New-York Tribune.

Vol. LXX....No. 23,187. To-day, partly cloudy. To-morrow, showers. NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1910.—FOURTEEN PAGES. ★★★ PRICE ONE CENT In City of New York, Jersey City and Hoboken. ELSEWHERE TWO CENTS.

TAFT RAILROAD BILL PASSED BY HOUSE

President Expresses Much Gratification at Retention of Commerce Court.

INSURGENTS JOIN REGULARS

Thirteen Democrats Support Administration Measure—Final Vote 200 to 126—Harmony in House Thought Assured.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, May 10.—The administration railroad bill was supported by every Republican in the House of Representatives this afternoon and passed that body by a vote of 200 to 126. Thirteen Democrats were recorded in favor of the measure. As passed, the bill is identical with that agreed on by the committee of the whole last week. Representative Adamson, of Georgia, moved to recommit the bill with instructions to eliminate the Commerce Court, but this motion failed by a vote of 176 to 150. Representative Mann offered an amendment which practically restored the merger section stricken out by the committee, but this was defeated, 169 to 160.

The Democrats who voted for the bill were Representatives Havens, of New York; Bartlett, of Nevada; Jamieson, of Iowa; Hughes, of New Jersey; Hardy, Smith, Russell and Gillespie, of Texas; Saunders, of Virginia, and Webb, Pou, Kitchin and Page, of North Carolina. The vote of each Democrat was applauded by the Republicans, and when the measure had been passed there were many predictions that from now until the end of the session the relations between insurgents and the regulars would be decidedly more harmonious. Gratification was expressed by Speaker Cannon and others that there were sufficient Republican votes alone to pass the measure.

President Taft said to-night that he was much gratified by the passage of the bill. He was especially pleased with the comfortable margin by which the Commerce Court feature was retained, for he regards this court as probably the most important forward step in the proposed law.

Regarding the amendments made and provisions added in the House, the President said he did not feel that this was the time and he was not fully enough acquainted with the changes to discuss them. Referring to the clause providing for a physical valuation of railroads, Mr. Taft said that this power practically now rests with the Interstate Commerce Commission and that the difficulty in carrying out such a plan has always been found in the enormous cost of the undertaking.

Motion to Recommit Lost.

The Adamson motion to recommit was defeated by a much larger majority than had been expected. Only twelve Republicans supported it, and they, with the exception of Representative Fowler, of New Jersey, were followers of Senators Cummins and La Follette. These ultra-insurgents were Representatives Cary, Nelson and Lenroot, of Wisconsin; Davis and Lindberg, of Minnesota; Fowler, of New Jersey; Gronna, of North Dakota; Haugen, Hubbard and Woods, of Iowa; Norris, of Nebraska, and Poindexter, of Washington.

The failure to adopt the Mann amendment prohibiting railroads from acquiring interest in the capital stock of or purchasing another railroad when the lines are competitive was due to the votes of the New England Representatives, who believe that such mergers as the recent one between the New York, New Haven & Hartford and the Boston & Maine should not be prohibited. A few irreconcilable insurgents joined these men in voting against the Mann amendment. Those who joined the Democrats were Representatives Cary, Lenroot and Nelson, of Wisconsin; Gronna, of North Dakota; Draper, of New York; Davis and Lindbergh, of Minnesota; Currier, of New Hampshire; Gardner, Greene, Tirrell, Roberts, Washburn and Weeks, of Massachusetts; Haugen, Hubbard, Kendall and Woods, of Iowa; Higgins, Hill, Sperry and Tilson, of Connecticut; Madden, of Illinois; Sheffield, of Rhode Island; Parker, of New Jersey, and Poindexter, of Washington. Three Democrats—Representatives Havens, of New York, and Russell and Gillespie, of Texas—voted with the Republicans.

It has been decided by the insurgents to make no effort to elect the Republican conferees. They have every confidence in Representative Mann, and it is confidently predicted that the conference report will be adopted by a substantial majority. There was no debate on the bill to-day, although Representative Fitzgerald, of New York, attempted to delay the vote by numerous points of order.

How the Bill Would Change Law.

The bill makes many changes in existing law which, if accepted by the Senate, will greatly affect interstate commerce. The Court of Commerce is created to adjudicate cases on appeal from the Interstate Commerce Commission. It is provided that this court shall be organized by the justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, future appointments to membership in the court to be made by them.

Stock and bond issues of railroads are controlled by the bill. Under this clause a railroad, before issuing any additional stock, must obtain an order from the commission, which must, among other things, fix the price at which the securities may be sold. A similar provision is carried in respect to railroads which are organized through the courts. A provision is made that on the reorganization of a railroad through court proceedings stocks and bonds cannot be issued for more than the fair value of the property.

The long-and-short-haul clause provides that a railroad cannot, without first obtaining permission, charge more for a short than for a long haul over the same line. The Interstate Commerce Commission also is authorized whenever a new rate is proposed to suspend the

Continued on second page.

MORE RIOTS IN CHINA

Inland Mission at Yuen-Chow Reported Destroyed.

Chang-Sha, China, May 10.—Word has reached here that riots have occurred at Yuen-Chow, which is 225 miles from Chang-Sha, and that the Inland Mission has been destroyed. No details are given, as the telegraph wires have been cut.

FREEDOM IN CHINA

Imperial Decree to Emancipate Millions of Slaves.

Washington, May 10.—The Chinese government by imperial rescript has abolished slavery throughout the empire and has prohibited henceforth the purchase and sale of human beings under any pretext. The reform, however, is not altogether complete, as by the rescript certain forms of slavery will still be tolerated. In a report made to the State Department it is stated that the retainers of Manchu princes are not emancipated, but it is forbidden to call them slaves. They have long enjoyed educational and other privileges, although still bound to their hereditary masters.

The household slaves of the Manchus are also not emancipated, but their status under the law is improved. They are to be regarded as hired servants, but their service is due for an unlimited term of years, so that they are in reality perpetual slaves. Under this rescript the immemorial practice of selling children in China in times of famine is abolished, although they may be bound for a specified term, but never beyond the age of twenty-five.

Concubinage is still to be permitted, but there is to be no bargain and sale. Such concubines are to be married with proper legal formalities, and they will enjoy the protection of the law, but in reality they will be no better than perpetual slaves to the principal wife.

The rescript is said to be a compromise measure, but it will eventually give freedom to millions of human beings, and is declared to mark a distinct advance in civilization.

TAFT WARNS COMMITTEE

Will Hold It Responsible for Success of Postal Banks.

Washington, May 10.—President Taft summoned the members of the House Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads to the White House to-night, and, it is reported, told them plainly that he intended to hold them responsible for the success of the postal savings bank bill, which they have held up by their refusal to report it favorably.

That the conference was earnest was indicated by the fact that Representative Weeks, chairman of the committee, did not reach his home until midnight. The others left the White House earlier.

PRICELESS PANEL SEIZED

Genuine Michael Angelo, Says Claimant of Painting.

At the Appraiser's Stores experts are puzzling over a painted panel that was brought from Trieste on the steamship Oceania by the steward, captured by a customs watchman at the Bush docks, in Brooklyn, where the Oceania tied up, and seized by Collector Loeb's inspectors because it was not declared. The painting was addressed to A. L. Gereis, of this city. Mr. Gereis was sent for. He declared that the painting was a genuine production of Michael Angelo and of priceless value.

The government obtained from Mr. Gereis the information that the painted panel had been the property of relatives for many years, and that they had sent it as belonging rightfully to him. If the experts at the Appraiser's Stores are satisfied that the painting is more than twenty years old it will be surrendered to the owner. All works of art, like paintings, that are more than twenty years old are admitted free of duty. Under that clause in the tariff act the failure to declare is not a punitive offence.

BAD WRECK BLOCKS ERIE

Passengers Delayed for Three Hours—Suits Threatened.

One of the worst wrecks with which the Erie Railroad has had to contend in years occurred last night when a car of a heavily loaded freight train jumped the track in the tunnel just outside Jersey City. Six outgoing trains, including two Chicago expresses, and twelve incoming trains, were held up for three hours. In the mean time the station at Jersey City became thronged with commuters and others who had not been told that they would be delayed in getting to their homes.

Many business men of New York were in the throng, and some of them threatened to bring suit against the road for not living up to the law which provides that a notice be posted whenever the road officials know the schedule cannot be maintained. The incoming trains were stalled out in the Jersey meadows.

Nearly two thousand passengers, becoming impatient at the long delay, walked through the marshes to reach trolleys. The uproar on the part of passengers bound for Chicago became so great that the road management arranged to have one of the expresses switched on to the West Shore tracks at Weehawken. This necessitated a long detour around Bergen Hill.

The wreck occurred at 8:30, and it was not until 11:30 that the tracks were cleared. Four cars left the tracks and two were completely demolished. No one was injured.

REMEMBERS NURSE AND CLERK

Wealthy Woman Leaves $50,000 to Former and $10,000 to Latter.

Boston, May 10.—The devotion of a nurse and the politeness of a bank clerk were found to have been rewarded when the will of Mrs. Annie Preston Lincoln, of No. 338 Commonwealth avenue, was filed for probate in Suffolk County to-day. Mrs. Lincoln died yesterday, leaving a large estate.

To Miss Nellie K. McIsaacs, a nurse in the family for several years, was left $50,000. To Otto Zerrahn, a clerk in the State Street Trust Company, was left $10,000, because of "his politeness and kindness in business dealings."

One public request was made, that of $25,000 to Grace Hospital, Boston.

WIDOWED QUEEN'S MESSAGE TO NATION

A Pathetic Note of Thanks for the Sympathy of the People.

CATHOLICS ASK A CHANGE

Cabinet to Introduce Bill Amending Royal Declaration—Mr. Roosevelt Not to Speak on May 18 at Oxford.

London, May 10.—While the rulers and representatives of foreign nations are assembling here for the funeral of King Edward VII the necessary formalities incident to the ceremonies are being gradually completed. The widowed Queen has sent a touching personal message to the nation, written in unassuming style and recalling similar intimate messages which Queen Victoria was in the habit of addressing to her people.

King George has addressed messages to the navy and army, expressing his thanks for their loyalty and devotion and his solicitude for the efficiency of both services. A message also has gone from the King to the Indian princes and people mentioning his profound gratitude for their sympathy.

Late to-night the body of King Edward, inclosed in an oaken casket, was transferred to the Throne Room of Buckingham Palace, where it rests on a catafalque covered with the same purple pall which enshrouded the coffin of Queen Victoria. A silken royal ensign has been spread over the pall. Many floral offerings coming from abroad will be deposited in the Throne Room, where the body will remain until its removal to Westminster Hall.

The Queen Mother Alexandra's message follows:

> From the depth of my poor broken heart I wish to express to the whole nation and our own kind people we love so well my deep felt thanks for all their touching sympathy in my overwhelming sorrow and unspeakable anguish.
>
> Not alone have I lost everything in him, my beloved husband, but the nation, too, have suffered an irreparable loss by their best friend, father and sovereign thus suddenly called away. May God give us all His divine help to bear this heaviest of crosses, which He has seen fit to lay upon us. "His will be done."
>
> Give to me a thought in your prayers which will comfort and sustain me in all that I have to go through. Let me take this opportunity of expressing my heartfelt thanks for all the touching letters and tokens of sympathy I have received from all classes, high and low, rich and poor, which are so numerous that I fear it would be impossible for me ever to thank everybody individually.
>
> I confide my dear son into your care, who, I know, will follow in his dear father's footsteps, begging you to show him the same loyalty and devotion you showed his dear father. I know that both my dear son and daughter-in-law will do their utmost to merit and keep it.

One of the first messages issued by King George, who has long been known as "the sailor prince," was addressed to the navy. In it the King says:

> It is my earnest wish on succeeding to the throne to make known to the navy how deeply grateful I am for its faithful and distinguished services rendered to the late King, my beloved father, who ever showed the greatest solicitude for its welfare and efficiency.
>
> Educated and trained in that profession which I love so dearly, retirement from active duty has in no sense diminished my feelings of affection for it. For thirty-three years I have had the honor of serving in the navy, and such intimate participation in its life and work enables me to know how thoroughly I can depend on that spirit of loyalty and zealous devotion to duty, of which the glorious history of our navy is the outcome. That you will ever continue to be as in the past the foremost defender of your country's honor I know full well, and your fortunes will always be followed by me with deep feelings of pride, affection and interest. GEORGE R.

John Redmond, leader of the Irish Parliamentary party, has written to Premier Asquith reminding him of the favorable expressions when recently the question was raised in Parliament by the Duke of Norfolk, the foremost Catholic in England, of abolishing from the declaration which the monarch must make before a new Parliament the ancient words "abjuring the Church of Rome," which, Mr. Redmond says, are most offensive to all Catholics. The Cabinet decided to-day to introduce a bill amending the declaration of the King wherein he asserts his disbelief in the substantiation and adoration of the Virgin and saints, and that he makes declaration without mental reservation or dispensation from the Pope or other authority.

For the declaration that the foregoing doctrines and the mass "are superstitious and idolatrous," it is proposed to substitute the words "are contrary to my belief" and to omit reference to the Pope.

The majority of the members of Parliament are believed to favor these changes, but the Orangemen and extreme Protestants will oppose them. The Catholics wish the entire declaration abolished, but the law officers of the crown consider such a safeguard against a Catholic monarch necessary.

Roosevelt Lecture Postponed.

It was definitely announced to-night that Mr. Roosevelt's lecture at Oxford University, which was scheduled for May 18, has been postponed.

The city is again assuming a comparatively normal aspect. Except for the appearance of mourning emblems along the streets, the fluttering of flags at halfmast and the drawn blinds at the leading clubhouses and in the government offices, a stranger visiting London to-day would find little outward evidence of the occurrences which have attracted the attention of the world for the last three days.

Meantime, however, preparations are going forward for the imposing state funeral of the monarch. These arrangements are being made behind closed doors, the chief officers of the royal household and of the Cabinet shaping the various preliminaries. Few details have been made public.

Chief interest to-day was in the first meeting of the Cabinet since the return of Premier Asquith. It does not appear, however, that the ministers gave any special consideration to the momentous

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BLAME HINDU SOCIETY FOR DOUBLE MURDER

East Indian Organization Punchaya Called Worst of Secret Orders.

POLICE ARE BARE OF CLEWS

Oriental Vengeance Believed to Be at Bottom of Baffling Crime in Dr. Cannon's House.

The baffling murder of Mary Meehner, the housekeeper, and William Benan, the Hindu butler, in the home of Dr. Mott D. Cannon, at No. 131 West 122d street, on Monday afternoon developed yesterday into a deeper mystery, when the slender clews which were found by the detectives failed to provide any basis for the solution of the double crime.

While the police considered robbery as a possible motive, detectives familiar with Oriental crimes sought to connect the murders with the Punchaya Society, which is said to be feared by the Hindus as the most diabolical of secret orders. In the commission of their crimes the society members are known to aim to deface their victims and leave them unrecognizable.

Benan, whose real name was Danukalharie, fled from Calcutta two years ago. He left his wife and children, who belonged to the middle caste of the Hindus. He guarded his whereabouts in Trinidad, W. I., until a year ago, when he came to New York with A. Tulsie, a Hindu dental student, who lives at No. 229 East 53d street. Since that time he had been employed at many places and had always left with good recommendations. Each time Benan showed fear as he gave up his place.

The detectives have not learned that the Hindu had received threats from the Punchaya. Hindus in this city said that the organization planned its murders with deeper secrecy than the Black Hand or the Hunchakist, and that none of their members ever left a trace after assassination. It was pointed out that Benan was the first to be attacked and that the old housekeeper had probably received her blow when she went to his assistance.

The autopsy on the bodies of Miss Meehner and Benan showed that both had been felled by a weapon similar to a blackjack. They were then shot, the bullets being aimed at their faces.

Captain Arthur Kuhne, of the Harlem Detective Bureau, had all his men on the case yesterday. An elaborate search was made of the house and the grounds. The walls and the furniture were examined for finger prints, but nothing was found to give the least aid to the detectives.

In reconstructing the crime, Captain Kuhne and Inspector Russell held a conference. Many motives were suggested, but all gave way. The detectives were finally assigned to work on the motive of a possible robbery, the work of a madman or the revenge of the Hindu secret order.

Helen Hammond, a schoolgirl who attended the class taught by Dr. Cannon's sister, gave the police a clew which led them to believe that the fiend who killed the old housekeeper and the Hindu was in the house for some time after the murders. Miss Hammond called at the house shortly after 3 o'clock. She had been commissioned to deliver a bouquet of flowers, as Miss Cannon was going to do some shopping with Miss Julia Freeborn, who also lived in the doctor's house.

"The rough voice of a man frightened me from the house," said Miss Hammond, as she related to the detectives how she rang the bell and how a man opened the door, and then scared her away from the house. Miss Hammond said she was so alarmed that she did not even look up at the man's face.

In their first search the police found Dr. Cannon's revolver with three chambers empty. This led them to believe that the weapon was used for the shooting. The autopsy showed that four bullets were used, and one of these bullets was of soft lead, different from those which were in the cartridges in the revolver found by the police.

In their efforts to trace the murder to the Punchaya Society the detectives learned that Benan was hidden at the home of a Hindu in this city for two weeks before the murder. He had resigned a place on a steamship because of a man who, it was learned last night, posed as a negro and threatened to kill him. It was the same reason that led him to give up his place in a Brooklyn hotel.

FOUR HURT IN AUTO CRASH

Woman May Die as Result of Accident in Reliability Run.

Elizabeth, N. J., May 10.—Four persons were badly hurt, one probably fatally, and two automobiles were wrecked in a head-on collision that occurred in Rahway avenue, about two miles outside of this city, at 9:30 o'clock this morning. One machine, a touring car, carried Mrs. Anna Applegate, of Manalapan, N. J.; Miss Adelaide Meyers, of Newark, and William H. Mount, of Kansas City, Mo., owner and driver of the car. The other car, a Kohler 40, and No. 21 in the two-day reliability run around New Jersey, was occupied by the owner, Dr. A. Dallas, of Pine Brook, N. J., and N. M. Egerts, his brother-in-law, and driven by A. D. Briers.

The two cars were proceeding in opposite directions, and crashed together as they swung to the same side of the road to avoid a delivery wagon. Mrs. Applegate was thrown out and received a fractured skull, contusions of the body and possible internal injuries. She is in a critical condition. Miss Meyers and Mr. Mount each received several fractured ribs and contusions of the body. All were taken to the St. Elizabeth Hospital.

Dr. Dallas received a lacerated wound on the forehead and a fractured finger, and was cared for at the General Hospital. The other passengers of his car, who were slightly cut and bruised, were treated by ambulance surgeons

PRINCE IYESATO TOKUGAWA.

The son of the last Shogun of Japan, who sails to-day on the Mauretania, after three busy days spent in sightseeing in this city.

(Photo by Paul Thompson.)

NEW BATTLESHIPS GIANTS

Planned To Be Most Formidable Vessels Afloat.

WILL CARRY 14-INCH GUNS

Improvements in Armament, Speed and Endurance Embodied in Designs.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, May 10.—The Naval General Board has before it the tentative designs of the new battleships, the construction of two of which Congress will authorize at the present session. The naval constructors have completed the provisional plans, which have gone to the General Board, as is usual each year, for the determination of military features. Instructions have again been given that the chief characteristics and special qualifications of these new ships shall be regarded as government secrets, and it is purposed to impart no information relating to them, although there is a suspicion that those who are particularly interested in finding out anything about the vessels will gain access to all the statistics they desire.

The new ships will be one thousand tons greater displacement than the Arkansas and the Wyoming, which are of 26,000 tons, and it is purposed to use this increased displacement in adding to the armament, and so increasing what may be called the hitting power of the new ships. There will be at least ten 14-inch, instead of twelve 12-inch, guns, which is the armament of the battleships authorized last year. Ten 14-inch guns are regarded as better than twelve 12-inch guns, but it is also recognized that advantages gained in one way must be lost in another. It would be possible to have more 14-inch guns, but it is altogether a matter of weights. Anything added to one characteristic must be offset by a reduction in the weight of another feature.

It is desired to increase the hitting power of the new ships, and maintain the speed and, if possible, increase the endurance. The latter feature is brought about by increased capacity for the storage of coal. The new ships will embrace the best features in construction and in a military way. They will have more destructive batteries and will be able to keep the sea longer than any battleship under construction.

There will be some minor improvements over the latest design adopted, such as better ventilation and further reduction of what is known as "top hamper," such as boats and other articles which have hitherto lumbered the decks of battleships. The new ships will be the best examples of naval power afloat. The General Board in its part of the development of the plans is seeking the advice and assistance of officers of the fleet, several of whom have been summoned to Washington for consultation.

UNIONS TO BUY BONDS

Plan to Aid Milwaukee's Socialist Government.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Milwaukee, May 10.—The trade unions' national organizations which have socialistic inclinations are planning to come to the rescue of Milwaukee's socialistic city administration when an effort is made to float bonds for the carrying out of the socialist programme, by investing their treasury balances in these bonds.

The first union to take such action was the International Bakers' Union, which, at a meeting in Chicago a few days ago, decided to sell its $200,000 worth of United States bonds and turn the money into Milwaukee municipal bonds in case Eastern interests refuse to take the chance of loaning money to the Milwaukee administration.

The national brewers' organization is said to be planning to take the same course with $1,000,000 which they have invested in government bonds. The mine workers' two organizations are also said to favor the plan.

"Iilkit," the stylish eyeglass. Bisight or Toric Pebbles. Spencer's, 31 Maiden Lane. —Advt.

FORBES COMES TO GRIEF

Found Unconscious with Yates When Balloon Lands.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Glasgow, Ky., May 10.—Two men who have been identified as A. Holland Forbes and J. Carrington Yates, both of New York, fell with their balloon a distance of several hundred feet to a farm near Center, Metcalfe County, late this evening. Both men were unconscious and are suffering from severe bruises and possible internal injuries.

On a card bearing the name "A. Holland Forbes," found in one of the man's pockets, was the instruction: "In case of accident notify a New York newspaper."

The two men were taken to the home of a farmer and a physician was called. Forbes regained consciousness to a slight degree and told in a dazed fashion of having started out from some point in an attempt to reach New York.

The second man had not regained consciousness and the physician attending them says both were in a critical condition.

Later in the evening Forbes recovered consciousness for the second time. He seemed dazed and talked disconnectedly. From what he said it is supposed that a leakage of gas overcame the men, who lost control of the balloon.

The balloon was sighted two hours before it dropped. It was coming from a southerly direction. The food of the balloonists had all ben eaten or thrown away, and both men were lying unconscious in the bottom of their car when they struck the earth.

A. Holland Forbes, accompanied by J. Carrington Yates, ascended from Quincy, Ill., at 6:50 o'clock on Tuesday night. The balloon ascended almost vertically for three thousand feet, and then moved slowly in a southerly direction.

Mr. Forbes took with him a four days' supply of food and a supply of bedding said to exceed any amount ever carried before by a balloonist. It was his intention to strike an air current which would carry him northward over Chicago, the Great Lakes, and thence across the Canadian border to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, where he planned to land.

The flight was made with the object of establishing a new world's record, both for length of flight and time in the air. The present distance record is 1,193 miles and the endurance record is seventy-two hours.

Mr. Forbes won the Lahm Cup in a flight from St. Louis to Beach, Va., twenty-two miles south of Richmond, on October 12-13, 1909, by covering 697.17 miles in 19 hours 15 minutes.

$10,000 JEWEL ROBBERY

Gems Missing from Apartment Uptown in Strange Manner.

Ten thousand dollars' worth of jewels are missing from the apartments of James P. Traviss, broker, in the Lucerne, at 79th street and Amsterdam avenue, and detectives from the Central Office and from the 4th Branch Detective Bureau are looking for them, although the manager of the apartment house says he feels confident that the valuables have merely been mislaid. Mr. Traviss and his wife are equally sure there has been a robbery.

On Monday Mrs. Traviss saw to the packing of her trunks preparatory to a trip to Europe, and on Monday afternoon went to the Actors' Fund Fair. On her return she discovered, she says, that her jewel case had been opened and a good deal of jewelry taken.

BRAZIL CRUISER ROBBED

Safe Holding $35,000 Cut from Captain's Cabin.

Toulon, May 10.—An extraordinary robbery has occurred on board the Brazilian schoolship Benjamin Constant, which is undergoing repairs here. A safe containing $35,000, which was fixed to the wall in the captain's cabin, was taken out and carried away bodily some time last night.

THE COMET STIRS FRANCE

Views of Scientists Regarding Qualities and Orbit.

Paris, May 10.—Astronomers in France are making observations on Halley's comet which are attracting great interest. Maurice Hamy, of the Paris Observatory, reports that the length of the tail has increased from 5 to 10 degrees in three days. Professor Deslandres, of the University of Dijon, finds a reappearance in the spectroscope of cyanogen, the poisonous gas which was observed in January and February but disappeared in March. In his report he says that the hypothesis that the gas is liable to affect the terrestrial atmosphere would not be at all absurd.

On the other hand, Camille Flammarion thinks that the tail of the comet is simply an optical phenomenon, produced by the flight through ether, similar to the wake of a ship at sea.

M. Marchand maintains that the comet shows important variations from its predicted orbit, which presages unexpected surprises.

Geneva, N. Y., May 10.—Dr. William R. Brooks, director of the Smith Observatory and professor of astronomy at Hobart College, reports excellent observations of Halley's comet this morning. The comet was much brighter and the tail could be traced to a length of 25 degrees, and nearly parallel to the great square of Pegasus. The nucleus was brighter than any star in that region of the heavens.

Dr. Brooks says the comet is now in its best position for morning observation.

RAN INTO FUNERAL PARTY

Woman Severely Injured and Husband and Children Bruised.

A woman was severely injured and five other persons were badly shaken up about noon yesterday, when a carriage, in which were Mrs. Margaret Blumenstock, thirty-eight years old, of No. 27 Floyd street; her husband and their four children, was run into by a trolley car in Brooklyn. The party was just leaving church for a funeral.

Mrs. Blumenstock was found to be suffering from shock, possible concussion of the brain and internal injuries. Mr. Blumenstock and the children were bruised and shocked. The family were taken to the home of Mrs. Thomas, No. 183 Park avenue. After being attended by ambulance surgeons they were sent home.

JERSEY FIRE LIGHTS UP RIVER FOR MILES

Thousands Here Line Banks of the Hudson as Schuetzen Park Burns.

GUARDSMEN PUT TO ROUT

Stand Not Upon the Order of Their Going as Flames Break In on Drill—Damage More Than $100,000.

While thousands in Manhattan and The Bronx lined the eastern shores of the Hudson River last night, gathered there to watch the spectacular sight, a fire which raged in Schützen Park, Union Hill, N. J., destroyed the immense dancing pavilion and did more than $100,000 damage to other property.

The fire started in the kitchen attached to the pavilion, probably from an overheated stove, and rapidly ate its way through the dry wooden structure, soon gaining headway that put it practically beyond the control of the firemen. In spite of the fact that the fire almost completely destroyed a majority of the buildings in the park, there was no loss of life and no one was badly hurt.

Because of its location atop of the lofty crags of the Palisades cliffs, which rise to a height of more than two hundred feet at this point, the flames could be seen more than ten miles away. The glare lighted up the darkness of the river and created a weird effect, and it was not long before great crowds of people, from as far south as Brooklyn and as far to the north as the city limits in The Bronx, were gathered on the river bank to witness the spectacle.

Soldiers in a Hurry.

The fire started just before 9 o'clock, and at the time of its discovery the dance hall was being used for drill purposes by Company M, of the 4th Regiment, N. G. N. J. According to stories told last night the valiant guardsmen did not wait to discover the extent or cause of the fire, but made a quick dash for the nearest exits. They apparently did not welcome a baptism of fire any sooner than might prove to be necessary for the defence of their native land.

Men living near the park were the first to come to the aid of the employes. They managed to connect several lengths of hose and started in to deluge the flames with well directed streams of water, but their efforts in this direction were not of much use, for the water pressure was anything but robust and scarcely enough to extend a garden hose.

Shouting orders in a loud voice, Henry Andes, Chief of Police of North Bergen, at the head of twenty constables, was the first official to arrive on the scene. Under his direction his men arranged themselves throughout the park and attempted to stay the advance of the fire. While they were doing yeomen service with what instruments they had they were cheered by the sound of fire engine bells, and soon the companies of half a dozen different townships were piling into the glaring breach.

With two exceptions these engine companies are volunteer organizations and are equipped with fire fighting apparatus that was seen in small country towns many years ago. These engines were not drawn by horses, but were propelled by man power, and consisted principally of many lengths of hose wound about a rack, with long handles on either side, on which the amateur fire eaters leaned their weight, thus pumping the water through the pipes.

Volunteers Do Good Work.

In spite of this handicap and the big start which the fire had gained, the firemen did effective work in stopping the spread of the flames, and when it was realized that the dancing pavilion was doomed they turned their attention to saving other property near by. Many private houses outside the confines of the park were beginning to burn, owing to sparks which had ignited the woodwork, and these would have gone up also had it not been for the fire fighters of North Bergen, Union Hill, West Ho-

About four hundred feet from the park is the Fritz Reuter Altenheim, a retreat for aged Germans, and the high wind which was blowing soon carried sparks to the roof of the building. The inmates were badly frightened, and for a time it was feared that a panic might result, but under the orders of the half dozen chiefs of police quiet was restored. Several of the most feeble of the inmates were carried to a roadhouse near by, where they were kept until all danger was over.

While the fire was at its height and the undivided attention of the firemen and police was being given to the work of extinguishment, some unkindly persons seized the opportunity to visit the chicken coops in the rear of the burning buildings and disturb the rural birds on their roosts. A dozen of the choicest specimens of the poultryman's art were removed.

At 11 o'clock it was seen that the fire would spread no further, and it was decided to let it burn itself out. It was still glowing at midnight, and it was thought that it would continue to burn all day to-day. The only injury reported was an accident to Charles Hoffman, of the Overlook Hose Company, who received a fractured arm when he was thrown from his seat on the engine.

Schützen Park was built about twelve years ago, and is owned by the various German societies of this city.

About six blocks from the park there was a lot of excitement among the neighbors of the gas tanks situated there. Sparks flew around the tanks, and the dwellers in nearby houses made a hasty exit.

MORE TIME TO COMPLETE TUBE.

A year's delay has been granted the Hudson & Manhattan Railroad Company for the completion of its line up Sixth avenue to 33d street and for the building of the Ninth avenue spur. The work was to have been completed by June 15, but on application of the company the Public Service Commission granted the desired extension