MAY ARREST MERCIER.

RUMOR IN RENNES THAT THE GENERAL HAD FLED TO JERSEY.

THE REPORT WAS NOT CONFIRMED OR BELIEVED—NEWSPAPERS TO BE PROSECUTED.

Rennes, Aug. 27.—This evening it is rumored that the Government has decided to arrest General Mercier, but the rumor is not confirmed.

Last evening a report was in circulation that General Mercier had fled to the island of Jersey, but this story proved to be without foundation. Early this morning the gendarmes were still posted outside the residence of General St. Germain, military commander of this district, with whom General Mercier has been staying during the trial. Their presence indicated that he was still there, and, in reply to questions, they declared that they had not seen him leave the grounds.

This afternoon he was undoubtedly at home, although he declined to receive callers. No one who has studied his character and methods believes that General Mercier would flee at the prospect of arrest. He has altogether too much doggedness in his composition.

General St. Germain's house is in one of the suburbs of Rennes.

The Government has decided to prosecute the "Eclair" for the publication of the "Canaille de D——" document, one of the four documents secretly communicated to the Dreyfus court martial in 1894, which has been shown not to refer to Captain Dreyfus at all.

The object of the Government is to discover who communicated it to the "Eclair." The assumption is that the communication was made by Colonel Du Paty de Clam, or possibly by General Gonse. The publication occurred three years ago, but under the law prosecution can be maintained at any time during the following five years.

Paris, Aug. 27.—The Government has issued orders for the prosecution of a contributor to the "Eclair" and M. Hassard, director of the "Patrie." The former will be charged with having printed a paraphrase of the "Canaille de D——" document as "Cet animal de Dreyfus devient trop exigeant" ("that beast of a Dreyfus is really becoming too exacting").

ESPIONAGE FOR DETECTIVES ONLY.

Paris, Aug. 27.—A semi-official note issued this evening makes the following announcement:

"The statistical section of the General Staff Bureaus at the War Office no longer concerns itself with espionage questions, which are now properly confided to the detective service. The Statistical Section is specially concerned with the relations of the War Office to French military attachés abroad."

THREE FRENCH JOURNALISTS

ROCHEFORT, DRUMONT AND JUDET, RABID ANTI-DREYFUSITES, WHO POISON FRENCH PUBLIC OPINION.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In order to comprehend fully that strange state of a great part of French opinion, which all the correspondents of The Tribune have so strikingly pointed out, one must know the men who for long years have been inspiring and framing that public opinion. All observers of democratic government are aware of the tremendous influence of the press on the minds of uncultivated citizens. In the case of those whom Americans are wont to call "the mercurial French" that influence cannot possibly be overrated. One of the soundest and wittiest Parisian journalists, a Royalist and a Catholic, indeed, but who in this struggle has fought on the side of freedom and of justice with all French Liberals, Mr. Cornély, wrote but the other day, apropos of the attack on Labori:

"In another century, perhaps, psychology will have made some progress. One will know just how many strokes of the pen it takes to make a pistol shot."

Until we get that knowledge we may attempt already to show how many low demagogues and malefactors of the pen it takes to poison the mind of a people that has always been proud of its common sense, and to instil into it that savage fanaticism and that boundless credulity which will be the stupefaction of all historians when this unspeakable crisis of madness is over.

Three men, at least, out of many others may be chosen as the very types of that sort of journalists who may well be said not merely to madden the public, but to load the weapons of murderers and assassins. These men, who furnish every morning about three millions of French readers with their daily opinions on all topics of general interest, are Rochefort, Drumont and Judet. Each of them represents a side and a mood of the French temper. Rochefort is the revolutionist, always looking for an opportunity to strike a blow at the Government; Drumont is the fanatic, blinded by racial and religious hate; Judet is the Jingo or Chauvinist, working on the patriotic feelings of the people.

ROCHEFORT, THE REVOLUTIONIST.

The most important and the most widely known of all is Rochefort. Henri Rochefort is now sixty-nine years old. He is undoubtedly one of the greatest pamphleteers in the century, and one can trace back his literary pedigree to those hereditary demagogues of the French Revolution of '89 and of the famous leaders of the sixteenth century. All democracies, even in ancient Athens and in the Italy of the Middle Ages, had their pamphleteers. Rochefort has played that part for the last forty years in the French democracy. His full name is the Marquis de Rochefort-Luçay, and he belongs to a family of true nobility, that lost its wealth several generations ago. To please the best of the people he quietly dropped his title, and was known always as Henri Rochefort. Like many French writers, he began his career as a clerk in the municipal offices of Paris, after having studied in one of the best colleges of the capital, where he early [illegible] his old spirit of opposition and his strange lack of mental equilibrium. Once during the reign of Louis Philippe, having been chosen to make a speech for a bishop that was visiting his college, he wrote a few verses inspired with the most rampant republican feelings, and the president of the college said afterward to his mother: "I do not know what is the matter with your son, and whether he will turn out to be a strong character or an imbecile."

Rochefort became neither the one nor the other. He was merely and always remained a "gamin de Paris," with all the wit, impertinence and foolishness of that people which has made all the revolutions in France, and which is capable of deeds of bravery as well as of extravagancy. He made his début in literature as a comic writer, like his father, who wrote some comedies. Moreover, he has never ceased to be a comic writer. Jules Ferry, who suffered much from him, once called him "a vaudevilliste who has grown old in insulting everybody, the favorite clown of both the mob and the aristocracy." To flatter all the low or frivolous passions of his readers, to treat them every morning with a new joke, has been from beginning to end his only aim as a writer and as a politician. His political stand has never changed. Like the Irishman, he has always been "against the Government," and since there are many Frenchmen who are Irish in that respect, he never failed of having a pretty large following.

The time of his greatest favor was during the last decade of the Second Empire, when he edited "La Lanterne," that bitter and sparkling pamphlet which was clandestinely spread all over France and was a treat to all men in the Opposition. Many of the shots fired at Napoleon struck home, and Rochefort became the dread foe of the Government and the favorite with the people. It was at that time that he wrote the well known epigram: "The Imperial Almanach says that France reckons thirty-six millions of subjects. But it does not count the subjects of discontent." He took a share in the Commune, writing, of course, virulent articles to incense the people, but keeping carefully aloof from the battle. Still, Rochefort cannot fairly be said to be a coward, although he is very nervous, and was wont to faint in many important duels which he himself had provoked. But he played a generally fair game, and accepted as a whole the consequences of his acts and writings. He had countless duels from the time of his beginning, when he fought a duel with Cassagnac for having insulted Marie Antoinette, up to this very last year, when he challenged the Socialist and Dreyfusist Gérault-Richard. After the Commune he was sentenced to imprisonment in New-Caledonia, but he managed to escape. After the Boulangism he had to fly to England. In the last years of the Second Empire he often went to jail. His admirers and himself call that "his sufferings for his faith and his opinions."

But Rochefort has no opinions. He has never had any. Never an article by him dealt with anything but puns, insults and slanders. He has in succession shamefully abused such men as Thiers, Gambetta and Jules Ferry. A madman who had once fired a shot at Jules Ferry was a reader of "L'Intransigeant." No story is too absurd, no tale too slanderous, that he does not pick it up and launch it against his foes. At the time of the Panama scandal he advised the President of the Republic, when inviting certain Ministers to his dinner parties, to watch his silver plate, lest they should steal it. M. Constans, his bitterest foe, he has repeatedly charged with murder, poisoning and various other crimes. Now people wonder often whether he believes or not the stories he is telling, and in which many of his readers undoubtedly do believe. I think that he does believe them, if not when he tells them for the first time, at least after a little while. He has the credulity of a child. During the Armenian massacres he seriously asserted that the Sultan had bribed the German Kaiser with several millions of francs. I have heard him in the lobbies of the Palais de Justice during the Zola trial saying to a crowd of people gathered around him, and of whom he knew nobody, that General Billot, who was at the time Secretary of War, had been paid by the Jews 30,000 francs in order to let Colonel Picquart testify in favor of Dreyfus.

No one during the whole Dreyfus agitation has laid more stress than he on the stories about the syndicate and on all the gross stupidities about the foreign money that was supposed to cross the frontier every day in order to comfort the Dreyfusists. The story told at Rennes by General Mercier on the thirty-five millions had long ago been told by Rochefort to the readers of "L'Intransigeant."

That Rochefort should have rushed into the Boulangist and afterward into the Esterhazyist party has astonished many people, who mistook that old fool for a Socialist. Nothing is, on the contrary, less at variance with his temper. Like all Parisian street arabs, Rochefort, who is their spokesman, is a rabid Chauvinist. At the time of the Boulangism he became, just as ninety out of a hundred other patriots, enamored of the handsome General on the black horse. There was not a bit of politics in it. But in the Dreyfus case he was directed by his interests; he knew quite well on what side was the great mass of his customers, and although he is an atheist who never ceased blaspheming against God and insulting Catholicism, he became a rabid anti-Semite. Moreover, he was very much pleased that the General Staff should have begged for his support and have told him they had "a hundred proofs of Dreyfus's guilt." With the customary credulity he first gave out the preposterous and grotesque story of the letters of the German Emperor to Dreyfus, which some officer had told him. His attitude had at last one result: it has shown to all the most serious and soundest Socialists, who had up to this time mistaken the clown for a politician, that he never had been anything else than a fool. He has lost already all his credit with the party, and has been the victim of some mystifications of the same kind which have visited that other madman, Quesnay de Beaurepaire.

DRUMONT, THE FANATIC.

Drumont, whose influence is second to that of Rochefort, is in many ways different from the old jester. Drumont is a regular fanatic. He is both the leader and the inventor of anti-Semitism in France. Prior to the appearance of his book on "Jewish France," which was published with startling success in 1886, there was no French anti-Semitic movement whatever. Drumont has neither the sparkling wit nor the humor "gouailleur" of Rochefort, but he is endowed with more serious [illegible]. He is learned, has read a good deal, and instead of spending his time, like his fellow-pamphleteers, at the horse races, he buries himself in the libraries. Fifteen years ago Drumont was quite an obscure journalist, contributing articles to Catholic newspapers. Both his religious fanaticism and his spirit of [illegible] made of him an anti-Semite. Being a devoted Catholic, he resented the republican policy of self-defence against the Church. In the second place, as a poor and unsuccessful writer who had much trouble in forcing his way to fame, he felt angry against those who had succeeded better than himself. Among those were, of course, a good many Jews. Thus Drumont began to hate both republicans and Jews, whom he mixed up in the most strange fashion, trying to arouse against the former the old prejudices which the latter have always aroused among the ignorant people. All republicans to Drumont were Jews, and all Jews were foreigners. Thus, in his theory, France was ruled and the Church was persecuted by a set of foreigners.

This is the theme which for thirteen years Drumont has been dwelling on, first in all his books, which had a tremendous sale, and then in his newspaper, "La Libre Parole," which he founded in 1892. "La Libre Parole" is a paper written in the same vein as "L'Intransigeant." Day after day all public men, be they Jewish or not, are attacked either by Drumont or by a few associates, who are just as unscrupulous as, if less talented than, himself.

It was said that "Jewish France," his famous book, which in a few months sold more than one hundred editions, was a "directory of defamation," so numerous were the lies and the slanderous tales he had gathered therein about all prominent men in France. "La Libre Parole" became likewise a sort of daily directory, where Jews were chased one after the other, and denounced as an international horde that plundered France and betrayed it.

"La Libre Parole," which has not far from [illegible] readers, and perhaps more, is a favorite newspaper with the [illegible] middle class, the priests, the country squires and the officers. It is not astonishing that officers of the General Staff, poisoned by the daily reading of "La Libre Parole," greeted the suggestion that the author of the bordereau might be the only Jew among them. Nor is it strange that "La Libre Parole" should have welcomed the news, which it was first to get through the courtesy of Colonel Henry, that a Jew was arrested for treason. It was the consummation of the long campaign against that treacherous race. Thus the Dreyfus trial [illegible] "La Libre Parole" gave to that paper a [illegible] day after day.

The crime committed against Dreyfus is not so much the result of a conspiracy of his fellow-officers as a natural outcome of the Jew baiting craze that was rampant everywhere, thanks to Drumont. People who were reading every day that Jews were traitors were prepared to accept a trial like that [illegible]

While all but one of the great supporters of Dreyfus are either free thinkers, Protestants or Catholics, some of them, like Colonel Picquart and Scheurer-Kestner, having even, as Alsatians, a strong taint of anti-Semitism, Drumont has presented them as tools of the Jewish syndicate. [illegible]

Such is the work of Drumont, who is [illegible] responsible for having spread that belief in corruption and greed all over the country [illegible] he himself has made a splendid living with anti-Semitism. [illegible] No wonder that money is so important a factor in his politics.

JUDET, THE JINGO.

The third great framer of public opinion is a man hardly over forty, who cannot be likened to the two others as to their literary talent [illegible]. Nevertheless his influence is very large. It is not due to any striking quality of his own, but merely to the paper of which he happens to be the chief editor. His name is Ernest Judet. Judet is a former college professor, who had been dismissed because he failed to fulfil his professional duties as a teacher. He became a journalist and contributed for some years to several Paris newspapers without attracting any attention, until he became attached to one of Paris's most influential and most popular papers, "Le Petit Journal."

"Le Petit Journal," which was founded at the last decade of the Second Empire by a Jew, Millaud, was one of the first French papers that was sold for one penny, and as such it proved a great success. It is owned now by a wealthy business man, who made his fortune as a printer, [illegible] Mr. Marinoni, [illegible] a Frenchman of Italian descent.

"Le Petit Journal" has a large circulation of about a million and a half copies a day. [illegible] Everybody who has walked in the morning through the popular thoroughfares of Paris has seen working men, clerks, factory girls, going to their work reading, instead of the news, the continuation of the novel which is going on in their "Petit Journal" and in which they are deeply interested.

Now, Judet has been clever enough to realize what kind of people such a public wants, and he gives it with unquestionable ability. [illegible] Chauvinism, appealing to the childish prejudices of the masses against foreign countries, especially against "perfide Albion" and against the threatening "Triplice." Now, Ernest Judet is undoubtedly a sincere patriot, although he never was a soldier and missed a great opportunity to fight for his country in the last war of 1870, but he belongs to that small number of noisy and reckless men of whom Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman said some time ago, speaking of both sides of the Channel, that they carry false and vulgar patriotism to the extreme extent of folly. The Dreyfus case has literally maddened Judet. When Dreyfus was first arrested he wrote, in his pretentious and bombastic style, which is the laughing stock of Paris, that Dreyfus's crime could only be accounted for by saying that that Jewish officer was not a true Frenchman. At that time, before Dreyfus was convicted, when he was merely an accused man, who, according to the law, had the right to be held innocent, he threw upon him a torrent of abuse and spread all over the country those mendacious stories which still remain at the bottom of that stubborn and unreasoning belief in the guilt of Dreyfus which causes the bulk of the people to say, like the Mayor of the village of Brittany quoted in one of The Tribune's dispatches: "That man ought to have been shot."

For two years Judet has striven against justice as violently as have Rochefort and Drumont themselves. Readers of "Le Petit Journal" were unable to get at the truth because almost all the documents and facts were manipulated and falsified by their paper. When Colonel Picquart was first arrested "Le Petit Journal" announced that he had several children, who were educated at the German college in Strasburg. A relative of Colonel Picquart wrote to the paper, stating that Colonel Picquart could not bring up his children in a German college, for the good reason that he had no children, and was a bachelor. But "Le Petit Journal" did not deem it necessary to change its mind on that subject. That is but one instance out of a hundred of others of the way the mass of the people was informed of what was going on.

Moreover, such men as Judet and Drumont strike the keynote for a great number of provincial papers, which merely reproduce their articles and thus enlarge their influence. But besides those papers there are a good many others on which it is not necessary to dwell now, especially because some of them, like "L'Eclair," "L'Echo de Paris," or "Le Gaulois," are read by people who would be able to think for themselves if they cared to. Nor is it important to characterize that paper, "La Patrie," which all travellers going through Paris have seen on the boulevard between 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Its editor, Deputy Millevoye, is a still more typical Jingo than Judet, but his nonsense is so universally acknowledged even by his partisans that he is far from having the credit of the others. It is he who five or six years ago was hoaxed by an English negro, Norton, who sold him alleged documents from the English Embassy proving that England had bribed such men as Clemenceau, Rochefort and Burdeau. Millevoye exhibited those forgeries on the floor of the Chamber of Deputies, and was driven out amidst hisses and laughing. He is, of course, now a firm believer in the syndicate.

But there is still one paper I must quote whose influence, especially in Brittany, cannot be denied. Foreigners have heard little of it, and most Frenchmen seldom see it. But in the country places everywhere where the Catholic clergy has a strong foothold that paper is widely read. It is called "La Croix" ("The Cross"), and is edited by monks belonging to the order known as the Fathers Assumptionists. Although a religious paper, "La Croix" is a sheet which for its slanderous and infamous character is second only to the "Libre Parole." It breathes a spirit of hate, of ignorance and of fanaticism. Freemasons, Jews and Protestants are daily held up to execration. For five years in that paper Dreyfus has been a Judas who has sold his country, and all Dreyfusites were traitors and foreigners paid by the syndicate. When one bears in mind that most of the country people in France, when they read any papers at all, read either "Le Petit Journal" or "La Croix," or both together, one needs not wonder that the majority of the nation should have been fooled so long and will still remain so for a long time to come.

OTHON GUERLAC,
Correspondent of Paris "Temps" and "Siècle."
Asbury Park, Aug. 19, 1899.

GENERAL BILLOT. GENERAL MERCIER.
SCENE IN THE COURTROOM.—(From Le Monde Illustré.)

GOES BACK TO COPARTNERSHIP.

A CHANGE BY A HARVESTER COMPANY DUE TO ANTI-TRUST AGITATION.

Chicago, Aug. 27 (Special).—After five years of corporate life the Deering Harvester Company returns to the copartnership system. It will give up its papers September 1, because of the growing hostility of the farming interests to the corporations, the increasing burden with which State Legislatures are threatening them, and the political capital being made out of the so-called "soulless corporations." No change in methods or in name has taken place. The stock of the concern was owned by William Deering, president; Charles W. Deering, secretary, and James Deering, treasurer and general manager—father and sons. There was no interest outside of the family. In the copartnership Richard F. Howe, who has been with the company almost since its establishment, becomes a partner. The notice of the change is contained in a circular sent out in the form of a postal card to the agents and collectors.

The Deering Harvester Company was founded by William Deering in 1870, in Massachusetts. In 1873 the company began business in Chicago, and in 1880 the plant was located at the present site, at Fullerton and Clybourne aves. It covers forty acres with its buildings, and employs four thousand men and boys.

ACTIVITY IN LAKE TRANSPORTATION.

RATES HIGH, AND MORE FREIGHT THAN VESSELS CAN CARRY.

Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 27.—Vessel men are amazed at the phenomenal activity in the lake transportation business, and it can be truthfully said that, considering the improved facilities for handling cargoes, the earnings of the vessels were never before so great as now. At the beginning of the season of navigation owners were willing to contract to carry ore from the head of the lakes to Ohio ports for 60 cents a ton. To-day the rate from the head of the lakes is $1 50 a ton, from Marquette $1 25, and from Escanaba $1 10. The grain rate from Duluth is now 4½ cents a bushel, which is equal to ore at $1 66 a ton, and within the last week there have been four separate advances of a quarter of a cent each. The coal rate to Milwaukee is now 50 cents a ton. During the last two or three years vessels have been glad to get coal cargoes for ballast at 10, 15 and 25 cents a ton. The rate on lumber is $3 a thousand feet. Notwithstanding the high rates, there are half a dozen cargoes offered for every vessel that is on the market, and vessel men say that, from present indications, much freight will be left on the docks at the end of the season of navigation.

TRADE WITH ISLANDS GROWING.

EXPORTS TO CUBA, PORTO RICO, HAWAII AND THE PHILIPPINES REACH PHENOMENAL FIGURES.

Washington, Aug. 27 (Special).—Exports from the United States to Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines, according to a statement just prepared in the Treasury Bureau of Statistics, were larger in the fiscal year just ended than in any preceding year in the history of United States commerce with those islands. Even the reciprocity years 1892, 1893 and 1894, in which the exports from the United States to Cuba and Porto Rico were greatly increased, do not show so large a grand total as does 1899, with all the disadvantages of war conditions which prevailed in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines a part of the year. To Cuba the total of exports for the year does not reach the large figures of the two full fiscal years 1893 and 1894, in which the reciprocity treaty with Spain was in operation, and to Porto Rico the total export of 1899 was slightly less than that of 1895, for three-fourths of which the reciprocity treaty was in operation, or 1894, in all of which it operated. To Porto Rico the total exports of the fiscal year 1899 are nearly 25 per cent in excess of the average annual export in the preceding decade; to Cuba they are nearly 30 per cent greater than the average in the preceding decade; to Hawaii they are more than twice as much, and to the Philippines more than three times as much as the average annual exports in the preceding decade. These figures, it is proper to state, do not include the exports to the islands in question by the Government, either for use of its troops or in aid of the temporarily destitute.

While the total of imports into the United States from these islands is not so large as in earlier years of the decade, this is due solely to the fact that they did not have the supplies for exportation, this being especially true of Cuba, whose sugar plantations and works were so largely destroyed in the war with Spain. That imports from those islands are rapidly increasing, however, is shown by the fact that those from Cuba in the [illegible] were 36 per cent greater than in 1898, those from Porto Rico nearly 40 per cent greater than those in [illegible], and those from the Philippines nearly 30 per cent in excess of those of last year, while those from Hawaii show a slight gain over last year and an increase of 30 per cent over the fiscal year 1897.

The following table shows the exports from the United States to Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines, separately, in each year, from 1890 to 1899:

	Cuba.	Porto Rico.	Hawaii.	Philippines.
1890	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1891	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1892	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1893	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1894	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1895	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1896	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1897	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1898	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1899	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

The following table shows the total exports from the United States to Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines combined in each year from 1890 to 1899:

1890	[illegible]	1895	[illegible]
1891	[illegible]	1896	[illegible]
1892	[illegible]	1897	[illegible]
1893	[illegible]	1898	[illegible]
1894	[illegible]	1899	[illegible]

THE MINE RIOTS IN IDAHO.

GENERAL MERRIAM REPORTS ON THE PART TAKEN BY UNITED STATES TROOPS.

Washington, Aug. 27.—The report of Brigadier-General H. C. Merriam, commander of the Department of the Colorado, on the miners' riots in Idaho gives a detailed history of the affair so far as he or the troops under his command took part. He shows that the arrests of alleged participants in the riots were made by the State authorities, the Federal troops acting only as guards. At first, he says, the prisoners were quartered in a large building originally erected for the storage of hay. Some suffering from lack of fire and bedding occurred, but regarding the food furnished the General says:

"My staff inspector satisfied me that the prisoners were being furnished abundant food and well prepared, although sometimes unavoidably it happened that meals were served late and somewhat irregularly, owing to the large number arrested, hours of arrival and limited facilities for serving."

When the building was full, about two hundred prisoners were kept in boxcars. While they were not comfortable, General Merriam says, they were not compelled to sleep on the ground, as were the soldiers guarding them. Finally the General became dissatisfied with the progress made in the erection of the prison, which the State authorities had started, and made a protest to Governor Steunenberg, after which better progress was made. The report shows that the Governor, and not General Merriam, declared martial law, and that the proclamation forbidding the employment of union miners in the mines at Wardner emanated entirely from the State authorities.

Copies of telegrams and letters from the Secretary of War are given, which show that his instructions were to use his troops for the preservation of peace, and his report shows that he complied with his orders. According to General Merriam, about seven hundred arrests were made, but only 325 were detained after the first investigation. Of these, three died, two from disease and one committed suicide.

DILTS WILL OPPOSE REED.

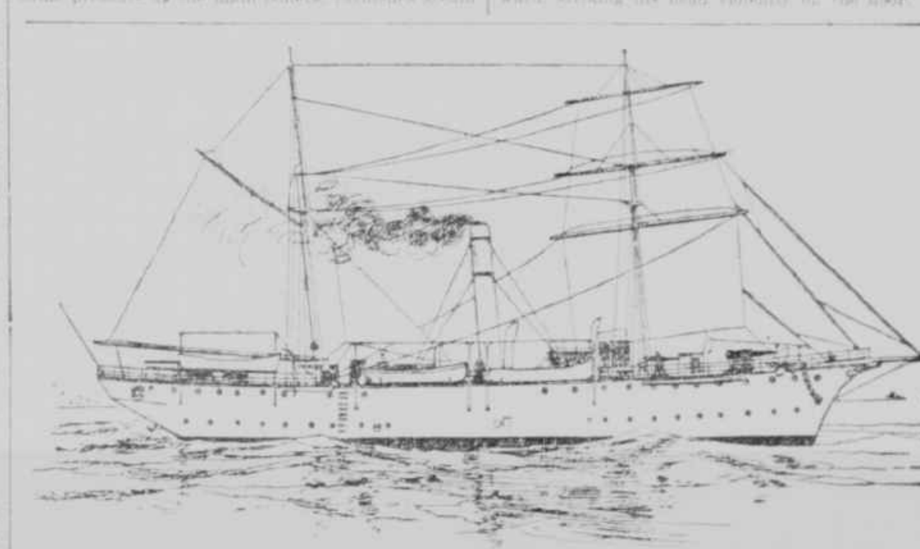
Plainfield, Aug. 27 (Special).—Ex-Sheriff George A. Dilts, of Bedminster Township, will be supported by the faction headed by Chauncey [illegible] Thompson, of Somerville, in opposition to Senator Charles A. Reed, of North Plainfield, for the nomination for Senator. Mr. Dilts is making a quiet canvass. There is no contest over the Assembly nomination, it being generally understood that Assemblyman E. R. Cooper, of Warren Township, will be renominated.

A NEW TYPE OF YACHT.

MR. LADEW'S COLUMBIA DESIGNED TO BECOME A WAR VESSEL, IF NECESSARY.

Washington, Aug. 27 (Special).—The plans of the Navy for the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey steamer Pathfinder have been very closely imitated by J. Harvey Ladew, of the firm of Fayerweather & Ladew, and member of the New-York Yacht Club, in the construction of his private yacht, the Columbia. This little vessel, which is almost identical with the Pathfinder, was built by Lewis Nixon at the Crescent Shipyard, Elizabethport, N. J. It is somewhat of a departure from the usual rules followed by yachtsmen, as it is capable of being made ready in a very short time to form an able addition to the United States Navy, her framing being heavy and her decks strong enough to support the weight and shock of guns, and the interior arrangements of such design that only slight alterations would be required to change them from the commodious apartments of a pleasure craft to the businesslike quarters of a man-of-war.

This new yacht is 165 feet long on the water line and 196 feet 6 inches over all, with an extreme breadth of 33 feet 6 inches, and a mean draught of water of 16 feet, her displacement being, with coal and stores aboard, 875 tons. A triple expansion engine, having cylinders 18, 27 and 44 inches in diameter by 28 inches stroke, will give her 900 horse power with natural draught, which can be increased to 1,200 when occasion requires, by forced draught. Steam is furnished by two horizontal return fire tubular Scotch boilers, 11 feet 1 inch in diameter and 11 feet long, with ample grate and heating surface, at 160 pounds pressure. The coal bunkers accommodate 250 tons of coal, and will give, at an economical cruising speed of ten knots an hour, a radius of over six thousand miles without refilling, as the coal consumption at this speed is only about nine tons a day. Besides her steam power she is fitted with two masts, brigantine rigged, and spreads a sail area of 4,500 square feet, which alone, it is estimated, will give her a speed of eight and one-half knots an hour in a fair breeze. An auxiliary vertical boiler, working to the same pressure as the main boilers, furnishes steam for a complete electric light plant of sufficient power to light the vessel throughout, and for the operation of a twelve inch searchlight, as well as pumps and other auxiliary machinery. A distilling plant furnishes fresh water for the crew and the boilers, and a cold storage room of a size to hold twelve tons of ice is also provided.



J. HARVEY LADEW'S PRIVATE YACHT, THE COLUMBIA.

SPACIOUS QUARTERS.

The quarters are extremely spacious. The yacht has two decks below given to the accommodation of guests and crew, the weather deck having no inclosures, with the exception of the commodious pilot house. The owner has his apartments aft, which include a cabin, a study and a bathroom. Forward of these rooms, separated by a passage opening into a large saloon, are two suites for guests, consisting of a sitting room and bedroom, with a bathroom between. The saloon is finished in ivory and gold, with inlay panels of solid mahogany, and the suites are finished in mahogany alone, both, however, being panelled overhead. Forward of the engine and boiler space on the main deck is the galley, and a dining saloon, extending from side to side of the vessel, with a smoking room leading from it, completes this department. A passage connects the quarters aft and the saloon forward, making it unnecessary to go outside in inclement weather. Forward of the dining saloon are a large private apartment and the officers' quarters. Below, on the lower deck, aft, are eight more staterooms for guests, two bathrooms and a maids' room, making in all accommodations for a party of twenty-five to be carried in the yacht in comfort.

All the joiner work and interior fittings are of first class workmanship and exquisite in finish. The upper deck is free of all obstructions except the pilot house and hatches, and is covered by an awning for nearly its whole length. A flying bridge extends from the top of the pilot house to the sides of the vessel, and carries mechanical telegraphs, electric bells and all appliances for directing the course and speed of the vessel. Should the needs of the country demand it, arrangements have been made and extra strength built into the hull to accommodate two 4-inch rapid fire guns, mounted on the centre line of the vessel, one forward and one aft, and six 6-pounders, three on either side, arranged to fire over the rail and clear of the arc of fire of the 4-inch guns.

The Pathfinder, of which Mr. Ladew's yacht is a duplicate in hull, was designed by Rear Admiral Philip Hichborn, Chief Constructor of the Navy, to fulfil conditions requiring strength, stability and good seagoing qualities. The vessel is fully up to the Navy standard with its system of watertight compartments, longitudinal stiffeners, coal protection, plated decks and double bottom, and the yacht incorporating these can be converted at once into a man-of-war, even to details of magazine arrangements. Six boats are provided, together with their complete outfits, including two naphtha launches, one of which is capable of making a speed of seven miles an hour; the others are such as are furnished to war vessels of a similar class as the yacht, and are built up to the Navy standard. In fact, the fittings throughout are a departure from conventional yachting standards, and approach as nearly as possible the regular equipment of a man-of-war. Every modern appliance tending toward comfort, safety and efficiency is supplied, such as steam windlass, steam steering gear, ash ejectors, electric ventilators, etc.

A SEAGOING TEST PLANNED.

It is Mr. Ladew's plan to start on an extended cruise around the world, visiting India, China and Japan, when the international yacht races for the America's Cup are over in October. In such a voyage the yacht will be fully tested as to her seagoing qualities, and it is expected will completely fulfil Admiral Hichborn's prediction that she can breast any gale that blows. Before having the design for his yacht prepared, Mr. Ladew presented his views to the Navy Department, in which he advocated that large yachts to be built in the future by private American owners should have the decks and general structure made sufficiently strong to hold guns, so that in case of war such vessels could be quickly converted into auxiliary cruisers of the Navy, and requested the opinion of the Secretary of the Navy whether or not it would be practicable so to construct yachts and at the same time preserve their character as pleasure vessels. He was moved to present the subject to the Navy Department because, while he intended to build the Columbia for his own pleasure, it was his desire, if possible, to build it on such plans as would make it useful to his country in the event of war. He further desired to induce other builders of large private yachts to construct their vessels with the same end in view.

The subject was referred to Rear Admiral Hichborn, Chief Constructor of the Navy, by whom it was found not only practicable, but desirable, to have large yachts built by American owners constructed of the type and upon the lines suggested by Mr. Ladew. The Pathfinder was then building, and was found to embody Mr. Ladew's ideas. The necessary changes in the plans for the ship's arrangements were made by Lewis Nixon, the builder, and were submitted to and met the approval of the Navy Department. Mr. Ladew's Columbia, just finished, is not only one of the finest yachts afloat, but is the first of its type built, and entitles him to the honor of starting the building of large private yachts with a direct view to their conversion to war uses.

Mr. Ladew formerly owned the steam yacht Columbia, but it was purchased by the Navy Department, and is now known as the Wasp. The new Columbia—for Mr. Ladew is perpetuating the name of the old in his new one—will cost approximately $200,000, and Captain Harlow A. Arey, who was captain of the Grant, the first transport that sailed via the Suez Canal carrying American soldiers to the Philippines, will be sailing master.

MAY HAVE MET FOUL PLAY.

POLICE INVESTIGATING THE DEATH OF WILLIAM CASSIDY, WHO, IT IS SAID, FELL IN A SALOON.

The police of the West Thirty-seventh-st. station are making a rigid investigation into the causes which resulted in the death of William Cassidy, who was found at Thirty-fourth-st. and Tenth-ave. on Saturday afternoon with his skull fractured. Cassidy died at Roosevelt Hospital early yesterday morning as a result of the injuries he received.

So far as the police have been able to learn, Cassidy was hurt by falling in the saloon of J. & E. Meagher. In the neighborhood, however, it was said yesterday that Cassidy's injuries were not the result of an accident. While no one could be found who would verify the rumor, it was the common talk that the man had been assaulted in the Meaghers' place and hit on the head with a soda water bottle.

The facts on which the police began their investigation are as follows: Saturday at 2 p. m. William Cassidy was found at Thirty-fourth-st. and Tenth-ave. in an unconscious condition. He had been carried out on the sidewalk a few minutes before from the saloon of J. & E. Meagher. Cassidy died at Roosevelt Hospital twelve hours later. After death Dr. Williams made an autopsy, which showed that the patient had died as the result of a fracture of the base of the skull.

A reporter called at the Meaghers' place yesterday afternoon. A bartender was asked if either of the proprietors was about. He said: "Who wants them?" When told the nature of the business, the bartender replied: "Don't know nothin' about it. Nobody's business."

At the police station Sergeant Burns, who took the report of the accident, and who assigned Detectives Coughlin and Michaels to investigate the case, said: "As yet we have been able to learn little about how Cassidy received his injuries. According to the best information we have thus far received, Cassidy went into the saloon kept by the Meaghers yesterday. He was then slightly under the influence of liquor. He stood at the bar and ordered a drink. Whether he drank the liquor or not we cannot find out, but several persons who were in the place at the time say that Cassidy suddenly reeled and fell to the floor. He fell backward, striking his head violently on the floor. He did not get up. Several persons rushed to where he had fallen and after trying to bring him to consciousness with no success, carried him out to the sidewalk. There he was found by Patrolman Reilly. He called an ambulance, and Cassidy was taken to the hospital.

"We have seen several of the persons who were in the saloon and questioned them. They unite in saying that Cassidy received his injuries by falling. Cassidy had been drinking rather freely for several days. He was pretty well along in years, and [illegible] was too weak to stand it. The only visible injury that the police could find was a cut on the injured man's lip. We are investigating the case thoroughly, and if there has been anything wrong the guilty ones will be found out soon."

Cassidy lived at No. 421 Tenth-ave. with his wife and family. He was about sixty years old and was a boss boilermaker. For many years he had been employed by G. Fox & Sons. His wife believes that her husband was foully dealt with. She said: "All that we know is what the police tell us—that my husband fell. He had only left the house a few minutes before the alleged accident and he was not intoxicated. Ten minutes before he was hurt I looked out of the window and saw him standing on the sidewalk. It seems peculiar that a perfectly well man could be killed by simply falling to the floor."

RAID ON "THE LORD'S FARM."

HUNTSMAN AND HIS CHIEF DISCIPLES HELD ON CRIMINAL CHARGES.

Hackensack, Aug. 27 (Special).—Constables Henry I. Haring and Henry Van Vlaitricken drove up to Hackensack jail about midnight last night with six prisoners. Four of them were Mason T. Huntsman, chief of the band at "the Lord's farm," near Woodcliff; Garret Storms, known as "Titus"; John McClintock, the "John the Baptist" of the household, and Mary Storms, "the beautiful angel dancer." The other two were Lucy E. Lamb and Emily M. Lamb, thirteen and fourteen years old, respectively, daughters of Mrs. Emily Lamb, who made charges against Huntsman and Garret Storms of criminal assault upon the children, who are held as witnesses.

Mrs. Lamb, under the guidance of ex-Justice William D. Smith, of Park Ridge, who has figured conspicuously in the prosecutions of the Huntsman band, appeared at the office of Prosecutor Stagg yesterday. Justice Cumming took Mrs. Lamb's statement and issued warrants. There are several other persons, men and women, at "the Lord's farm," but no complaint was made against them. Mrs. Lamb and her children went to "the Lord's farm" more than a year ago. She went away, leaving the children behind, and when she wanted them to join her they refused. Then Sheriff Herring went to the farm and took the children away, nobody offering to interfere with him. Mrs. Lamb alleges that Huntsman told her she had better kill her children than "take them back into the world."

Mrs. Lamb's story regarding the manner in which she and all other women are "initiated" as members of "God's household" at "the Lord's farm" is almost beyond belief, but when asked whether she submitted to the indignities and indecencies to which she swore, she reaffirmed the statement. She also swore that Mary Storms and another woman were present, praying and rubbing their hands together. When these charges were read to the accused persons they mildly expressed surprise. Huntsman merely remarked that he did not believe Mrs. Lamb was of sound mind. He added that her children had come to the farm as other wanderers and were kept as others were, being at liberty to depart whenever they wished to do so. It was a much better home than they had with their mother, he said, and they had the freedom of the place, going to market on the wagons, aiding in picking fruit, and living happily.

John McClintock, who holds title to "the Lord's farm," wanted to go bail for the prisoners, but Justice Cumming said they would have to wait until to-morrow. He fixed bail at $500 each on the charge of keeping a disorderly house, but held Huntsman and Garret Storms without bail on the charge of assault. The two Lamb girls were detained as witnesses.

On the Sheriff's ledger Huntsman's age is given as fifty-two years, McClintock's thirty-nine, Mary Storms's thirty-three, and Garret Storms's thirty-five.

"The Lord's farm" comprises fourteen acres, and is known as one of the finest small fruit farms in Bergen County. Its products are sold in New-York, Paterson and Hackensack. Huntsman and his people work other farms, their services being eagerly sought by reason of their industry, faithfulness and honesty. Those who have thus come to know them best put the least faith in the oft repeated stories told against them.

SUGAR WAR TO CONTINUE.

INDEPENDENT REFINERS MEAN TO SELL THEIR SUGARS.

Milwaukee, Wis., Aug. 27.—At a conference yesterday between James H. Post, general agent of the Mollenhauer Sugar Refining Company and the National Sugar Refining Company, of New-York, and George B. Keiser and other independent sugar dealers, an agreement was reached to carry on the fight against the Sugar Trust. Mr. Post said in regard to the matter:

"The refineries not controlled by the American Sugar Refining Company have a capacity of about sixteen thousand pounds of sugar a day, and they will certainly make every possible effort to sell their sugars. If the American Sugar Refining Company secures the bulk of the business, as it seems to want to, it will undoubtedly be at prices that will mean large losses to all refiners.

"We hope it will not be necessary for us to make a price that will leave no profit to the wholesale dealers, but if they decide to enter into an agreement to handle only American Sugar Refining Company's sugar, we will be forced to adopt methods to dispose of our sugars that will make it unprofitable to the wholesale grocers who enter into such an agreement."

HARPER'S MAGAZINE SEPTEMBER NUMBER READY SIZE THE SAME AS EVER QUALITY BETTER THAN EVER Price Reduced to 25c.