

LIFE HANGS BY A THREAD

MRS. MCKINLEY MAY DIE AT ANY MOMENT.

AN ALARMING SINKING SPELL FOLLOWS BY IMPROVEMENT, GIVING SLIGHT HOPE OF RECOVERY—THE PRESIDENT'S ENGAGEMENTS CANCELLED.

San Francisco, May 16.—Mrs. McKinley is in the valley of the shadow of death, and may pass away at any moment. This morning, shortly before dawn, she sank rapidly, and it was feared she would die before restoratives could be administered, but she responded to the powerful heart stimulants that were given to her, and during the day improved to such an extent that hope of her recovery, slight though it was, revived. The new treatment for low vitality, salt injections into the veins, was administered to her with good results. She has taken no solid food since she arrived here on Sunday, and the physicians do not believe she could survive another sinking spell such as she experienced this morning. She suffers little, and bears up bravely. In her periods of consciousness to-day her mind has been clear. The President is constantly at her bedside, and, although worn by his long vigil, is standing the awful strain with remarkable fortitude.

Every dinner and public function planned in his honor here has been abandoned, and the city with heavy heart is watching Mrs. McKinley's battle for life. If the end should come, the President and his party will be ready to start for the East with the body within twenty-four hours. The train which brought them here will be used on the return trip, and all arrangements have been made to go back by the shortest route, the Central and Union Pacific to Chicago, and thence by the Pennsylvania road to Washington.

If Mrs. McKinley improves, it is not believed that she will be able to travel before a week from next Monday. All the members of the Cabinet, with the possible exception of Secretary Long, will remain here to the end. His daughter is seriously ill at Colorado Springs, and he fears that he may be called there at any time.

At 8:45 p. m. Secretary Cortelyou issued the following statement:

Physicians in attendance on Mrs. McKinley report her condition as decidedly improved since morning. Pulse and temperature satisfactory. Patient resting well.

AN ANXIOUS NIGHT AND DAY.

IN THE EARLY MORNING MRS. MCKINLEY WAS THOUGHT TO BE DYING.

San Francisco, May 16.—During the long and weary watches of the night the President did not leave Mrs. McKinley's bedside. Shortly before midnight, when Drs. Hirschfelder and Gibbons departed and Dr. Rixey took a little rest, there was hope that her life would be spared. All day the President has watched the doctors' faces and scanned the demeanor of the nurses for a sign of encouragement, and they have urged him not to despair. Mrs. McKinley had apparently rallied in the early hours of the night, and at 10 o'clock was so much better that the President had gone next door for a few minutes to attend a little reception being held there. After midnight for hours there was no sign of life in the Scott house except the night lamp burning low in Mrs. McKinley's room.

REVIVED BY POWERFUL STIMULANTS.

At 5 o'clock this morning the police patrolling outside and the little group of newspaper watchers on the corner opposite saw a stir in the house. Lights flickered here and there, and a carriage with rubber tires rolled swiftly up to the door and Dr. Hirschfelder alighted. The word was whispered that Mrs. McKinley was sinking. For a time it was thought she was dying, but powerful artificial heart stimulants revived her slightly. When daylight came the doctors held another consultation, and the news of Mrs. McKinley's sinking spell was made public by Secretary Cortelyou, but there was no word of encouragement. With it went a formal notice that all engagements for the remainder of the President's stay in San Francisco were cancelled. The President no longer had the heart to hold out false hopes that he would be able to attend any of the functions arranged here in his honor. His only thought was for the wife hovering between life and death. He directed that all Mrs. McKinley's relatives be advised of the extremely critical condition of her illness and steered himself for the worst.

SYMPATHY FOR THE PRESIDENT.

In the city the bulletins at the newspaper offices announcing that the festivities of the week were abandoned fell like a pall on the multitude. Not until then was it fully realized that Mrs. McKinley was at death's door. There was a feeling of deepest sympathy for the head of the nation watching his wife battle for her life. The people no longer waited the President's coming. Their voices were hushed, and they stood in groups on the streets discussing the brief tidings from the sickroom. The flags and banners all about seemed a mere mockery in the presence of the dying wife of the chief executive of the country. The various committees in charge of the numerous entertainments hurriedly issued bulletins that everything had been abandoned out of respect to the President. Meantime, an air of death itself pervaded the Scott house. Servants looked like like shadows. Messenger boys with telegrams and cable dispatches from all parts of the world inquiring for news of Mrs. McKinley's condition passed in endless streams to the door, which opened noiselessly at their approach. The President could not be persuaded to leave the sickroom, and he remained there constantly with the doctors and nurses, seemingly incapable of fatigue. The room in which Mrs. McKinley lies is a sunny chamber at the southeast corner of the house, but the flood of sunshine was excluded, that the bright light might not disturb the patient. Gathered in the adjoining room were the women of the Cabinet. Miss Barber, Mrs. McKinley's niece, had remained at the Scott house all night, and Mr. and Mrs. Morse, nephew and niece of Mrs. McKinley, were sum-

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CONGR AND AMENT SPEAK

GUESTS AT ASIATIC ASSOCIATION DINNER.

Edwin H. Conger, United States Minister to China, was the guest of honor at the third annual dinner of the American Asiatic Association at Delmonico's last evening, and spoke freely about the prospects for American trade and missionary effort in China. He said that "notwithstanding the unparalleled barbarism of last summer, the present situation has still most alluring promises for commercial and philanthropic work in the Orient." While declaring that American trade in China has been practically paralyzed for the present, he said that "something may, can and must be done to regain the situation and restore former conditions."

Previous to the dinner Mr. Conger said he did not expect to be a candidate for the Governorship of Iowa this fall. "Some of my friends," he said to a Tribune reporter, "have mentioned me as a possible candidate, and I have said that if a nomination for Governor of my State came to me unbidden I would accept it, but I do not expect that the nomination will come to me. I expect to leave this country again in July, and to be back at my post in China before the State conventions meet in Iowa."

The Rev. Dr. William S. Ament, of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, was a guest at the dinner, and responded to the toast, "American Missionaries in the Slog of the Legations." He referred to attacks which had been made upon missionaries by writers, but did not speak directly of Mark Twain's personal attack upon him. To a Tribune reporter, previous to the dinner, Dr. Ament said that he did not wish to continue any discussion with Mark Twain.

About one hundred and twenty-five men attended the dinner. Samuel D. Brewster, the acting president of the association, was in the chair, and among others at the guests' table were Mr. Conger, Dr. Ament, Kogoro Takahira, the Japanese Minister; James M. Beck, Assistant Attorney-General of the United States; William E. Dodge, George H. Daniels, J. Edward Simmons, John D. Crippins, Samuel Thomas and Joseph C. Hendrix. Mr. Beck responded to the first toast of the evening, "The President of the United States," and toward the close of his speech he said:

In foreign countries the President can only act through his accredited ministers. And it is of the utmost importance to the people of this country that the Magistrate should be worthily represented in every part of the world. To this end it is necessary that we should have a high and noble character to be the more forthright of politics and perquisites of politicians. Such position should be given to our countrymen, who are talented, young, energetic and independent of politics. Indeed, I believe that this association could do no greater service to our country than to develop by Senator Aldrich of a governmental school of diplomacy similar in its formation to that of West Point or Annapolis, where talented young men could be trained, not only for the consular and diplomatic service, but also for the great work which lies before us of wisely administering the colonial dependencies which by the providence of God, have been placed in our keeping.

Mr. Conger was the second speaker. After referring to the effect produced by the war with Spain in increasing American prestige in the East, he said:

This all gave encouragement to merchant and industrial alike, and looked for increased and more hopeful results, particularly in the great empire of China. Conditions existing then justified in our country the high hopes and not withstanding the unparalleled barbarism of last summer, the present situation has still most alluring promises for commercial and philanthropic work in the middle kingdom, and if properly, industriously and judiciously administered, by government and by individuals, great profits are in store.

Let me say to you that I disclaim all sympathy with or endorsement of the Chinese Sellers sort of commercialism which has been so constantly promulgated in public speech and public press all over the land.

Later in his speech Mr. Conger said: The unfortunate and inexcusable happenings of last summer have obliterated trade in North China and seriously interfered with its progress all over the vast empire. At New-Chwang, through whose door opening into Manchuria, our trade in 1898 and 1899 was rushing in like a flood, and commerce is now practically paralyzed; and at Tien-Tsin, except in army supplies, nothing is being done. Something must be done to regain the situation and restore the former conditions. This can be accomplished by insisting upon the payment of the "open door" negotiations of 1899, and in carrying out the policy suggested by President McKinley in his circular of February 2, 1900.

One great trouble with our foreign trade is that our merchants and manufacturers have never taken hold of it as a serious and permanent business. Whenever they have found themselves with a surplus of goods, they have tried to get rid of them abroad to sell them, and have sold them, if possible, regardless of profit or future transactions. The persistence of work like this can only justify the feeling that the root of this un-American warfare is due, not so much to what is seen or known

OF THE DEEDS OF MISSIONARIES, BUT RATHER TO THE OPPOSITION TO CHRISTIANITY ITSELF.

The purpose was fixed before China was reached at all, and this murderous spirit stops not at anything to achieve its end. It assumes the air of virtue in killing the very spirit of humanity in the world. Are the missionaries sent out by the long established boards of America lacking in common sense? Are we absolutely idiotic? Certainly we should be, if, for instance, in the collection of indemnities we left the populace sore and aggravated against our methods. The good will of the people is our very capital to trade. To leave irritation and discontent would be to set back our work for years, if not to drive us from the field entirely.

A STEP NEARER UNION.

REPUBLICAN ORGANIZATION AUTHORIZES A COMMITTEE FOR ANTI-TAMMANY CONFERENCE.

The Republican County Committee, at a meeting held in the United Charities Building, last night authorized the president to appoint a committee to confer with other organizations opposed to Tammany Hall for the purpose of bringing about a union of all anti-Tammany forces in the coming municipal campaign. The meeting was marked by deliberation, and an evident desire to conciliate all organizations opposed to Tammany and to cement such organizations into a compact body to wage a war against the Wigwag. After the meeting was over the politicians said that never in the history of local politics had the outlook for a successful union against Tammany appeared so bright.

The question of conferring with other anti-Tammany organizations was taken up at a meeting of the executive committee of the County Committee yesterday afternoon. The Citizens Union, as told in The Tribune yesterday, had already called for a conference of all organizations aligned against Tammany. Some members of the executive committee were inclined to resent the action of the Citizens Union in taking the initiative, and declared that such an invitation should come first from the regular Republican organization. The advocates of the union, however, won, although the dissenters had their way to the degree of getting a clause inserted in the resolution which read that a conference committee should be appointed "when, in the judgment of the president of the County Committee, the appointment of a conference committee is necessary." As Robert C. Morris, president of the County Committee, is heartily in favor of union it is believed he will not hesitate to appoint such a committee when the time is ripe for action.

It was said last night that a conference committee would be appointed, but that the time and place suggested by the invitation of the Citizens Union may be changed.

President Morris was asked last night when he would appoint the conference committee, and said: "I cannot tell just yet. When I name them I will make it public."

There was rather a scant showing of the County Committee at the meeting last night. The rollcall was dispensed with, as a quorum was manifestly present. William H. Ten Eyck, as chairman of the executive committee, said that he had a report to make. He had the invitation from the Citizens Union asking for the appointment of a conference committee by the Republican County Committee to meet with a conference committee of the Citizens Union on May 28.

When Mr. Manchester, the secretary of the committee, had finished reading the invitation Mr. Ten Eyck offered the following resolution as a recommendation from the executive committee:

Resolved, That the Republican County Committee of the county of New York do hereby adopt resolutions favoring the union of all anti-Tammany organizations in the approaching municipal campaign, and that the Citizens Union and several other anti-Tammany organizations in the county of New York have appointed committees on conference committees for the purpose of conferring with the Citizens Union on the subject of a conference committee, and that when in the judgment of the president of the county committee the appointment of such a committee is necessary, he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to appoint such a committee, consisting of the president of the county committee, who shall be the chairman of such committee on conference, and such a number of additional members as in his opinion may best serve the purposes of conference; and he is further

Resolved, That this committee on conference is authorized and empowered to represent and to act for the Republican County Committee of the county of New York in all conferences which may be held with other political organizations.

The resolution was unanimously adopted. Then Mr. Ten Eyck moved that the invitation of the Citizens Union be referred to the conference committee to be appointed by the president of the county democracy. This was carried.

CITY DEMOCRACY'S PLATFORM.

The Executive Committee of the City Democracy held a meeting last night at its new headquarters, No. 128 West Forty-second-st., and adopted its platform. The platform, which was offered by the secretary, Alfred M. Vernon, was as follows:

Resolved, That the City Democracy was organized for the following purposes: First—To favor the formation of a solid and harmonious union of all parties, organizations and associations opposed to boss rule and bad government.

Second—To suggest that the anti-Crocker candidate for Mayor shall be an independent Democrat, whose business abilities, character and reputation will be accepted as a bond to serve the city as a non-partisan executive.

Third—To favor the enactment of liberal laws, to oppose the enforcement of obsolete sumptuary laws and to defend personal liberty.

Fourth—While endorsing all sincere and honest efforts to suppress "wide open" vice, extortion and blackmail protection of lawbreakers, the City Democracy recommends to reform committees and reform law officers that they proceed against the big rascals and the big receivers of public and political plunder. Sensational and hysterical raids are not reaching the "high up" criminals.

Fifth—A union against Crockerism with an independent Democrat at the head of the ticket will result in an overwhelming victory for the people, and the license of loot will cease. If there should be no union of the forces of good government and honest politics the looting of the city will be continued.

FIRE AT NO. 49 BROADWAY.

SENATOR PLATT'S OFFICE, ON THE SECOND FLOOR, ESCAPES DAMAGE—LOSS SLIGHT.

Shortly after 7 o'clock last night Charles Nelson, a carpenter, employed by the United States Express Company, No. 49 Broadway, discovered a fire in the basement of that building. He turned in an alarm at Broadway and Morris-st., from Box No. 113. Almost simultaneously a false alarm was turned in from the corner of Pearl-st. and Coenties Slip, from Box No. 13, so that there was some delay on the part of the Fire Department in reaching the fire.

The fire started in the basement, where the old way bills are kept. Back of this storeroom is the mailing department and in the rear is the carpenter shop.

The police reports placed the damage to the building and fixtures at \$1,000. Vice-President Crosby said that he thought the damage would not amount to that much.

One fireman, Joseph Brennan, of Engine Company No. 19, was overcome by heat. He was taken to Hudson Street Hospital.

Just at the moment the alarm was turned in the employees of the company were transferring from the large safes to the small ones the day's receipts for transportation on the trains. The money wagons were standing at the rear of the building. All the messengers were called and the safes hurried from the building to the wagons and then to the trains.

Edward Platt, the son of Senator Platt, said that the fire would not interfere with business. Senator Platt's private office is on the second floor of the building, but it was not damaged.

HOUSES ON MURDERER'S TRAIL.

BAUSCH STILL AT LARGE, BUT IS REPORTED TO BE IN THE WOODS NEAR HIS HOME.

Roslyn, Long Island, May 16 (Special).—In spite of all the efforts that have been made to capture the murderer of Arthur Peschwind, he is still at large. The officers have been on the ground continually since the crime, and have even had bounds on the trail, but all efforts have been fruitless, and up to today it looked as if Bausch had escaped to the city, and so out of the country.

A rumor has reached the Sheriff's office, however, which may lead to the capture of the man. Willett Skidmore, who has a farm within a mile of that of Bausch, says that yesterday he saw Bausch twice, once in the morning and once in the afternoon. Mr. Skidmore, when seen by the Sheriff, said he saw a man come out of the woods at the edge of his farm in the morning about 11 o'clock, and when the man saw that he was observed by the farmer he hastily turned and ran back to the woods. In the afternoon he came from the woods again, and acted in the same manner when the farmer called to him. The Sheriff examined the place and found tracks as if a man had come from the woods and then returned hurriedly. Mr. Skidmore, who has lived in the vicinity for years, is a reliable man, and the officers have confidence in his story. They believe that Bausch is in the neighborhood.

There was a story current that Bausch was in hiding among his wife's relatives in Brooklyn, but when they were seen they were indignant, and said that they would certainly turn Bausch over to the law should he come there. It was reported to the Sheriff that Mrs. Bausch was making preparations to sell her household effects and leave Roslyn. The sale of the goods will not be stopped, but Mrs. Bausch will not be allowed to get out of reach of the law until her husband has been apprehended.

BIG TEXAS OIL COMPANY.

STARTS WITH PAID IN CAPITAL OF \$15,000,000.—H. C. FRICK AND OTHER PITTSBURG MEN AMONG OPERATORS.

Austin, Tex., May 16.—The charter of the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company, with a capital stock of \$15,000,000, was filed in the Secretary of State's office here to-day. It is the largest domestic corporation ever chartered under the laws of Texas. Its principal office is at Beaumont, and it is formed for the purpose of prospecting for, developing and marketing oil. It is proposed to build and operate large refineries, oil pipe lines, etc., in the Beaumont region. The incorporators are: J. M. Guffey, Andrew W. Mellon, H. C. Frick, James H. Reed and T. Hartgoven, all of Pittsburgh; A. F. Lucas, R. A. Greer, H. W. Greer, G. C. Simmons, B. F. Trexel and Percy Wiess, all of Beaumont.

Judge Greer, who brought the charter here to-day to be filed, says that the company has no connection with the Standard Oil Company. He also says that every cent of the capital stock has been paid in cash, and that the company will use the money in building refineries and developing oil on its lands. It owns one million acres of oil lands, all of which are in Texas, with the exception of about one hundred thousand acres. The new company will absorb the private interests and holdings of John M. Guffey and James H. H. Gale, which embrace six producing oil wells in the Beaumont field and a large tract of proved oil land in the very heart of the oil field. When all these transfers have been formally made to the new company it is the latter's intention to file an amendment to its charter increasing its capital stock to \$200,000,000. This will be done within the next few weeks.

OHIO PROHIBITION NOMINATIONS.

Akron, Ohio, May 16.—E. J. Pinney, of Cleveland, was nominated for Governor by the Prohibition State Convention in session here to-day. The other nominations were: Lieutenant-Governor, John B. Martin, of Cincinnati; Supreme Judge, Mahlon Routch, of Wooster; Attorney-General, Thomas M. Shreve, of Martin's Ferry; Treasurer, John W. Hawkins, of Steubenville; member of Board of Public Works, U. T. Hill, of Toledo.

SETTLEMENT IN PROSPECT.

STRIKERS REVISE DEMANDS, WAIVING DISCHARGE OF NON-UNION MEN.

Albany, May 16.—The strike may be declared off to-morrow morning as a result of a revised proposition by the strikers to be presented to the executive board of the traction company to-morrow. The strikers, it is understood to-night, have decided to eliminate from their former demands that eight non-union men be discharged by the traction company.

Mayor Blessing, Corporation Counsel Andrews, William McCabe, president of the local Federation of Labor; Mr. Wollard, counsel for the strikers, and Judge Hessberg and William J. Walker, counsel for the traction company, had a conference to-night in the Commercial Bank Building which lasted from 8 till 11 o'clock.

Mr. Wollard, it is understood, said the strikers were willing to waive their demand for the discharge of the non-union men. Mayor Blessing was authorized to transmit the revised proposals to the traction company to-morrow, as Judge Hessberg, counsel for the company, would not agree to anything without consulting with his clients. Another conference will be held at 11 o'clock to-morrow.

If the strikers have weakened on the demand that the road be completely unionized it will be regarded as a victory for the company. Mayor Blessing, when asked about the status of the negotiations, said: "There will be no change in the situation until after the conference to-morrow morning."

NINTH REGIMENT CALLED.

GENERAL ROE ORDERS IT TO ALBANY—THREE THOUSAND TROOPS UNDER ORDERS.

Albany, May 16.—By to-morrow night there will be three thousand soldiers on duty here. Pending a settlement, Major-General Roe intends to take every precaution, and at midnight to-night ordered out the 9th Regiment, of New York, commanded by Colonel Morris. It will arrive here to-morrow afternoon, eight hundred strong, and if the strike is not settled will assist in opening up the other lines of the traction company in this city.

ROE EXONERATES WILSON.

SAYS LIEUTENANT ONLY DID HIS DUTY IN FIRING—STORY ABOUT WALSH'S DEATH.

Albany, May 16.—One of the curious stories of the night is that surgeons who attended William M. Walsh say that Walsh was struck by a shot from a revolver. The only man on the car who had a revolver was Lieutenant Wilson, who says that he saw a man throw a brick and fired at him. He is positive he hit the man.

It was Lieutenant Wilson, of E Company, who gave the fatal order to fire, and his action has received the approval of his superiors for an investigation by high military officials held to-night, exonerated him from blame.

According to Wilson's statement he fired at and hit a man who struck him with a stone. The official investigation was made by Colonel Barnes, who took the statements of Wilson and his men, the car crew and several witnesses. After hearing what they had to say, Colonel Barnes, with Lieutenant-Colonel Brady, held a conference with Generals Roe and Oliver. After the conference General Roe said:

Lieutenant Wilson has been exonerated from any blame in connection with the consequences of his act. It is regrettable that innocent men were shot, but that was unavoidable. The inquiry showed that a mob of probably one thousand men was threatening this car. They were stoning it and running after it. One stone struck the motorman and cut his face. Another hit Lieutenant Wilson. The latter drew his revolver and shot the man who struck him, and at the same time ordered his men to fire. We are obeying his orders and did his duty. We are here to protect property from destruction by mob violence, and we propose to do so. The Mayor of Albany has warned the citizens of Albany to keep off the streets, and if they will continue to let their curiosity take them into disorderly crowds they must accept the consequences. We are all sincerely sorry for Mr. Walsh, but our men are not to be blamed for their fate.

The shooting of Smith and Walsh had a very depressing effect upon the members of the 23d Regiment, and to-night when stones were hurled at the picket men around the Quail-st. barn they did not fire into the dark. Two private were hit and hurt, but they did not care to take a chance by firing. It was held by the officers and men generally that the order to fire was entirely justified, but there was general regret at the consequences of the volley. No attempt was made to run cars after nightfall.

CUBANS TAKE ACTION.

MAJORITY OF COMMITTEE TO ADVISE ACCEPTANCE OF PLATT AMENDMENT.

Havana, May 16.—At to-day's meeting of the Committee on Relations of the Cuban Constitutional Convention a majority voted to submit to the Convention next Saturday a report advising acceptance of the Platt Amendment.

The minority faction asked for further time to draw up a minority report and were granted until to-morrow, when another meeting of the committee will be held.

FROM MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT AGAIN.

There is an average of a through train every hour leaving Grand Central Station by the New York Central, affording the most complete through train service in America. Send for time table.—Adv.

TROOPS FIRE AND KILL.

TWO ALBANY MERCHANTS, BYSTANDERS, SHOT DOWN.

ONE DIES FROM WOUNDS CAUSED BY 23D REGIMENT MEN REPELLING ATTACK ON CAR.

DEAD.

WALSH, William M., merchant, shot by soldiers.

POSSIBLY FATAALLY HURT.

MARSHALL, William, non-union motorman, skull fractured.

SMITH, E. Le Roy, merchant, shot by soldiers.

OTHER INJURED.

BOOZE, George, cheek torn open by bayonet.

HALL, Gilbert, non-union motorman, shot by mob. Will recover.

HARRINGTON, F. B., private, Third Signal Corps, wounded with stones.

ROONEY, William, shot by guardsman. Injury not serious.

VAN GUYSHING, Walter, private, Third Signal Corps, wounded with stones.

Michael Curtin, Frank Flint, James Glynn, Charles Jennings, Thomas Kelly, Michael Kelly, Monahan, Ernest Moore, James Murphy, Stephen O'Leary, Michael Smith, non-union men, badly cut by rocks thrown by strikers.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Albany, May 16.—There is profound grief in Albany to-night over the terrible termination of another day's conflict between the street railway company and its employees. Two prominent business men, one of them just walking into the door of his factory, and the other talking with a friend directly across the street from his office, were shot by soldiers of the National Guard who, having been assailed by rioters with stones, fired into a crowd. The rioters escaped injury; the innocent men were E. Leroy Smith and William M. Walsh. Walsh died in a hospital at 10 o'clock to-night. A third man, William Rooney, a laborer, had a narrow escape; a bullet passed through the muscles of his right side, but did not seriously injure him, he being able to leave the hospital, to which he had been taken early this evening. Hope was expressed that Smith would survive. Smith has a son and Walsh a brother on duty with the troops here.

Mr. Smith exonerates the soldiers from blame for shooting him. While waiting for the ambulance Mr. Smith is reported to have said: "It's all right. I don't blame the soldiers. They were perfectly justified in shooting. I hadn't any business where I was."

Later, in the Albany Hospital, just before he took an anesthetic prior to an operation, he said: "A rain of missiles fell upon the soldiers and the car was being mobbed. The soldiers had a perfect right to shoot, and I do not blame them in the least. It was my misfortune to get in the way of the bullets. I should have been inside my office, and out of harm's way. There was no alternative for the soldiers but to use their guns, and I exonerate them from blame so far as I am concerned."

Governor Odell, when seen at the Executive Mansion by a Tribune correspondent to-night, expressed the keenest regret at the sad occurrence of the day.

"I sincerely hope," said the Governor, "that the rumors of an impending settlement of the strike are true, and that to-day's tragic shooting may mark the close of the strike. The shooting of two apparently wholly innocent men is a terrible thing. I would repeat that I hope that the strike soon will be settled."

ATTACK WHICH LED TO SHOOTING.

Cars loaded with soldiers passed repeatedly through the city, but no collision occurred until 4:30 o'clock this afternoon. At one time the plaza in front of the Central station was filled with hundreds of travellers, many of them women and children, entirely unaware that a strike was in progress in the city, and that they were in any danger, either from the violent acts of a mob or stray bullets from soldiers' rifles. Unfortunately, also, neither the Police Department nor the officers of the National Guard had seen the necessity of keeping the narrow part of Broadway north of the station guarded and cleared, and it was filled with a multitude of people and some rioters. When, therefore, at 4:30 p. m., some cars were seen approaching, filled with members of the National Guard, some rioters evidently thought they could safely attack the new motemen and conductors, and possibly the National Guardsmen. An eyewitness of what followed said later: "I was standing at Columbia-st. and Broadway when Car No. 152, on which was a detachment of the 23d Regiment men, approached. Just ahead of it there suddenly appeared a wagon filled with empty boxes. The man who was driving this wagon did not whip his horse with any energy, and I heard men on the sidewalk say, 'Go slow! Go slow!' several times, and he only pretended to whip his horse. The slow progress of the cart, of course, delayed the car, but the soldiers took it good naturedly. Then the car almost came to a stop north of Columbia-st., in the narrow part of Broadway, and I saw a huge cobblestone in the air and a soldier raise his gun. About that time I thought it best to go up Columbia-st."

The car went about thirty feet further along Broadway, the fusillade of stones and bricks becoming denser all the time.

SMITH AND WALSH SHOT DOWN.

"In the car were seated," said Colonel A. C. Barnes, commander of the 23d Regiment, afterward, "First Lieutenant J. W. Wilson, of Company E, of my regiment, and ten men of the same company. Lieutenant Wilson reports to me that he was struck with a brick, and the conductor, Dougherty, was struck in the face with a stone. Lieutenant Wilson thereupon fired one shot with his revolver, and two shots were fired by the other members of the company. Three shots in all were fired. Lieutenant Wilson reported the occurrence to me."

The shots fired by the soldiers all apparently struck some one. Standing on the curb of Broadway at the time, on the east side of the street, just before the shoe factory of Smith & Herrick, were E. Leroy Smith, the head of the firm; Frank C. Herrick, his partner; William M. Walsh, a plumber, whose shop was directly across the street; Charles F. Snow, secretary of Smith & Herrick, and Lawrence McNeely, who was employed by Walsh. Walsh had crossed the street to talk with Smith and Mr. Herrick about some plumbing work that he was to do for them. Smith & Herrick's factory is at No. 619 Broadway, while Walsh's plumbing store is at No. 628 Broadway. While the men were earnestly talking they saw approaching several cars filled with soldiers, and presently all of them noticed that rioters were beginning to fire stones at the guardsmen, and that the soldiers were evidently preparing to defend themselves. Smith and Herrick walked rapidly toward their store's front door, and were about to enter it when the former was shot and fell into Mr. Herrick's arms. He was shot and fell into Mr. Herrick's arms. He was shot and fell into Mr. Herrick's arms. He was shot and fell into Mr. Herrick's arms. He was shot and fell into Mr. Herrick's arms.

The bullet entered his body on the left side, two inches below the heart, passed through the pos-