

begin proceedings with the object of obtaining an order for the devolution of all Masonic property.

FEW CASES OF VIOLENCE.

Many Summonses Served—Charge of Troops at Arras.

Paris, Dec. 15.—Dispatches received up to a late hour to-night from the provinces show the Church situation to be everywhere about the same.

SPAIN'S ENVOY REBUKED.

Reported Indiscretion of the Marquis Ojeda at Vatican.

Madrid, Dec. 15.—The "Imparcial" to-day said that the Spanish government was amazed to learn that Cardinal Merry del Val, the Papal Secretary of State, had induced the Spanish Ambassador at the Vatican to telegraph the Spanish Ambassador at Paris to take over the archives of the Nunciature abandoned by Monsignor Montagnani.

HOPE AT THE VATICAN.

Pope Pleased with the Moderation Shown in France.

Rome, Dec. 15.—The Pope is rejoicing this evening that the happenings in France are not so serious as had been feared. He has expressed the hope that the good sense of the French people will end in their finding a way to triumph over the present difficulties.

THE LAW IN PARLIAMENT.

Cabinet Will Not Press Most Rigorous Amendment.

Paris, Dec. 15.—In the Chamber of Deputies to-night M. Briand, Minister of Public Worship, read the text of the Separation law of 1905. The law was at once sent to committee.

THE DREADNOUGHT DAMAGED.

Portsmouth, Dec. 15.—An examination was made to-day of the British battleship Dreadnought in dock, and it was discovered that two plates on the port side were badly indented and must be replaced.

AMERICAN MONEY IN GALICIA.

Vienna, Dec. 15.—Statistics just published for Galicia, in Austrian Poland, show that in 1906 Galicians who had emigrated to the United States sent home a total of \$5,600 money orders, valued at \$2,000,000.

ALGERIANS TREATY RATIFIED.

Madrid, Dec. 15.—The Chamber of Deputies to-day ratified the convention for Moroccan reforms adopted at the Algiers Conference last April.

FRENCH BANK'S RAILWAY SCHEME.

Paris, Dec. 15.—At a meeting of the shareholders of the Banque Française, held here to-day, facts regarding the rumor that the bank is negotiating a loan with Russia were demanded.

DEFENCE OF GIBBONS.

Believes Congo Stories Exaggerated—Answers Dr. Guinness.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Baltimore, Dec. 15.—Cardinal Gibbons, whom Dr. H. Gratton Guinness, of London, in an address before the Congo Reform Association, in this city, last night accused of being "the strong hand in this country who prevented the government from noticing the atrocities in the Congo," made a statement to-day in which he maintains his position and defends his actions, stating that he is of the opinion that the stories of the outrages in the Congo are grossly exaggerated.

I have observed in the papers that an emissary of the Congo Reform Association has made a personal attack on me for my attitude in defending King Leopold's Congo administration against these unjustifiable attacks.

There has been a great amount of exaggeration in these stories of misadministration. The King is a wise as well as a humane ruler, and we hear through missionary sources that whenever cases of cruelty have occurred—as such things will occur in every human government—the King has been prompt to redress such abuses and to punish the offenders. His recent decrees granting the natives additional lands and ameliorating the conditions of the native laborers are an added evidence of his desire to do everything possible for the good of his native subjects.

I fear this agitation against King Leopold's administration is animated partly by religious jealousy and partly by commercial rivalry. It is to be hoped that the individuals who are carrying it on will not be successful in their efforts to induce the great powers of the earth to interfere in the affairs of a small nation. In our schoolboy days the most odious and senseless creature we used to encounter was the bully who played the tyrant toward the weak, but still more intolerable in the bullying nation that picks a quarrel with a feeble nation with the base intention of seizing her possessions, playing the role that King Ahab enacted toward Naboth.

With the attitude of the American government I do not concern myself, as I said before, I have means of information through the missionaries in the field, and I have no doubt the American government will be fully informed of the situation through its consular agents, and, who, I am told, has only recently arrived in the Congo and has not yet had time to send in a report. He will, no doubt, soon set at rest these false accusations against King Leopold's administration, which has brought civilization and Christianity to Central Africa.

I may add that in defending the Belgian administration of the Congo I have no personal or selfish motives to subservise, but am actuated solely by a sense of justice and fair play.

When Dr. Guinness made the attack upon the Cardinal yesterday Dr. Timothy Stone, of Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church, in which the address was delivered, and Dr. Wilbur F. Sheridan, of Mount Vernon, demurred against such a charge being made. The latter said to-day:

"I think the charge against Cardinal Gibbons was unwarranted, and I was quick to my feet to defend him. I said that I entertained a profound regard for Cardinal Gibbons, whom I admire for his catholicity of view, and that I could not subscribe to the statement made by the Rev. Dr. Guinness. By catholicity, as I expressed myself, I, of course, meant in the sense that Cardinal Gibbons is a broad man, and I also think him a just one. I do not believe that he would defend any cause he believed to be wrong."

STOLEN THAW DOCKETS RETURNED.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Pittsburg, Dec. 15.—The four dockets which were stolen from the office of Justice of the Peace Walker, of Wilkesburg, and which had been used by the late Justice James Creelman, were returned to Mrs. Creelman mysteriously this morning. They were found on her doorstep when she opened the door this morning. The pages in the docket which contained the record of the case of Harry Thaw, charged with trying to entice a young girl to a questionable resort, had been cut from the docket. Detectives are trying to find the missing pages.

John Jameson Three Star Whiskey. When you invite a man to have a drink show your desire to treat him well by ordering Three Star Jameson.

BEDELL Gifts in Crystal Cut Glass.

We invite attention to a special assortment of silver gifts in the China and Glassware. Such as: BREAKFAST SETS, CHOP SETS, CHOCOLATE SETS, TEA SETS, FISH AND GAME SETS, CONDIMENT SETS.

At 22 West 34 Street

MAN DIES; BRIDE HELD.

Greenwich Blacksmith Killed in Hotel Room.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Greenwich, Conn., Dec. 15.—Joseph M. Nell, a young blacksmith, whose parents live in New York, and who had a shop on the Belle Haven Road, Greenwich, known to many New Yorkers who spend the summer here, was killed last night in a room in the Greenwich Hotel, where he and his bride of a few weeks had gone to live. Whether it was a contemplated murder or an accident or the result of a sudden quarrel is a question which Chief of Police Ritoh, the medical examiner and Prosecuting Attorney White are endeavoring to answer.

The general opinion here is that there was foul play. Nell was an athlete and occasionally indulged in ring bouts at Coney Island. Last spring he was pitted against Gus Ruhlin under another name. He was supposed to be a bachelor.

Yesterday afternoon a woman about twenty-three years old entered his place of business and workmen heard loud talk. Last night he went to the hotel accompanied by the woman, whom he said was his bride. Ten minutes after they entered their room the woman came downstairs and asked for a physician.

Dr. L. O. Thompson was summoned. He found Mr. Nell dead on the floor. There was a dark spot beneath his right eye, as though the skin had been pricked. Some blood was on the floor.

Mrs. Nell said he had suddenly dropped to the floor dead.

While the physician was examining the body the clerk that she would spend the remainder of the night with her mother in New York and would return in the morning at 10 o'clock, went to the station.

The death was not reported to the police until she had left town. The body was removed to Knapp's morgue, and to-day an autopsy was made, showing that death had been caused by the piercing of the brain with some pointed instrument, possibly a hatpin, which was found on the floor.

It has been learned that Nell deeded his property here to his sister, Nellie, of New York, in November, and took the original deed from the Town Clerk's office, where it was recorded only yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. Nell was arrested here last night at No. 185 East 95th street, charged with being a fugitive from justice. The Chief of Police of Greenwich, it is said, has a warrant charging the woman with manslaughter. She became much wrought up when arrested, and this, together with the general debility and her "bout" face, caused the local police to have her sent at once to Bellevue Hospital.

TO REVISE ARBITRATION PLAN.

Convention of Delegates from Employers and Unions Begins Its Sessions.

A special convention of five delegates from each of the thirty-two trade associations of employers in the Building Trades' Employers' Association and an equal number from each union, under the arbitration agreement, called for the purpose of revising the arbitration plan, began yesterday at the Building Trades Club, Broadway and 23rd street.

For some time the unions have been agitating for a revision of some of the provisions of the agreement, especially as to the methods of assessing the unions for their share of the expenses of the general arbitration board, which are to be borne equally by the employers and the unions. It is also urged that the time taken up in arbitrating disputes is too long, and that some method must be agreed on to reach results more quickly.

George H. Morris, of the Master Steam and Hot Water Fitters' Association, was elected temporary chairman of the convention. D. F. Murphy, of the Bluestone Cutters' Union, temporary Vice-Chairman, and Samuel B. Donnelly, temporary secretary.

The general assembly was taken up in the examination of credentials. It is expected that the convention will last several days, but whatever changes are made in the arbitration agreement will not affect the trade agreements as to wages and conditions now existing.

BRYAN ADVISES OKLAHOMA.

Urges Initiative and Referendum, and Also a Board of Corporations.

Guthrie, Okla., Dec. 15.—A communication from W. J. Bryan, in which he made a number of recommendations, was read to-day before the constitutional convention. One suggestion was the creation of a board of corporations. He also urged the convention to adopt the initiative and referendum and the nomination of all officers by the primary system.

MR. STEWART AIDS HIS CHAUFFEUR.

Procures His Discharge for Exceeding the Speed Limit.

Lispenard Stewart went to the Jefferson Market Police Court yesterday as a witness for Hugh J. Gaffney, a chauffeur, of No. 829 Tenth avenue, who had been arrested the previous night for exceeding the speed limit on Fifth avenue, near 21st street, and by his testimony and pleading succeeded in getting the man discharged. Gaffney was driving a public electric car, in which Mr. Stewart was a passenger. Captain Presley, of the traffic squad, said in court that the car was going sixteen miles an hour. Mr. Stewart told Magistrate Steiner that he had done a great deal of traveling in automobiles in the last five years, and was sure the machine was not exceeding nine miles an hour. He said he understood the young man had just been arrested and that it was the first time he had been arrested.

"PLUGS" OF BEER IN KANSAS.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Topeka, Kan., Dec. 15.—Topeka has discovered how to make and sell beer without coming into conflict with the Prohibition law or paying a share of the profits to Uncle Sam's internal revenue collectors. "Extract of beer" is put up in "plugs" about the size of a 10 cent piece of tobacco, one plug making from four to six gallons of beer. This "extract" has been inspected by the Kansas State Board of Health, which found no adulterants or preservatives in it.



MAKE IT A HIGGINS & SEITER CHRISTMAS

The very nature of this store invites the Christmas shopper. It literally teems with gift goods of the most apt and practical character.

But two reasons particularly urge you to "make it a Higgins & Seiter Christmas." 1st. Money goes farthest here. To-morrow, when you set out for the shops, think of gifts in China, Glass or Bric-a-Brac. Drop into one or two stores—price what you want—then come here. PROVE BY YOUR PERSONAL TEST that our prices are at least "1-4 less than elsewhere." Often the saving is far greater. Read descriptions below.

2nd. Gifts bought here are worthy. This is the one great store, which, while outdistancing every competitor in CLOSE MARGIN SELLING, carries strictly high grade goods.

Immense Delayed Shipment Of Christmas Goods At 1/2 Price

Twenty great cases of beautiful goods in Vienna China have just arrived by steamer—but over a month too late. We bought them from one of Austria's greatest China Manufacturers—his entire line of samples—to sell this Christmas.

The week before Christmas is a short time to sell such an immense quantity of goods. But we are going to do it. PRICES ARE CUT IN HALF.

SOME OF THE GOODS

Dejeuner Sets, Tea Sets, Coffee Sets, Chocolate Pots, Vases, Bonbons, Puff Boxes, Pomade Boxes, Hair Receivers, Pin Trays, Toilet Table Sets, Mayonnaise Bowls.

On Sale To-morrow Morning in the 22d Street store, and on the special 25c., 50c., 75c., \$1.00 and \$2.00 tables.

SOME OF THE PRICES

Handle Baskets, Olive Dishes, Spoon Trays, Tea Pots, Sugars and Creams, Candlesticks, Plates, Fern Pots, Tobacco Jars, Shaving Mugs and hundreds of others, all with rich Vienna decorations.

Dinner Plates, worth \$30 per doz. \$60 Soup Plates, worth \$65 per doz. \$30

Entree Plates, worth \$85 per doz. \$50 Dessert Plates, worth \$50 per doz. \$45

Bread and Butter Plates, worth \$45 per doz. \$33.50

Cut Glass

This week will wind up the greatest sales record of the world's greatest Cut Glass Store. Our everyday prices all through this season have been LOWER, dollar for dollar and quality for quality, than the LOWEST prices of any competitor.

Tantalus, two and three bottles, with and without glasses, in lock frames \$15.00

Vases, 14 inches high, richly cut \$5.00

Pitcher, one of our choicest values, worth \$4.75. \$4.50

Complete Cocktail Sets in Colonial Cutting; mirror tray. Elsewhere \$20 1/4 more \$20

Others up to \$40. Bowls, 8 inches diameter, worth \$3.75 \$3.00

Others at \$5, \$6, \$7.50, \$10, \$12, \$15 and \$18. Ice Cream or Berry Sauces, 8 inches diameter, worth \$13 per dozen \$12.75

An especially extensive assortment of the Punch Bowls, and Cut Glass with Sterling Silver Mountings.

OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL CHRISTMAS

West 21st and West 22d Sts., near 6th Ave.

A. Frankfield & Company HOLIDAY PRESENTS DIAMOND AND PEARL COLLARS

For holiday gifts of rare beauty, attention is called to a display of exceptional merit. The designs employed are our exclusive creations—no duplicates.

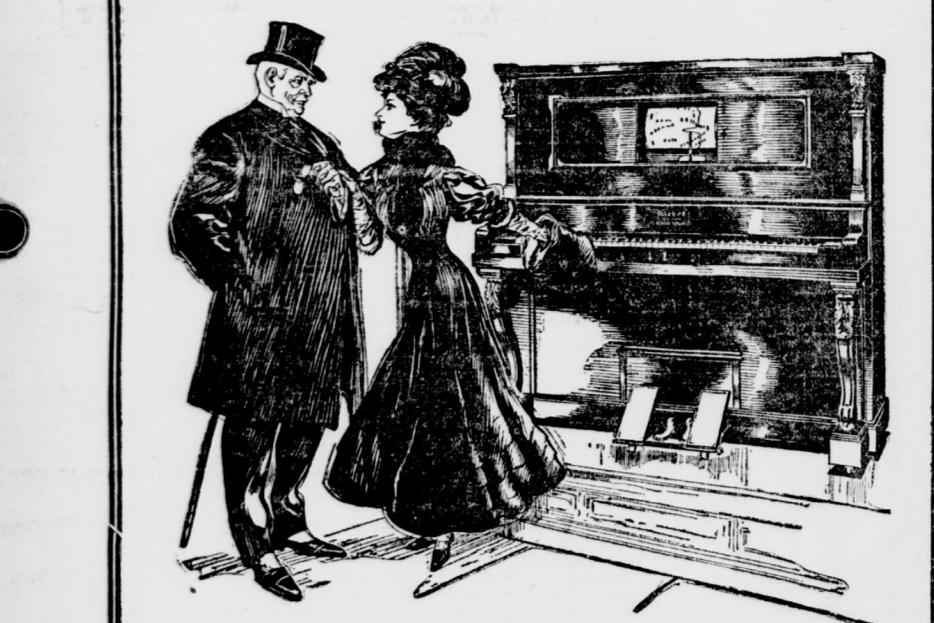
THIRTY EIGHT WEST 34 TH STREET

NEW PLACE FOR C. H. WOODWARD Made Deputy Superintendent of Elections—Not Dismissed as Deputy Surveyor.

ARNAUD 60c. lb. Sole Agents of MARQUIS CELEBRATED CHOCOLATES OF PARIS

ARTISTIC HAIR GOODS, ORNAMENTS J. ANDRE, HAIR SPECIALIST.

Let the head of the family this Christmas provide the gift that it is certain will bring the greatest amount of pleasure in its train



The PIANOLA PIANO

The Most Popular Musical Instrument of the Day

Always as New as the Newest Piece of Music

THE head of the family is often puzzled to know what his wife and children most desire for Christmas—what gift above all others they would select if they had their free, untrammelled choice. Sometimes he solves the problem by giving money and letting them select their own presents.

It is most significant that, in former years, it has sometimes happened that the Aeolian Co. has done a larger business the week following Christmas than the week before. The Christmas checks have been cashed here, showing conclusively the real preference of the recipients.

The Pianola Piano is an ideal gift because each and every member of the family gets real personal pleasure out of it. All can play it without any previous knowledge of music, and thus participate in one of the keenest forms of human enjoyment, the fascination of personally producing music.

The Pianola Piano is a sensible gift, because the user is learning something useful—something really worth while—at the same time that he or she is being entertained. It creates an interest in the wonderful realm of music, and brings its owner into close touch with the great composers of all times.

It is the one gift that the men of the family can enjoy equally with their wives and daughters.

TERMS: The Pianola Piano costs from \$550 to \$1,000, yet the whole amount does not have to be paid at once. A very reasonable down payment will give immediate possession, and the balance can be paid off when the heavy demands of the holiday season are over. Or, as is often done, the payments can be arranged to extend over a series of months. If you already own a piano, that instrument will be taken in exchange at a fair valuation.

The Aeolian Co., Aeolian Hall, 362 FIFTH AVENUE, Near 34th Street, N. Y.