



MRS. BEDFORD TO FIGHT FOR SHARE IN ESTATE.

Declares Child Proved Spurious Was Acknowledged by Husband.

Ready to begin a legal fight for a widow's rights in the property left by her husband, Mrs. Gunning S. Bedford arrived yesterday on the French Line steamship La Gascoigne.

Mrs. Bedford, after the death of her husband in Paris, returned to this country in April, bringing his body. She later went on the other side that she was arrested in Liverpool on a charge of trying to pass off a spurious baby as her husband's heir.

This is based on the allegation that a great part of the money left by Frederick Bedford came to him through his wife, who was a Chittenden.

Mrs. Bedford, a frail looking woman, with blond hair and large, dark eyes, was dressed in deep mourning when she left the steamship yesterday morning.

"I have decided not to grant an interview," she said, "until I have seen Mr. Bushe or Mr. Stephen Fiske, the trustees of my husband's estate."

"One reason for my coming here is to scatter flowers on my husband's grave at Woodlawn," she said. "Another reason is to begin a fight for my rights in my husband's estate."

"I was treated like a rat on the other side, and they had no right to arrest me. I have been warned that I would be arrested on my arrival here, but what can they arrest me for now?"

"Mrs. Bedford, whose child was the baby which you sought to have declared Mr. Bedford's and which was the cause of your arrest in Liverpool?" she was asked.

"The baby was my husband's. He acknowledged the child, and did so just before he died. Mr. Bushe knows this. It is sufficient to say that it was my husband's child. He was a gentleman. He said that it was his, and I promised him that I would take care of it. I will do so, and the little one is now about seven months old and is in the care of a nurse in the country near Paris. It is my husband's child, and, for the rest, that is no one's business."

"What did you seek to prove by this?" "What I did is my business. I took the action that I did at the request of my husband. He wanted the child provided for."

"Have you received word of the child's death?" "No, I have not, and I do not believe that the child is dead. When I left it was in good health, but it was suspected then that it was getting the whooping cough."

"I have this cablegram, in Low code, which I received this morning, but have been unable to read it as I left my code book in Paris. I do not think that it refers to the child. It is signed by Thomas, my business representative in Paris."

"According to cable dispatches Caroline Thomas is the name of the child's nurse."

"When asked where the child was kept, Mrs. Bedford said that she could not make that public."

"I would be afraid to," she said. "I have had so much trouble myself that I don't know what might happen. I have no proof that an attempt was made to dynamite the Umbria on which I sailed because I was on board, but it is strange that of all the ships crossing the ocean the one on which I sailed should receive the dynamite. I have gone through more than most women could have stood."

"I want what is coming from my husband's estate not half so much because I want the money as because it was the desire of my husband that I should have it."

"I make the claim that most of the money which was left by Mr. Bedford's father came from the latter's wife, who was a Chittenden, and that the father had no right to will this money away from the son of his wife. Mr. Bedford, my husband, often talked of breaking the will. He wished to get a large sum of money and invest in a racing stable. That was his desire, and he believed that he could have done so, but he lacked the necessary strength to begin an actual contest, and when he died it was his desire that I should have his estate. I am going to get it if possible."

"As to those who are seeking the money, he had nothing to do with them when alive, and cordially disliked them. To one of his relatives he gave a pension, though there was no claim on him to do so. In making this statement I do not refer to Mrs. Isaac Wright, of Hempstead, Long Island, whom I have met."

"I calculate to make some of Mr. Bedford's relatives persevere before I am through. They had nothing to do with him in life, and they seek to deprive him with him in life, and he is dead. Leaving out all question of a child, there are some rights to which I am entitled, and I am going to begin a fight for them."

Mrs. Bedford produced a typewritten copy of a will which she declares is the only will of her husband. In this, under date of January 19, 1901, all of her husband's possessions are left to her. She is named as administrator, with Eugene L. Bushe and Stephen Fiske. The document takes up less than one page.

Mrs. Bedford declared that if the other heirs had gone to her and offered to compromise she would have accepted.

The beauties of the Hudson are best seen from the decks of Day Line steamers. Good must. Advt.

FIRE THREATENS CONEY. Several People in Music Hall Crushed in Panic.

BELVEDERE HOTEL GUTTED.

The Steeplechase Park at Coney Island and a large number of the shows and eating houses at the southern end of the Bowery were severely threatened yesterday by a fire in the Hotel Belvedere, at Tilyou's Walk and the Bowery.

A second alarm was sent in as soon as the firemen arrived, because of the inflammable nature of the buildings in the neighborhood. The wind was off shore, and it is thought that if it had been in another direction it would have been impossible to save the park. A large fire in that part of the island would have been a serious matter, for the island was crowded, and none of the buildings would have offered any resistance to the flames.

The firemen were hampered by the low pressure of the water mains, and by the large crowds which were drawn to the spot. The fire was under control in about an hour and a half, and little damage was done to anything except the hotel.

The hotel is run by Wilson & Kojan, and is owned by the Ballantine Brewing Company, of Newark. The loss to the buildings was about \$7,000, and that to the machines from which the fire started about \$2,000.

DOG SCARS HER FOR LIFE.

Bites Prostrate Girl Seven Times About Face.

A Newfoundland dog attacked Amanda Floritello, five years old, in front of her home, at No. 151 East One-hundred-and-seventh-st., yesterday, biting her seven times in the forehead, face and neck. Twenty-two stitches were necessary to sew up the wounds. The child is expected to recover, but will be disfigured for life.

She was playing in front of the house with a little yellow dog, which seemed to enjoy the sport as much as the child. As they played the larger dog spied them and ran up the street. He was owned by a man named Fox, who lived at Ninety-ninth-st. and First-ave. Fox died recently, and since then the dog has followed various persons living in the neighborhood.

"Go away, doggie," she said, and put her hands against his side and pushed him. The dog was actually higher than she. The animal turned with a snarl and bit her forehead.

The girl fell with a shriek of terror. As she fell the dog bit her again, this time on the left cheek near the eye. She continued screaming, and the dog bit her again and again. The bites were in the left cheek on the forehead, near the left jaw and on the neck.

The father and tenants of nearby houses heard the child's shrieks. The father was the first to reach his daughter. Floritello shouted at the dog, as did others who ran up. The animal looked up and immediately darted down the street, and disappeared.

Floritello picked up the unconscious girl and carried her to the drug store at One-hundred-and-seventh-st. and Lexington-ave. The face of the child was a mass of blood and the flesh was laid open in several places, as the bites were deep.

An ambulance was at once called from the Harlem Hospital and Dr. Krauskopf said there was probably no poison in the wounds, as there was no reason to believe the dog mad.

JOHN L. RUSSELL HOME.

Wife Lays Disappearance to "Mental Aberration."

John L. Russell, the secretary of the Journey & Burnham Company, drygoods dealers in Brooklyn, who disappeared on Friday, July 10, returned to his home, No. 100 Lincoln Place, last night. He refused to be seen, but Mrs. Russell admitted that he was in the house. She explained his absence by saying that he went away while suffering from "mental aberration." Further than that she refused to talk about the case.

Mrs. Russell was greatly worried by her husband's disappearance, and at first she was inclined to believe that he had met foul play. Several detectives were employed, but no information as to the man's whereabouts was obtained until he sent a telegram from Milledgeville, Ga., saying that he was well and would return at once. Since then, she said on Saturday, she traced his movements to Philadelphia, from there to Baltimore, and then to Georgia. A week before he disappeared Mr. Russell was overcome by the heat, and it is thought that this may in a measure explain his going away.

SHE DROWNS HERSELF.

The Widow of Alfred C. Cheney Jumps Into the River.

Elmira, N. Y., July 19.—Mrs. Adeline Cheney, who was visiting her sisters, the Misses Hull, in Owego, arose early this morning and made her way to the Susquehanna River. She jumped into the water and was drowned. The body, fully dressed, was found near the steamboat Dewey.

Mrs. Cheney was sixty-five years old, and had been suffering from nervousness. She was the widow of Alfred C. Cheney, who at the time of his death, ten years ago, was president of the Garfield National Bank and the Garfield Safe Deposit Company, of New-York. He was also one of the chief promoters of the Nicaragua Canal.

STEAMER THEBAN WILL BE SAVED.

Punta Arenas, Chili, July 19.—The mails and passengers of the German steamer Theban, from San Francisco, April 18, for Hamburg, which grounded in Gray's Channel and was subsequently floated, has been landed. The damage to the steamer was less than was anticipated, and she is expected to be floated in ten days. Her cargo will be discharged in order that the damage may be repaired. Steam pumps have been placed aboard. Eight thousand bags of coffee have been jettisoned.

Easy to button and unbutton. Stay buttoned. Never break. Kremenz One-Piece Collar Buttons. -ADVT.

WYOMING LAWLESSNESS. MOB LYNCHES TWO MEN.

A Deputy Sheriff Killed at Basin—Sheriff Wants Militia.

Butte, Mont., July 19.—A dispatch to "The Miner" from Red Lodge, Mont., says that "Jim" Gorman, who killed his brother about a year ago and ran off with his brother's wife, and a man named Walters, who killed a widow named Hoover at the Hot Springs two years ago because she refused to marry him, were lynched at Elgin, Wyo., to-day. C. E. Pierce, a deputy sheriff, was killed during the attack on the jail. A state of lawlessness now prevails in Northern Wyoming, as a result of which all law and order seem to have been abolished. From President Moffett of the Montana and Wyoming Telephone Company, who is now making a tour of inspection of his company's lines, comes the news of the lynching and of an appeal for help from Sheriff Fenton, of Big Horn County, who has arrested a number of prominent cattlemen near Thermopolis and has appealed to the Governor of Wyoming for the assistance of the militia in getting his prisoners to the Basin.

It was reported to Sheriff Fenton last Wednesday morning that a mob was coming up to Basin from Hattsville and Tonship to lynch Gorman and Walters, and the Sheriff took these two men and a horse thief from jail and secreted them in a gully near town under guard of Deputy Sheriffs Alston and Pierce.

Gorman managed to slip his handcuffs and make his escape. He swam the Big Horn River (an unprecedented feat), and made for the mountains. A posse was quickly organized, and Gorman was recaptured early yesterday morning about fifty miles from Basin.

Last night a mob of about fifty unmasked men rode up the east bank of the Big Horn and compelled the ferryman to carry them across the river. They made no demonstration until they entered Basin, when five shots were fired as a warning. The mob proceeded at once to the county jail and fired a volley into the jail. Deputy Sheriff Pierce and Special Deputy Sheriff Meade were guarding the prisoners at the time. One bullet grazed Meade's shoulder and entered Pierce's heart. Members of the mob then tore up the telephone poles and battered the jail doors down. They first came to Walters, who was crouched in his cell, begging piteously for mercy. No needless torture was resorted to. Walters was shot instantly. The mob next found Gorman, whose body was pierced by five bullets and was left presumably dead. He lingered, however, until this forenoon.

A still more alarming state of affairs is reported from the vicinity of Thermopolis. About six weeks ago, as a result of the range feud that has been so bitterly waged, a sheepman, "Ben" Minnick, was killed by cattlemen. The Sheriff, it is asserted, has captured the murderers, who are all prominent cattlemen, and whose names have been withheld owing to threats made against the Sheriff. Sheriff Fenton is unable to get his prisoners to Basin. It is said the same mob that lynched Gorman and Walters are sympathizers, and have declared that Sheriff Fenton will never get out of the locality alive with his prisoners. Sheriff Fenton has telegraphed to the Governor of Wyoming for permission to use the State militia at Lander, and has also sent a telephone message to Basin and other towns asking for volunteers to assist him in upholding the law. Everywhere hardy Westerners are responding to the call, arming themselves and hastening to Thermopolis. It is probable the militia will be ordered to the scene, and a bloody battle may be fought. The country about Thermopolis is a wild and lawless one. The last message from Sheriff Fenton, which was received this morning, said he still held the prisoners, and that he believed he could hold out until reinforcements came.

THREAT THROUGH TUBE.

Brewer Who Cut Throat Strapped to Cot—Determined to Die.

To prevent him from carrying out his threat to tear the bandages from his wounds, William Kern, a brewer, who attempted to kill himself on Saturday night by cutting his throat and shooting himself, lies strapped to a cot in the Lebanon Hospital. Last night Coroner Berry went to the hospital to take the man's ante-mortem statement.

"I have had trouble with my wife," the man gasped to the coroner through the silver pipe the doctors had placed in his throat, "and if they ever let me loose I will kill myself. I will not live, and I will tear away the bandages and bleed to death when they take these straps off my hands."

Kern lived with his wife, Emma, at No. 1,231 Brook-ave. On Saturday night Kern went to the house of a friend, Edward Schott, at No. 1,294 Washington-ave. He told Schott of his troubles, and then, going into the bathroom, cut his throat and shot himself in the left breast.

The bullet did not make a serious wound, but the cut in his throat was a deep one. Yesterday the doctors performed the operation of tracheotomy, and placed the tube in his throat. They now think he will recover. The wife told the coroner she thought her husband insane. She said she had had him taken to the Morrisania court a few days ago, and had asked the magistrate to commit him to the hospital, but that her request had been refused.

CHASE ROUND THE WORLD.

Secret Service Men Bring Back Man Accused of Forgery.

J. C. Beasley, who is to answer to the United States authorities on a charge of forging postal orders, reached here yesterday on the steamship St. Paul. With him were D. R. Dwyer and C. E. Heron, Secret Service Detectives, who arrested their prisoner after a chase of seventeen thousand miles. Forged postal orders made their appearance in Nome, Alaska, in the summer of last year. Detectives were placed on the case, and after an investigation it was decided that the guilty man was Beasley, who is said to have been a government employe.

The man disappeared before he could be arrested. He was traced across the Pacific, and on October 25 Dwyer and Heron were sent on the trail. Yesterday when they arrived with their prisoner they were not disposed to discuss the case, and later it was said that they had taken the prisoner to Washington.

Beasley and the detectives came over in the first cabin, and there was much surprise when it became known that he was a prisoner. He is said to have taken part in most of the gayety on board ship.

Beasley was arrested in a hotel in Johannesburg, South Africa, in June. On his arrival at this port he had almost made a circle of the globe. The detectives went to Japan, and on their arrival at Yokohama found that he had gone to the Philippines. They reached there and traced the man to different places, always to find that he was just ahead. Then followed a chase to Australia. Beasley was heard from at Melbourne and Sydney, but they did not catch up with the fugitive until they reached Southampton. From there he was taken to Southampton.

PLATT NAMES ALDRICH. Suggests Rhode Island Senator for Second Place.

Senator Thomas C. Platt, at the Oriental Hotel, yesterday, suggested that Senator Nelson W. Aldrich, of Rhode Island, would be an excellent man to nominate for Vice-President on the Republican ticket next year. He made this statement in the course of a general conversation. The Senator was seated on the veranda of the hotel, chatting with a number of friends, when he was asked if he favored Louisville as a convention city next year.

Senator Platt is going to make a bid for both conventions, he said, "but I hardly think they will go there."

"What city do you favor?" was asked. "Well," he replied, "I will go wherever I am sent. Chicago, I believe, would be the best place."

"Governor Yates says he will not be a candidate for Vice-President?" was suggested. "Yes, I noticed that," commented the Senator, "and I am sorry. He was one of the most likely candidates. However, we have plenty of material. How would Senator Aldrich do? He is a good man. We should miss him on the Finance Committee in the Senate, but he would make an admirable candidate."

Senator Platt was not inclined to discuss municipal politics. He said matters in that line were unchanged. "Mayor Low visited the President yesterday," he was reminded.

"Yes, I see he has been at Oyster Bay," answered Mr. Platt, "and I see he was also as mum as an oyster."

The Senator said that he did not see any reason for the extra session of Congress. "I suppose," he continued, "the President believes that by starting in early he can shorten up at the other end; but I suppose we shall be in session just as long, nevertheless." Mr. Platt added that he did not know anything about the proposed financial legislation, and that he believed the Cuban treaty would go through quickly when Congress met.

While the Senator was talking a friend gave him a gun metal pencil holder, the base of which was made from a Mauser shell. He had some long, nevertheless. Mr. Platt added that he did not know anything about the proposed financial legislation, and that he believed the Cuban treaty would go through quickly when Congress met.

OFFICER STOPS MURDER.

Knocks Revolver from Hand of Alleged Mafia Member.

Alfonso Marcello, who recently arrived in this country, and who is said to be a member of the Mafia who came here to seek revenge, is a prisoner in Newark. He was arrested here on Friday night by Policeman Dauber while attempting to shoot another Italian in River-st., that city. The policeman knocked the revolver from Marcello's hand with his club, but he quickly regained it and had turned it on the officer when the latter felled him with the club and disarmed him, after a hard struggle.

Dauber's attention had been called to Marcello by some Italians, who said his mission was to kill. The officer watched him, and when he finally pulled his revolver and rushed on a man for whom he had evidently been lying in wait the officer acted promptly. The man whom Marcello attempted to shoot escaped in the confusion.

MACKAY SELLS TO NEVADA BANK.

Half Interest in Nevada Block, San Francisco, Changes Hands.

San Francisco, July 19.—Clarence Mackay has sold his half interest in the Nevada Block, at Pine and Montgomery sts., which his father and Flood and Fair built when Bonanza stock was at its height. The first floor has ever since been occupied by the Nevada Bank, which when opened was the finest bank on this coast, with a capital of \$100,000. The great stream of gold and silver from Nevada, which Mackay sold, passed through this bank, and all the big brokers dealt with it. Several years ago a corporation wished to obtain the ownership of the block, and to Mr. Mackay was offered a good price for his holding, and the deed has just been received here. James L. Flood, the only son of the Bonanza king, was asked to sell his share, but he refused. The building is old fashioned, having been erected in 1875, but it is still a fine property.

SHOT HIS BROTHER IN PLAY.

The Youngest Boy Pulled the Trigger, Not Knowing the Gun Was Loaded.

Stamford, Conn., July 19.—Clinton Bouton, twelve years old, of No. 38 Hull-st., Brooklyn, was shot in the right eye this morning by his little brother, the youngest son of the family. The leg was so badly injured that the surgeons amputated it above the knee. The boy is in a critical condition in the Stamford Hospital.

The brothers have been visiting their aunt, Mrs. William Shreve, No. 396 Greenwich-ave. Their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Bouton, were with them. The party intended to return to Brooklyn to-morrow.

Walter arose about 7 o'clock this morning. In a corner hung an old sword, and seizing this, he began to play with his brother, who lay in bed. An old rusty double barreled shotgun was in a corner. He took the gun and, unaware that it was loaded, pointed the muzzle at his brother and pulled the trigger. The muzzle was close to the boy's body, and the bird-shot tore his leg, taking an upward course. The boy bore the pain bravely, remaining conscious until after he was given for the operation.

THIRTY DEATHS FROM LOCKJAW.

Unusual Number of Cases in New-England—Not Many in Boston.

Boston, July 19.—New-England is having a remarkable record of cases of tetanus, or lockjaw, of late. Thirty deaths having been reported within the last few days. There are now twenty-one cases within a few miles of Boston, the oldest averaging fifteen years. This is close to the Pennsylvania record of forty-five deaths in the ten days following the Fourth.

Boston has been singularly free from serious cases, only one death having resulted. The pathological laboratory at the Boston City Hospital, under Dr. Councilman, the authority on germ life, has lent wonderful assistance in curtailing the number of serious cases.

DEATH OF MORTIMER F. TAYLOR.

Expires in New-York Hospital After Being Taken from the Campania.

Mortimer F. Taylor, a lawyer, of No. 156 Broadway, who was taken to the New-York Hospital from the steamer Campania on Saturday, died yesterday morning. Mr. Taylor went abroad for his health about two months ago, but was not much improved. He became suddenly ill on Wednesday, and was in a critical condition when the vessel arrived.

Dr. T. Rurdon, who attended him, found that he was suffering from chronic indigestion and heart disease. His death occurred at about 10 o'clock yesterday morning. It was said at the hospital last night that the body had been removed, and would be held till the arrival of his widow from some point in the West. Mr. Taylor's home address is given in the directory as No. 28 West Twenty-sixth-st.

COMA PRECEDES POPE'S DEATH.

THE TERM OF EXISTENCE OF THE AGED PONTIFF NOW MEASURED BY HOURS.

Deep Stupor Broken Only by Delirious Cries—Life Prolonged by Stimulants—Vatican Quiet; People Restless.

Pope Leo yesterday morning sank into a state of coma, which continued through the day and night, and his death within a few hours seemed this morning to be inevitable. The Pontiff was then no longer able to take nourishment and life was maintained by stimulants.

The cardinals were summoned to the Vatican when the change in the Pope's condition became known. All was quiet at the palace at an early hour to-day, but the great piazza of St. Peter was thronged with people awaiting the news of the Pontiff's death.

The bronze doors at the Vatican have been closed.

THE CARDINALS AT ODDS. BRONZE DOORS CLOSED.

Confusion Promised at the Vatican After Leo's Death.

(Special to The New-York Tribune by French Cable.) (Copyright, 1903, by The Tribune Association.) Rome, July 19.—Preparations for the conclave are being freely made, although the Pope is still alive, the Cardinals expressing their preferences and squabbling over their apartments in the Vatican. Cardinals Oreglia and Serafino Vanu-telli have already installed themselves in the Palace, in opposition to the wishes of Cardinal Rampolla, who, while the Pope breathes, remains supreme.

Meanwhile Leo lies in complete unconsciousness in his quiet, dim room, cared for only by Dr. Laponni and Pio Centra, whose duties are not now arduous, as Leo now takes no nourishment. The stillness of death reigns everywhere, those who are still on duty moving with noiseless steps, the whole scene giving an impression of that breathless pause which comes before the storm.

The Pontiff's death will, indeed, be the signal for the utmost confusion. It is supposed that he will die in his present stupor, but it is within the bounds of possibility that he may have a short revival of energy and intelligence just before the supreme moment.

POPE ABANDONS HOPE.

Bids Farewell to His Valet—Pio Centra's Grief.

Paris, July 19.—According to a Paris news agency dispatch from Rome, Pio Centra, the Pope's valet, is greatly distressed because he is unable to assist his dying master, who does not recognize any one. Centra left the sickroom several times exclaiming: "It is finished! I can do no more!"

The Pope in a lucid interval said to him as he was leaving the room: "My hour has come. Farewell, and thanks, my son."

PRESIDENT'S SYMPATHY.

Mr. Roosevelt's Message Highly Appreciated at Vatican.

Rome, July 19.—President Roosevelt has sent, through Francis B. Loomis, Assistant Secretary of State, to Cardinal Rampolla a telegram expressing the President's sincere sympathy for His Holiness in this hour of supreme anxiety, and asking to be informed of the condition of the venerable patient.

The Vatican authorities deeply appreciate this expression of the American President, and recall the cordial personal exchanges between the President and the Pope when the volumes of Presidential messages and Papal encyclicals were exchanged.

Cardinal Rampolla sent an answer to the message which contained the thanks of the Vatican authorities for the solicitude expressed by the President, and also the latest information concerning the condition of the Pope.

TEXT OF THE MESSAGE.

Washington, July 19.—Acting Secretary of State Loomis yesterday sent the following cable dispatch to Cardinal Rampolla, at Rome: To His Eminence, Cardinal Rampolla, Rome. The President directs me to convey through you appropriate expressions of his sincere sympathy with His Holiness in this hour of supreme suspense and to request that he be advised of the condition of the venerable sufferer.

FRANCIS B. LOOMIS, Acting Secretary of State.

GIBBONS'S DISPATCH TO PRESIDENT.

Oyster Bay, Long Island, July 19.—Late to-night President Roosevelt received from the State Department at Washington a dispatch from Cardinal Gibbons at Rome in response to the President's message of inquiry and sympathy concerning Pope Leo. Cardinal Gibbons's dispatch to the State Department follows: Rome, July 19. To Francis B. Loomis, Acting Secretary of State, Washington.

I beg of you to present in His Holiness's name to His Excellency the President the warmest and most sincere thanks for his sympathy toward His Holiness in this hour of dreadful suspense, and am very sorry to advise you that unfortunately the condition of the august sufferer is becoming very dangerous. M. CARDINAL GIBBONS.

It is believed that the signature to the dispatch should be Rampolla, as Cardinal Gibbons is said to be in Paris. Cardinal Gibbons's name is James.

DOCTORS FILE REPORTS.

Means of Preventing Future Criticism—Third Operation.

Rome, July 19.—The medical aspect of the Pope's case is exciting much discussion. One reliable authority, who has opportunities of knowing the private history of the treatment, declares that a third operation for the removal of the pleuric fluid has been performed, but has not been made public in order to avoid increasing the public apprehension.

The statement, based on the same reliable grounds, is also made that Dr. Laponni and Dr. Mazzoni have made a written statement before a notary giving the exact details of the Pope's case, and that copies of these statements have been deposited with Cardinal Rampolla and Monsignor Cagiano de Azevedo, the major domo of His Holiness. The purpose of this statement is to answer possible subsequent medical criticisms on the treatment of the case.

It is understood that the doctors have not been as frank in their bulletins as they personally desired to be, details of some features of the case being withheld at the earnest request of the Vatican authorities. Their formal statement is expected to clear up the entire medical history of the case.

A Sign Said to Denote a Pontiff's Death—Censorship Possible.

Rome, July 20, 4:55 p. m.—At this hour it is announced that the condition of the Pontiff is apparently stationary.

4:05 a. m.—When the Pope is called by his attendants he still makes a great effort to arouse himself from the torpor into which he has sunk, but he is soon again overcome.

3:35 a. m.—Now that the last moment in this memorable life and reign of Pope Leo is expected hourly, the contrast between the quiet within and the excitement without the Vatican is most striking. In the vast palace there is a hushed calm of expectation, the only apparent wakeful souls being the Swiss Guards.

The doctors and attendants of the dying Pontiff speak in whispers and move noiselessly about, so that from the sickroom no sound comes except the heavy breathing of the unconscious Pope or his occasional cries for Pio Centra and Dr. Laponni. His tone is one of fear, as if he felt himself abandoned.

In reality sleep is very far from all eyes. No matter at what hour death comes, the whole palace will spring into sudden life, as though touched by a magician's wand.

In the Piazza of St. Peter's, on the contrary, all is movement, there being an encampment of journalists before the famous bronze doors, which are now closed in their faces, and behind which the regular tramp of the Swiss Guards can be heard.

Many eyes are glued to the window in the Pope's chamber, overlooking the piazza, while the nearby cafés, especially those with tele-phones, are crowded. Bicycles ready for use are piled up outside them, and cabs are lingering about, in the hope of catching a fare.

The "Osservatore Romano," the chief Vatican organ, has received orders to hold itself in readiness to issue almost at a moment's notice a special edition. The only thing wanting to complete the paper is the hour of Pope Leo's death.

A contributing element to the weakness of the Pope has been his inability to take nourishment. When an attempt is made to administer restoratives, although they are placed in his mouth he does not swallow them.

The Vatican has asked for special prayers for the head of the Church.

LYING IN STUPOR AT MIDNIGHT.

Midnight.—The Pontiff lies to-night in a state of coma, and there are grave doubts on the minds of his doctors whether he will ever completely emerge from his stupor. His immediate dissolution seems to be averted only by the reliability of the action of his heart. His pulse, though weak, continues steady. Shortly before midnight Dr. Laponni said:

The Pope at the present moment is in a state of coma, which may be called a condition preceding the last agony. The duration of the stupor is impossible to forecast, although everything leads to the belief that this condition cannot last. To be more exact, he is still