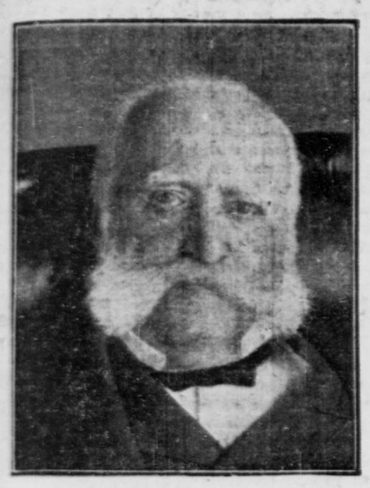
MR. OTTENDORFER DEAD.

"STAATS-ZEITUNG'S" EDITOR EXPIRES AFTER A LONG ILLNESS—ACTIVE IN POLITICS AND PHILANTHROPY.

Oswald Ottendorfer, the venerable editor and publisher of the "New-Yorker Staats-Zeitung," died after a protracted illness yesterday afternoon at 3:15 o'clock in his home, No. 150 Central Park South. Mr. Ottendorfer had been a sufferer for the last twenty years from a cerebro-spinal affliction, causing in the last stages of the disease a paralysis of the vasomotor nerves. His ailment took an acute form about two weeks ago.

It was announced last night that the funeral arrangements had not been completed, but that the funeral would probably take place Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock at Liederkranz Hall, and that the burial would probably be in Greenwood. The complete arrangements will be announced this afternoon.

Mr. Ottendorfer was a man of great public spirit and integrity of character, always showing in his work a great desire to promote pure government. For many years he conducted what was much the most influential organ of public opinion among the Germans of this city and country, and filled a position unique in New-York.



OSWALD OTTENDORFER.
Editor and proprietor of "The New-York Staats-Zeitung," who died yesterday.

MR. OTTENDORFER'S CAREER.

Oswald Ottendorfer was born on February 26, 1826, in Zwittau, an Austrian town on the borders of Bohemia, and was the son of a well-to-do cloth manufacturer. He was a precocious boy at school, and at the age of twenty he was graduated from the gymnasium of the provincial capital, and entered the University of Vienna to study philosophy. He there came in contact with some of the leaders in the movement for more freedom, and shared their aspirations. Soon afterward, reaching the conclusion that he had erred in the choice of a profession, he left the Vienna University in 1847 and went to Prague, where he matriculated as a student of law. He became an associate of those who held liberal opinions, and took a foremost part in the revolution which began with the cry for a united Germany and later forced Metternich to flee. At the same time the fight for the liberation of Schleswig-Holstein from Danish rule began, and Mr. Ottendorfer joined the ranks of the volunteers who went to that country.

OBLIGED TO FLEE HIS COUNTRY.

When he returned, the Austrian General Windischgraetz had succeeded in crushing the revolution in Prague. Mr. Ottendorfer thereupon went to Vienna, joined the revolutionists and took part in their fights on October 6 and 31, when the final battle occurred. He fled from the barricades and was pursued by the soldiers, taking refuge in a store. Although a stranger, the keeper hid him from the soldiers who searched the store, and he managed later to escape from the city. The sentence of death was passed upon him, and had he been caught he would have shared the fate of Robert Blum, who was shot a few days later. The sentence passed upon Mr. Ottendorfer stood valid for twenty years, when it was revoked in a general pardon.

He reached Saxony and wanted to matriculate at the University of Leipsic, but fearing extradition to Austria he changed his plan.

Participating in the revolution there, he met the Russian revolutionist Bakumin, and taking part in the fight of May 9, 1849, he again had to flee for his life. He went to Frankfort and then to Baden to join the revolutionists there, but before he could carry out this plan he became seriously ill in consequence of the excitement and hardship, and when he arose from his sickbed the revolutions in Germany and Austria had ended. Hearing that one of his most intimate friends had been imprisoned in Bruchsal Mr. Ottendorfer started for that town and succeeded in liberating his friend. Both fled to Switzerland. Becoming despondent at the failure of his ideals, Mr. Ottendorfer suddenly returned to his native town, not caring what became of him. His family prevailed on him to flee, and he decided to emigrate to the United States.

ARRIVAL IN NEW-YORK.

He reached New-York on a small sailing vessel in the spring of 1850. He was penniless, unable to speak English, and without friends. He obtained employment in a factory as a laborer. The hard work made him seriously ill. When he recovered he was only too glad to get work in a soda water factory. In 1851 a minor place was offered him in the business office of the "Staats-Zeitung," and he accepted it. He became a citizen and joined the Democratic party.

The "Staats-Zeitung" at that time was owned by Jakob Uhl, and J. A. Neumann was its editor. In 1852 Mr. Uhl died and his widow continued the management of the business affairs of the paper. Mr. Ottendorfer remained in her employ, and in 1858 became editor-in-chief of the paper. He went to Europe in 1859, wishing to visit his old home; but he was told he could not do so without risking death or imprisonment, unless he asked pardon. The latter he refused to do. When he returned to New-York in August, 1859, he married the widow of his former employer and thereby obtained the full management of the "Staats-Zeitung." He soon became prominent and influential in politics, in which he took an active part, always having the good of the city, State and Nation at heart.

As president of the Liederkranz Singing Society he cultivated the taste of music greatly; he agitated untiringly for the protection of the German immigrants; he became one of the leading members of the German Society; he was one of the corporators of the German Savings Bank, the Germania Life Insurance Company and the Germania Fire Insurance Company, and he started the German Legal Aid Society. In short, he became "a leading founder of the solid basis on which German social and mercantile life now stands in New-York City," as a friend expressed it.

DELEGATE TO CHARLESTON.

In 1860 Mr. Ottendorfer was sent as a Douglas delegate to the Democratic National Convention in Charleston. Being a personal friend and enthusiastic admirer of Douglas, he was one of the leaders of the New-York delegation in the fight for recognition against a second delegation, headed by Fernando Wood; and the Douglas faction won the victory.

When the Republicans nominated Abraham Lincoln Mr. Ottendorfer opposed the fusion of the other factions. After Mr. Lincoln's election he worked hard to maintain peace and opposed secession. He joined the War Democrats and helped the Defence Committee as much as was in his power. He started his political work anew and founded the German Democratic Union party. It was largely due to his guidance and leadership that his party gained such influence that in 1863 a German-American, Godfrey Gunther, was elected Mayor of this city.

Mr. Ottendorfer gave his attention to local and State politics, directing his opposition to Tammany Hall, then all powerful and corrupt, and dominated by William M. Tweed.

He spent a part of 1864, 1865 and 1866 in Europe and witnessed the Prussian-Austrian war, which broke out in 1866. He returned and worked for the reorganization of the Democratic party, resuming his fight against Tammany Hall and the Tweed ring, later joining Samuel J. Tilden. They organized the Apollo Hall demonstration and helped establish the Committee of Seventy. In October, 1871, Mr. Ottendorfer appeared as the speaker of the anti-Tammanyites before the Rochester Convention, protesting against the admission of the Tammany delegation. On October 5 he again appeared before the convention and made a memorable speech showing the New-York Democracy its duties and mission.

When the Franco-German war broke out he organized relief societies for the wounded German soldiers. Among these arrangements was a fair, which resulted in a clear profit of $1,000,000. When the war was over and the German peace festival was held Mr. Ottendorfer was one of the orators and received a warm welcome from the thousands who attended it.

REFUSED MAYORALTY NOMINATION.

In 1872 he refused the nomination for Mayor, but he was elected an Alderman and Supervisor by an overwhelming majority. He then resigned his membership in the Board of Regents, to which he had been appointed in 1871, as he was not permitted to hold two offices.

He bought the old building in Tryon Row, which served the Harlem Railroad as a terminal, and in 1873 built the "Staats-Zeitung" building. In 1874, at the urgent solicitation of his friends, he accepted a nomination for Mayor, but was defeated. In 1875 Governor Tilden appointed him a member of the Committee for the Revision of the City Charter. When Mr. Tilden was nominated for the Presidency Mr. Ottendorfer worked enthusiastically for his election. When the Returning Board sat, he was the first to discover that all hopes were lost and the first to telegraph the news to New-York.

Being opposed to General Hancock's opinion concerning the tariff, Mr. Ottendorfer did not participate in the campaign of 1880, but when Mr. Cleveland was nominated in 1884, he again worked earnestly for the success of the ticket. He took part in the campaigns of 1888 and 1892, and his work was highly appreciated by President Cleveland.

WIFE AIDED HIM IN PHILANTHROPY.

Mr. Ottendorfer joined his wife, the late Mrs. Anna Ottendorfer, in charitable work. They founded and endowed the Old People's Home, in Astoria, and built the pavilion in addition to the general hospital. They built and endowed the German Dispensary in connection with the circulating library, in Second-ave., near Eighth-st. Mr. Ottendorfer erected in his native town, in Austria, an orphan asylum, a poorhouse, a school, a hospital, a library and other institutions, which he endowed richly. The Emperor of Austria sent him a high decoration, which Mr. Ottendorfer, as an American citizen, refused to accept. The Emperor thereupon wrote him a flattering letter concerning his philanthropical acts.

Mr. Ottendorfer left no children, but he adopted his wife's children by her first marriage. They are Edward Uhl, Mrs. Emma Schalk, of Newark; Mrs. Mathilde Riedl von Riedenstein, wife of Frederick von Riedenstein, of Carlsbad, Austria, and Mrs. A. Woerishoffer, of this city.

Mr. Ottendorfer arranged for the continuation of his business without change, Edward Uhl, the vice-president, succeeding Mr. Ottendorfer as president of the Staats-Zeitung Publishing Company.

KAISER WILHELM II IN LATE.

DELAYED FOR TWO DAYS BY ROUGH WEATHER.

The steamer Kaiser Wilhelm II, of the North German Lloyd Line, arrived here yesterday from Gibraltar, Naples and Genoa, two days overdue. She was delayed by rough weather.

Captain Hogemann reports that he had fine weather to the Azores, but beyond that point he ran into the storms that have been interfering with record making voyages by the fast liners. Strong winds and gales from the southeast and northwest, with high seas and heavy squalls, were encountered. On December 13, the wind increased and blew with a hurricane force.

On December 5 in latitude 36.34, longitude, 10.05, the wreck of a wooden vessel, apparently a bark, floating high out of water with fore and main masts gone, mizzenmast standing, was sighted. The steamer passed close to the wreck, but no signs of life could be seen on board. The Kaiser anchored for the night at Quarantine, and will dock at Pier 24, Amity-st., Brooklyn, this morning at 8 o'clock. On board were 162 cabin and 654 steerage passengers. Among the cabin passengers were C. H. W. Buck, Professor John W. Burgess, Dr. G. H. Cochran, H. L. Crawford, A. M. Davis, L. S. Gillette, Colonel Jacob L. Greene, Dr. W. P. Porter, J. C. Rowell, Carl Seiffert, D. S. Watson, J. H. Whitehouse, C. Frederic Burchardt and P. H. Spaulding.

RAILROAD LOSES IMPORTANT CASE.

MAY HAVE TO GIVE TRANSFERS AT ALL INTERSECTING POINTS.

A decision handed down yesterday in the suit of Edward S. Wright against the Brooklyn Heights Railroad, which was tried in the Fourth District Municipal Court on November 10, would appear, if sustained, to compel the line to give transfers at all its intersecting points. Wright boarded a Broadway car at Broadway and Greene-ave. on October 6, and rode to Broadway and Gates-ave. There he asked the conductor to give him a transfer for a Gates-ave. car. This was refused. Wright brought suit to recover a penalty of $50. The decision in his favor will be appealed.

XAVIER DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

The Xavier Dramatic Society, connected with the St. Francis Xavier College, will give its annual production on December 27. The play which has been selected for the occasion is "The Upstart," an adaptation of Molière's "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme." The club consists only of boys, and it has a method of its own in the point of dealing with the female characters in the plays which it presents. All the female parts are changed into male parts, corresponding to them as nearly as possible, or they are ruthlessly cut out. This course will be followed with the present play, which is not a difficult one for this sort of treatment, and not much will have to be actually left out.

COLUMBIA SHOW THIS WEEK.

Columbia's sophomore show will be given in Carnegie Lyceum on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings of this week, with a matinee on Wednesday. Rehearsals of "Professor Whimsical" have been going on for the last five weeks. Besides the cast of principal characters, which has already been printed in The Tribune, the chorus will include Harold Weekes, the halfback, and Herbert Roe Odell, the son of Governor-elect B. B. Odell, jr. The advance sale of tickets has been considerable, and a good sum toward university athletics is expected.

The junior class will give its annual Christmas dance at Sherry's on Friday evening, after the show.

TO ABOLISH SPECIAL SESSIONS.

A bill is being prepared by Assemblyman Jacob D. Remsen which will provide for the abolition of the Court of Special Sessions in Brooklyn. It is said that the court is a useless and expensive part of the municipal government. There are five judges, and it costs about $134,000 a year to run it. It is urged that nine-tenths of the cases tried in the court are petty, and could well be heard in the Police Magistrates' courts, as they were before consolidation.

NATHAN STRAUS BUYS HARRIS FARM.

It was announced yesterday that Nathan Straus had purchased the Harris farm, at River Edge, three miles from Hackensack, N. J. Rumor had it that he proposed to spend considerable money in improving the property, and perhaps establish a stock farm there. Mr. Straus, when seen last evening, denied that he had purchased the ground for a personal investment, but said that it had been bought for his firm.

PART OF HIS MONEY RECOVERED.

Plainfield, N. J., Dec. 15.—Dr. Andrew Morrison, of Glasgow, Scotland, who had "knockout drops" administered to him in Jersey City on Monday afternoon, after which he was robbed of $800, has had $600 of his money recovered for him. Dr. Morrison had been in this country studying the gold cure system, and intended opening a sanatorium for the practice of the system in his native city. He is still staying with Mr. and Mrs. William Brown, of East Second-st., this city.

OBITUARY.

JOHN ADDISON PORTER, PRESIDENT'S FORMER SECRETARY, DIES AT PUTNAM, CONN.

Putnam, Conn., Dec. 15.—John Addison Porter, formerly private secretary to President McKinley, died at his home here shortly before 2 o'clock this afternoon. He had been sick for many weeks with a malignant intestinal disease. An operation which was performed nearly two months ago served to stay the progress of his malady, but could not entirely arrest it, and it had been evident for a long time to his family and near friends that he was slowly growing weaker.

His condition, however, was such that he was able to sit about the house, and on last Wednesday he went for a drive. On Thursday he was attacked with a severe sinking spell and never rallied from it, being unconscious much of the time until his death. Shortly before the end came he recognized the members of his family who were at his bedside and bade them farewell.

John Addison Porter was born in New-Haven, Conn., on April 17, 1856. He was the eldest son of Professor John Addison Porter, a noted scientist, first dean of the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University, and Josephine Earl Sheffield, daughter of the founder of that institution. He was educated at General Russell's Collegiate and Commercial Institute, in New-Haven; the Hopkins Grammar School and Yale University, where he was graduated from the academic department in the class of '78, with honors in literature. After leaving college he studied law in Cleveland, Ohio, in the office of his uncle, William J. Boardman, afterward leaving the profession to engage in newspaper work on the local staffs of "The New-Haven Daily Palladium" and "The Hartford Courant." In 1880 he made an extended tour in the West. Subsequently he pursued a post graduate course in American history at Yale. In 1883 he became literary editor of "The New-York Observer," holding the post a year. The following year he went to Washington to engage in the publishing business, and he served as secretary to his uncle, William Walter Phelps, then a member of the House, and was clerk of a Senate committee in the XLIXth Congress. In 1887 a severe illness compelled him to go South for the winter, and on his return he purchased an estate in Pomfret, Conn., where he afterward made his permanent home. In 1888 Mr. Porter purchased an interest in "The Hartford Post." Two years later he secured a controlling interest in that paper and became its editor-in-chief, a post he held for ten years.

He represented the town of Pomfret in the popular branch of the Connecticut General Assembly in 1891, and was elected delegate to the Republican National Convention at Minneapolis in 1892. On two occasions he was a candidate for the nomination for the Governorship of Connecticut, in each instance receiving a large majority of the votes cast at the primaries, but failing to carry the convention by a narrow majority.

In the Presidential campaign of 1896 Mr. Porter was an earnest advocate of the nomination of Mr. McKinley, and as a result largely of his energetic work in Connecticut two-thirds of the vote of that State in the St. Louis Convention was cast for the Ohio candidate. McKinley's plurality in Connecticut the following November was upward of 55,000. Mr. Porter, without solicitation on his part, was chosen for Secretary to the President in February, 1897, and assumed office on March 4, 1897. His health was seriously impaired by a severe attack of sickness in the spring of 1899. He continued to act as Secretary to the President for a year longer, but, failing to regain his health, he was constrained to resign last April. The President reluctantly accepted his resignation on May 1. Since that date Mr. Porter spent considerable time in this city under physicians' care.

Mr. Porter was a member of numerous social and fraternal organizations and clubs, including the Masonic order, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Hartford Club, the Pomfret Club, the Metropolitan Club of Washington, and the Connecticut Press Club. His literary works included "Sketches of Yale Life," "The City of Washington; Its Origin and Development," and many articles in leading magazines and literary weeklies. He was married in 1883 to Miss Amy E. Betts, daughter of George F. Betts, of this city, and they had three children, one of whom died in infancy.

ANDREW WASHINGTON BOGERT.

Andrew Washington Bogert died on Friday at his home, No. 45 West Eighty-third-st. Mr. Bogert was ninety-five years old. He was born in this city, and lived here all his life. He was a maker of fine cabinets, and had a large number of patrons among the members of old families, whose work he had done for years. He retired from business about twenty years ago. Mr. Bogert was remarkable for his cheerful and amiable disposition. He could still dance at the age of eighty. Two years ago his eyesight failed, and for the last year he had kept to his room. He died when asleep. Mr. Bogert leaves three children—one son, Peter V. Bogert, and two daughters, Mrs. John R. Cushler and Mrs. John C. Klatzl. The funeral will take place at his home this evening. The burial will be in Nyack, N. Y.

CHARLES SWIFT.

Charles Swift died at Fordham on Thursday. He was born in Poughkeepsie in 1812, and is about the last of the old time hotelkeepers of this city. He was landlord of a hotel at Hoboken when that place was the resort of New-Yorkers. Then he was in charge of the Bull's Head Hotel, in this city, for a number of years, when it was the headquarters for drovers. Next he kept a hotel at High Bridge, and Commodore Vanderbilt, Robert Bonner, Sheppard Knapp and other well known men and their families made it a stopping place when out in wagons or sleighing. It was at High Bridge that Mr. Swift secreted colored men, women and children during the draft riots of 1863, when they were menaced by the mobs. He was a Republican in politics, and sent three sons, a nephew and five employes to the Civil War, most of them joining Duryee's Zouaves.

EDGAR PINCHOT.

Edgar Pinchot, who from 1859 to 1874 was engaged in the wholesale drug business at No. 214 Fulton-st., Manhattan, his firm being Pinchot & Bruen, died on Friday at his home, in Milford, Penn. For many years, since Cyril Pinchot, the father, came from France, the Pinchots have been among the leading residents of Milford. Edgar Pinchot was born there about seventy-one years ago. He received a liberal education, and then devoted himself to the general mercantile business which the Pinchots conducted in Milford. In 1857 he came to this city and engaged in the wholesale grocery business. Two years later he went into the drug business with Albert Bruen, of No. 256 Cumberland-st., Brooklyn. This partnership was continued until 1874, when Mr. Pinchot retired on account of ill-health. After travelling extensively in Europe he returned to Milford. "He was," as a friend expresses it, "a lawyer by intuition and practice," and about ten years ago was appointed to a judgeship by the Governor of Pennsylvania to fill out an unexpired term. He was a Republican and took a prominent part in politics. He leaves a brother, James W. Pinchot, who is a son-in-law of Amos R. Eno, and lives at No. 2 Gramercy Park, Manhattan, and one daughter.

The funeral will be held in Milford to-morrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

MRS. HARRIETT COX.

Sea Cliff, Long Island, Dec. 15 (Special).—Mrs. Harriett Cox, wife of Alfred Cox, died suddenly at her home, here, last night. Mrs. Cox was in her usual health, up to supper time. She retired early, and when Mr. Cox went upstairs at 10 o'clock complained of pain in her lungs. A doctor was summoned and found her lungs congested. At midnight she died. Mrs. Cox was born at Pleasantville, Westchester County. She lived at Glen Cove thirty-five years before coming to Sea Cliff ten years ago. She was sixty-eight years old. The funeral will be at the house on Monday afternoon, and the burial at Pleasantville on Tuesday.

HENRY MORRIS HUNT.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The State Department has been informed of the death of Henry Morris Hunt, United States Consul to Antigua, West Indies. He was born in Bristol, England, but was naturalized in this country and appointed to his post while a resident of Chicago, on January 22, 1898. Mr. Hunt was an experienced newspaper man, having been reporter, editor and general manager in one of the Western press associations for many years.

E. B. BRUCE.

Baltimore, Dec. 15 (Special).—E. B. Bruce, head of the firm of E. B. Bruce & Co., a prominent business man of Baltimore and well known in club circles, died to-day in a sanatorium at Brookline, Mass., where he had been under treatment for a year for nervous troubles. Mr. Bruce was fifty-one years old. He married the only daughter of the late James Carey Coale, who was prominent in Baltimore as the agent of Lloyds.

Mr. Bruce was a leading member of the Maryland Club and the Elkridge Hunt Club. He owned a beautiful country place, Prestwould, at Mount Washington. A widow and three children survive him. The children are Miss Katharine Bruce, who made her debut last winter; Miss Rosalind Bruce, and Skipwith Bruce, who is associated with his father's firm in business. Mr. Bruce was related to a number of the oldest families in Virginia and was a descendant of Skipwiths. He came to Baltimore twenty years ago from Massachusetts.

GUSTAV ROTHENBERG.

Gustav Rothenberg, senior member of the dry-goods firm of Rothenberg & Co., No. 34 to 42 West Fourteenth-st., died at his home, in West Seventy-first-st., yesterday morning, of typhoid fever, after an illness of three weeks. He was among the best known of the younger merchants of the city. He was a man of lofty business ideals, indefatigable energy, and was exteremely popular with all who knew him, whether in commercial or social circles.

Mr. Rothenberg was born in Hanover, Germany, forty-three years ago. He came to the United States in 1882, after serving the regulation time in the German army. He entered the employ of Meyer Jonasson & Co., and made such rapid progress in business advancement that in 1886 he became a member of the firm of Blumenthal Bros. & Co., manufacturers of suits and cloaks, No. 452 Broadway. He continued with this house until January 1, 1899, when he purchased the business of Ludwig Brothers, in Fourteenth-st., and which developed into the firm of Rothenberg & Co. Mr. Rothenberg was a member of the Harmonie and Freundschaft societies. He is survived by a widow and four children.

OBITUARY NOTES.

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 15.—General Michael J. Bulger, a distinguished Confederate General and public man, died yesterday at Dadeville, Ala. General Bulger was the oldest Confederate veteran living, being one hundred years of age. He was a member of the Secession Convention at Montgomery and led the fight against secession. He was a candidate for Governor of Alabama soon after the Civil War.

Denver, Dec. 15.—Dr. S. Hoepfner, aged forty-nine, a prominent consulting engineer and chemist of Hamilton, Ont., is dead at St. Joseph's Hospital in this city, from typhoid fever. He was here contracting for zinc ores for European smelters when he became ill, and was removed to the hospital two weeks ago. Dr. Hoepfner was well known to mining men through his invention of the electrolytic treatment of refractory ores, which is in use in a smelter at Hamilton, Ont., and in smelters in England, Germany and Austria.

Dayton, Ohio, Dec. 15.—The Rev. Dr. John F. Marlay, presiding elder of this district of the Methodist Episcopal Church, died to-day from apoplexy. For the last fifty years he had been prominent in the ministry.

HAZING COURT ORGANIZES.

GENERAL BROOKE CHOSEN PRESIDENT—GOING TO BOOZ'S HOME TOMORROW.

The military court of inquiry which was appointed by the Secretary of War to investigate the causes leading to the death of Oscar L. Booz, the West Point cadet, who is alleged to have been subjected to brutal hazing by his classmates, organized at a meeting held at Governor's Island yesterday. Major-General John R. Brooke, commanding the Department of the East, was made president by his colleagues; Brigadier-General Alfred E. Bates, Paymaster-General of the Army, and Brigadier-General John W. Clous, Judge Advocate-General.

"The court," General Brooke said, when he was seen by a Tribune reporter last night, "will begin its investigations at Bristol, Penn., on Monday morning. The cadet, Booz, lived at Bristol, and it is from that place that the charges of hazing emanated. As it is the purpose of the court to prosecute this matter thoroughly and to the very bottom, it is apparent that we should begin our work at Bristol, and endeavor to discover the actual cause of the young man's death. Having ascertained that, the court will then go to West Point, and will make a rigid inquiry into the whole question of hazing, and the circumstances which are alleged to have led to the death of Booz."

West Point, N. Y., Dec. 15 (Special).—Contrary to expectation, the court of inquiry appointed to investigate the alleged fatal hazing of Cadet Oscar L. Booz did not arrive here to-day. Published dispatches from Washington yesterday intimated that the court of inquiry would begin its investigations at West Point this morning. Accommodations were prepared for the court in the new Academy building, but as the day advanced without any communication being received from the members of the committee, the inference was drawn by the authorities of the Academy that the inquiry would of necessity be postponed until Monday. It is understood that when the court convenes the cadets of the first and second classes will be called upon to testify. The present second class, which numbers sixty-eight members, were the classmates of Booz, while in the first class are many students who are said to have witnessed the fight between Booz and the cadet who challenged him to fight. No attempt is made to hide the identiy of the cadet with whom Booz fought. Frank Keller, of Missouri, now of the first class, is freely mentioned as the opponent in the battle of fisticuffs. It is asserted, however, that there was really no fight between the two, inasmuch as Booz refused to put up his hands, and that his obvious disinclination to proceed with the fight led to the declaring off of the combat before even it was begun.

It is understood here that the Congress committee, consisting of Representatives Marsh, of Illinois; Smith, of Iowa; Driggs and Clayton, of New-York, and Wanger, of Pennsylvania—the last named of whom appointed Booz as a cadet—will not reach West Point until after the adjournment for the holidays. The purpose of the Congress committee, it is said, is to visit the Academy in the holidays.

SAYS SHE CAN'T LIVE ON $10 A WEEK.

MOLLENHAUER'S LAWYER DECLARES HE IS UNABLE TO PAY MORE ALIMONY.

Argument was heard yesterday by Justice Maddox in the Supreme Court, Brooklyn, on a motion by Mr. Lehman, as counsel for Mrs. Julia M. Mollenhauer, for an increase of alimony pending the action brought against her by John W. Mollenhauer for absolute divorce. The motion was opposed by James W. Ridgway on behalf of Mr. Mollenhauer. Justice Maddox said that additional affidavits might be handed in.

Mr. Lehman urged that the application for an increase of alimony was made because on September 24 Justice Herrick had allowed Mrs. Mollenhauer only $10 a week alimony because it had then appeared that she had jewelry worth $5,000 and household furniture worth about $10,000 at No. 159 Rodney-st., Brooklyn. Since that time, however, there had been a great change in Mrs. Mollenhauer's circumstances. The plaintiff on October 6 had replevined the furniture, and the defendant had been forced to pledge all her jewelry in order to live. She was now without furniture or winter clothing, and was penniless.

Justice Maddox asked if Mrs. Mollenhauer could not live on $10 a week. Counsel said she could not, and that Mr. Mollenhauer was a man of large means. He was interested in the Sugar Refining company, in an ink manufacturing company and in another business enterprise. Mr. Ridgway declared that Mr. Mollenhauer had no business and no means, and that he could not pay the alimony if his brothers did not come to his financial rescue.

FUNERAL DELAYED FOR SON'S RETURN.

VAN AKEN STARTED FOR CUBA A WEEK AGO AND IS ON THE WAY BACK.

The funeral of Mrs. Flora May Van Aken, wife of D. Van Aken, the general manager of the Manhattan Contracting Company, whose offices are at No. 51 West Forty-fourth-st., who died on Monday afternoon last, will not be held until the return of her son from Cuba. Mrs. Van Aken died from heart failure at the Woman's Hospital, Eighty-ninth-st. and Lexington-ave., where she had been a patient for some time. Her son started for Cuba on business last Saturday and started for home yesterday.

She was born in Vergennes, Vt., forty-five years ago. She was educated at Mount St. Vincent and studied music abroad. She leaves a married son, D. Lionel Van Aken, now in Cuba; a brother in Virginia and a sister in her native town. Her home in this city was at No. 137 West One-hundred-and-sixteenth-st. The body is now in the receiving vault at Kensico Cemetery, and will be interred upon her son's return from Cuba.

D. Van Aken built the Adirondack division of the New-York Central, and his company is now constructing an immense new wharfage in Havana Harbor.

THE PIANOLA

An Ideal Christmas Gift.

Thousands and tens of thousands of compositions have been written for the piano. How many of them does the average piano owner enjoy? A few, perhaps, are played by some member of the family; a few more by friends who call. The selection is made not from those you wish to hear, but is governed by pieces the technic of which you have mastered.

This is an unnecessary limitation. You are missing the benefit of all the other grand compositions. You fail to realize the full value of your piano, and you lose the pleasure which is experienced in producing this music yourself.

When Paderewski and other famous pianists make a tour of the country, if you are able to attend their concerts, you hear a few more of the brilliant and difficult masterpieces of musical literature. Yet this is a small part of what you are entitled to and might enjoy.

Paderewski after spending a lifetime in the study of the piano has purchased a Pianola.

With the aid of the Pianola every member of the family can play upon the piano—not one or two selections, but practically everything ever written for the piano.

The player has all the pleasure of hand playing because he controls the expression, which is the soul of music.

Price $250.

Can be bought by moderate monthly payments if desired.
Visitors welcome. If unable to call send for Catalogue 6.

AEOLIAN COMPANY | *18 W. 23d St., New York.* *500 Fulton St., Brooklyn.*

Arnold, Constable & Co.

Holiday Gifts.

A fine assortment of

French Novelty Dress Fabrics,

Cut in Dress Lengths and marked in plain figures, at less than

One-third Original Prices.

Broadway & 19th Street.

ENJOYING HIMSELF IN JAIL.

VILLAGE BLACKSMITH REFUSES TO PAY FOR A DEAD NEW-JERSEY MULE.

Freehold, N. J., Dec. 15 (Special).—Valentine Pfister, the village blacksmith of Port Monmouth, is confined in the county jail here for a novel reason. His commitment grew out of the fact that one of his horses got out of a lot recently, and, going to the farm of William York, kicked to death a mule belonging to York. Pfister refused to reimburse the former for his loss, and he obtained a judgment against Pfister. The blacksmith had, however, fixed his property in such shape that it could not be levied upon. Knowing that Pfister could pay if he would the Justice of the Peace who issued the execution told him that if he did not pay up within a certain time his body would be taken to satisfy the judgment. He said he would go to jail rather than pay York for what he termed a worthless mule, and to jail he went.

The judgment and costs amount to $71. To satisfy this judgment Pfister will have to stay in jail seventy-one days, at the rate of $1 a day. If he remains incarcerated that length of time the judgment will be satisfied. Pfister says that he is getting board and lodging free, and is having the best time of his life. He has paid a great deal to the county in taxes, he says, and until now has never received anything back. Pfister has friends who would gladly pay the judgment for him, but he refuses to pay it himself or allow them to do so.

TO REINSURE CHOSEN FRIENDS MEMBERS.

MEETING CALLED FOR THE PURPOSE—RECEIVER ON THE WAY TO NEW-YORK.

Indianapolis, Dec. 15.—Telegrams were sent out from the supreme headquarters of the Order of Chosen Friends, in this city, to-day, calling a meeting of members of the Supreme Council, supreme trustees and past supreme councillors in this city next Tuesday to organize a new fraternal beneficiary association. The object of the new organization will be to reinsure members of the Order of Chosen Friends, which, by order of court yesterday, was placed in the hands of Cyrus J. Clark, as receiver. Mr. Clark, with J. B. Linn, supreme recorder, has gone to New-York to investigate the affairs of the order there.

LOSS IN BROOKLYN HALF A MILLION.

It is said that about twelve hundred Brooklynites will lose the money they have paid into the Order of Chosen Friends. Insurance in the organization to the amount of about $500,000 is held in Brooklyn. The following are the chapters there: Alpha, No. 1,089 Broadway; Bushwick, Bushwick-ave. and Cooper-st.; Clinton, No. 315 Washington-st.; Heine, Atlantic and Vermont aves.; Home, No. 12 Nevins-st.; Lincoln, No. 47 Meserole-st.; Montauk, No. 521A Greene-ave.; Svithold, No. 329 Atlantic-ave. Valhalla, No. 12 Nevins-st., and Wallabout, No. 34 Morrell-st.

DOES NOT BELIEVE WILSON CONFESSED.

Dr. A. C. Dougherty, of Newark, N. J., who attended William B. Wilson, supreme treasurer of the Order of Chosen Friends, in his last illness, in October, and who was his personal friend, said yesterday that he did not believe any confession of embezzlement was made by Wilson. Dr. Dougherty said that Wilson did not act as if anything preyed upon his mind or as if there was anything he wanted to say. He had only expressed relief because of his freedom from business cares.

BIG DEAL IN ICE AT BOSTON.

AMERICAN ICE COMPANY AT LAST CONTROLS THE BOSTON BUSINESS.

Boston, Dec. 15.—In face of persistent rumors which have been in circulation here for several days, the officials of the Boston Ice Company, which controlled the bulk of the ice business in this city, to-day admitted that the American Ice Company, of New-Jersey, has purchased a controlling interest in the Boston company. Details are withheld. The capital of the Boston Ice Company is $500,000. It was organized soon after the Civil War, and has paid dividends as high as 30 per cent, although of late years the rate has not exceeded 10 per cent.

It has been understood for the last two years in the ice trade of New-England that the American Ice Company, which practically controls the ice business of the Atlantic Coast cities, save Boston, desired to obtain foothold here, particularly in order to afford an advantageous outlet for its Maine ice, the company having bought up the majority of the ice houses on the Kennebec River two years ago. About ten days ago, when the story reached Boston that the purchase had been made on December 1, but would not be announced until January 1, it was positively denied. It is understood that the New-Jersey corporation has been able to make very advantageous arrangements for rail transportation from Maine to Boston, and that negotiations already are in progress for it to obtain docking facilities here as well.

Bartens & Rice Co.

Invite inspection of their

Rich Stock of Exclusive Designs in

Jewelry and Gold Ornaments,

also Watches of every description.

Diamonds and Fine Gems a Specialty.

Reliable Goods at Moderate Prices.

328 Fifth Avenue,
Near Waldorf-Astoria.

Practical Christmas Presents.

Can you think of a more practical gift than one of the items below? To all purchasers of Spectacles and Eyeglasses the lenses may be exchanged after the holidays and suitable ones fitted. Our Oculist will make the examination FREE. We also keep them in repair for you without charge.

Solid Gold Spectacles	$3.00
Gold Filled Spectacles	1.00
Enamelled Opera Glasses	1.50
Genuine Pearl Opera Glasses	2.00
Opera Glass Holders	2.00
Lorgnettes	1.50

Largest variety in the city to select from.

FINEST STOCK.
LOWEST PRICES.

LE MAIRE OPTICAL CO.

30 East 23d st.
OPEN EVENINGS.
Branch, 177-179 Broadway.

The "Popular Shop."

THE HOLIDAY SALE OF BLACK OAK FURNITURE, ANTIQUE PERSIAN RUGS, TAPESTRIES, PORTIERES, AND MANY QUAINT THINGS GOOD FOR GIFTS, Now Open IN THE HOLIDAY ANNEX, NOS. 7 & 9 West 42D ST.

THE WALL PAPERS AND "LIBERTY" FABRICS, THE "MISSION" FURNITURE AND WICKER CHAIRS are shown as usual AT NOS. 3 AND 5 WEST 42D ST.

Leisurely Inspection is Cordially Invited.

JOSEPH P McHUGH & CO.
FORTY-SECOND ST. W., AT FIFTH AVE.
(Trademarks Reg'd)

CONFESSED TO STEALING BILLIARD BALL

Joseph McCauley, of No. 155 Glenmore-ave., Brooklyn; Edward Cahill, of No. 1,452 Fulton-st., Brooklyn, and Frank Woram, of No. 289 Macon-st., Brooklyn, seventeen years old each, pleaded guilty to burglary yesterday in the Gates-ave. court and were held by Magistrate Worth for the Grand Jury. At the Arlington House, Nostrand and Gates aves., Brooklyn, on Friday night, Woram saw the proprietor, Nathan Ward, put fourteen billiard balls in the safe. The next morning the balls were missing. Woram was arrested, and confessed that after Ward had clo[illegible] the parlors he and Cahill entered by means [illegible]se keys. The balls were worth $7 apiece.

"Standard of Highest Merit"

FISCHER PIANOS.

We call attention to our large assortment of GRAND and UPRIGHT PIANOS, cased in rare and choice woods.

Several special Designs for the Holiday Season.

PRICES REASONABLE

OPEN EVENINGS
From December 15th to 24th inclusive.

FISCHER PIANO WAREROOMS
33 Union Square—West,
Between 16th and 17th Sts., New York.