New-York Tribune.

Vol. LXIII....No. 20,840. To-day, fair, with rain or snow to-night. To-morrow, snow. NEW-YORK, MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1903.—TWELVE PAGES. Copyright, 1903, by The Tribune Association. PRICE THREE CENTS.

ROOT PRAISES THE ARMY.

HIS ANNUAL REPORT.

Urges Reduction of Philippine Tariff—General Staff and Militia Law.

Washington, Dec. 6.—Secretary Root, in his annual report, made public to-day, says the most important military events of the year were the creation of the General Staff and the enactment of the new military law. He makes an urgent plea for the reduction of duties on imports from the Philippines. He reports the army generally in a high state of efficiency. Regarding Philippine tariff reduction he says:

I earnestly renew the recommendation which I have already made for a reduction of duties upon Philippine imports into the United States. As matters stand at present we have practically deprived the Philippines of their Spanish market, and we have so arranged the tariff laws of the two countries that American consumers are making money at the expense of the Philippine revenues. I submit that there is no just reason why the people of the Philippines should not be treated with some fair approach to the advantages which are awarded to the people of Porto Rico and the Hawaiian Islands.

THE GENERAL STAFF.

Discussing the organization of the General Staff, Secretary Root says in part:

The important military event of the year affecting the regular army has been the reorganization of the system of military control under the General Staff act approved February 14, 1903. This act abolished the separate office of general commanding the army, provided for a military chief of staff to the President, who, acting under the directions of the President or of the Secretary of War, representing him, should have supervision not only of all troops of the line, but of the special staff and supply departments which had theretofore reported directly to the Secretary of War, and it created for the assistance of the chief of staff a corps of forty-four officers, who were relieved from all other duties.

Although, by its terms, the act was not to take effect until August 15, 1903, it was obvious that this radical change in the administration of military affairs and the adjustment of the new machinery to the old machinery which had been in operation for many years would require a vast number of details to be worked out experimentally and upon full consideration by all the officers whose duties were affected. A board was accordingly convened in March to recommend selections for the new corps. It consisted of Generals Young, Chaffee, John C. Bates, Carter, Bliss and Randolph and Major Henry A. Greene, as recorder. The board was required under oath to recommend forty-two officers for detail upon their merits as exhibited by their military records. The order which convened the board also provided that vacancies occurring in the General Staff Corps, after its organization, should be filled upon the recommendation of a permanent board consisting of the chief of staff and the three senior officers of the General Staff Corps on duty at the War Department, operating in a similar manner. The three general officers of the staff were selected by the President without action of a board.

Upon the report of this board its recommendations were approved without change, and the officers selected were ordered to Washington to report to General Young, who was to be the first chief of staff. They were then organized as an experimental or provisional general staff, and directed to work out a permanent organization and distribution of duties for the General Staff Corps, a draft of new regulations, and a revision of the old regulations made necessary by the new departure. This work was done upon full consultation with the chiefs of bureaus and taking the opinions of general officers commanding departments, and was accompanied by reference to the provisional staff organization of many tasks and problems to be worked out which were appropriate for General Staff action, in order that they might become familiar with their work, and test by experiment the best methods of accomplishing it. In this way, when the act took effect on August 15, the General Staff was ready to enter upon the discharge of its duties with a fully considered organization, distribution of duties and regulations, and a considerable familiarity with the new duties which its members were to perform.

The general plan contemplates that every subject requiring investigation and study shall be worked out first by the officers assigned to the appropriate division and section of the staff, and, when of sufficient importance, shall then be considered by a general staff council composed of the three general officers of the corps and the heads of the three divisions, and shall then be acted upon by the chief of staff, or laid before the Secretary of War by him with his recommendation. It is gratifying to report that the new system of control has been accompanied by most harmonious effort and cheerful good will on the part of the members of the General Staff, the chiefs of all the War Department bureaus and the officers of the army at large. In some cases the intervention of the chief of staff and his assistants has resulted in an apparent diminution of the independent authority of other officers. This has been received almost universally with a cheerful readiness to subordinate personal considerations to the good of the service. The exceptions have been so few and unimportant as to justify the belief that they will soon disappear.

Special credit is due to Brigadier General William H. Carter for the exceptional ability and untiring industry which he has contributed to the work of devising, bringing about and putting into operation the General Staff law. He brought thorough and patient historical research and wide experience, both in the line and the staff, to the aid of long continued, anxious and concentrated thought upon the problem of improving military administration, and if the new system shall prove to be an improvement the gain to the country will have been largely due to him.

JOINT ARMY AND NAVY BOARD.

The Secretary tells of the establishment of the Joint Army and Navy Board, following out the line of policy which led to the organization of the General Staff. He says:

The common understanding and mutual assistance between the two services, which it is within the power of this board to bring about, may be made to cover a wide range of subjects of great public importance, including the parts to be taken by the military and naval forces, respectively, in case of military operations on the seaboards and on navigable lakes and rivers; artillery defence of naval stations and naval defensive aid to seacoast fortifications; the exchange of information obtained by one branch of the service and useful for both; the manufacture or purchase of cannon, projectiles, explosives, small arms, ammunition, and munitions of war generally available for both services; the purchase and transportation of supplies; the transportation of men upon changes of station; the study and discussion of joint military and naval problems. In all these, and in many other respects, much greater efficiency, at much less cost, can be obtained by co-operation and mutual understanding than by separate services working in entire independence of each other. If the two forces are ever to be called upon to co-operate, the time to determine what each shall do, and the time for each to learn what the other can do, is before the exigency arises. It is hoped that this joint board, which is so constituted as to command the assistance of the General Staff in both arms of the service for the working out of its problems, will contribute materially toward the end desired.

MILITARY EDUCATION.

The organization of the General Staff relieves the War College Board of a wide range of general staff duties originally assigned to the board in the absence of any more complete organization, and this has made possible a simpler organization, adapted to the performance of War College duties proper, and constituting an adjunct of the General Staff.

Good work has been done during the year in the General Service and Staff College at Leavenworth, and in all the special service schools. The continued establishment and perfection of officers' schools at posts is producing good results, and it is evident that when the army has become settled in the enlarged posts now in the course of construction and extension, and this system of schools has become thoroughly established, we shall be able to drop from the Leavenworth course much of the comparatively elementary instruction which we are now forced to give there and confine that institution to the more advanced instruction for which it is intended.

THE NEW MILITIA LAW.

Mr. Root discusses the new Militia law at length, saying, in part:

Of equal importance with the General Staff act in its relation to the general military efficiency of the country is the act to promote the efficiency of the militia, approved January 21, 1903, supplemented by an appropriation of $2,000,000 in the Army Appropriation act of March 2, 1903. The Militia act had its origin in an agreement between the regular army, represented by the War Department, and the National Guards of the States, represented by a convention which met in Washington in January, 1902, upon the main and fundamental provisions necessary to give vitality and effectiveness to our militia system. Upon the presentation of these provisions to Congress, the Committee on Militia of the House took up the subject with great public spirit and industry, and on that basis wrought out a bill which, with but few changes, was passed and approved in the form of the present act. The act proceeds upon the following ideas:

That whenever the United States becomes involved in war, the regular army will form but a small part of its armed force; and the country must also rely for immediate and special exigencies upon militia; and for service going beyond the proper limits of militia duty upon volunteers.

That it is of vital importance to have a trained force of militia ready for instant service when called upon, and also to have a large number of

Continued on third page.

The Four-Track News for December contains articles on Southern California, The Garden of the Gods, Porto Rico, Killarney, Mexico, the Alps and Trinity Church. Five cents at newsdealers.—Advt.

KILLS WOMAN AND SELF.

TRAGEDY IN A HOTEL.

Registered as Mr. Fitzgerald and Wife in Jollavan House, Brooklyn.

A man and woman registered as Mr. Fitzgerald and wife last night at the Jollavan House, Brooklyn. Early this morning shots were heard, and the hotel clerks, breaking into the room, found both dead from bullet wounds. The man shot the woman, the police believe, and then committed suicide.

The couple went to the hotel, which is at Broadway and Driggs-ave., Williamsburg, early in the evening, and took a room for the night. They were both well dressed. The man seemed to be about thirty and the woman a little younger.

DEMAND MADE ON JAPAN.

Russia Wants Instant Release of the Steamer Progress.

London, Dec. 7.—"The Daily Mail" this morning prints a dispatch from Hakodate which says that the Russian Minister to Japan, Baron De Rosen, demanded the instant release of the Russian steamer Progress, seized by the Japanese authorities, pending a decision of the courts on the claim of the Japanese Steamship Company for $75,000 damages against the Progress for sinking the Japanese steamer Tokai in collision October 29. The Russian court exonerated the Progress. The Russians allege that the Japanese courts have no jurisdiction in the case, as the collision occured on the high seas, and threaten to enter action against the Japanese Steamship Company and to seize the company's mail steamer at Vladivostock.

MAN BURNED TO DEATH.

Nightclothes Catch Fire When He Lights a Lamp.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Paterson, N. J., Dec. 6.—Peter Cusick, seventy-eight years of age, living at No. 29 Vine-st., was burned to death early to-day. Cusick arose to see what time it was and lighted the lamp to see the clock. He was about to place the chimney on the lamp when his nightshirt caught fire and he was soon a mass of flames. He rolled on the bed in an effort to quench the fire and screamed for help. When neighbors arrived the bed and part of the woodwork in the room was in flames. Cusick, unconscious, was taken from the bed badly burned about the body from his knees to his neck. Father Gillen, of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, two blocks away, was summoned, and he administered the last rites of the church to Cusick. He was taken to the General Hospital, where he died about an hour after his arrival.

SOMALIS KILL ITALIAN OFFICER.

Fort at Darbe Refuses Demand to Hoist Flag and Fires on Armed Dhow.

Aden, Dec. 6.—Lieutenant Commander Charles Grabau, an Italian officer, commanding an armed dhow, landed a party of friendly natives at Darbe, Somaliland, and ordered the Italian flag hoisted on the fort. The commandant of the fort refused to permit the order to be carried out unless it had the sanction of the Sultan. Lieutenant Commander Grabau thereupon gave the commandant two hours in which to obey the order, and the commandant not having complied, fired upon the fort. The fort replied with shell, killing Grabau. The dhow then put to sea and was picked up by the Italian cruiser Galilee, which landed the officer's body here.

GOELET'S DOUBLE IN CAMBRIDGE.

Responsible, Mr. Goelet Says, for the Accident for Which He Has Been Sued.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 6.—Robert Goelet, of New-York, must have a double, according to all accounts. He denies having been connected in any way with the automobile accident in Cambridge the day of the Harvard-Yale football game, when the machine ran over and almost killed Edward Anderson, who was riding a bicycle. Mr. Goelet will fight the damage suit brought by Anderson, alleging that he was neither in Boston nor Cambridge at the time, and that his machine was not the one that Anderson says ran over him.

The young man who was running the machine gave his name to the police as Robert Goelet, and he afterward called to see Anderson at the hospital. Anderson insists he was Goelet, and the latter's lawyers insist that Goelet has a double, who is going about the country impersonating him, and making all sorts of trouble.

LIVELY TIMES AT CONFERENCE.

Two Negro Ministers Suspended for Fighting—Another Arrested.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Forsyth, Ga., Dec. 6.—Two hundred and thirty-five African Methodist ministers are in session here, Bishop H. M. Turner, presiding. The Rev. F. W. Ware and the Rev. H. F. Aikens have been suspended for fighting in the conference, and the Rev. W. H. Davis has been arrested for drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

"JIM CROW" SCHOOL FAILS.

In the Yankee Town the Negro Children Would Not Go by Themselves.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Sheffield, Mass., Dec. 6.—After seven lively days, this town has practically given up its "Jim Crow" school, the only one of its kind in New-England. During the week the pupils made all sorts of trouble for the colored teacher, Miss Cora Fowler, and their parents made all kinds of trouble for the village selectmen.

The establishment of the school was the result of months of fruitless endeavor on the part of white teachers and the town authorities to control the unruly colored pupils and induce the white children to attend the same school. Finding this impossible, an abandoned schoolhouse was opened as a "Jim Crow" school.

The parents of the colored children threaten legal proceedings, and the selectmen may retaliate by fining them for non-attendance of their children. A plan is under consideration for a new school in the heart of the colored settlement.

THE BIBLE ALL RIGHT IN KENTUCKY.

Judge Says It Can Be Read in the Schools There—Appeal from Decision.

Brooksville, Ky., Dec. 6.—Judge James P. Harbeson, of the Circuit Court, has rendered a decision in the case where the Rev. Thomas Hackett, a Catholic priest, brought an injunction suit against the school trustees of this place, asking that they and the teachers in the public schools be restrained from reading the Bible and offering prayer in the schools, on the ground that it was a violation of the constitution. Judge Harbeson dismissed the petition at the cost of the plaintiff. He says in unqualified terms that the Bible is the foundation of all Christian governments, and he does not see how it is sectarian to read it in schools. An appeal was asked for and granted.

CONGRESS MEETS IN REGULAR SESSION TO-DAY AND WILL RECEIVE PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S ANNUAL MESSAGE.

WILLIAM P. FRYE.
President of the Senate.

SPEAKER JOSEPH G. CANNON

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.
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SERENO E. PAYNE.
Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

JOHN S. WILLIAMS.
New House Democratic leader.

SMOKE KILLS POLICEMAN.

HAD WARNED TENANTS.

Overcome While Trying to Escape Blaze in Naething's Basement.

Patrolman Frank J. Redican, of the Old Slip station, lost his life last night at a fire in the basement of Naething's restaurant and bakery, Nos. 118-120 Fulton-st. Redican discovered smoke coming from the basement of the building and turned in an alarm from the box at Fulton and William sts. He then returned to the building to warn the tenants of their danger. The building was filled with smoke, but most of the tenants had been warned.

When Redican reached the third floor he went into several bedrooms. In one he found a man dressing and told him to get out. The man got downstairs safely. As he went down he saw Redican making for the rear of the building. An hour later Redican was found unconscious in the lavatory at the rear of the third floor. It is thought that he was partly overcome and pushed his way into the lavatory thinking he was going out of the room. The lavatory was filled with smoke and he could not make his way out again. Redican was found by Lieutenant McGowan and Fireman Devlin of Engine Company No. 31.

They carried him down to a room on the second floor and an ambulance was called from the Hudson Street Hospital. Before it arrived several firemen and policemen worked over the man, but were unable to restore him to consciousness. Dr. Wells, of the Hudson Street Hospital, was equally unsuccessful. Redican had been on the force about a year, and had an excellent record.

Fireman John J. O'Connell, of Engine Company No. 7, was overcome by smoke while working in the basement, and was removed to the Hudson Street Hospital.

The building in which the fire occurred is four stories high, and connects at the rear, forming an "L" with the building at No. 15 Dutch-st. The upper floors of the Fulton-st. building are occupied by about fifteen men employes, and the Dutch-st. building by Mrs. Mary Richter, the housekeeper, and seven women employes. John K. Miller, Mary O'Connell and Lottie Maher were in the reception room, on the third floor, when they discovered the smoke in the hallways and gave the alarm. All got out in safety.

The fire was at the rear of the basement, and Acting Chief Kruger of the Fire Department says he believes it was caused by an overheated oven or defective electric light wiring. The blaze was stubborn, and two alarms were sent in. The firemen had much trouble with the electric wires. Chief Kruger ordered the current turned off, but there was much delay.

The fire was restricted entirely to the basement. O'Connell, with Firemen Hehn and McCarthy, was standing in about two feet of water, holding a hose, when he was overcome. He fell to the floor and his head went under the water. To rescue him Hehn and McCarthy were forced to drop the line. The hose writhed like a snake and tripped up McCarthy as he was about to pick up O'Connell. Other firemen went to the rescue, and O'Connell was carried out into the air. He had swallowed water in addition to the smoke, and a hurry call was sent for an ambulance. Dr. Wells worked over him for about fifteen minutes and then took him to the hospital.

Redican was twenty-nine years old, single, and lived at No. 36 Rose-st.

It was learned later that the door to the lavatory in which Redican was found closed with a spring lock. It is now thought that he accidentally closed the door and was so far overcome that he could not find the lock.

He was appointed to the force by Commissioner Partridge on November 28, 1902. He lived at No. 46 Rose-st. His record was clean, and Captain Farrell speaks in the highest terms of his work as a patrolman. He was a clerk before he went on the force.

BOY RECOVERS SIGHT.

He Lost It Through Illness and It Returns Suddenly.

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 6.—After four months of suffering from complete blindness, Edward Temple, ten years old, of No. 85 Bennington-ave., has regained his sight. He was groping his way about the house, when suddenly he exclaimed that he saw a bright light. His parents thought his affliction had affected his mind, but they were astounded when he walked straight to a burning lamp and reached his hand toward it.

The boy's blindness resulted from an illness. He was playing with companions, when he felt shooting pains in his head, and then everything grew black. He has suffered severe pain since he went blind, and, although his eyesight is still dim, it will probably be fully restored eventually, physicians say.

THE PIONEER LIMITED TO ST. PAUL And Minneapolis is without an equal in excellence of equipment. Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway, 381 Broadway.—(Advt.

PRESIDENT TO THE RESCUE

While Out Riding He Helps Woman Thrown from Her Horse.

Washington, Dec. 6.—President Roosevelt was riding in Rock Creek Park yesterday afternoon when he witnessed an accident to Mrs. William Pettus, of this city, and went to her assistance. Mrs. Pettus had been thrown from her horse and lay unconscious in the roadway. The President dashed up and revived her, and assisted her to her feet, while his orderly went in pursuit of her horse. Mrs. Pettus was only slightly hurt.

LOUIS WORMSER DEAD.

Retired Merchant Stricken While Being Dressed by Valet.

Louis Wormser, who was in former years a well known merchant of this city, and who was a brother of the two members of the original banking firm of I. & S. Wormser, of No. 15 Broad-st., died suddenly at about 11 o'clock yesterday morning at his home, No. 2 East Sixty-fifth-st.

It was learned from a nephew that Mr. Wormser was stricken with heart trouble while being dressed by his valet and died almost instantly. Dr. Leonard Weber, of No. 25 West Forty-sixth-st., was called, but arrived too late to give any aid.

Mr. Wormser was seventy-six years old at the time of his death. He was born in Germany and came to this country about fifty years ago. He went into business and was successful, retiring from active share in it twenty-five years ago. At that time he was living in California, but when he dropped business he came to this city to live in. His wife was a Miss Behrendt.

During the latter part of his life Mr. Wormser had been actively connected with a large number of Hebrew charities and with the work of the Temple Emanu-El, of which he was a member.

FINDS WIFE RE-MARRIED.

Paterson Spanish War Veteran an Enoch Arden.

Paterson, N. J., Dec. 6 (Special).—After an absence of four years Michael Murtel returned to his home in this city to find his domestic place filled by another. He enlisted in the Spanish war and was sent to the Philippines. For two weeks after arriving in Paterson he searched for his wife, and on Saturday he found that she had married James McAvoy, and was living at No. 168 Marshall-st.

The woman fainted when she answered a knock at the door and was confronted by her husband. On recovering consciousness she declined at first to believe that it was her husband, and said it was an apparition—that the ghost of her husband had returned.

Murtel made a complaint before Justice Cortese charging his wife with bigamy. When arraigned the woman said she was under sixteen years of age when she married Murtel, and that as she had not received the consent of her parents the marriage was illegal. "But," she declared, "I would not have married again had I known Murtel was alive. I did not hear from him, although I sent several letters to the Philippines, and I concluded Michael had been killed in an engagement."

Murtel told the justice that he sent letters and money to his wife while he was in the Philippines. The woman was required to give bail.

GIRL'S TALK CAUSES STRIKE.

Employes Quit Work Because Foreman Would Not Discharge Her.

The girls employed in the oxidizing department of the Woodside Sterling Company, at Newark, are on strike because Ernest Monier, the foreman, had refused at their demand to discharge a girl in the department who had persisted in talking to another girl employe against whom the girls as a body have a grudge. The girl whom the strikers demand shall be discharged is one of the youngest and smallest in the factory.

THE MOCCASIN IN MORE DANGER.

Sea Getting Rougher Near the Stranded Submarine Boat.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 6.—Advices from Currituck tonight over the coast wires report that the sea is becoming much rougher, thus adding to the danger of the stranded submarine torpedo boat Moccasin. The Merritt & Chapman wrecking tug has not up to this time left here for the scene, but may start to-night. The Yankton and Vixen are still standing off the coast near Currituck, but are unable to do anything to float the Moccasin.

TYNER TO THE PRESIDENT

SAYS HE WAS IMPOSED ON

Demands Suspension of Judgment by President Until Trial.

Washington, Dec. 6.—James H. Tyner, who was Assistant Attorney General for the Post-office Department until deposed on account of matters connected with the Postoffice investigation, has sent the following letter to President Roosevelt, under date of December 2:

In your official statement as President of the United States, addressed to the American public, in connection with the report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, on the alleged postal frauds, you make certain statements concerning my supposed connection therewith which I take the liberty of answering, in order that I may properly go upon your official records.

I do not desire to question your good faith or sincerity in accepting the conclusions of your subordinate, Mr. Bristow, and in dignifying them with the weight of your high official position; but has it occurred to you that, pending the trial of the three indictments against me, based on the allegations of the report, and without having heard one word from me in my defence, your premature and unwarranted announcement of my assumed guilt and your call to the court and jury to indorse the same is, to say the least, extraordinary and dangerous? I am not even asking that I should be presumed innocent, or that before I am condemned by you or the department I should be confronted by proofs and witnesses or given an opportunity to be heard in my defence; or that in the trial which confronts me I should have a fair trial—all I am asking is that, in view of the uncertainty of my life and the fact that my lips may at any moment be forever sealed, this letter be filed among your official records of my case, together with my letter of July 27, 1903, to Mr. Bristow, a copy of which I attach.

I desire again specifically to deny every one of the veiled charges made by Mr. Bristow in his report, and to call your attention to the fact that not one direct or specific charge is made against me in the conduct of my high office, nor has, nor can, one cent of gain be traced to me. If my life is spared, I shall fully refute all the surmises and insinuations of Mr. Bristow, and shall be able to show the reasons which led him to withhold from you full data and to garble, misquote and falsify that which he did submit to you.

I also desire to state that if any of the friends of Tyner have, as you alleged, advanced the theory that, in this case, the chief offender was "my nephew, Barrett," and that my alleged offences were due to my failing mental and bodily powers, they did so without my knowledge or assent. It is true that, owing to two strokes of paralysis, my bodily powers have failed me, and I may have to face a truer and sterner Judge ere many days, but my mental powers, I thank God, have never suffered, and I trust will not fail me until I have convinced the American public and you, as Chief Executive, that my acts have been honest, honorable and straightforward in the sight of God and man. I am confident that the relations of Mr. Barrett with me and my department were as innocent and honorable as I am sure were all my motives and acts.

I also wish to deny your utterly unwarranted statement that "the gross corruption in the case of Tyner has gone on for a number of years." You should know, and your subordinates do know, that no single act of corruption, gross or mild, has been discovered against me; and the United States government, with its forty inspectors and its chief inquisitor, Mr. Bristow, will be unable to discover one.

I have tried by forty-odd years of faithful service to my country to prove my zeal for faithfulness and honesty in the public service, and I now say to you, the President of the United States, my chief accuser, as if it were the last word I shall ever utter, that in your well recognized and honorable zeal for the public good you have allowed yourself to be deceived and imposed upon; and, while I cannot hope for a hearing at your hands, I shall, at least, give myself the wretched solace of having denied these wrongs and of having demanded that hearing which right and justice ought to accord me.

The letter to Mr. Bristow of July 27, 1903, is General Tyner's answer to an invitation from Mr. Bristow to reply to certain points involved in the investigation by Mr. Bristow.

General Tyner says that as a full reply to the "unwarranted deductions" in Mr. Bristow's letter may assist him in a fair and honest investigation of the general's office, he will return an answer, at the same time calling attention to the fact that he has no access to the files of the department, but speaks only from his best recollection. He then answers in great detail matters called to his attention by Mr. Bristow, and closes as follows:

It certainly must be evident to you that your several specifications narrow themselves down to two propositions, and two, only—one, that I made certain rulings as to which your judgment and mine differ; the other, that I abused my position wilfully and unwittingly to further the interests of my nephew by marriage, Mr. Harrison J. Barrett, a lawyer practising his profession in Baltimore and Washington. I cannot believe that you even mean to insinuate that I showed him any of the alleged favors as the result of a corrupt bargain or understanding between us. There is absolutely no evidence, either actual or circumstantial, to justify any suspicion of such corruption, or of any such understanding whatever, for there was none.

HORSE ON CAR PLATFORM.

Knocks It Off Track—Freed by Axes.

A bay horse, drawing a cab and driven by Patrick Clarke, of No. 226 East Twenty-sixth-st., plunged on the rear platform of a Twenty-eighth-st. horse car last night, sprawled across it, got jammed in the dashboard and was cut out with axes.

Clarke was driving down Seventh-ave. at a rapid pace when he espied the car at Twenty-eighth-st. He thought he had time to skirt the end of it. His horse, however, was going at such a pace that he ran up on the rear platform and slipped there, sprawling out. His legs hit Patrick Moran, of No. 423 First-ave., the conductor, sending him to the other side of the street. The horse kicked the end of the dashboard away, knocking a hole in the end of the car and smashing the platform to smithereens.

Clarke had been flung from his cab seat right over the cab and on top of the car. The impetus shot him over the car to the other side and he landed some yards away from his seat in the air. The horse had jammed himself between the rear of the car and the platform, and the step ends of the dashboard, curving inward, had pinned him in.

The cab hit the windows of the car, smashing some of them and startling the passengers. They rushed for the front end and into the street. Some were slightly cut by glass, but none wanted surgical attendance from a doctor from New-York Hospital, who was called by a policeman. The car was flung off the track by the shock and the horses drew it alongside the curb.

Axes were brought and the conductor and driver and some of the passengers cut away the dashboard, releasing the horse. He had some flesh wounds, but none were serious, and he was taken to the stable of his owners, Hart Brothers, in Twenty-sixth-st., near Sixth-ave. He is known among the stablemen as "Jack the Ripper."

ON THE BRIDGE FOR 107 HOURS.

Captain Stands Watch While Friesland Drives Through 1,400 Miles of Fog.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Philadelphia, Dec. 6.—For four days and five nights, without closing eyes that begged for sleep, without relaxing for an instant the stern vigilance he felt was due the lives intrusted to his care, Captain G. C. Apfeld, of the Friesland, kept the watch on the bridge while his vessel, with 275 passengers between her decks, drove through fourteen hundred miles of blinding fog. Safe and sound after her voyage, the big American liner tied up at her dock at 1 o'clock this afternoon. On November 29 a heavy fog settled down, and Captain Apfeld took his station on the bridge. There he stayed while the weary hours of gloom and blackness—they were 107—rolled slowly by. Then, the danger over, his duty done, the captain sank exhausted, with a record of wakefulness to his credit seldom equalled in the annals of the sea.

CUT RATES TO THE MEDITERRANEAN.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Pittsburg, Dec. 6.—Zotti & Co., representing French steamship lines, has ordered a cut in passenger prices to Mediterranean ports. A committee, composed of William Benkiser, Jacob Klein and William McCormick, went to New-York last Friday to protest against the rate cutting. Frank Zotti was at the meeting, and said he would not abide by any decision of the Allegheny County agents. They voted to boycott the French liners. The rate war may involve the whole Mediterranean trade, as more than fifteen thousand passengers have been booked from here in the last two months.

SPECIAL SESSION WORK.

MUCH ACCOMPLISHED.

Routine of the Regular Session, Beginning To-day, Out of the Way.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Dec. 6.—The fear which a month ago was expressed in some quarters that little would be accomplished by the assembling of Congress in extraordinary session on November 9 has been entirely dissipated by the events of the last twenty-one days. Not only has Cuban reciprocity been practically accomplished, so nearly effected that exporters and importers are basing all their calculations on the tariff changes which will result from the Cuban treaty, but, it is generally conceded, at least a month of the time of the regular session has been saved by the three weeks' preliminary work.

Under ordinary circumstances the organization of the two houses of a new Congress is barely completed before Christmas recess, sometimes not until after the holiday adjournment. This year the Congress which meets in regular session to-morrow will find both houses completely organized and all the committees ready to begin active operations. Moreover, there have already been introduced 2,011 bills in the Senate and 5,750 in the House, in addition to numerous petitions and resolutions, all of which have been referred to the proper committees.

Another by no means insignificant accomplishment is the confirmation by the Senate of approximately 525 recess appointments. While there still remain 167 appointments which have not received the attention of the upper chamber, those that have been disposed of constitute by far the larger proportion, and would have taken, or have been made the occasion for taking, considerable time from the regular session. Still further benefit has resulted from the many and extended conferences for which the extra session has afforded opportunity to the leaders of both houses—opportunities which have been increased by the small amount of time which the Senate and House have spent in actual session. As a result, the leaders have clearly mapped out their programmes, and much of the most difficult if not the obtrusive work is out of the way.

While, in the opinion of the House, the Senate has laid itself open to criticism for having failed to enact the Cuban treaty enabling act, members of the upper chamber feel that they are to be congratulated in having secured an agreement for a vote on December 16, thus obviating the prolonged debate which would have been inevitable had the enabling act first come before the Senate in the regular session. That it was the intention of the Democrats to debate the Cuban legislation at great length and make it the vehicle for extensive campaign speeches on the tariff is well known, but now only nine legislative days remain in which this programme can be carried out.

A very large proportion of the Republican members of Congress have called at the White House since the special session convened, and this has resulted in a better understanding between the President and members of his party at the Capitol than is usual at the beginning of a new Congress, and in the opinion of the leaders will make for a harmonious and successful session.

Altogether the special session is believed by the party leaders to have materially facilitated that early adjournment of the regular session deemed so important in view of the fact that next year there will occur a Presidential campaign and election.

Almost as soon as the regular session convenes to-morrow at noon, the President will send to the Senate the new Panama treaty, for which the way will have been practically cleared, and it is the firm belief of the Republicans, that though a tedious debate must precede its ratification such ratification will be duly accomplished long before there is felt that pressure for time incident to the closing hours of every session.

BIDS FOR CONVENTION.

National Committee Will Select the Place This Week.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Dec. 6.—The National Republican Committee will meet here on Friday at noon, and there is every prospect of an unusually full attendance and a harmonious meeting. Out of the total of fifty-one members, not more than four or five proxies have thus for been filed with the secretary. One of these is the proxy of George Von L. Meyer, of Massachusetts, now Ambassador to Rome, whose vote will be cast by Henry Cabot Lodge, Senator from that State.

Present expectations are that the committee will call on the President in a body Friday afternoon and will not get down to serious business before Saturday, though a session may be held Friday evening. On Saturday the hearing of arguments by the representatives of those cities desiring the Republican convention will begin. To-night everything points to Chicago as the convention city, and June as the month in which it will be held. Every member of the committee now in Washington favors Chicago, and the Hamilton Club of that city is trying hard to establish prestige as a Republican club by securing the convention for the Windy City.

If Chicago is selected, the Auditorium Hotel, which now consists of a collection of practically three hotels under one management, will probably be selected as headquarters for the committee. It is within four squares of the convention hall known as the Colosseum, thus obviating the necessity of using streetcars or other means of transportation between the hotel and the hall. A delegation of Chicago citizens will reach here on Thursday. Representative Mann has already opened the headquarters.

On the same day a delegation, composed of a large number of the members of the Business Men's Club, of St. Louis, will reach here, and hopes to be able to land the convention for the World's Fair city, though there is a general impression that the convention, added to the fair, would overtax St. Louis hotel accommodations.

Aside from the date and city for the convention, little business is likely to be done by the committee, though it is possible that some consideration will be given to the question of representation of those States in which restrictions have been placed on the negro vote. General Brayton, of Rhode Island, has sent a circular letter dealing with this subject to all the members of the committee. The members now in Washington say that the question will probably be discussed, but that there is little likelihood of definite action.

HEATH SAYS HE WON'T RESIGN.

Chicago, Dec. 6.—Perry S. Heath, secretary of the Republican National Committee, who arrived here to-night from Salt Lake City, reiterated his statement that he had no intention of resigning from the committee because of the mention of his name in connection with the postal frauds.

"I am still in office, have not resigned, see no reason why I should resign, and have no intention of doing so," said Mr. Heath. "I may take action of some sort when I reach Washington, where I will go from Chicago."

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