

GOSSIP OF THE CAPITAL.

ORATORY IN THE SENATE REPRESENTED BY MR. BAILEY AND MR. BURTON—MISS HAY'S BETROTHAL.

Washington, Dec. 7 (Special).—Oratory has disappeared from the Senate in recent years, and the galleries are rarely thrilled by forensic display as in earlier times when spellbinding was more popular. The speeches of the members of the upper house are, as a rule, clear and businesslike, they contain no lofty periods, no flights of rhetoric, and are delivered with no attempt at oratory. Senator Beveridge broke the ice of Senatorial calm when he denounced the tocsin, but after the first few outbursts the junior Senator from Indiana assumed the attitude common to his colleagues, and is now as unimpassioned and judicial in making a statement or an appeal as any of those about him. Among the few Senators, however, there are at least two from whom eloquent perorations may be expected. Bailey, the beautiful, from the Lone Star State, and Burton, from Kansas. An announcement that Mr. Bailey would speak invariably filled the galleries of the House, and a devoted following hung breathless upon his words, enthusiastically comparing him to Webster, whom in the early days of his ambition he took for a model and to whom he has always been faithful. Before he left the other side of the Capitol Mr. Bailey threatened to "stir up" things in his new sphere, but a new Senator must ride his horse. Like a freshman at college, he requires discipline and is not encouraged to assert himself. No matter, therefore, what his intentions, how ardently he hopes to quicken the pulse of the Senate, it may be some time before an opportunity occurs for him to fill the vacant galleries or thrill his colleagues by the eloquence that is so much appreciated in Texas. Another orator among the new men of the Senate is Mr. Burton, of Kansas. He was a freshman in the United States Senate, and ever since he took his degree at college, where he had already won a name as an orator, he has been sought after as a public speaker. In 1888 the speeches he made at the State League Club, New York, occasioned much favorable comment and is still remembered and referred to. In the last campaign he spoke in one hundred counties of his State and is said to have been as fresh and as vigorous as when he was at the beginning. Senator Burton is a native of Indiana, but has lived more than half of his life in the State of his adoption. He is a lawyer by profession, and has always been his own boss. He is believed to the United States Senate. For the last twelve years, indeed, he has frankly worked for the nomination, and six years ago was defeated by only one vote in the caucus. But this repulse he showed no rancor or bitterness and worked so earnestly and zealously for the success of his party that he earned the substantial reward of a seat in the upper house.

Senator Jones of Nevada has come back to the Republican party. He was received with much rejoicing, the fattest calf was killed in his honor, and he begins to feel as though he had never wandered away from the home of his youth. But this distinguished son still cherishes ideas about expansion which are not popular with the party to which he acknowledges allegiance and is wont to illustrate his point of view by the following story:

"But in my country an old farmer invested in some hogs, charging therefor three cents a pound. After keeping the animals all summer and feeding them on the best he had he sold them in the autumn for exactly what he paid for them, three cents a pound. "How in all creation do you expect to make any money selling hogs at that rate?" asked a neighbor who heard of the transaction. "I see no reason to complain as I can see," replied the farmer, "ain't I had the society of the hogs all summer?"

Miss Hay's engagement to Payne Whitney meets with hearty approval on all sides, and both Mr. Whitney and his betrothed have been warmly congratulated. No young woman at the capital is more cordially liked or more sincerely esteemed than Helen Hay. Her childhood and the greater part of her girlhood were spent in Washington, her friends here call her by her first name, and have watched her literary career with keen interest and sympathy. It is generally conceded that she is a woman of her age spoiled by success or one who wears her laurel crown more modestly. Miss Hay is not only a brilliant and talented woman, but she is lovely in person, and her beauty and grace are a public life. The friendship which has recently culminated in an engagement is of long standing. Mr. Whitney having been a classmate of the late Adelbert S. Hay at Yale. The wedding, which has been fixed for February, will take place at Miss Hay's home, and will be a quiet one, owing to the deep mourning of her family.

The sixth annual exhibition of the Water Color Club, held last week in the Corcoran Gallery of Art, was a creditable one. The interest in these exhibitions has increased every year, the standard has been raised and a greater number of artists have submitted work. Last year the trustees of the Corcoran Gallery offered two prizes, one of \$100 and one of \$50, for the two best water color exhibits. These prizes were awarded to James Henry Moser and Helen Perrie. This year these honors have fallen to Jane Bridgeman Child, who received the first prize, and to Miss M. C. Nichols and H. Robert Nichols, who received the second prize for his "The French Coast," a charming study. The prize winners of last year were again present, and their former exhibits were on display. They were many noted names—F. R. Lane, Captain Davis, E. LeGrand Johnston, Miss Bartle, Miss Nichols and Miss Kimberley. The exhibition was attended and patronized by a large and gratifying number of those who contributed to its success.

There is still living at the capital a venerable negro who was a servant at the White House during the whole of President Lincoln's residence there. Her name is Elizabeth Keckly, and she lives in a comfortable brick house, bought with her earnings, where she sacredly guards the relics of her life in the White House. Among these are an unpublished portrait of President Lincoln, taken in the conservatory with a group of Indians who were at that time on a visit to the "great father"; a picture of "Little Tad," given to Mrs. Keckly by the President himself, with the remark, "Here's a very good picture for a very good woman," and photographs of the President and Mrs. Lincoln, also gifts from the distinguished originals, all of them in the little black walnut frames which were in fashion at that period. "Keckly," as she was called at the White House, was born a slave, but had obtained her freedom before the beginning of the war, and established herself in dressmaking. On the arrival of Mrs. Lincoln at the White House, she was hired in as a maid to Mrs. Lincoln, and proved so capable and satisfactory that she was permanently engaged as a maid. Standards were different in those days, fashions simpler, and besides acting as a maid to Mrs. Lincoln, Keckly made her dresses, calling in help from outside at times, but herself planning, cutting and fitting the gowns the President's wife wore. Mrs. Keckly is a remarkable woman, intelligent and tactful, and during the war she exercised much influence upon her mistress, and was frequently consulted on matters not strictly within her province. Keckly was one of the first persons summoned when the President was shot. On that period, however, she was to do, saying that, even at this day, she cannot endure to recall the sorrow and suffering she witnessed.

Mrs. Keckly speaks tenderly and with affection of Willie Lincoln, whose death occurred when his father was a maid to Mrs. Lincoln, his father's chosen companion," she says, "his mother's favorite. I seldom went into Mrs. Lincoln's room that I did not find him curled up in a chair reading or lying on the floor drawing pictures. He was a very good child, everybody loved him. Few people know that the little fellow was a poet, but he had some talent that way, and at least one of his poems was published. It came about in this way: Willie was very fond of Colonel Edward Baker, Senator from Oregon and commander of the Union troops at Bull's Bluff. Upon the death of his hero Willie wrote some childish and enthusiastic

verses eulogizing him as a soldier, which so pleased his father that he allowed him to send them to the editor of "The National Republican," where they were published.

THE MONROE MANSION, WASHINGTON HEIGHTS. Recently sold to a syndicate.

purpose. He will prepare a report of the relative cost of living here now compared with other years, it is said. As times have been good with the working people for the last year, it is believed the report will show that the standard of living has been raised. Allowances will be made in computing the incomes of working people for the time lost during strikes.

An inquiry is also being made in this city by the State Bureau of Labor Statistics regarding strikes and other labor movements. Blank forms have been received at the local branch of the bureau on East Thirtieth-st., asking for information as to strikes, their number, causes and effect, in the last year, as compared with other years. The blanks will be sent to the unions in this vicinity to be filled in and the information will be compiled and reported by John McManis, Labor Commissioner of this State.

TO COOK THEIR OWN BEEFSTEAK.

Company A, of the 22d Regiment, is to make a departure in entertainments by giving a beefsteak dinner at the armory on New Year's Eve, the first time since the war that the members of the company will be cooking by members of the company in the army kitchen.

Company D, Captain Bell, has received a high mark from the mustering officer for parading 100 per cent.

Company E will hold its annual dinner in January.

Company F is to have a theatre party next month. Privates Ross and Betjeman, of this company, have been made corporals. Company H has won another victory in armory rifle shooting by winning the team match, each of the six men receiving a prize. The members of the successful team, with aggregate scores, were: Private Hanlon, 56; Corporal, 62; Private McManis, 63; Private Knapp, 61; Corporal Johnson, 61, and Sergeant Deane, 61. Total, 322. Company G was second, with 246 points, and Company K third, with 216.

Company A will hold an informal hop and reception to-morrow night.

DR. M'GILL'S CONDITION FAVORABLE.

The condition of Dr. John D. McGill, of Jersey City, who has pneumonia, was favorable yesterday. It had been exceedingly critical through the night.

Dr. McGill is surgeon-general of the New Jersey National Guard, president of the Jersey City Police Board. He has attained prominence recently by condemning three grand juries for failing to indict burglars.

CAMBRIDGE PROFESSOR TO LECTURE.

Professor Alfred C. Haddon, of Cambridge University, England, will deliver a lecture before the New-York Academy of Sciences and the American Ethnological Society on Wednesday evening, December 11, at 8:15 o'clock. The rooms of the American Ethnological Society, 12 West Thirty-first-st., will be used for this purpose. The public is invited to attend.

RENSSELAER ALUMNI MEETING.

The fall meeting of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Alumni Association of New-York was held at the Arena on Friday night, the chief feature of the evening being a dinner attended by over two hundred graduates and former students.

Among the prominent men present were L. S. Buck, chief engineer of the New East River Bridge; A. H. Renshaw, president of the Standard Signal Company; Professor George W. Plympton, of Cooper Union; Nelson P. Lewis, Engineer of Highways, Brooklyn; O. F. Packard, R. S. Buck, Charles W. Booth, R. F. Packard, Palmer C. Ricketts, S. R. Thomas, Lawrence P. Roy, F. De P. Hone and the Rev. Dr. F. A. C. Johnson, president of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, by Professor Plympton, Nelson P. Lewis and others. Professor Ricketts announced that the institute was in a sounder financial condition than ever before in its history.

UNION ALUMNI DINNER.

The annual reunion and dinner of the Union College Alumni Association of New-York will be held in the Hotel Savoy next Thursday evening. Among the speakers will be Postmaster General Charles E. Smith, Judge Charles C. Nott, of the United States Court of Appeals, and the Rev. Dr. Raymond V. Raymond, president of Union College.

TO SURPASS PREVIOUS FRENCH BALLS.

Preparations for the annual French Ball for 1902 promise a more elaborate affair than any of its thirty-five predecessors. It will be held at the Madison Square Garden on January 21. The ballet, special dances and decorations will be most gorgeous, and the experience of thirty-five years will be well utilized.

At midnight a ballet of three hundred musical instruments will be played by the band to the accompaniment of an orchestra of one hundred pieces.

SECOND SIGNAL CORPS REVIEW.

Members of the Second Signal Corps, Captain Baldwin, will assemble for review by its veterans on Monday evening, December 18, and a stag entertainment will follow. Colonel F. T. Leigh, a former commander of the Corps, and now signal officer on the staff of General Roe, will be among the guests.

FANWOOD.

THE HISTORIC PROPERTY OF THE DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTION, A PART OF WHICH HAS JUST BEEN SOLD.

A syndicate composed of Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt, Ogden Mills, William Lanman Bull and Charles G. Worthington recently purchased a part of the property on Washington Heights which the New-York Institution of the Deaf and Dumb has owned since 1853. The property extends 738 feet in Fort Washington-ave., and along Broadway from the north side of One-hundred-and-sixty-second-st. to the south side of One-hundred-and-sixty-fifth-st. It is about one-third of the institution's land, which cost originally \$15,000. The price paid by the syndicate was more than \$50,000. The property was not useful for institutional purposes, and as its value will probably be enhanced by the underground railway it was considered a good purchase. The notable feature of the tract is the two-story Colonial house which stands on the ground and has been used for some time as a kindergarten. It was formerly the home of Colonel James Monroe, a nephew of President Monroe, who named it Fanwood, after his daughter Fanny, who was the mother of Douglas Robinson. The institution which disposed of the land has been in existence about eighty-three years, and was the second of its kind in the United States.

TOPICS IN CALIFORNIA.

HEAVY TRAVEL WESTWARD — THE OPERA SEASON—A COMBINATION IN REDWOOD TIMBER.

San Francisco, Dec. 7 (Special).—Winter travel from the East to California promises to be greater this season than ever before. Florida is the only active competitor of California for this class of travel, and the overland railroads have been making a good fight by means of handsomely illustrated literature to bring the attention of the public to the attractions of California and the Southwest as a place for winter residence. E. O. McCormick, passenger traffic manager of the Southern Pacific Company, has arranged for the finest vestibuled trains ever seen on the overland roads, and he is now running seven of these trains every day into San Francisco, three over the Ogden route, two over the Sunset, and two over the Shasta routes. He is also seconded in this work by James Horsburgh, Jr., who has issued a series of Yosemite, Big Tree and other handbooks that are real works of art. The Santa Fe road is also putting on its finest special train service to attract Arizona and Southern California travel. In Southern California the hotels are filling rapidly, as the sea-

PICTURES IN THE SCHOOLS.

FOR THE MOST PART PAINFULLY LACKING IN NEW-YORK—HOPES OF BETTERMENT UNDER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

It is a painful thought to New-Yorkers that they are behind other cities in certain respects, but this is the case, and the city which has in regard to one thing more than any other beaten New-York is Chicago. The point in which the Windy City rises above New-York is that of pictures in the schools. It does not affect the destinies of either city, but teachers consider it of not a little importance. New-York public schools for the elementary grades have no mural decoration to speak of, and certainly no pictures of importance. The high schools have specimens of Greek, Roman and Egyptian art, but stop at that. The old masters, or, indeed, the younger ones, are not yet a part of the school system.

An exhibition has been held for the last week in the museum of Teachers College, under the direction of Oscar L. Woerner. Publishers of pictures all over the world have sent specimens of their work, suitable for hanging on the walls of the schools. The exhibition naturally includes a vast number of subjects, ranging from the work of Botticelli and the early Italianists to that of the modern Frenchmen. The purpose of the exhibition is to show the available pictures and to suggest the proper grouping of subjects. Statuary is not forgotten. Some remarkable photographs, life size and suitable for the walls of rather narrow corridors, are shown, as well as the master casts. As is natural, there is an exhibition of cheap, but for the price excellent, reproductions that may be used for the purposes of study in the class, and perhaps simply framed for the child to carry home.

The statement that New-York has no pictures on the walls of its elementary schools should be slightly modified by noting that a check of the instruction and amusement of the younger children. This group includes "story pictures" and animal pictures, such as "Boughten's Return of the Mayflower" and "Pilgrim Exiles." Lindseer's "Impudent Puppy," "Theaters Collected," "Wild Cattle" and "Deer at Chillingham," Rosa Bonheur's "Britany Sheep," Watson's "Scottish Cattle," Alma Taden's "Reading from a Book," C. Y. Turner's "Courtship of Miles Standish," and the like. Not all of them are great pictures, but they interest young children. However, nothing is done in this city to turn the attention of the older students to the work of the great masters.

In Chicago the walls of the schoolrooms are lined with good reproductions of famous pictures. Every school has its supply. They have a custom of giving exhibitions of pictures and charging a cent or so for admission, spending the proceeds in buying pictures. This is not allowed in New-York. The school board has ordered good photographs of masterpieces to be placed in the schools. In Chicago the walls of the schoolrooms are lined with good reproductions of famous pictures. Every school has its supply. They have a custom of giving exhibitions of pictures and charging a cent or so for admission, spending the proceeds in buying pictures. This is not allowed in New-York. The school board has ordered good photographs of masterpieces to be placed in the schools.

The Keswick electric power plant, one of the largest in the State, went into operation this week. It was built mainly to supply power and light to the Iron Mountain Copper Company, near Keswick, and to the Mountain Copper Smelting Works thirty-four miles away. This plant is provided with static interrupters and all other new electric appliances. The current lights the town of Redding, and next spring wires will light Red Bluff, Maywood Colony and Stanford's great ranch at Vina.

THE FULTON AGAIN TESTED.

SUBMARINE BOAT GOES THROUGH ITS PAGES FOR THE BENEFIT OF A NORWEGIAN CAPTAIN.

Cutchogue, Long Island, Dec. 7.—The Holland submarine boat Fulton was tested again to-day, this time for the benefit of Captain Geelmugden, of the Norwegian navy. Captain Geelmugden represents the Norwegian Government, which is said to be contemplating the purchase of several torpedo boats of the type of the Fulton. Captain Geelmugden boarded the Fulton this morning, and the vessel was given a surface run of one mile, and was then submerged, giving a long distance under water. At the end of the run a torpedo was fired at an imaginary target. This test was successful. This afternoon a Whitehead torpedo was fired from Gardner's Bay. Captain Geelmugden at the conclusion of the tests expressed himself as greatly pleased with the showing made by the boat.

CHEERFULLY GOES TO JAIL.

COMMITTED FOR CONTEMPT, THIS Y. W. C. A. WOMAN HOPES TO DO GOOD THERE.

Bridgetown, Conn., Dec. 7.—Mrs. Mary E. Wright Smith, a wealthy litigant, was to-day committed to jail for contempt by Judge M. J. Curtis, of the Court of Common Pleas. The order was made after Mrs. Smith had declared that no power on earth could make her answer questions about the whereabouts of her government bonds, which she values at \$300,000.

The action was the culmination of an attempt on the part of counsel for Orrin F. Daley, of New-York, to get satisfaction for a judgment obtained against Mrs. Smith several weeks ago. Mrs. Smith was the founder of the Young Women's Christian Association in this city, and is a prominent member of the First Congregational Church. She says she is the Lord's will, and she expects to do some good there.

MISS TOPPAN STILL CHEERFUL.

RETAINS GOOD TEMPER AND APPETITE UNDER THREE INDICTMENTS FOR MURDER.

Barnstable, Mass., Dec. 7.—The events of the last few days in connection with the charges against her have had little effect upon the health or disposition of Jane Toppan, the alleged poisoner of the jail last evening, following her pleas of "not guilty" to the three indictments which had been found against her, she had a long talk with her counsel. She did not seem cast down by the new turn which the case has taken. She retired early and slept very well during the night. No prospect of going to see her, however, except the keepers, with whom she conversed as cheerfully as has been her custom since her arrest.

GERST HEARING POSTPONED.

ACUSED CITY TREASURER HAS UNTIL WEDNESDAY TO ANSWER CHARGE OF MISAPPROPRIATION.

Buffalo, Dec. 7.—The hearing in the case of City Treasurer Philip Gerst, charged with misappropriation of the public funds entrusted to his care, was begun before Mayor Diehl to-day. Mr. Gerst was suspended by Mayor Diehl on November 13. He is charged with having unlawfully appropriated to his own use \$43,000 of the city's money, with appropriating to his own use at various times city funds in amounts ranging from \$1,500 to \$5,000, and with loaning to various persons at different times city money in sums ranging from \$500 to \$1,500.

Robert Schelling appeared for Mr. Gerst, who was not present. Mr. Schelling objected to the hearing being held until the work of the expert accountant had been completed. He also stated that Mr. Gerst had been retained by Franklin Locke as counsel. Mr. Gerst had not been retained by Mr. Locke as counsel. He asked for an adjournment until Wednesday, which the Mayor granted.

BIG MILL SALE PLANNED.

ONE CONDITION IS THAT THE TOWN EXEMPT IT FROM TAXATION FOR A DECADE.

Burlington, Vt., Dec. 7.—Negotiations are pending for the sale of the Burlington, Winooski and Colchester mills, at Winooski, to a big corporation, believed to be the American Woolen Company. The sale is conditional upon the town's exempting the plant from taxes for ten years.

The three mills cost \$1,000,000 when constructed. They made woollen and worsted cloth and cotton yarn. Since last March they have been in the hands of a receiver, and have been idle. It is said the sale is eaten with a death. No one was allowed to see her, however, except the keepers, with whom she conversed as cheerfully as has been her custom since her arrest.

DEPARTMENT STORE REPARTEE.

From The Chicago Tribune. "What are these things?" asked the customer. "Blackboard erasers," said the shopkeeper. "I don't want anything that will erase a blackboard. I want a chalk mark eraser." "That's what I mean. These are chalk mark erasers. Anything else?" "Yes, I want some lead pencils." "We have wooden cylinders with graphite on the inside of them. Will they do as well?"

THE DIFFERENCE.

From The Chicago Post. "No," he said, "I don't want a lottery conducted by you. You can take as many chances as you want in a lottery, while one is usually the limit in marriage."

RECEIVER FOR A NEWSPAPER.

Assemblyman George G. Tennant was yesterday appointed temporary receiver of "The Passaic Daily Herald." The application was made by George C. Hughes, editor, and the principal stockholder of the paper, who desires a reorganization.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO E. J. MATTHEWS.

Philadelphia, Dec. 7.—E. J. Matthews, president of the American District Telegraph Company and a prominent broker, fell from his horse while riding near his home at Valley Forge to-day and broke his neck, dying almost instantly. Mr. Matthews had been living in New-York recently. He had received an invitation to attend the Radnor hunt, and was on his way to the scene of the accident. He was riding on a horse owned by a member of the Union League, Raquet and Philadelphia clubs, and was sixty-five years old.

WATER FOUND IN NEW-MEXICAN DESERT.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 7.—A dispatch from Las Cruces announces that the oil borers at Engle, N. M., have struck an artesian well at a depth of 209 feet which swept 1,900 gallons an hour through a two-inch hole. Engle is situated in the heart of the famous Journey of Death Desert, which is one of the most arid regions known, and the strike of water will prove far more valuable than an oil gusher. During the Mexican war, out of a column of 165 soldiers who attempted to cross the desert, all save fourteen perished. Great excitement has been created by the strike.

FOURTEENTH REGIMENT INSPECTION.

A percentage of 93.56 was attained by the 14th Regiment at its annual muster last Monday night. Six hundred and ninety-nine members were present, out of an aggregate membership of 745. Company E, with sixty members, paraded the largest number, and only one man was absent from it. Company K had only thirty-six men present, and had seven men absent. Company F paraded its full membership of fifty-five officers and men. Taken as a whole, the showing of the regiment was considered by the official inspectors as creditable.

POLISH PRIEST MARRIED.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 7.—"The Times" says that the Rev. Father Anthony Polito, in charge of the Catholic parish of St. John the Baptist, in Kansas City, Kan., was married in St. Joseph, Mo., on November 19 to Mrs. Eva M. Springstreet, known also as Mrs. Fair. She says she came here from Chicago, but her home was originally in Atchison, Kan. It is said that Father Polito is thirty-seven years old and was a college friend of Henry W. Aldrich, who was a companion of Gabriel D'Annunzio. He was exiled from Dalmatia because of his liberal political utterances. He came here from Johnstown, Penn.

STARR C. PARDEE, FOR EIGHT YEARS MANAGER OF THE FIDELITY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY, UNTIL LAST AUGUST, WHEN HE WAS FORCED TO RESIGN

because of neglect of business, is now in jail here for passing worthless checks. These were mainly given to restaurant men and small dealers and none are for over \$50. Pardee says he gave them with the understanding that his account was overdrawn, but this is denied by his victims.

Contracts have been let for one of the largest office buildings in "Frisco. It will be built at New-Montgomery and Mission sts., and will cost half a million. It will be 100 feet in New-Montgomery-st. and 116 feet in Mission-st., running back to Minna-st.

A company has been started here by H. Frolich to convert black strap sugar beet refuse into alcohol. Heretofore this refuse, which contains considerable syrup, has been discarded as of no value except for manure. The factory will probably be established at Point Richmond.

The redwood lumber dealers of the Pacific Coast are forming a combination to limit the output and control the prices of this lumber throughout the world. Sixteen leading lumber manufacturers of Humboldt, Mendocino and Del Norte counties are represented in the combination. Their plan is to send agents to the East and Europe and push redwood lumber, especially for the interior finish of houses and for fine cabinet work.

Three hundred colored people from Louisiana will soon be established in a colony of 3,000 acres in Contra Costa County, near the San Joaquin line. They will develop the large ranch of John Herd, raising garden produce, which can be marketed by water or by the Santa Fe Railroad, which runs through the tract. The land is rich and is well irrigated, so that the colony ought to be successful. If it flourishes the managers have an option on 12,000 acres of land adjacent to the tract. The plan is to establish a negro town, which will elect its own officers and have a church and a school of its own.

The great dam of the Merced Mining Company was finished this week and water let into it. It was built to impound the water of the Merced River and generate electricity for running mines on the Mariposa grant, as well as to light the streets of Mariposa and Mount Bullion. The dam is 452 feet long, of 302 feet between abutments, contains 700,000 feet of lumber and cost \$35,000. Though only fifty-three feet high and thirty-two feet above water level, it impounds water for two and one-eighth miles below the grade of the canyon.

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Big mill sale planned. ONE CONDITION IS THAT THE TOWN EXEMPT IT FROM TAXATION FOR A DECADE. Burlington, Vt., Dec. 7.—Negotiations are pending for the sale of the Burlington, Winooski and Colchester mills, at Winooski, to a big corporation, believed to be the American Woolen Company. The sale is conditional upon the town's exempting the plant from taxes for ten years.

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The redwood lumber dealers of the Pacific Coast are forming a combination to limit the output and control the prices of this lumber throughout the world. Sixteen leading lumber manufacturers of Humboldt, Mendocino and Del Norte counties are represented in the combination. Their plan is to send agents to the East and Europe and push redwood lumber, especially for the interior finish of houses and for fine cabinet work.

Three hundred colored people from Louisiana will soon be established in a colony of 3,000 acres in Contra Costa County, near the San Joaquin line. They will develop the large ranch of John Herd, raising garden produce, which can be marketed by water or by the Santa Fe Railroad, which runs through the tract. The land is rich and is well irrigated, so that the colony ought to be successful. If it flourishes the managers have an option on 12,000 acres of land adjacent to the tract. The plan is to establish a negro town, which will elect its own officers and have a church and a school of its own.

The great dam of the Merced Mining Company was finished this week and water let into it. It was built to impound the water of the Merced River and generate electricity for running mines on the Mariposa grant, as well as to light the streets of Mariposa and Mount Bullion. The dam is 452 feet long, of 302 feet between abutments, contains 700,000 feet of lumber and cost \$35,000. Though only fifty-three feet high and thirty-two feet above water level, it impounds water for two and one-eighth miles below the grade of the canyon.

The Keswick electric power plant, one of the largest in the State, went into operation this week. It was built mainly to supply power and light to the Iron Mountain Copper Company, near Keswick, and to the Mountain Copper Smelting Works thirty-four miles away. This plant is provided with static interrupters and all other new electric appliances. The current lights the town of Redding, and next spring wires will light Red Bluff, Maywood Colony and Stanford's great ranch at Vina.

THE FULTON AGAIN TESTED. SUBMARINE BOAT GOES THROUGH ITS PAGES FOR THE BENEFIT OF A NORWEGIAN CAPTAIN. Cutchogue, Long Island, Dec. 7.—The Holland submarine boat Fulton was tested again to-day, this time for the benefit of Captain Geelmugden, of the Norwegian navy. Captain Geelmugden represents the Norwegian Government, which is said to be contemplating the purchase of several torpedo boats of the type of the Fulton.

Cheerfully goes to jail. COMMITTED FOR CONTEMPT, THIS Y. W. C. A. WOMAN HOPES TO DO GOOD THERE. Bridgetown, Conn., Dec. 7.—Mrs. Mary E. Wright Smith, a wealthy litigant, was to-day committed to jail for contempt by Judge M. J. Curtis, of the Court of Common Pleas. The order was made after Mrs. Smith had declared that no power on earth could make her answer questions about the whereabouts of her government bonds, which she values at \$300,000.

Miss Toppan still cheerful. RETAINS GOOD TEMPER AND APPETITE UNDER THREE INDICTMENTS FOR MURDER. Barnstable, Mass., Dec. 7.—The events of the last few days in connection with the charges against her have had little effect upon the health or disposition of Jane Toppan, the alleged poisoner of the jail last evening, following her pleas of "not guilty" to the three indictments which had been found against her, she had a long talk with her counsel. She did not seem cast down by the new turn which the case has taken. She retired early and slept very well during the night. No prospect of going to see her, however, except the keepers, with whom she conversed as cheerfully as has been her custom since her arrest.

Big mill sale planned. ONE CONDITION IS THAT THE TOWN EXEMPT IT FROM TAXATION FOR A DECADE. Burlington, Vt., Dec. 7.—Negotiations are pending for the sale of the Burlington, Winooski and Colchester mills, at Winooski, to a big corporation, believed to be the American Woolen Company. The sale is conditional upon the town's exempting the plant from taxes for ten years.

Polish priest married. KANSAS CITY, MO., DEC. 7.—"The Times" says that the Rev. Father Anthony Polito, in charge of the Catholic parish of St. John the Baptist, in Kansas City, Kan., was married in St. Joseph, Mo., on November 19 to Mrs. Eva M. Springstreet, known also as Mrs. Fair. She says she came here from Chicago, but her home was originally in Atchison, Kan. It is said that Father Polito is thirty-seven years old and was a college friend of Henry W. Aldrich, who was a companion of Gabriel D'Annunzio. He was exiled from Dalmatia because of his liberal political utterances. He came here from Johnstown, Penn.