go Republican this fall, insuring the return of Mr. Hanna to the Senate. He deprecated the coal strike, but said that the people of his State were inclined to side with the miners. "The trouble has been," he said, "that coal has been sold in the markets too cheaply. There hasn't been a fair profit for the producer, the miner or the carrier. It would be just as well to have a coal pool as not, despite the protest that is made against pools. Then there would be fair wages for the miner, a fair profit for the producer and the carrier and things would be better all around. On the whole times are improving. Things cannot come with a bound, but there is a healthy restoration in progress that is most gratifying."

SEARCHLIGHTS IN THE BAY

A BRILLIANT EXHIBITION BY THE FLEET OF WAR VESSELS.

STATEN ISLAND POINTS, THE FORTS AND THE STATUE OF LIBERTY PICKED OUT BY THE DAZZLING BEAMS.

The fleet of warships anchored off Tompkinsville, Staten Island, last night drilled with their electric signal and flash lights. The spectacle was witnessed by hundreds of people along the Staten Island shore. The signals could also be seen from the Brooklyn water front, from Fort Hamilton to Governor's Island, and from the Battery. The fleet now off Tompkinsville is the most powerful one ever assembled in American waters consisting of American vessels alone. The ships at anchor are the flagship New-York, the first-class cruiser Brooklyn, the second-class battle-ships Texas and Maine, the first-class battle-ships Indiana and Massachusetts, the coast-defence monitor Puritan, the dispatch-boat Dolphin, the supply-boat Fern and the torpedo-boat Porter.

The first drill was with the electric signal lights, and the rapidly changing colors of the lights presented a pretty picture. When this drill was over the great flashlights were set at work, and their combined light illuminated the Bay in a dazzling manner. They were thrown upon Staten Island, and various prominent points were picked out by them.

About fifteen or sixteen lights were in use. These at times were all centred upon a single point. The big clock on the tower of School No. 4, at Tompkinsville, was found, and it was possible to read the time at a distance of a mile and a half. The lights were then turned upon Grymes Hill. Along the top of this hill, which is several hundred feet above tide-water, runs Ocean Terrace.

Instead of the lights being focussed on a single point, they were trained so as to command a long stretch of the terrace, and brought out plainly carriages, bicycles and people walking along the terrace. This was at a distance of almost three miles. The lights were then trained on Rubsam & Horrmann's brewery, at Stapleton, and the big buildings stood out plain and distinct against the dark background.

The Union Free School, at Stapleton, the largest building on Staten Island, was next picked out. The effect on this school was especially fine, as each of its windows became a blaze of light. The wharves along Staten Island were carefully searched, and then the lights were thrown upon the forts at the Narrows. Then at a single jump the entire battery of lights was trained upon the Statue of Liberty. The figure could be seen far clearer from Staten Island than it can be by daylight. The next drill was the searching for and following the movements of steamers moving about the Bay. In this way all the lights were used, each light having a certain area to cover. The wreck of the Alisa at Fort Hamilton was also illuminated with the searchlight.

Yesterday afternoon Theodore Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, visited the flagship New-York. As he left the flagship to return to the Dolphin the entire fleet fired a salute. At 6 o'clock Secretary Roosevelt left the Dolphin to come to New-York, and the salute was repeated.

LIVED A MONTH IN A PARK CAVE.

THE ARSENAL POLICE GATHER IN A "WILD GIRL."

Susie Grumet, the fifteen-year-old girl who disappeared from her home a month ago, and for whom a general alarm was sent out, was captured in Central Park by the police last night. She had slept in a cave in the Park for several weeks. Susie lived with her parents at No. 320 East Seventy-first-st., and left her home in a most mysterious manner. Her father and mother hunted high and low for her without success, and finally reported her disappearance to the police, and a general alarm was sent out from Headquarters. In some manner Susie's parents yesterday got word that she had been seen in Central Park, in company with a young man known as John Meyers, and they called on Captain Collins, of the Arsenal, and told him what they had learned. Mrs. Grumet gave the Captain a picture of the missing girl, and as the men were starting for their posts last night the picture was shown to them, and they were instructed to keep a sharp lookout for the girl. Detectives McGee and Herlich were especially instructed to hunt for the missing girl.

The detectives entered the Park at Fifty-ninth-st. and Seventh-ave. and climbed to what is known as "Empire Rock," overlooking the grounds where the boys play ball. The detectives suddenly saw a girl run through the grass and hide behind a bench. They gave chase, and finally captured her, half hidden under a ledge of rocks. She answered the description of Susie, and they placed her under arrest. She struggled desperately and made things extremely interesting before the officers got her to the Arsenal. When arraigned before Sergeant England, she was a sight. Her long black hair was hanging about her shoulders, and when she declared that she had slept in a cave in the Park for a month, nobody doubted her.

At first she insisted that she was not the girl wanted, but finally admitted that she was. She then explained that she had made her home in the cave at the south end of the old reservoir, near the northeast corner of the large lake. It is forty feet deep, fifteen feet wide, and considerably higher than a tall man. The entrance is as large as a doorway, and altogether it is quite an attractive spot. She said that in wet weather she had stayed at the home of a friend, whose address she would not give. She said her "steady," whose name was John Meyers, but whose address she would not give, had called on her regularly.

Sergeant England said that Susie was the wildest girl he had ever seen. The girl was sent to the rooms of the Gerry society last night, and an effort will be made to-day to have her return to her parents' home.

Joseph Grumet is a respectable cigarmaker, but irregular work diminished the family income, and Mrs. Grumet tried to add to it by taking in washing. Susie, it is said, often threatened to run away from home because things were not as pleasant there as she desired them.

When Detectives McGee and Herlich were taking the girl to the Gerry society rooms she told them that she had spent some of her time after leaving home with George Madden, alias "Frenchy," who lives at No. 109 West Twenty-fifth-st. She said that the young man could be found any evening in a saloon at Twenty-eighth-st. and Sixth-ave. The detectives went to the saloon and found Madden there. He did not want to be arrested, and said so. When the detectives insisted Madden fought so fiercely and such a disturbance was raised that a great crowd gathered, which blocked Sixth-ave. and even stopped the streetcars for a time. The young man was secured and taken to the Arsenal. He was charged with abduction, and locked up in the East Sixty-seventh-st. station.

SEVEN PEOPLE KILLED.

THREE OTHERS SEVERELY INJURED BY A TORNADO IN ILLINOIS.

San José, Ill., July 30.—At 7 o'clock this evening a tornado struck the farm of A. C. McDowell, two miles north of this town, and his house and barn were destroyed. Seven people were killed and three severely injured.

CYCLISTS STOP A CARELESS DRIVER.

HE WAS ABOUT TO DRIVE OFF AFTER WRECKING A WOMAN'S WHEEL.

Dennis Buckley, of No. 302 West Fifty-fifth-st., drove his express wagon along the wrong side of Eighth-ave. in going uptown last night, and at Fifty-fourth-st. drove directly into a bicycle ridden by Sarah Burkhardt, colored, of No. 62 West Sixty-fourth-st. The young woman tried hard to get out of the way, and had reached the middle of the street when she was struck by the horses. She was thrown from her wheel, but not injured. One horse stepped on each of the wheels of the machine, and the two wheels of the wagon passed over it and completed the wreck. A bicycle expert who looked at what was left said it was not enough to repair.

Buckley turned his horses aside after the damage had been done and whipped up. But almost in an instant he was surrounded by a crowd of wheelmen, who held him and his horses until Bicycle Policeman Thomson appeared and took the man off to the West Forty-seventh-st. station. Fifty bicycle riders, who had either witnessed the accident or gone up in time to hold the driver, followed to the station to appear as witnesses. Some of them carried pieces of the wrecked bicycle. Buckley only grinned and said: "I don't care," when he was locked up.

You won't have to mortgage your house to buy a pound of Bon Bons at Hope's, 11 Nassau-st.—Advt.

GRANT'S SUCCESSOR CHOSEN.

HIS NAME TO BE ANNOUNCED TO-DAY.

THE POLICE COMMISSIONER'S LETTER OF RESIGNATION AND THE MAYOR'S ACCEPTANCE—THE NEW MEMBER OF THE BOARD AN ORGANIZATION REPUBLICAN.

"I have selected the successor to Colonel Grant as Police Commissioner; the gentleman to whom I have offered the place has accepted, and I will announce his name to-morrow." This is what Mayor Strong said late yesterday afternoon after he had dictated a letter to Colonel Grant accepting his resignation.

"I would like to make known the name of the new Police Commissioner this evening," the Mayor said, when urged by The Tribune reporter to do so, "but the new Commissioner wants to tell his wife about it before she sees the announcement made in the papers. I sympathized with him in this respect. I think it showed a good trait in the man to wish to talk the matter over with his wife. So I promised not to divulge his name until to-morrow."

The successor to Colonel Grant is a Republican and has the indorsement of the organization. Congressman Quigg, president of the Republican County Committee, had a long talk with Mayor Strong yesterday, after Colonel Grant had sent his resignation to the Mayor. It was the impression among politicians who crowded the Mayor's office that Mr. Quigg laid before the Mayor reasons for the appointment to be made to-day. Under the Bi-partisan law relating to the appointment of Police Commissioners, organization men hold that the members of the Police Board should be suggested by the party organization they are to represent so far as election matters are concerned. In making this appointment, it is believed that Colonel Strong has deferred to the wishes of Senator Platt and his lieutenants of the Republican organization.

There was no end of guessing at uptown clubs and hotels last night as to whom the Mayor had settled upon. The Mayor said yesterday that the man he had appointed had been in his office in the afternoon. Many of the guessers for one reason or another fixed upon Samuel McMillan, now president of the Park Board. Mr. McMillan is a devoted friend of the Mayor, and if the latter should ask him to accept a transfer to the Police Board, with no change of salary, it was believed that "Sam," as Colonel Strong calls Mr. McMillan familiarly, would not hesitate to do so. Mr. McMillan was diligently sought for last night, but could not be found.

Another name frequently mentioned was that of Colonel S. V. R. Cruger, also a Park Commissioner. The name of General Alexander McD. McCook, the City Chamberlain's cousin, to whom the Mayor offered office when Theodore Roosevelt resigned last spring, came up again. General McCook's reason for declining before was that if he went into the Police Board he might have to cross swords with the son of his dear old commander and friend, General U. S. Grant. As Colonel Frederick Grant will no longer be there to "cross swords" with, General McCook, it was thought, might now conclude to accept. The names of General Thomas H. Ruger, ex-Judge Henry E. Howland, Colonel Charles F. Homer, General O. O. Howard, ex-United States District-Attorney Edward Mitchell, and one or two others whom the Mayor sought to enlist in the city's service when he secured President Moss, were canvassed. Some guessers proposed the name of Fire Commissioner Thomas Sturgis, while others wanted to transfer Park Commissioner William A. Stiles. Still, the popular mind reverted to Mr. McMillan.

President Quigg of the Republican County Committee last night said that the reports which credited Senator Platt and himself with having presented an organization Republican for the place of Colonel Grant were wholly unfounded.

THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION.

Colonel Grant sent to the Mayor by a messenger of the Police Department shortly after noon yesterday his resignation, as follows:

Police Department, No. 300 Mulberry-st.,
New-York, July 30, 1897.

Hon. William L. Strong, Mayor of New-York.

Your Honor: On July 21 I placed before the Police Board a statement, with two resolutions, which, together with an extract from affidavits of the seven Central officers who secured evidence against Captain Groo, I forward to Your Honor herewith for your perusal. My resolutions are too definite to be misunderstood, the first being to the effect that certain specific acts should not be performed by officers of the uniformed force, and the second that a committee be appointed from the lawyers of the Board to devise, after consulting with the city magistrates, a plan for getting evidence against places of ill repute without the commission of acts of shame on the part of police officers.

I made that statement and offered those resolutions because, upon investigation of the officers' evidence, I became convinced that they had been called upon to perform as a duty work which I consider demoralizing and degrading beyond expression, and which, if persisted in, will eventually convert the entire police force into a body of liars and sneaks. My colleagues say that the present methods of gaining evidence have been always used. That is true, and the result has been much corruption in the force; and Commissioner Moss says that "there is blackmailing going on now by officers in citizens' clothes." There seems to be no abatement of the evil. These methods, therefore, must be ineffective, and I believe that a change should be made, and more decent methods should be adopted. Men whose duties corrupt them cannot be expected to be honest and upright.

Since my appointment to this office it has been my faithful effort to elevate and improve, both morally and physically, the police force. I have given my energy to that end, and I will not abet any policy which will tend to degrade them, or will compel policemen to lie, so that they cannot retain their self respect and honor. It is only just to the officers who made the affidavits to state that they all expressed a dislike for the so-called "duty," and a shame in its performance. I beg to call your attention to the extracts of affidavits (which I mark with numbers to avoid publicity of names).

My principles and all my training prevent my favoring methods so debasing, and I will not give my approval to bills for the services of policemen which indicate their degradation, and the horrible details of which denote a practice that should be made impossible under our modern civilization.

After a week's consideration, my colleagues voted down my resolutions. The majority decided in favor of a policy to which it is utterly impossible for me to agree, and which my strong convictions prevent my aiding or abetting. My voice, as a dissenting minority, could carry no influence on this subject, and I will make no compromise in the matter. I cannot conscientiously recede one step from my position nor acquiesce in the continuance of these methods, which, I believe will destroy the efficiency and honesty of the police of New-York. Neither am I willing to act as an obstructionist in the Board. Therefore, while thanking Your Honor for the compliment paid me when you appointed me, I now offer you my resignation of my position as Police Commissioner, and I beg Your Honor at the same time to consider my resignation final and to accept it immediately. I am, sir, yours respectfully, FREDERICK D. GRANT.

ACCEPTED BY THE MAYOR.

Mayor Strong replied, accepting Colonel Grant's resignation, to take effect on the close of business to-day. The Mayor dictated the following letter and sent it to the Police Commissioner:

City of New-York,
Office of the Mayor,
July 30, 1897.

My Dear Colonel Grant: I have this day received a letter from you resigning your office as Commissioner of Police, and stating at length the reasons which have led you to take this step; also the two resolutions and affidavits of the Central officers who secured evidence against Captain Groo. You conclude your letter by asking me to consider this resignation as final, and to accept it immediately.

Relating to the particular subject upon which you dwell as the reason for your resignation, I sincerely regret that you have not found it consistent with your views and principles to evince your dissent from the position of your associates by the record of your vote, while continuing to co-operate with them upon other matters not connected with the question upon which you so radically differ from them.

However, your resignation has evidently been well considered, and is so worded as to leave me no alternative other than to accept. It is therefore accepted, to take effect at the close of business on Saturday, July 31, 1897.

With sincere regret I have the honor to remain very respectfully yours, W. L. STRONG, Mayor.

Colonel Frederick D. Grant, Commissioner of Police, No. 300 Mulberry-st.

Shortly after sending his resignation to the City Hall Commissioner Grant gave out a typewritten statement, saying in part:

The majority rules, and the Board should be in harmony as to its policy and methods. I do not understand, however, that even to secure this harmony my official position justifies me in seeing a wrong in any different light from the one in which I see it as an individual. I must act according to my conscience and principles, and my colleagues act according to theirs. I decline to be a member of the Board as an obstructionist, neither will I remain as a dissenting minority, when methods are enforced to which I am conscientiously opposed.

I will not consent to have those who should be loyal, truthful men commanded to do degrading work. I would feel myself necessarily responsible for acts of the men commanded to perform those acts by a Board of which I was a member, even if in the minority I opposed the order. I have always been consistent in the same conviction and belief that I expressed during the Eakins trial, when I differed in opinion from my three colleagues.

When Commissioner Parker had read over the statement made by Colonel Grant and was asked whether he had anything to say about the resignation, he said:

"There is nothing to say. I do not see that the statement calls for any comment on my part. I take but a languid interest in the affair. Colonel Grant has never said anything to me as to a way out of the present difficulty. I am sorry to lose Colonel Grant, as a man."

There was talk that with a new Commissioner in sympathy with Moss and Andrews in the Board the old charges against Chief Conlin might be brought up. Mr. Parker said that he did not think they would be.

President Moss declined to say anything at all about Colonel Grant's resignation.

Colonel Grant left the Headquarters Building at 8 o'clock last night, accompanied by the doorman, Barnes, who carried some of the Colonel's personal effects. Colonel Grant said he would be compelled to return to Headquarters this morning to finish the examination of some papers.

WRECKERS ON THE BIG FOUR

NARROW ESCAPE FOR PASSENGERS ON A CROWDED TRAIN.

ENGINEER AND FIREMAN KILLED AND THREE TRAMPS INJURED—A SWITCH HAD BEEN FASTENED OPEN.

When the train left Chicago last night at 8 o'clock it was an unusually long one. Only four stops were to be made between Chicago and Indianapolis. The train was passing Thorntown at high speed when the engine struck the switch that had been opened and fastened open. A relief train was sent from Indianapolis to Thorntown early this morning and as soon as the track was cleared a new train was made up for Cincinnati and other points. The train was unusually crowded with passengers.

The opinion is entertained at the headquarters of the Big Four road that the train-wreckers had hoped to destroy a coal train about due. General Manager Schaff has offered a reward of $500 for the arrest and conviction of the wreckers.

There have recently been some labor troubles in and about Thorntown, but none of them have been in any manner connected with the railway. It is stated that since the mining troubles there had been a number of strangers about the place who are not connected with the strike, but who are supposed to have been tramping about with a view to plunder during the expected trouble. No attempt was made to rob the express or other cars after the wreck. All available detectives were set at work to-day on the case.

Indianapolis, July 30.—Passenger train No. 34 on the Chicago division of the Big Four, due here at 3:30 this morning, was wrecked at Thorntown at 2:25 o'clock. A pin placed in the switch caused the train to leave the track. The engine, baggage and express cars were overturned. Engineer Winslow and the fireman were killed. Two tramps were severely but not fatally hurt, while a third is thought to be fatally injured.

The coupling pin had opened the elevator switch and the engine ran a short distance on the siding and turned over. The coupling broke and this released the air and stopped the train. But for this the whole train would have been ditched. The engineer reversed his lever and seems to have jumped, for he was found twenty feet from the train with the top of his head crushed in. The fireman was found pressed up against the boiler by the tender. The flesh was almost roasted from his body.

Two of the tramps were riding in the front of the first postal car. One of these was scalded by the steam and the other was badly jammed between two cars. The third was not badly hurt. One postal car was thrown crossways of the upturned engine tender and then was dashed against it.

JAPAN ACCEPTS HAWAII'S OFFER.

FORMAL NOTICE OF THE ARBITRATION AGREEMENT GIVEN TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

Washington, July 30.—The Japanese Government has accepted the offer made by Hawaii to arbitrate the dispute between the two countries. The State Department has been informed of the offer and the acceptance. The subjects of arbitration will include not only the difficulty over the landing of Japanese immigrants, but other disagreements between the two countries, the most important of which is the sake tax imposed upon a liquor largely imported and consumed by the Japanese in Hawaii.

The acceptance of the offer of arbitration, a brief synopsis of which has been cabled to the Japanese Minister here and given to the State Department, states that the Japanese Government accepts arbitration in principle, and is prepared to discuss the terms for a settlement of pending disputes. The formal letter of acceptance has been sent to Hawaii, and the conditions of arbitration will be contained therein. These conditions are not known here. Pending the arrangement of details, all other proceedings looking to a settlement will be discontinued.

The sake tax, of which the Japanese complain, is an increase of the duty on this liquor from 15 cents to $1 a gallon. This tax was passed by the Hawaiian Legislature and vetoed by President Dole on the ground that it was unconstitutional and in violation of the treaty with Japan, which had rights under the most-favored-nation clause. The tax was passed over his veto almost unanimously, only one vote being cast to sustain the President. The pressure for taxing sake came from the saloonkeepers and the manufacturers of liquors, as the Japanese use this liquor almost wholly to the exclusion of other beverages.

It is not expected that the State Department will make more than a formal acknowledgment of the latest communication from Japan on the subject of the annexation of Hawaii, the understanding being that all future negotiations will be conducted by Minister Buck and the Japanese Foreign Office at Tokio.

FELL BEFORE THE STANDARD OIL.

THE BUFFALO REFINING COMPANY, FOR TWENTY YEARS ITS ANTAGONIST, MAKES AN ASSIGNMENT.

Buffalo, July 30.—The Buffalo Refining Company, of which C. B. Matthews is the president, has made a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors.

While the company is a comparatively small corporation, being capitalized at only $15,000, it has been famous out of proportion to its business magnitude because it has been one of the few independent refineries of the country, and, under various names, for more than twenty years has maintained an existence in active antagonism to the Standard Oil Company.

BENHAM TO TAKE AN APPEAL.

Batavia, N. Y., July 30.—Howard Benham slept well last night, got up early this morning, and talked for a long time with his lawyers. His mother and sister also visited him. Scores of people went to the jail last night and again this morning to have a chat with him, but, aside from his attorneys and his own family, no one was allowed to see him. Benham is anxious to make a statement to the public, but his attorneys object to it. They say that in consideration of the appeal they do not think it best for him to say anything at all.

Benham's only desire now is to get a new trial or have the case heard before a higher court, according to his lawyer.

"Then you will certainly appeal?" the lawyer was asked.

"As certain as we live. We do not believe that the verdict of that jury can stand. We certainly should get a new trial upon the Judge's charge alone, but if a new trial is denied I do not believe that any court of appeals in the country will ever sustain the verdict given on the evidence."

A TON OF NATIVE COPPER.

Houghton, Mich., July 30.—Five drill holes blasted in Six-Mile Hill shaft broke seven tons of ground, over one ton of which was native copper. This is by far the richest strike of copper ever made, and has caused great excitement throughout the Lake Superior mining district.

CHAUTAUQUA EXCURSION.

$10.00 round trip, by Erie Railroad, August 24. Tickets good 30 days.—Advt.

THE ALASKAN BOUNDARY.

CANADIAN CLAIMS REGARDED AS PREPOSTEROUS.

RICH GOLD MINING REGIONS DECLARED BY SURVEYORS TO BE IN UNITED STATES TERRITORY—VIEWS OF SUPERINTENDENT DUFFIELD, OF THE COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, July 30.—The claim of Great Britain to a big share of Alaska promises to occupy a large amount of public attention for some time to come, if, indeed, it does not become a vital question and give rise to diplomatic complications between the United States and England. The claim is regarded by Government officials here as preposterous. It is considered unfortunate that the Senate, before which the boundary question was brought as the outcome of a treaty negotiated by Secretary Olney and Sir Julian Pauncefote, did not place itself on record in the matter. Before a vote was taken Congress adjourned, so that the location of the divisional line, which has been in dispute since 1884, is no nearer settlement than it has been at any period in the last thirteen years.

General Duffield, superintendent of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, was a member of the Boundary Commission. The survey authorized by it has until recently been deemed official and correct by both countries. General Duffield said to-day: "Up to 1884 both countries were practically united as to the boundary line from Mount St. Elias to the southeast. According to the terms of the treaty between Russia and Great Britain, the United States in purchasing Alaska in 1867 acquired all of Russia's rights. In describing the southeastern boundary, the Anglo-Russian treaty read:

The line of demarcation between the possessions of the high contracting parties upon the coast of the continent and the islands of America to the northwest shall be drawn in the following manner: Commencing from the southernmost point of the island called Prince of Wales Island, which point lies in the parallel of 54 degrees 40 minutes north latitude, and between the 131st degree and the 133d degree of west longitude, the same line shall ascend to the north along the channel called Portland Channel, as far as the point of the continent where it strikes the 56th degree of north latitude. From this last-mentioned point the line of demarcation shall follow the summit of the mountains situated parallel to the coast as far as the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude of the same meridian, and finally from the said point of intersection the said meridian line of the 141st degree, in its prolongation as far as the frozen ocean, shall form the limit between the Russian and British possessions on the Continent of America to the northwest. Wherever the summit of the mountains, which extend in a direction parallel to the coast from the 56th degree of north latitude to the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude shall prove to be a distance of more than ten marine leagues from the ocean, the limit between the British possessions and the line of coast which is to belong to Russia, as above mentioned, shall be formed by a line parallel to the winding of the coast, and which shall never exceed the distance of ten marine leag