New-York Tribune.

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A MILK TRUST FORMED.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION FILED IN NEW-JERSEY.

DAIRY PRODUCTS TO BE COLLECTED AND DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMATICALLY—THE PROJECTORS OF THE CONCERN SAY PRICES WILL BE LOWERED.

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 21.—Articles of incorporation of the Farm and Dairy Product Company, with an authorized capital of $15,000,000, were filed with the Secretary of State to-day. The company is authorized to deal in butter, cheese, eggs, milk, vegetables, poultry and other foods. The principal place of business will be in Jersey City. The company will have $4,000,000 of preferred stock and $11,000,000 of common stock.

The incorporating stockholders are John B. Summerfield and Henry C. Everdell, of Brooklyn; Samuel B. Lawrence and Francis B. Lowery, of New-York City, and Burnham C. Stickney, of Elizabeth, N. J.

The company is the result of the negotiations which have been under way for several months looking toward the formation of a "milk trust." The capital for the formation is said to have come largely from abroad, principally from London, and the remainder was subscribed in New-York. It is intended to introduce an entirely new system of supplying milk to New-York and Brooklyn and nearby places. Arrangements have been completed whereby farmers who have been supplying isolated creameries will ship direct to the trust. Some of the creameries in this State and through the milk-producing belt in New-York State will be turned into depots for the trust. The milk of small farms will be delivered to these depots and forwarded. In other places, where the producers are in business on a sufficiently large scale, the milk will be shipped direct from the farm to the depots in Jersey City and Hoboken, and thence distributed to the customers in New-York.

WILL THE PRICE BE REDUCED?

It is claimed for the trust that there is no intention of increasing the price of milk to the consumer, but, on the other hand, there is likely to be a reduction in the price, while at the same time the milk will be better than the average now served in New-York, and the trust can pay more to the farmers than the isolated creameries now pay.

A member of the trust to-day said that this result will be reached in this way: There are now some four thousand wagons delivering milk in New-York City proper. These four thousand wagons require that number of drivers, and on some of them the driver has a helper. The routes of these sellers of milk cross and recross, and it is not uncommon for a score of milkmen to serve milk on a single city block. The trust figures that it can give a better service than is now furnished by these independent milkmen with less than one thousand wagons. The city can be laid out into routes, and properly covered by a thousand wagons where the four thousand are now employed. There will be in the city, as is now planned, a series of central stations, to which the milk will be brought direct from the receiving stations. From these central stations in the city the wagons are to radiate through the city.

Milk under the existing conditions is now sold in New-York at from three to eight cents a quart, an average price of six cents a quart, delivered. It is estimated that milk can be retailed in any part of the city for four cents. The saving in the reduction of the number of servers will allow this and leave a margin far greater than can now be hoped for by those in the business. There will be enough profit to enable the trust to handle the milk from the cow to the consumer under the latest hygienic principles. It will permit the trust to keep a careful watch upon every farm from which it will draw a portion of its supply, and it will enable it to pay the farmer more for his product. When this is done the trust can insist that the quality of the product shall be better.

FARMERS TO BE INSTRUCTED.

One thing that the managers of the trust propose to look after is the instruction of the farmers. The idea is to make him a part of the business. They say that at present the only question with the farmer is how he can keep his stock on the least money and produce sufficient milk to give him a profit. As to the quality of the milk the farmer cares nothing, so long as it passes the milk inspectors. The trust's idea is that the farmer shall learn that proper feeding will produce milk which will not only stand no chance of being condemned, but which will bring him a better price and better returns in other ways.

The practice of grocers and others selling milk, it is understood, will not be encouraged. Sub-stations where dairy products may be purchased will be established, and in them the goods handled will be looked after with the same scientific care that they will be at the main stations.

INDIANS BURN THE COURTHOUSES.

THEY HOPE IN THIS WAY TO DESTROY THE RECORDS AND AVOID PAYING THEIR DEBTS.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—A dispatch to "The Times-Herald" from Wichita, Kan., says: "Information has been received at the office of the United States Marshal at South McAlester, Ind. T., to the effect that the lawless element among the Indians has formed a conspiracy to burn the United States courthouse there and all other United States court buildings in the Indian Territory.

"The burning of the United States courthouse at Ardmore the other day, with all its records, is believed to be the first attempt to carry out the plot. The Indians are said to be growing more restive as January 1 approaches, as upon that day all of their tribal courts are abolished and the Federal courts have full jurisdiction in litigation affecting the Indians. Under the Indian law one Indian cannot sue another for debt of any nature. There are vast numbers of notes held by shrewd Indians against their less provident brethren, now uncollectible, which can be sued on and collected as soon as the Indians come in under the Federal law. It will ruin many thousands of Indians who have heretofore been considered wealthy, and it is the discontent of the debtor class that is thought to be responsible for the plot to burn the court records and impede as far as possible the administration of justice in the United States courts. Detectives are watching the movements of the suspected Indians."

SHOT AND KILLED HIS STEPDAUGHTER.

CRIME OF A FORMER MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Wilkesbarre, Penn., Dec. 21.—James Griner, proprietor of the Pullman Hotel at Duryea, shot and killed his stepdaughter, Caroline Shafer, at noon to-day. They had quarrelled over money matters. Griner gave himself up at once, and was brought to the Wilkesbarre jail. He was formerly a member of the Legislature, representing Wilkesbarre in the House of Representatives in 1896. When his term expired he went to Duryea, where he purchased a hotel.

PRINCESS DI CARINI BADLY TREATED.

IMPRISONED WITH HER BLIND DAUGHTER FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS BY HER TRUSTEE.

Palermo, Dec. 21.—"Il Corriere Della Isola" tells a shocking story of the ill-treatment of Princess di Carini, who is separated from her husband. It says that, with her blind daughter, she has been shut up for the last five years by her trustee, and has only just succeeded in sending a letter to the police revealing the fact of her imprisonment. The police have liberated the Princess, and the trustee has been arrested.

FIVE KILLED BY AN EXPLOSION.

London, Dec. 21.—The manager of Major's tar distillery at Hull and four of the employes were killed by an explosion in the works this evening.

Christmas week will be enjoyable if you have a case of Ballantine's India Pale Ale. Order from Acker, Merrall & Condit; Park & Tilford; Robert Gray, 433 9th ave.; Macy & Jenkins, 67 Liberty st.; G. Paccini, 710 7th ave.—Advt.

ENGLAND AND JAPAN IN CONCERT.

THE BRITISH SQUADRON TO MAKE A DEMONSTRATION AS A PROTEST AGAINST THE PARTITION OF CHINA.

London, Dec. 22.—According to a dispatch from Shanghai, the British squadron will make a demonstration at Che-Foo, on the north coast of the Shan-Tung Promontory, as a warning, it is supposed, that Great Britain intends to oppose the division of China without consulting her.

It is reported there that Russia has offered China a loan to pay off the indemnity of the war with Japan, and it is believed, says the dispatch, that Japan and England are acting in concert to preserve China from disintegration, favoring the idea of a protectorate over Central China, with a capital at Nanking.

It is rumored, also, the dispatch alleges, that a large Russian military force is coming overland from Siberia.

A German-Chinese Commission has been arranged, according to a dispatch from Shanghai to "The Daily Mail," to settle the boundaries of the occupied district at Kiao-Chau; it is evident, therefore, that the occupation will be permanent. The same dispatch says it is rumored in Shanghai that the British intend to occupy Ta-lien-wan, south of Port Arthur, in order to guard the Gulf of Pe-chi-li.

"The Daily Mail's" correspondent at Tokio reports that there is no excitement there over the news from Port Arthur. The press is calm and the public is indifferent.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

THE THEORY THAT THE OCCUPATION OF PORT ARTHUR WAS A SEQUEL TO THE DAPHNE'S VISIT.

Berlin, Dec. 21.—The "Cologne Gazette" insists upon the accuracy of its statement yesterday that the Russian occupation of Port Arthur was connected with the visit there of the British warship Daphne about a week ago. As a proof it points out that there were neither Russian ships nor a Russian consul at Port Arthur at the time the Daphne visited the harbor, and it argues that Russia could only have learned of the visit through China's complaint.

The "Cologne Gazette" embarrassed the Government to-day by declaring that the other Powers would soon follow the example of Germany and Russia, now that the partition of China had actually begun. Other newspapers have expressed opinions in a similar vein.

It has been hinted that Prince Henry's destination is another point than Kiao-Chau, and that he will receive the supreme command in the China seas.

The "Norddeutsche Allegemeine Zeitung" hasened to issue a denial of these assumptions, declaring that they were not warranted by the facts.

The Paris correspondent of the "Cologne Gazette" telegraphed his paper yesterday that a week ago, in spite of the protests of the Chinese, the British warship Daphne entered the inner harbor at Port Arthur, presumably to ascertain whether or not there were Russian ships there.

RUSSIA BUYING SUPPLIES LIBERALLY.

San Francisco, Dec. 21.—In mercantile circles in San Francisco much attention is paid to news from the new Orient. The intelligence that a Russian fleet has occupied Port Arthur, following so closely on the news that Russia had obtained a firm grip on Corea, leads to the belief that active hostilities between the Mikado and the Czar cannot long be deferred. It is regarded as significant that agents of the Russian Empire have recently made extensive purchases of army supplies in the United States for the garrison at Vladivostock. A few days ago cable messages from Vladivostock, via St. Petersburg, were received in this city, inviting several firms to bid on an immense quantity of provisions. The merchants here anticipate a great demand for supplies to maintain the fleets and armies now assembling in the Orient.

THE JEAN BART ORDERED TO CHINA.

London, Dec. 21.—A dispatch from Brest says the French cruiser Jean Bart has been ordered to proceed immediately to China.

The Jean Bart is rated as a second-class cruiser. She is of over 4,000 tons displacement, is 346 feet long, has 43 feet beam, and her estimated speed is 19 knots. She has an armored deck four inches in thickness, mounts four 6.2-inch quick-firing guns, six 5.5-inch guns, fourteen 2.5-inch guns, and has nine guns of smaller calibre. Her crew numbers 332 men.

FILLING A GAP IN GERMANY'S NAVY.

Dantzic, Dec. 21.—Admiral von Hollman, in christening the new German cruiser Vineta to-day said: "This ship should fill a seriously perceptible gap in the imperial navy. The name awakes the memory of the vanished glory of past power, but both of these, which have been long and sorely missed, have uprisen afresh with the new Empire. The Vineta will powerfully serve the Emperor and the Empire, either for offence or defence."

NO DEVELOPMENTS AT KIAO-CHAU.

Shanghai, Dec. 21.—The German Admiral commanding Kiao-Chau Bay refuses to admit newspaper men within the German lines.

There have been no further developments at Kiao-Chau. All is quiet there.

BIG FAILURE IN MELBOURNE.

C. H. JAMES RUINED BY THE BURSTING OF THE LAND BOOM—LIABILITIES, $4,250,000.

London, Dec. 21.—A dispatch from Melbourne, Victoria, says that C. H. James has failed for £850,000. The cause of his troubles is said to be the bursting of the land boom.

ARABS MAKING TROUBLE AT TRIPOLI.

SURROUNDED BY TURKISH TROOPS OUTSIDE THE GATES OF THE TOWN—DISTURBANCES ELSEWHERE.

Tripoli, Dec. 19 (delayed in transmission).—Several thousand Arabs who had been demonstrating outside the gates of this place have been surrounded by Turkish troops. The shops of the city are closed, and the Arab agitation against the Government is increasing.

There were disturbances on December 17 at Amrus, near here. All the houses inhabited by Hebrews were pillaged. Thirty of the rioters were arrested by the troops.

London, Dec. 21.—A dispatch from Vienna says that the Arabs along the Persian Gulf, notably at Basrah, Kurnah and El Kalif, have revolted, and that troops are on their way there.

CONSUL-GENERAL OSBORNE IN DANGER.

A SON OF THE LATE DR. HELMBOLD ARRESTED FOR THREATENING TO SHOOT HIM.

London, Dec. 21.—Charles Helmbold, son of the late Dr. Helmbold, of New-York City, the well-known patent-medicine proprietor, has been arrested and is awaiting trial at the Bow-st. police station on the charge of threatening to kill United States Consul-General Osborne.

During the last three weeks he had been haunting the United States Consulate, shabbily dressed, and demanding money. He told a story of the seizure of his clothes and effects by the Berlin Consul for debt, and declared that Mr. Osborne was responsible for the seizure.

Helmbold became so importunate that last Friday Mr. Osborne ordered him to leave the premises. Thereupon Helmbold became violently enraged and shouted: "D—— you, I'll come back and shoot you." He returned yesterday and repeated his threat. Mr. Osborne, remembering the Terriss case, summoned a police officer and had him arrested.

The physicians think Helmbold insane. He has spent much time in London of recent years, living well when his family sent him money and in deepest poverty between remittances. It is supposed that the Berlin adventures he describes are imaginary.

An attempt has been made to keep the affair secret for the sake of Helmbold's family.

JOSIAH QUINCY RE-ELECTED.

BOSTON GOES DEMOCRATIC BY ABOUT FOUR THOUSAND.

THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR CARRIED IT LAST MONTH—LESS THAN THREE THOUSAND VOTES FOR THE BRYANITE.

Boston, Dec. 21.—Mayor Josiah Quincy was re-elected to-day by a decreased plurality over ex-Mayor Edwin Upton Curtis, his opponent of two years ago, and the city, which went Republican at the State election last month, is again Democratic by about four thousand. The attempt to split the Democratic party in the city by vigorous work on the part of Thomas Riley, runing as a Bryan Democrat, proved futile. His rallies were crowded and his audiences apparently enthusiastic, but less than three thousand voters supported him at the polls.

Notwithstanding the strong effort which was made by the Republicans to get out a heavy vote in the suburban and Back Bay wards, which usually give heavy Republican majorities, Mayor Quincy made great gains over the vote for Williams at the State election, while in some cases there was a decided falling off in the Republican vote. On the other hand, the usually strong Democratic wards, where the registration for this election has been heavy, did not show any special gains for the Democratic candidate, and in some cases there was a decrease.

The surprise of the election was undoubtedly the small vote for Riley. Even in the wards where he made his greatest efforts few were found in his support at the polls. In his own precinct he received only two votes.

With such a spirited campaign and the greatest registration in the history of the city, it was generally supposed a remarkably heavy vote would be cast. It was therefore disappointing to the Republicans to find that the total vote was only a little over that of two years ago, when the registration was 91,483 to 102,480 at the present election. In the former contest between Quincy and Curtis 84 per cent of the registration voted. Less than 75 per cent was polled to-day.

The total vote for Mayor, with one precinct missing, is as follows: Quincy, 39,707; Curtis, 35,741; Riley, 2,885; Goldstein, Socialist, 776.

Josiah Quincy, a descendant of the well-known Quincy family, was born in Quincy, Mass., October 15, 1859. He was educated at Adams Academy and Harvard College, and was graduated with honors in the class of '80. Four years later he was graduated from the Harvard Law School and admitted to the bar. His political career began with the secretaryship of the Massachusetts Tariff Reform League. Though originally a Republican, he became an Independent in 1884, opposing the election of Blaine and Logan. In 1887, 1888 and 1889 he was elected to the House of Representatives of Massachusetts. In 1888 he was a member of the Democratic State Committee, serving as its secretary. In 1890 he was made chairman of the Executive Committee; in 1892, chairman of the State Committee. He was a delegate to the National Convention which nominated Cleveland and Stevenson. Subsequently, as member of the Democratic National Committee, he had charge of the Literary Bureau during the campaign. He became Assistant Secretary of State under Gresham in 1893, but served in that capacity only six months. Returning to Massachusetts, he entered actively into State politics. Two years ago he was elected Mayor of Boston over Edwin Upton Curtis, whom he defeated again yesterday.

DEMOCRATIC VICTORY IN MERIDEN.

Meriden, Conn., Dec. 21.—The city election held here to-day resulted in a Democratic victory. Amos Ives, the Democratic candidate for Mayor, defeating his Republican opponent, Arthur S. Lane, by about three hundred and fifty majority. Democratic Aldermen and Councilmen were elected in three of the five wards.

DECLINES TO RECEIVE TAMMANY MONEY.

ANOTHER BAPTIST MINISTER REFUSES TO ACCEPT A GIFT FROM THE TIGER.

The Rev. Gottlob Tetzer, pastor of the Second German Baptist Church, No. 407 West Forty-third-st., has refused the share of Tammany's unexpended campaign fund which was offered to his church. When seen by a reporter last night he refused to discuss his action in declining to accept a gift from Tammany.

Mr. Tetzer is the second Baptist minister to take this stand. On Monday The Tribune printed the letter of the Rev. James W. Putnam, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, in East Fifty-fifth-st., who declined a gift from Tammany, through Victor J. Dowling.

BIG FIRE IN KANSAS CITY.

THE AUDITORIUM AND AUDITORIUM HOTEL DESTROYED AT A LOSS OF $450,000.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 21.—The Auditorium, the largest and finest playhouse west of Chicago, and the Auditorium Hotel, one of the most fashionable family hotels in the city, situated at Holmes and Ninth sts., were destroyed by a fire that started in the theatre shortly after 1 o'clock this morning. The 105 guests escaped in safety. The loss on the property, which is owned by Alexander Frazer, a local business man, will aggregate $450,000. The insurance is $55,000. Owing to high insurance rates, a great deal of insurance had been allowed to lapse.

The fire originated in an unoccupied room of the sixth floor of the theatre, and resulted from the crossing of electric light wires. It was first noticed by Night Clerk Haak, who awoke the guests. They included many families, with children of all ages, and the greatest confusion ensued. For a time it seemed that the flames would be confined to a single floor, but after it had apparently been brought under control it burst forth again, and defied all efforts of the firemen. Many of the guests, assured after the first alarm that the fire would not spread, returned to their rooms.

Delay in getting a continuous stream on the fire, however, enabled it to get beyond the firemen's control. The flames spread rapidly along the tier of rooms on the fifth and sixth floors, and soon communicated with the hotel through the small apertures in the firewall which separated it from the theatre. Once in the hotel the flames were beyond control. The excitement then broke out among the hotel guests afresh, and hurried scrambles to save personal effects followed. Before the guests had been ordered from the building a second time, the bulk of their belongings had been carried out. More timid ones, who fled from their rooms in their nightclothes at the start, were given quarters in a neighboring hotel.

In the theatre, the Woodward Stock Company, which has been the standing attraction since the reopening of the place last October, managed to save the bulk of its property. Early after the second burst of flames the firemen gave up hope of saving the structure. Although the building in which the fire started is practically a front annex to the main Auditorium Building there were openings in all the upper stories which made the two buildings one, and made them both an easy prey for the flames, once well started. Superintendent Pelletier, of the Insurance Patrol, refused to allow his men to enter the building to spread the tarpaulins, and all efforts of the firemen were confined to the outside. Luckily, the structure stood alone, and at no time was surrounding property threatened. The firemen worked heroically, but within a few hours both the theatre and the hotel had been gutted, the bigger part of the roof had fallen in, and about one-third of the west wall of the hotel collapsed.

The Auditorium was built in 1886 by Colonel George W. Warder at a cost of $350,000. It was named the Warder Grand Opera House, and was opened by Booth and Barrett. After a brief but unsuccessful season Warder traded the property to George W. Henry, of Chicago. Henry reopened the theatre, but it again failed to pay expenses. In 1896 the National Bank of Commerce purchased the property and installed John P. Slocum, a well-known Eastern theatrical manager. After another failure the bank traded the property last October to Alexander Frazer, and the latter leased the property to Paxton and Burgiss, who presented the Woodward Stock Company and a list of first-class specialties at seat prices of not over 10 and 25 cents. The plan proved a decided success, and for the first time since its inception the Auditorium became a paying property.

"'Tis excellent," is the verdict of connoisseurs regarding Ballantine's Pale Ale. Served at Manhattan, Hoffman, Waldorf-Astoria, Holland, Delmonico's, and Murray Hill Hotels.—Advt.

DEADLY GAS AND SMOKE.

ONE FIREMAN KILLED AND THREE HURT AT AN EAST SIDE FIRE.

THE BLAZE WAS A SMALL AFFAIR THAT STARTED IN THE BASEMENT OF AN EAST FOURTEENTH-ST. TENEMENT-HOUSE—THE DEAD MAN A BROTHER OF ALDERMAN OAKLEY.

As a result of an insignificant fire that started in a woodbin in the basement of a tenement-house at No. 426 East Fourteenth-st., last evening, one fireman was killed and three were badly injured by suffocation from smoke and gas. The man who was killed was:

OAKLEY, Martin J., twenty-seven years old, of Engine Company No. 5.

The injured, all members of Oakley's company, are:

DAVIS, James E., of No. 438 East Fourteenth-st.
DONNELLY, Peter, of No. 406 Second-ave.
HEAD, Thomas E., assistant foreman, of No. 284 Pleasant-ave.

Head and Donnelly were removed to Bellevue Hospital, and Davis was taken to the New-York Hospital. All of the injured men who were taken to the hospital were unconscious, but it is thought that they will recover.

In the basement of the building, where the fire started, is a stable reached by a long runway from the street. About in the middle of this runway is the stable office, where Jacob Steinmuller, the proprietor, transacts his business. Adjoining the office is the space devoted to the wood and coal bins used by the sixteen families who live in the house. It was in one of these bins that the flames started. The fire was discovered by a stable employe, who informed Steinmuller, who was at his supper in his rooms on the first floor of the house at the time, that the place was on fire. Steinmuller and the employe ran down into the cellar and tried to put out the flames with a few buckets of water, but were unsuccessful, for the flames had gotten beyond their control. Some one sent in an alarm of fire, and soon the apparatus and men of Company No. 5, which is situated nearby, were on the spot. Fireman Oakley and a part of the company ran into the building to reach the fire from the hallway of the house by means of a narrow stairway leading to the basement, while others made their way through the runway from the street.

FILLED WITH SMOKE.

The fire was hardly well under way when the entire house was filled with smoke, and many of the tenants fled in terror to the roof, from which they passed to other buildings, although a few of the tenants were able to get out through the main hall. As soon as the firemen, headed by Oakley, opened the door leading from the hallway to the cellar stairs, they were enveloped in a thick smoke, which was also accompanied by an overpowering smell of illuminating gas. Oakley led the way, and was probably overcome before he had passed halfway down the stairs. It is supposed that he slipped and fell, for he was afterward found at the foot of the stairs. Head and Davis followed Oakley, and they, too, were overcome on the stairs by the smoke and gas, and Donnelly, who went into the building by the runway, was caught by the volume of noxious gases as he entered the place where the fire was through the livery-stable office.

In the mean time other engine companies had arrived and were playing their long lines of hose on the flames, which were soon subdued. It was then that the four unconscious firemen were found lying in great pools of water which had been poured into the cellar. Acting Chief D. J. Mahr, with several members of Hook and Ladder Company No. 3, in East Thirteenth-st., found the unfortunate men, and dragged them, with the assistance of others, from the place.

The Rev. James Le Baron Johnson, curate of Grace Church, who is well known in the Fire Department, and the Rev. N. B. Carey, a curate of Grace Chapel, which is near the building, had the unconscious men carried into the dispensary of the chapel, where they were cared for by Miss F. M. Linton, the head nurse in the dispensary, and other attendants until ambulances arrived. Hurry calls were sent to Bellevue, New-York and Gouverneur hospitals for ambulances, and within a short time half a dozen of them were on the scene. Head and Donnelly were carried to Bellevue Hospital and Davis was taken to the New-York Hospital. It was thought best to attempt to revive Oakley in the chapel dispensary, for his condition was such as to make his removal almost certain death. It was difficult, even then, to detect that a spark of life was left in him. Every means was tried to keep him alive, and twelve physicians from the hospitals worked over him [illegible] two hours before he died. As soon as [illegible] taken to the chapel Father John E. F[illegible], rector of the Roman Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception, and his assistant, Father Brosnan, were called to the chapel, and Father Edwards administered to the dying man the last sacraments of the Church.

A SMALL MONEY LOSS.

The fire caused a loss of $50 on the building, which is owned by Dr. Haupt, of No. 63 Rivington-st. It is supposed that the blaze was started by some careless tenant in the house, who dropped a match in the woodbin or set fire to the bin with a candle.

Martin J. Oakley, the dead fireman, was a brother of Alderman John T. Oakley, a Councilman-elect. He was appointed to the Fire Department five years ago. He leaves a widow and two children. The Rev. Mr. Johnson, of Grace Church, broke the news of her husband's death to the widow, at the request of the dead man's associates.

TELLING OF THE KAISER MURDER.

MISS DE KALB GIVES DAMAGING TESTIMONY AGAINST CLEMMER.

Norristown, Penn., Dec. 21.—The hearing of James A. Clemmer and Elizabeth K. De Kalb, the two alleged accomplices of Charles O. Kaiser in the murder of his wife, Emma P. Kaiser, on October 28, 1896, took place before Magistrate Lenhardt this morning. The Magistrate's office was crowded, many persons being unable to gain admission. Mrs. Kaiser was shot while riding with her husband on a lonely road near this town. The alleged motive of the crime was the desire to secure $10,000 insurance on her life. Kaiser has been sentenced to death for the murder.

District-Attorney Strassburger refused to permit Clemmer to waive a hearing, and after a few minor witnesses had been examined Miss De Kalb, the notorious "woman in black," went on the stand and told the story of her life and of the conspiracy. Her story was of a startling nature and most damaging to Clemmer. The latter listened with great attention to her words, but remained calm and cool under the trying ordeal. She told of a plan which Clemmer and Kaiser had agreed upon for getting Mrs. Kaiser out of the way. This was to chloroform the woman and then set fire to the bed. This plan, she said, was not carried out, because Kaiser lost his nerve. Miss De Kalb told of several carriage rides she had with Mrs. Kaiser, the majority of which were planned by Clemmer. On all of these unforeseen circumstances happened, which the Commonwealth believed delayed the murder of Mrs. Kaiser. Her description of the drive which ended in the murder was minute, and was listened to attentively.

In telling of the drive on the night of the murder, Miss De Kalb said that on a previous occasion Clemmer had purposely injured himself so that he could collect the amount of insurance held by him on an accident policy, and that on the night of the murder of Mrs. Kaiser she was informed that Mrs. Kaiser was to be shot and slightly wounded, so that some money could be realized on the policy held by her against accidents. Miss De Kalb said she and Clemmer rode in a carriage some distance behind the carriage in which were Mr. and Mrs. Kaiser. The Kaiser carriage was stopped in the road, and when she and Clemmer drove up to within a short distance of it Clemmer alighted and went forward. A few moments later she heard shots fired, and Clemmer shortly afterward returned and they drove back to Norristown. They then took a train for Philadelphia. On reaching their room in the latter city Clemmer confessed to her that he had killed Mrs. Kaiser, and he began to cry, and said he was sorry he did it. He asked Miss De Kalb to give him chloroform and kill him, saying he could not kill himself, because he was a Catholic. She declined his proposition. Clemmer told her that Kaiser held his wife's arms while he shot her. They left Philadelphia next day, and subsequently moved to different places, both earning a livelihood by working when they could get employment.

Miss De Kalb said she was twenty-six years old. She met Clemmer in Pottsville in 1894, and lived with him in Philadelphia under various names. At the conclusion of Miss De Kalb's testimony Clemmer was committed for trial at the March term of court. Miss De Kalb was then placed in the dock, but she waived a hearing, and was also committed for trial at the March term.

It is understood that the charge against her will be that of accessory after the fact, and that she will not be tried for murder in the first degree.

BANCROFT FIRED ON AT SMYRNA.

SHE WAS ENTERING AT NIGHT, CONTRARY TO REGULATIONS—AN APOLOGY FROM TURKEY.

Constantinople, Dec. 21.—When the United States ship Bancroft arrived at Smyrna, on the night of December 4, she was greeted with a blank cannon shot and rifle bullets from the fort of Yenikale. A boat from the warship, sent shoreward to ask for explanations, was fired on and compelled to return.

Thereupon the American Admiral lodged a protest with the United States Minister here, Dr. James B. Angell, who demanded the punishment of the guilty ones and an apology from the Turkish Government, which was given last Sunday. In addition, two Turkish officers were dismissed and sentenced to a week's arrest.

The entry of ships into Smyrna at night is prohibited, but on this occasion the lamps in the outer lighthouses were still burning, and the Bancroft stopped when the requisite signals were made.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The Navy Department received news of the firing on the Bancroft to-day from the State Department, which had been informed through Minister Angell at Constantinople of the outcome of the incident. The matter was not regarded as of great importance. In fact, several instances have occurred within the memory of naval officers stationed at the Department of just such arbitrary efforts to enforce vexatious port regulations, which are common to Oriental seaports.

A similar rule is applied at Havana, where the guns of Morro Castle do not hesitate to fire at any vessel passing in or out of the harbor after nightfall, and the Russians established a similar rule (though more liberal in scope) at Vladivostock, the great Pacific fortress, after the guards had awakened one foggy morning to find that a large British squadron was lying under the guns of the forts, having entered unseen in the night.

The fact that the incident is considered closed by the Minister and the naval authorities in the Levant is still further enforced by the announcement that the cruiser San Francisco, which had been lying at Smyrna, cleared only a week or two ago for a western Mediterranean port.

BANKS RETIRING CIRCULATION.

THEY HAVE GIVEN UP THREE MILLION DOLLARS SO FAR THIS MONTH.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Mr. Coffin, Acting Controller of the Currency, to-day called attention to the fact that the retirement of National bank notes in the first twenty days of this month reached the sum of $3,000,000. This is said to be the first time in the last ten years that the voluntary retirements have reached this amount in any one month. Under the National Banking act the United States Treasurer is not allowed to receive for retirement more than $3,000,000 in any one month, and hence all deposits to retire notes in the last ten days of this month must be refused.

This exceptional condition, Mr. Coffin says, is due to the prevailing low rates of interest, resulting from a superabundance of money for investment, which has advanced the price of United States bonds. Mr. Coffin expressed the opinion that the law should be amended in this particular, as it interferes with the elasticity of the currency and the natural laws of trade.

KILLING OF AMERICAN SAILORS IN JAPAN.

AN INVESTIGATION OF THE AFFAIRS BEING MADE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

Washington Dec. 21.—The State Department has undertaken an investigation of the killing by Japanese of two sailors attached to the United States fleet on the Asiatic Station. The exact conditions under which the affairs occurred are not yet known here, and the State Department is trying to learn them through the United States Minister in Tokio and the consuls in Japan, preliminary to determining what steps shall be taken to secure reparation, if it shall be found that the killings were, as is expected, unjustifiable.

The first was of a sailor named Montgomery, formerly attached to the Yorktown while she was on the Asiatic Station, and the other was that of Frank Epps, a native of New-York and an apprentice on the flagship Olympia. He was killed at Nagasaki. The officials here have been advised of the bare facts only, but, following so closely on the assault at Kobe last September by a Japanese mob on the sailors of the Yorktown, these affairs have aroused them to a determination to secure protection for American sailors in Japanese ports.

WOULDN'T LET A POOR WOMAN GO.

A GERRY AGENT INSISTS UPON THE LETTER OF HIS DUTY IN SPITE OF A PLEA FOR MERCY.

There was a lively scene in the West Thirtieth-st. police station last night, when Mrs. Morris M. Eckstein, of No. 22 West Forty-third-st., the wife of Senator Thomas C. Platt's private secretary, went there to protest against an arrest.

The person arrested was Mrs. Annie Frank, who had been found begging with her four-year-old daughter in her arms, in Twenty-second-st., near Broadway, last evening. Thomas B. Watson, an agent of the Gerry Society, watched the woman for a time, and then placed her under arrest. He took her and the child over to Sixth-ave. and got on a surface car to go to the police station. At Twenty-fourth-st. Mrs. Eckstein and a woman companion got on the car, and soon questioned the Gerry agent as to why the woman wept so bitterly. He explained the nature of the charge against her, and Mrs. Eckstein at once became indignant. She accompanied the agent and his prisoner to the station. Mrs. Frank there told in imperfect English that her husband was a jeweller, who was out of employment, and as they had nothing to eat she did not think she was doing wrong to beg.

"I am interested in this woman," then said Mrs. Eckstein to the sergeant at the desk, "she did not know she was doing wrong. If you will let her go I will see that she is properly cared for."

Captain Sheehan, who was in the station, explained that the case lay entirely with the Gerry agent, and that if he insisted the woman would have to be locked up. The Captain suggested to the agent, however, that the case might easily be settled by allowing the woman to go with Mrs. Eckstein. Watson replied he could not do such a thing, that he was hired to look after beggars with children, and that the woman had violated the law and must be locked up.

At this Mrs. Eckstein became indignant, and denounced the arrest as an outrage. "I have been connected with a good many charities," she exclaimed, "and believe I have done some good. I have never been able to see any good that the Gerry Society has done."

She left the police station, saying that she would be in the Jefferson Market Police Court this morning to look after the woman's interests. The latter was locked up, and her child was taken to the rooms of the Gerry Society.

ANDERSEN TELLS HIS STORY.

SAYS HE KILLED THE MATE OF THE OLIVE PECKER IN SELF-DEFENCE.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 21.—Rapid progress was made in the Federal Court to-day in the Andersen case, and it will probably be concluded to-morrow, so far as the charge that John Andersen murdered Saunders, the mate of the schooner Olive Pecker, is concerned. With the exception of some brief and not important testimony in the morning the day was almost entirely consumed with the hearing of the evidence of the accused man, who was placed on the stand by his counsel to testify in his own behalf.

In the course of the direct examination Andersen held in his hand the large marlinspike which had been introduced as evidence. His story of the essentials differed from that of his comrades in that he alleged that the mate was coming toward him with the marlinspike raised to strike him when he shot him, killing him to save his own life. He said he did not burn the vessel, but that Harsburgh and March did, and that he exercised no force after killing the mate, but all worked together, and no one was compelled to do anything. While District-Attorney White was arguing against the admissibility of certain evidence and quoting from statements of the accused man Andersen became excited, and at one point rose to his feet and attempted to correct the lawyer, who sharply bade him sit down, and the prisoner, with an appealing look at his counsel, obeyed.

After the defence rested several witnesses were examined in rebuttal and the court adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow for argument.

YOU WON'T have to mortgage your house to buy Bon Bons and Chocolates of Hope, 41 Nassau St.—Advt.

MISS HERBERT A SUICIDE.

LEAPED FROM A WINDOW WHILE TEMPORARILY INSANE.

SHE WAS THE SECOND DAUGHTER OF PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S SECRETARY OF THE NAVY AND A WELL-KNOWN FIGURE IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY—DETAILS OF THE DISTRESSING TRAGEDY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Dec. 21.—Washington society suffered a painful shock to-day when the news spread that Miss Leila Herbert, the daughter of the former Secretary of the Navy, Hilary A. Herbert, had committed suicide by throwing herself from a third-story window at her father's home in this city. Miss Herbert had been suffering for some time from the results of a fall from horseback, and had been under treatment for a nervous disorder as well, and the act which ended her life was evidently committed while in a fit of temporary insanity. The Coroner who was summoned after the body had been picked up lifeless from the concrete pavement on which it fell did not think it necessary to hold an inquest, but immediately gave a certificate of death by suicide, induced by melancholia. The ex-Secretary of the Navy, who happened to be absent on a visit to Montgomery, Ala., was telegraphed for, and will arrive here to-morrow morning.

Miss Herbert was one of the most prominent figures socially in the second Cleveland Administration. Though apparently taking little interest in society during the last years her father served in the House of Representatives, she took up, after his appointment to the Cabinet, with great zeal and energy the task of entertaining thrust upon her, and by her tact, consideration and sincerity won a place in Washington life rarely attained by an official hostess. Her tragic death will bring sorrow to a large circle of friends, both here and beyond the limits of the National capital, who will remember her as a young woman of true refinement, unselfishness of character and high personal attractions.

THE RESULT OF AN INJURY.

The following authorized statement was made this afternoon by a person familiar with all the circumstances of the suicide: "Miss Herbert at the time of the occurrence was suffering from acute melancholia. It developed several weeks ago as the final result of injuries received by being thrown from her horse last spring. The melancholia was not insanity in the sense of being accompanied by delusions. At the same time there was profound depression, and, as is always the case in this type of disease, there was great danger that suicidal tendencies would develop. For this reason nurses were provided to maintain the closest watchfulness. No suicidal tendency developed, however, until yesterday, when for the first time Miss Herbert made an attempt to get out of the window, but was restrained by the nurse. This led to additional caution, and two nurses alternated in constant watchfulness of the patient. She was at all times rational, quiet and gentle, and it was supposed the disease would yield to treatment.

"Early this morning the nurse on duty noticed a small spot of blood on the bed-covering. She inquired what it meant, but the invalid endeavored to pass it by lightly. On making an investigation, however, the nurse found that the under bedclothes were saturated with blood, and that Miss Herbert had severed the artery of her wrist with a pair of scissors. Feeling that the emergency was great, the nurse hastened to the door and called an alarm. In this momentary withdrawal from the bedside, Miss Herbert leaped out of bed and sprang from the window. The plunge was made headforemost, so that she alighted on the top of her head on the asphalt pavement. This injury alone was sufficient to have caused death from concussion, and it was doubtless the immediate cause. Aside from this, a cursory examination indicated that the skull was fractured. The severance of the artery also would have resulted fatally. When the physician reached her Miss Herbert was still breathing, but died about an hour after the leap."

Miss Herbert had been enthusiastically fond of riding, and last September she started out one day in Virginia on a horse which had not been well broken. It stumbled, and she was thrown violently to the ground, sustaining severe injuries to her back. She was brought to Washington,