

seems that the affidavit made by Mrs. Snead a year ago is genuine, but the circumstances surrounding the case led to a closer investigation, which brought out the admission of the notary who signed several documents for Miss Wardlaw.

LETTERS STOLEN

Continued from first page.

Mr. Hartman reluctantly told how he had signed and sealed the receipt, in the absence of Mrs. Snead, whose name appeared on the document. He said that the paper did not seem to be important, and when Miss Wardlaw asked him to acknowledge he did so, but now regrets that he complied with the request.

The notary had several dealings with Miss Wardlaw, and on August 7, 1909, he witnessed a will in the Flatbush house. In this instance Mrs. O'Connell Snead was in bed, and signed her name while leaning against the pillows. When he left the place, Mr. Hartman said, Miss Wardlaw told him she might have another paper to be acknowledged in a few days. It was explained that the sick girl might be unable to be present.

NOTARY NOT SUSPICIOUS. A week later Miss Wardlaw brought the paper, saying that Mrs. Snead had already signed it. The time is given by Mr. Hartman as noon, as it was on a Saturday and his place of business closed at 12 o'clock during the summer.

Another letter from Mr. Smith gave a detailed story of a conference with Borough President Gresser of Queens, in which "inside" organization matters about patronage and the election of a successor to City Clerk Scully are talked about with charming frankness.

When Stanwood Menken, the organizer of the Democratic League, was seen yesterday at his office he did not attempt to conceal his deep chagrin over the publication of the letters to Murphy which have put the Democratic League in an unenviable light. He said: "I want to say that I did have a talk with Johnson, whom I met informally at a luncheon at his request at the Lawyers' Club, without knowing directly or indirectly that he would repeat my conversation to any one."

Mr. Morgan said it was not true that he had come over to assist his father in the management of the latter's business, and denied a report that he would build a million dollar home on East Island, which he bought a year ago.

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LETTER GARBLED, SAYS SMITH. Thomas F. Smith sent a letter to his chief which, he said last night, was garbled as published yesterday, particularly the reference to Judge O'Brien. It follows:

Saturday, November 20, 1909. Dear Commissioner: Just had a talk with Judge O'Brien about the matter to which you referred in your special delivery letter, which reached me this evening.

He wants me to assure you that everything is in good condition, that the Robert O'Brien reference is only newspaper talk, that Judge O'Brien (O'Brien) is the head of the local committee, Shepard is head of Kings, and Osborne is chairman of the executive or appellate end of the committee. He says he will stay on the job, and that anything done down here will see Commissioner Andrews on Monday and tell him what you want done.

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MR. CONNERS HAPPY.

Talks About His Chickens and the Democratic League.

William J. Connors, chairman of the Democratic State Committee, was having the time of his life at the Waldorf last night when a Tribune reporter found him. He made believe that his three hundred acre chicken farm, near Buffalo, where he is turning out a product of about 7,000 eggs a day, and where next spring he will hatch 250,000 chickens, and where, incidentally, he raises about 15,000 ducks annually, was the chief thing on his mind.

"I am president of the brake shoe company, and we are building two foundries. And then there is my chicken farm. Next spring I shall hatch 250,000 chickens, and my egg product right through this winter will be 7,000 eggs a day at about four cents apiece."

"Mr. Connors," said the belated newspaper man, "what about those Murphy letters showing cordial relations between the Democratic League and Tammany Hall?" "Nothing to say," said Mr. Connors, looking pleased.

"Are you glad or sorry that the letters were made public?" "Nothing to say."

"Judge O'Brien says that you called on him. What about that?" "Well, I am willing to say this about that conversation with Judge O'Brien, not that the judge doesn't say where the conversation took place. It took place in Buffalo. Ask him if it didn't. It was two or three weeks ago, when there was a big banquet of judges and lawyers, with Judge Laughlin and Judge Spring as two of the honored guests. I didn't expect to go to the dinner, but later I thought I would stroll in to hear the speeches. It was nearly 5 o'clock when I got there."

"Say, as soon as I walked in I got the greatest ecstasy of my life. It nearly swept me off my feet. And about 65 per cent of those folks were Republicans, at that. Well, I looked around and there was my old friend, Judge O'Brien. I dropped down beside him, and said: 'I see by the papers that you have joined the reformers—the Saratoga conference people—and that you are after my job as state chairman. I want to tell you, Judge, that any one can have the job that can talk it away from me. He said the Democratic League was not organized to fight me, but I told him that I had a pretty straight line on it, and that any one could have the job of chairman if he could get it.'

"Then he said that some of the Democrats around the state didn't like the way I was running the state organization. I said to him: 'Didn't I let you and Parker at the last state convention frame the platform and the speeches? Ain't that running the convention? What more could you ask? We had a long talk and went all over the ground, but it wasn't in New York. It was in Buffalo.'

"Do you think that the Democratic State League was organized for the purpose of displacing you as state chairman?" "I think that was about the size of it."

"What do you think of the chances of the league now?" "Well, water will find its level."

"Who do you understand the league is backing for state chairman?" "It may be Thomas M. Osborne, of Auburn, or it may be some other man. Osborne is doing the most of the talking," said Mr. Connors.

NO CANADIAN ENVOY.

Premier Laurier Tells of Good Relations with United States.

Ottawa, Dec. 15.—A proposal to press for the appointment of a Canadian attaché at Washington on the White Star Line, as ambassador on Canadian questions was rejected in the House of Commons to-day by Premier Laurier. Sir Wilfrid said:

"I am sure everybody will agree that the best of relations should prevail between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race. I am glad to be able to say that never has there been a more cordial than during the last seven years. We hear no more on the one hand of British aggression or on the other of Yankee aggressiveness."

"I am glad to acknowledge, also, that the British Ambassador at Washington at the present time, Mr. Bryan, has given more attention to Canadian affairs than was ever given before. Even if we had an attaché at Washington, I do not think that it would be possible for him to pay more attention to the business of Canada than is paid by the present British Ambassador. He has taken no action with regard to Canada except after our consultation and with the full sanction of the Canadian authorities."

"Perhaps the time will come when we shall think it advantageous to have somebody to take special charge of our diplomatic business at Washington, but for the present the want is not seriously felt."

The Premier also said that the motion be withdrawn, and this was done.

SUPPORT FOR MR. ASQUITH.

Nationalist Convention Indorses the Liberal Campaign.

Dublin, Dec. 15.—The Nationalist convention, which opened to-day, with John Redmond presiding, unanimously indorses a resolution adopted by the party committee yesterday pledging support to the Liberal in the coming general election. Timothy Healy and his handful of dissenting disciples were not present.

Addressing a great meeting at Mansion House to-night, Mr. Redmond said that Premier Asquith's declaration was the greatest statement which the party had made in the last century of tearing up the tramping under foot the infamous act of union. Their opponents, he continued, were no longer millions of the British population, but a few hundred gentlemen in the House of Lords. Lord Rosebery had declared that the Lords' veto was the sole remaining obstacle to Home Rule, and said Mr. Redmond advised the Irish people to vote Liberal, and if Home Rule did come, he could assure the British people, in the name of Ireland, that it would be received and worked in the same spirit as the concession of freedom to the Transvaal was worked.

HIGH PRICES FOR RARE BOOKS.

Record of \$1,525 Made at Last Night's Session of Public Auction.

What is regarded by booklovers as an exceedingly rare first edition, in the original binding of gold tooling, bearing upon the title page the name of the author, "The Vicar of Wakefield," in two volumes, and dated 1766, brought the top price—\$21—at the second session of the sale at the Anderson Auction Company's rooms of a collection of rare manuscripts and books.

A rare original edition of Dickens's "Strange Stories from a Chinese Studio," in two volumes, offered at auction, sold for \$45, and a perfect copy of Las Casas's "The Spanish Colonies" brought \$36.

First edition of the Countess of Pembroke's "Arcadia" brought the highest price of the evening and that session. It was sold on order at \$1,525. Mr. Bronson paid the next highest price, namely, \$1,400, for what is said to be one of the most remarkable extra illustrated lives of Napoleon ever offered for sale, containing over a thousand historical engravings, and a piece of gold tooling, and a coat of arms from Napoleon's coat. The book is in six volumes, bound in purplis marocain.

MORE SUGAR MONEY.

HEAVY BACK DUTIES FROM ARBUCKLES.

Government Collects Nearly \$700,000—Firm's Books Approved in 1905.

Further proof of the laxness and slipshod methods in the weighing of importations of raw sugar at the port of New York for a good many years, and of the extent to which the government suffered by this looseness, was given yesterday with the announcement that the firm of Arbutle Brothers had paid over to the government \$695,573.19.

This amount, which represents a shortage in payment of duties for a period of less than ten years, or about \$700,000 a year that the government failed to collect from the firm since it started the refining of sugar in competition with the Sugar Trust in 1898 to November, 1907, was paid in cash at the Sub-Treasury in this city last Monday. Added to the \$2,000,000 in back duties and the \$135,000 penalty for underweighing which the American Sugar Refining Company has paid over, the settlement by the Arbutle Brothers represents a total of almost \$3,000,000, which, either through gross carelessness or design, the investigation now being conducted by Messrs. Stinson and Denison has disclosed, was held back from the government.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH their instructions to make a thorough investigation of sugar importations at this port, Messrs. Stinson and Denison began last June an examination of the sugar importations of the trust's chief rivals. In this they were aided by the members of the firm, John Arbutle and William A. Jamison, who voluntarily gave the investigators free access to the books of the firm. As soon as the total shortages were discovered last month they were reported to the firm, who offered to pay the entire sum over to the government. With the concurrence of the Attorney General the payment has been accepted by the Secretary of the Treasury in full payment of all civil claims against the firm.

The payment, however, does not preclude the possibility of criminal prosecutions against any individual who, it may be proved, was responsible for the commission of the frauds by which the government stood to lose annually a total of \$700,000. In announcing the settlement yesterday Messrs. Stinson and Denison made it plain instead that no stone would be left unturned to bring to justice those who are responsible for the frauds.

When the firm of Arbutle Brothers began refining sugar, eleven years ago, its members were John Arbutle, William A. Jamison, James N. Jarvie and William V. R. Smith. Messrs. Jarvie and Smith withdrew from the firm in 1905, but the offer to settle the claims of the government without recourse to the courts was made on behalf of all four named Messrs. Arbutle and Jamison, the present members of the firm, and Joline, Larkin & Rathbone, who were the lawyers for Messrs. Jarvie and Smith in the negotiations with the counsel for the government.

THE OFFER OF SETTLEMENT was submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury on December 3. It declared that Arbutle Brothers were entirely unaware of the underweighing of sugar importations. In their letter to the Secretary of the Treasury, Messrs. Arbutle Brothers representing the former members of the firm, have this to say:

The amount (\$695,573.19) offered is the amount ascertained by accountants representing the United States, after full examination of our books, and recorded to the United States, upon request of the government. This examination, made at the time made known to the undersigned that raw sugars imported by them were underweighed by representatives of the government. The undersigned, in entries made cargo imported by them, gave the full and true weights of all sugars.

We decline to take this opportunity of informing you that in the year 1905 your department requested an examination of the books of this firm for the purpose of investigating questions relative to the importation of sugars. This request was innocently accepted and our books were examined by your representatives. You representatively made a complete study of our importations of sugar and made no suggestions or criticisms in respect thereto. From this we naturally assumed that the government did not intend to respect our duties on every pound of sugar imported by us.

Notwithstanding this examination, this settlement covers the period of 1905 when we commenced the importations of sugar. We do this in order that the government may receive every penny of the duties on every pound of sugar imported by us.

William N. Dykman, of counsel for Arbutle Brothers, said yesterday that while the firm regretted the effect that the announcement of the government counsel might leave on the public mind, it had stated its case fairly in its offer to the government. There had been no intention to keep anything back from the government, he said, as was clearly shown by the firm's action in giving the government investigators full permission to go through its books.

"The amount itself appears large," said Mr. Dykman, "but it must be remembered that the shortage represents only something over 1 per cent of the total importations made by the company during the period referred to."

AFTER OTHER SUGAR FIRMS. The special counsel for the government yesterday declined to discuss the rumor that the investigation into the weighing of sugar on Arbutle Brothers' docks was prompted by competitors. The instructions from the Department of Justice were to make a thorough investigation into all sugar importations, at this port, and it may be said that this investigation has not ceased with the discoveries of shortages of duties on sugar imported by the American Sugar Refining Company and Arbutle Brothers.

To facilitate the work of the sugar investigation, Francis W. Bird and W. Cleveland Runyon have been designated as special assistants to the Attorney General.

BOMB THROWN AT BISHOP. Lisbon, Dec. 15.—The anniversary of the revolt of the Sembristas was marked to-day by the throwing of a bomb at the Bishop of Braganza. The latter was unharmed. The police are looking for the authors of the attack, to which no particular political significance is attached.

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LEOPOLD RALLIES HOPE FOR THE KING.

Charges Regarding the Congo Strenuously Denied.

Brussels, Dec. 15.—King Leopold's tenacious struggle is arousing the loyalty and admiration of the people, who are now keenly watching the developments following yesterday's operation. The bulletin issued to-night by the attending physicians says that the King is gaining. This has caused new hope that his rugged constitution will pull him through, but it is privately feared at the court that his age will not permit ultimate recovery.

After a restless night, the patient's condition was described as stationary, but during the course of the afternoon, and in favor of improvement, and it is said that his majesty had suffered a relapse. Toward evening, however, improvement was noted by the physicians, and a reassuring bulletin was issued. It said: "The King's condition is somewhat improved; pulse 75, temperature 99.5."

The fact that the temperature, thirty hours or more after the operation, is not far from normal is taken as an excellent sign. At 11 o'clock at night an announcement was made, though not officially, that the improvement was becoming more marked.

While the sovereign was fighting for his life, Parliament was absorbed to-day, as it was yesterday, in one of the most vital questions affecting the nation. The great Congo problem came before the legislators for consideration, and this, whatever may have been the scandals, cruelty and oppression attending the leadership of Leopold, all Belgians wished to see resolved on lines of humanity and progress and in a manner to convince the world that Congo is safe in Belgian hands.

HURT BY AMERICAN CRITICISM. In spite of his apparent indifference to human criticism, there is reason to believe that King Leopold was secretly stung to the quick by the world's wrath over his conduct in the Congo matter, and that he never recovered from this.

He was always convinced that American criticism was sincere, although he impatiently sought to explain to his friends that it was the work of "prattling missionaries." He had an obsession, however, that the British attacks against him were not free from a jealous sentiment.

The Congo question came up in the Chamber in the course of the discussion on the budget. M. Renkin, Minister for the Colonies, in an impassioned speech, repudiated the criticism emanating from England that Belgium was exploiting the natives. He denied the charges of oppression and cruelty. The application of a system of taxation, he said, had been delayed, but he pointed out that there had been great progress in the general prosperity of the country, the means of transportation and communication, in education and in the amelioration of the burdens and safeguarding the health of the natives. The minister asked the world to suspend its opinion and give Belgium a chance to show her worth.

Whatever the judgment may be on Leopold from the broad standpoint of morality, it is interesting to note how his intellect and personality have succeeded in profoundly impressing both foreigners and Belgians with whom he came into intimate contact. There is a unanimity of opinion that the King is one of the shrewdest and ablest of men, with an astounding capacity for business, a great organizer, rightly deserving the name of "Leopold, the Builder."

GREAT PERSONAL FORTUNE. It is understood that Leopold's personal fortune is enormous, and that if the figures were known they would startle the world. Besides extensive properties in Belgium and France he has immense holdings in American securities. The earnings of his enterprises in the Congo Independent State are reputed to be stupendous. Much conjecture regarding the destination of his wealth has been aroused by the announcement that he recently consulted Premier Schollaert with reference to a political testament.

In addition to the attacks made on him on account of the Congo the King's life has been shattered by domestic tragedies. His only son is dead and his eldest daughters have been banished and pursued by creditors. Princess Stephanie has never been forgiven by the King, because after the dark episode of her husband's death she insisted upon marrying Count Lonyay. The King turned to Princess Clementine, on whom he lavished affection. He found time to devote himself also to Baroness Vaughan, on whom he showered a fortune. It is whispered in court that Leopold intends to provide handsomely for the baroness and her children.

PRINCESS STEPHANIE ARRIVES. Princess Stephanie, who arrived here to-day, was respectfully greeted by a crowd at the railroad station. She is a great favorite with the Belgians, and is affectionately called "The Golden Haired." The princess, who was very mournful, said that she came not for material gain, but to see her father, whom she loved, despite the fact that he had repudiated her at her mother's death. It was reported that the sovereign had again declined to see her.

PRINCESS LOUISE'S GRIEF. Paris, Dec. 15.—A dispatch to the "Matin" from Budapest says that grief confines the

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The Coward Shoe. ARCH PROP. Natural Support to the weakened muscles is the only known remedy for a falling arch, or "flat foot."

JACOB DOLL PIANOS. XMAS SALE. We quote below a few of the many bargains: Steinway Upright, \$550.00 \$328.00; Chickering Upright, 500.00 215.00; Weber Upright, 750.00 295.00; Knabe Upright, 600.00 275.00; Jacob Doll Upright, 450.00 275.00; Mason Upright, 350.00 185.00; Kranich & Bach Upright, 400.00 195.00; New England Upright, 350.00 190.00; Stock Upright, 350.00 145.00; Mason Upright, 275.00 85.00; Steinway Grand, 950.00 500.00; Jacob Doll Baby Grand, 750.00 475.00; Jacob Doll Player-piano, 850.00 385.00; Jacob Doll Player-piano, 650.00 450.00.

PUBLIC WARNING. Life and Property Seriously Endangered by Inflammable Christmas Displays, Trees Lighted by Candles, Signs, etc. Many disastrous fires have occurred in stores, churches, public buildings, etc., from the introduction of Christmas decorations, cotton for snow, etc., and the use of moving picture machines. The danger to life and property is so great that the virtual disapproval of this class of display is deemed necessary by the New York Board of Fire Underwriters.

THE EQUITABLE TRUST CO. OF NEW YORK. CAPITAL, \$3,000,000. Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$11,000,000. ALVIN W. KRECH, President, 15 Nassau Street; LAWRENCE L. GILLESPIE, Vice-Pres., 618 Fifth Ave., near 50th St. Checking Accounts with Interest; Trustee, Guardian, Executor, Administration of Estates; Foreign Exchange, Letters of Credit; Safe Deposit Vaults.

Not in any Milk Trust. The Original and Genuine HORLICK'S MALTED MILK. The food-drink of all ages. At restaurants, hotels and fountains. Delicious, invigorating and sustaining. Keep it on your sideboard at home. A quick lunch prepared in a minute. All Druggists. A PROTEST EMPHASIZED. Chinese Patriot Cuts Off Little Finger Before Audience.

RETAW A BRACER, THE MORNING AFTER. RETAW IS A SPARKLING TREATED WATER AND ACTS SPEEDILY IN CASES OF NERVOUS HEADACHE AND DEPRESSION FOLLOWING ALCOHOLIC AND OTHER EXCESSES BOTTLED IN FRANCE ONLY. NOT A LAXATIVE. Hotels, Clubs, Cattle and Druggists.

SOHMER & CO. are now located in the NEW SOHMER BUILDING 315 Fifth Ave., Cor. 32d St., where the finest line of up-to-date Pianos and Player-Pianos can be seen at Prices consistent with the highest class product of the Piano maker's art. Favorable terms to responsible parties. SOHMER & CO. PIANO MANUFACTURERS. Warerooms 315 Fifth Ave., Corner 32d St., New York.