VOTE SELLING WHOLESALE

Hundreds Indicted in One County in Ohio for Bribe Taking.

CORRUPT FOR 20 YEARS

Judge Conducting the Investigation Expects That 3,000 Indictments Will Be Returned.

Portsmouth, Ohio, Dec. 25.—With a total of 688 indictments and 114 pleas of guilty to charges of vote selling during the recent election, Adams County, Ohio, appears to be in a bad way politically.

A vigorous campaign of investigation carried on by a grand jury, upon the instigation of Judge A. Z. Blair, of Portsmouth, has resulted in the indictment of nearly 10 per cent. of the voting strength of the county, and to-day predictions were made that the number of indictments would reach three thousand. Judge Blair says vote selling in every township will be investigated.

In the more than one hundred pleas of guilty entered the offenders have been disfranchised for five years and fined nominal sums. Workhouse terms have been given to practically all, but most of the prison sentences have been suspended. An editor who denounced the investigation has been punished for contempt.

The Sheriff of the county says that comparatively few officials have been elected legally in twenty years.

Corruption in Adams County goes back for more than twenty years, and is perhaps largely due to a general sanction of the growing custom, as well as the absence of railways, telegraphs and telephones. There is in the county only one railroad line—a branch of the Norfolk & Western—and few telegraph and telephone lines. West Union, the county seat, is not reached by either telegraph or railway. In this respect it stands alone among county seats in Ohio.

During a governorship campaign in the 80's Republicans by an alleged liberal use of money carried the county, which previously had been Democratic. Since then control has shifted back and forth. As a result of the grand jury's investigations it is apparent that both parties have participated in the vote buying. Starting at $1 and $2, prices have risen in recent years to $20 a vote. Much of the "boodling" has been almost public. Instances of the auctioning of votes have been reported.

Judge Blair, born and brought up in the county, recently determined to end the corruption. Among those indicted are many of his lifelong friends and some of his early playmates. Men in all walks of life and of unblemished reputation otherwise have been caught in the net. So far the judge has indicated his purpose to go after only the vote sellers.

So strong have been their demands for money for their ballots that officeholders have been able to earn only small net salaries.

SHOOTING MYSTERY GROWS

Husband of Dead Woman Indifferent—Boarder Gone.

Hackensack, N. J., Dec. 25 (Special).—Coroner W. E. Tracey and Prosecutor W. J. Wright are puzzled over the shooting of Victoria Dubash, the young wife of John Dubash, of Mahwah, which occurred late yesterday afternoon in their home. Dubash told the Coroner that the shooting of his wife was an accident, but the disappearance of a young boarder, Joseph Deinko, and the indifference of Dubash himself over his wife's death have aroused suspicion, and county detectives are making a careful search for Deinko.

From what they can learn there was a row and fight between Dubash and the young boarder, and the wife is said to have been the cause of the trouble. A shotgun was brought into play. Dubash says the young boarder, of whom he was apparently jealous, got the gun from a back room and, after threatening to kill Dubash, the latter grappled with him.

The excited voices of the struggling men attracted the attention of Mrs. Dubash, and she came hurrying toward them to prevent any serious result. When within ten feet of the men the gun was discharged, and Mrs. Dubash fell to the floor dead. An entire charge of shot tore away half her head and face.

Dubash made no effort to prevent the escape of the boarder, and it was an hour before the Mahwah authorities knew of the affair and informed the prosecutor here.

VIOLINIST LOSES FINGERS

Russian Held Exploding Cracker and Will Never Be Able to Play Again.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Rome, Ga., Dec. 25.—Skibinski, a Russian violinist and head of the music department of Shorter College, will never play again as the result of his first experience with fireworks. His left hand is minus two fingers and thumb and is otherwise badly mangled.

Skilinski came here from Russia last September, and knew nothing of fireworks. Last night he asked, in broken English, for Roman candles and was given cannon crackers. He held one of the crackers in his left hand, and, being ignorant of the danger, allowed it to explode.

Mrs. Skibinski, also a teacher in the college, was standing near by and was rendered permanently deaf in one ear by the explosion.

NEW ENGLAND DROUTH BROKEN

Special Thanksgiving in Churches for Christmas Gift of Rain.

Boston, Dec. 25.—An inch and a half of rain which fell yesterday and early to-day is believed to have effectually routed the drouth which has menaced the water supply of half a dozen cities in New England. For many hours the rain fell heavily, and to-day found reservoirs of villages rising rapidly from the torrential flow of their supply streams, to the great delight of people who have been denied tub baths by watchful water officials.

In many pulpits to-day special thanksgivings were offered for the breaking of the drouth, and the rain was referred to as a Christmas gift to New England.

WATER AS CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Heavy Rain at Greenwich, Conn., Ends Record Breaking Drouth.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Greenwich, Conn., Dec. 25.—Greenwich had a Christmas present yesterday of a heavy rain, and now the water famine is ended. Pumping continues at Converse Lake at the rate of three million gallons a day. Wells long in disuse are being opened for drinking purposes.

The Rockefeller brothers, William and Percy, whose homes are on high ground, are again getting water, they having been without it for a longer period than their poorer neighbors at a lower grade.

HAS CAPITAL OF $10,000,000

Northern Finance Corporation of This City to Deal in Real Estate.

Albany, Dec. 25.—The Northern Finance Corporation of New York was incorporated yesterday, with a capital of $10,000,000, to deal in real estate and to do a general investment business. The directors are Frank S. Rollins, John R. Mackay and Dana Brannan, of New York. The company paid a corporation tax of $5,000.

ENGINEER KILLED IN CAB

Shot by Unknown Man While Driving His Locomotive.

Tampa, Fla., Dec. 25.—While driving train No. 24, of the Atlantic Coast Line, near Winter Garden, early Christmas Eve, Engineer W. H. Burke, one of the oldest men in the service, was shot and instantly killed by an unknown man who fired at the train.

The conductor, Christey, took the train to Trilby. Deputy sheriffs are making a thorough search of the surrounding country.

STEAMER SUNK: SIX LOST

Liner Finland in Collision with Small Vessel Named Baltique.

Antwerp, Dec. 25.—The steamers Finland and Baltique were in collision today at the mouth of the River Scheldt.

The Red Star liner Finland was bound from New York, and the Baltique, a Belgian steamer of 1,365 tons, was outward bound with a cargo of sand. The exact cause of the collision is not known, but it is stated that the Finland, in veering struck the Belgian amidships. The Baltique sank immediately. Part of the crew was rescued by the Finland and others by a pilot boat. Six men are unaccounted for. The Finland is now anchored at Flushing. It is not known whether she has sustained any damage.

SAD END FOR SEA TERRORS

Commerce Destroyers Columbia and Minneapolis To Be Tenders.

Washington, Dec. 25.—It would be hard to find a more striking illustration of the great change that has taken place in naval design within the last few years than will be afforded by the conversion of the triple-screw cruisers Columbia and Minneapolis into "mother ships" for submarine boats.

The two vessels were constructed to sweep the commerce of an enemy from the seas. They were filled with boilers, engines and machinery designed to make them speedy enough to overtake even the fastest ocean liners. But the mercantile marine progressed in speed more rapidly than the navy, and within a few years after they were launched the 20-knot "pirates," as the two cruisers were called, were really outclassed, compared with the swift boats on the transatlantic service.

Chief Constructor Watt, therefore, has recommended to the Navy Department and so to Congress that the Columbia and the Minneapolis be turned into "mother ships." He points out the vulnerability of the vessels, which are too weak to stand before any warship and too big for police work, which is better done by small gunboats. He would remove about two-thirds of the boiler power and two of the three engines in each ship, so as to make them economical in operation. Equipped with dynamos for recharging the storage batteries of submarines and with ample room for their supplies, each of the vessels should be able to "mother" seven submarines. The estimated cost of the changes would be about $150,000 for each ship.

TO PROBE WITNESS'S DEATH

Pittsburg Officials Suspect Foul Play in Graft Case.

Pittsburg, Dec. 25.—Their hopes of obtaining convictions in at least sixty councilmanic graft cases shattered by the sudden death yesterday of Charles Fitzsimmons, officials of the District Attorney's staff have arranged for an autopsy on the body of Fitzsimmons to determine if he really died from pneumonia or if his death was not hastened by persons interested in the case.

The officials say that the sudden deaths of Fitzsimmons and "Ollie" Hamilton, the only two witnesses who could have corroborated the testimony of ex-Councilman John Klein to the effect that bribes were paid, is a coincidence that should be investigated.

Since the graft cases both Hamilton and Fitzsimmons had become popular among a certain class of women, and officials of the District Attorney's office think some of their women friends might have been responsible, at least in part, for the death of the state's star witnesses.

WAR ON HAYTI'S BORDER

Reported Battle, in Which Several Are Said to Have Been Killed.

Santo Domingo, Dec. 25.—News has reached here of an engagement along the Dominican and Haytien borders. Several are reported killed.

A gunboat will be sent with troops to the scene of the trouble.

BRITISH BARK BURNING

The Shanks Is Aflame and Will Be a Total Loss.

Rosario, Dec. 25.—The British bark Shanks, from Philadelphia, August 19, via Buenos Ayres, is burning and will probably be a total loss. No cargo was aboard the Shanks when the fire broke out.

The Shanks was formerly the Italian bark Affezione. She was of 1,034 tons and was built at Chiavari in 1884.

B. & O. STRIKE TO END

General Superintendent of Motive Power of All Lines Resigns.

Washington, Ind., Dec. 25.—Following the official announcement of the resignation of J. D. Harris as general superintendent of motive power of all Baltimore & Ohio Railroad lines information was received to-day that the trouble between the company and its machinists had been settled and that the men would return to work by January 1.

According to the report received to-day, a committee in conference with President Willard of the railroad in Baltimore accepted the terms of return, and the vote on concurrence will be taken in twenty shops to-morrow. Until the vote is counted the terms of the settlement will not be made known.

COLD SPELL IN THE EAST

Elsewhere the Country Will Have Moderate Temperature This Week.

Washington, Dec. 25.—With the exception of a cold spell on Monday in the Eastern States, moderate temperature will prevail everywhere during Christmas week, according to the Weather Bureau's bulletin tonight.

A disturbance of moderate intensity, now in the Southwest, will reach the Atlantic seaboard by Tuesday, and will be attended by unsettled weather, with rain or snow in Northern and central states east of the Rocky Mountains.

RUEF REHEARING DENIED.

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—The petition of Abraham Ruef, the former political leader under sentence of fourteen years for bribery, for a rehearing before the District Court of Appeals, was denied by that tribunal yesterday. He will now appeal to the Supreme Court for a new trial.

SHEPARD DEFINES VIEWS

Candidate for U. S. Senate First Opposes "New Nationalism."

ADVOCATES RIGID ECONOMY

Then Renews Expression of Opinions on Railroads, Labor, Etc.

In connection with the questions put to him by "The New York World," Edward M. Shepard made public a statement of his political views last night.

Mr. Shepard declared it as his belief that he should not now be called upon to answer questions of a political nature, but that his fitness for the position of United States Senator should rather be determined solely on his past record on public affairs.

First in his own idea in importance in that record, Mr. Shepard placed his stand, taken early last September, in direct opposition to the policies advocated by Mr. Roosevelt in his Ossawatomie speech. He devoted a passing word to his activities in the formation of the Democratic state platform in the last election, and declared himself in favor of an immedate reduction of "excessive and monopolistic duties" in the tariff.

"I am hostile to the swollen expenditures for remote and improbable war," Mr. Shepard said, "and I believe thoroughly in the governmental regulation of common carriers and of unavoidable monopolies."

He declared himself in favor of the popular election of United States Senators, the adoption of a constitutional amendment permitting Congress to impose an income tax, extension of the parcels post, and workmen's indemnity out of the fruits of their own industry.

Mr. Shepard's statement follows:

I am reluctant to answer your questions on politics, and for the very reason which you give for asking them—that many Democrats in this state are thinking of me as a candidate for the United States Senatorship. I have asked neither the vote nor the support of any one. But the confidence shown me during the last few weeks by so many of my party associates has given me a real and very pleasant sense of honor, which will always remain whether or not the office shall come to me.

Is it, however, useful for me at this time again to recite my political creed? Must not the choice for this Democratic Senatorship—a place calling for so heavy a service of statesmanship to New York and to the country—and for so signal and continuous a service to our great party and to its lasting and enlarged prestige and success—must not this be determined upon consideration of the long known and well known relations of the candidate to public affairs rather than by what he chooses to say to help his own election?

Will not his ingrained and abiding opinions and those habits of thought upon which in the long run every man is pretty sure to act, give better assurance of the use he would make of this great office, either to help or to hinder public welfare, either to make democracy more powerful or less powerful with public opinion and, therefore, with voters at elections to be held during the six years of the Senatorship?

But you tell me that the speeches of mine made during many political campaigns when I had no personal fortune at stake and during those months between political campaigns, when political discussion is of quite as much value and its sincerity better assured—you tell me that all this long continued and amply recorded disclosure of my opinions lacks the freshness needed for current publication; and for the moment I yield my judgment to yours.

For several weeks before the Democratic convention at Rochester last September I was the chairman of a committee directed by the Democratic State Committee to prepare platform material for the Rochester convention, and the platform then adopted—although in larger part the work of others than myself—set forth, practically to myself—my opinions upon issues between the Democratic party and its chief competitor.

First and foremost in the struggle of present day politics is the group of questions which go to the very foundation of our democratic republic.

At the dinner given at New York by the Democratic State Committee early last September, referring to Mr. Roosevelt's speech at Osawatomie, just delivered, I said that in the outcry for a "new nationalism" there was the largest immediate danger; that the most peremptory duty of the Democratic party was an outspoken resistance to what Mr. Roosevelt rightly considered a new form of an old thing—for the thing was as old and as famous as George III or Bonaparte.

His cry appealed to those who would "do things" without much thinking and who are more dangerous to the country even if sometimes they inspire greater respect than those who think without much "doing." The short cut of a strong and unfettered executive reverses the American ideal of government for which our Revolutionary War was fought, for which our Constitution was established and for which the Democratic party itself was organized and to which it owes its chiefest glory. For it would mean the destruction of the patience and restraints of orderly self-government and of freedom thoroughly and systematically worked out; it would mean also the dominance of mere organized physical force.

When I spoke in September I did not think—and certainly now, after the elections, I do not think—that the "man on horseback" is near at hand. But it is necessary for patriotic Americans—and the Democratic party—in a hundred ways and in most fields of federal legislation to withstand the tendency to remedy wrongs whose genesis and cure are not yet understood by oppressive disregard of human rights which, although undoubted, seem inconvenient. One who studies the election returns in our state will see that the "new nationalism" is not yet indubitably set at rest. Questions within its scope arise to-day about taxation, about creation and control of corporations, about interstate commerce and, indeed, in nearly every department of the federal power.

So it is that I declare myself hostile to impairment of the dignity and powers of the states or of judicial power within constitutional limits. And, therefore, I support firmly the power of the courts in the controversies duly brought before them to deal fearlessly, although always cautiously, with the constitutional validity of the acts, legislative or executive, of public officers, whether high or low.

To tariff questions I have given much of my thought and public activity ever since I came to manhood. For me the moral side of these questions is no less important than the economic. It is not, as was once observed by Andrew D. White, "a question of a few more or less factories." With their wealth and their wonderfully productive labor, the American people no doubt can endure, as for many years they have endured, the unfair, wasteful and impoverishing restrictions of many of the present duties.

This in very large part is because in our own country we have the greatest area of unrestricted free trade ever known to the world—and because, under our constitution, our domestic trade, enormously in excess of our foreign trade, is free of all such obstructions. Although practically our public revenues, in large part, must come from duties on foreign imports, and the treatment of tariff burdens, to be wise and lasting, must, no doubt, be patient and prudent, still some of the burdens—and especially the recently increased burdens—are intolerable, and, quite apart from theoretic considerations, the American democracy cannot endure with safety the corroding and widespread corruption due to excessive and monopolistic duties beyond the necessities of its revenue.

Shall we not, indeed, better know how to deal with the spoliations of organized wealth or monopolies when we shall have undone the worst of the tariff favoritisms by which many of the spoliations and monopolies have accomplished their purpose? For me the Democratic party is bound, by every consideration of honorable and pledged good faith and of enlightened self-interest—and with a welcome to every assistance coming to it out of the Republican party—to deal promptly and courageously with the tariff.

I am hostile to the swollen expenditures for remote and improbable war. No doctrine has had, or will have, from me more steadfast hostility than that which would impose upon our industrial democracy the burdens of premature and war-provoking preparations for war. The United States ought to be at the very forefront in moral appeal to world powers to strike from their shoulders the burdens and dangers of excessive military and naval expenditure.

I believe thoroughly in the governmental regulation of common carriers and of unavoidable monopolies and in the regulation by the federal government of interstate and foreign carriers in their interstate and foreign business. I should hope, however, that robust common sense might be exercised to distinguish between regulations of matters which affect shippers, travellers and the rest of the public—like railroad rates, safety contrivances, fairness and punctuality of service and the like—and, on the other hand, matters which concern only remotely or not at all the performance of public duties.

In my opinion, it is against the best interests of government and of private business alike that government should assume responsibility for the solution of business questions not clearly involving service to the public. It ought never to be forgotten that legitimate corporations are merely larger partnerships without which it would not have been practicable to conduct three-fourths—perhaps nine-tenths—of modern business of the country, outside of farming and retail merchandising and domestic and mechanical service.

While curbing abuses, the faculties of liberty must be preserved if we are to augment or even preserve prosperity itself. Undoubtedly the rights of manhood come before the rights of property. But wise Americans will not forget that property—that is to say, the right to deal with the fruits of one's own labor and saving—is one of the integral rights of manhood, one of the very faculties of liberty itself and a supreme safeguard of the poorer and less powerful of men. I may add, however, that, in the long run, it is no true protection to property to prevent or obstruct the liberty—even extreme liberty—of speech and the freedom of discussion, without which the safety of property will be in unstable, rather than stable, equilibrium.

I favor proper provisions for the popular election of United States Senators, for the adoption of the amendment to the federal Constitution permitting Congress, when necessary, to impose an income tax; for the extension of the "parcels post" and for the rigorous preservation to the entire people of the benefit of the public domain, its mines and water rights. And so I believe—and the Rochester platform so declared—in legislation establishing the rights of laboring men, in case of injury, to indemnity out of fruits resulting largely from their own industry. For the vast interests of labor, organized and unorganized, are a chiefest and dearest cause of enlightened Democracy. Where they are within federal jurisdiction, the United States ought to be foremost among the nations of the world in protecting and promoting them, especially where their own power is insufficient, whether in making larger and more just their share of product or in enforcement of the conditions and assurances of safety and indemnity which practically they cannot themselves enforce.

Let us take care, however, that the powerful organizations of wealth and of labor, even when inevitable, and however beneficent, shall not, like upper and nether millstones, destroy the creative, buoyant, spontaneous independence of American citizenship which has built up and by which must be supported both our prosperity and our democracy.

YEGGS GET $200; MISS $750

Unable to Enter Middletown, N. Y., Bank, They Rob Store.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Middletown, N. Y., Dec. 25.—A gang of burglars, supposed to number at least three of the best professional class, apparently intended to crack the First National Bank of this city early this morning, but being unable to effect an entrance gave up the plan and instead entered the Mohican store adjoining the bank in the rear. In the store the burglars tore off the back of the safe, drilled out eight inches of cement and cut a large hole through the inner shell. They secured about $200, but missed a box containing $750.

SHOT IN CHRISTMAS ROW

Hotel Man Wounds Partner, Porter and Himself.

A Christmas celebration at the Columbus Hotel at No. 301 East 3d street, Mount Vernon, resulted yesterday in the shooting by Andrew Hansen of Joseph Dinavie, his partner in the hotel business, and Morris Babuluad, the porter, after which he tried to end his own life. The three men are in the Mount Vernon Hospital, in a serious condition.

When the police arrived the porter and Dinavie were lying in the hallway, while Hansen, with a revolver in his hand, was trying to get out of the front door. He made for the stairway and reached his room before the policemen could stop him. Then several shots were heard and Hansen was found with a bullet in his throat. It was said that he had been unbalanced by drinking absinthe.

CALL TO ARMS IN MEXICO

Chihuahua Governor Asks Citizens to Rally Against Rebels.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 25.—Governor Alberto Terrazas late Saturday night issued a proclamation calling all citizens of Chihuahua to rally to the support of the government and to organize themselves into a company of rural police for the protection of the city of Chihuahua.

The proclamation asserts that the insurrectionists are common malefactors and robbers, and should be dealt with accordingly. Public tranquillity, it is stated, can be restored only by the united efforts of the people.

FROST CAUSED DESCENT

At Altitude of 7,125 Feet Carburetor of Garros Goes Cold.

New Orleans, Dec. 25.—Soaring above the clouds over Lake Pontchartrain, his goggles so frosted that he could hardly see, and with ice gathered on his machine, Roland G. Garros was this afternoon finally forced to glide to lower levels on account of a frozen carburetor. He broke the altitude record for the international aviation meet here by ascending 7,125 feet.

The Frenchman was seven miles out over the lake. His engine began to slow down when he reached his greatest altitude and the propellers hardly turned. A stop meant a plunge into the lake. After reaching lower levels, which was done with a sickening rush, according to Garros, the carburetor thawed and the engine started.

GRAHAME-WHITE'S MISHAP

Starting for De Forest Prize, His Biplane Was Destroyed by Fire.

Dover, England, Dec. 25.—Claude Grahame-White, who had a narrow escape from serious injury a week ago in an attempt to fly across the English Channel for the Baron De Forest prize of $30,000, met with a further mishap to-day. He was ready to make a second attempt for the prize when his new biplane caught fire and was destroyed.

MINISTER KILLS INTRUDER

Alleged Moonshiner Had Pulled Revolver in Church.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Blue Ridge, Ga., Dec. 25.—Breaking into Mount Pisgah Church, seven miles from here, on Saturday, and declaring that he intended to kill the ministers there, Carter Lingerfelt was shot to death by the Rev. W. J. Kimmon, a Baptist minister.

A conference of the congregation and a Christmas tree celebration were being held when Lingerfelt, who is said to have been a moonshiner, entered. When he drew his pistol Kimmon and his two brothers, both ministers, opened fire. Lingerfelt was shot to death, while one of the brothers was severely injured.

At the same time the duel in the churchyard was taking place Deputy Collector Hopkins, of this place, was destroying a large illicit distillery within a half a mile of the church, Lingerfelt being the alleged operator of the "plant."

PASTOR CONCEALED INJURIES

Wouldn't Spoil Christmas of Cabby Who Ran Him Down.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Greenwich, Conn., Dec. 25.—The Rev. Joseph H. Selden, pastor of the Second Congregational Church at Greenwich, was the victim of a serious accident on Christmas Eve, which he endeavored to-day to keep from his parishioners, not wishing to spoil any of the pleasures of Christmas. He occupied the pulpit as usual, though he suffered considerably.

Dr. Selden was making a Christmas Eve call. In crossing Brookside Drive he was struck by a cab and knocked down. It was understood that several stitches had to be taken in his scalp, but this the doctor would not verify. He even refused to name the driver of the cab, as he didn't want to spoil his family merrymaking.

COOK RAKES RASMUSSEN

Intimates That Danish Explorer's Statements Were Unfair.

FINDS THEM 'INCONSISTENT'

Brooklyn's Arctic Expert Lets Go Fusillade at Critic Once His Supporter.

Though Santa Claus, when he made his annual round of visits night before last, hardly more than left his card on his intimate friend and one time visitor, Dr. Frederick A. Cook, of Brooklyn, nevertheless the doctor felt that his second Christmas since the hegira was as merry as could be wished in its promise of better things. The people were treating him almost fairly, he said; they really weren't as cruel as he supposed. He was even enjoying the season, he declared.

The doctor's day was quietness itself. In the morning some friends appeared and carried him off to a retired nook for lunch, but early in the afternoon he was back in his rooms, at the Waldorf-Astoria, bringing his voluminous correspondence up to date. The evening was spent in the same locality lest a hearty Christmas dinner be disturbed. Even the newspaper men were banished from his presence.

But while the gifts of monarchs did not mark the return of Dr. Cook from his most recent explorations, the doctor provided something of a surprise by making a gift himself. It was a very large and very forceful gift. It went mainly to the Danish explorer, Knud Rasmussen.

About two months ago there appeared in the papers a statement purporting to have Rasmussen as its source and contributing appreciably to the detriment of Dr. Cook. It contained what were said to be statements from Cook's two Eskimo companions, which Rasmussen declared had come to his ears through two missionaries working in the country whence Cook started for the pole.

"I regard their report as absolutely authentic," Rasmussen said.

Last night Dr. Cook issued a statement saying how he regarded Rasmussen.

Can't Understand "Inconsistencies."

"It is difficult to understand the inconsistencies of Knud Rasmussen on the polar question," it began. "That he doubts both Mr. Peary and myself is a privilege granted any one, but that he should jump to both sides of the fence and shout for either camp, without authority or instruction, or even rational consistency, is, to say the least, unmanly. In his last attack he takes cover under the verblage of two halfbreed missionaries, but the style and literary arrangement is that of Rasmussen."

Having delivered himself of this opening gun to oust Rasmussen from the shelter of the verbiage, the doctor followed with a fusillade that might be warranted to riddle the reputation of one far more strongly entrenched than he. In the first place, he declared that the Dane's reputation as an Arctic sledge traveler rested upon a journey from Tassuasak to Cape York, made with Myles Ericksen. This journey, though truly a wonderful one, was only a step in the doctor's return voyage, occupying the slender space of three and a half days, according to the statement. "Yet," added the doctor, "with but this step in the big ladder of Arctic experience, Rasmussen considers himself competent to pass expert criticism on all matters of polar travel. One cannot help but ask the question, Why did Rasmussen first launch out into this polar controversy and defend me, later to discredit me and champion Peary, and again later to pull down Peary? What is the point aimed at?"

The doctor then examined Rasmussen's latest charge, which starts out by saying: "Already in 1909 there existed grave doubts as to whether Dr. Cook really reached the pole."

Thinks Rasmussen Convicts Himself.

"If this is a true statement," said the doctor, "then Rasmussen convicts himself of a false position at the very start. For without a word of instruction from me he came out in vigorous and voluminous reports in my defence. Why did he jump into the band wagon and shout if he had doubts?"

The doctor then picked out with considerable ease from the alleged story of his Eskimos five statements which he branded utterly false and which he said would have been found false by putting a few questions to the older men of the supporting party. Was it right to attack a man's honor without even taking the trouble to find out if they understood correctly? asked the much aggrieved explorer. Even Mr. Peary's statements contradicted these, he held.

In justifying a map of his, which the Eskimos, according to Rasmussen, had stamped a lie "because it was a long way out to sea where they had never been," the doctor explained that he had encouraged his companions in their belief that they were near land in order to keep them with him.

Esquimaus Devoid of Intelligence.

It was rather strange, he thought, that both Mr. Peary and Rasmussen should use this as a card against him, when both must know the necessity of encouraging such belief. Esquimaus didn't know anything about maps of the midpolar basin, any way, he said.

After proving to his own satisfaction that the captain of the Danish ship which brought Rasmussen's halfbreed missionaries among the Esquimaus could make himself better understood to the barbaric natives than they, the doctor delivered his final shot by foretelling what Rasmussen now aims to spring on Peary.

"I," he declared, "have preferred to believe that Mr. Peary's eyes were better than those of the Esquimaus, and I believe so still. Among explorers such brotherly dictates are important. To attack a man's honor on the imperfectly understood saw of a wild man is to leave the sting of dishonor on one's self."

The only rational explanation which Dr. Cook could find for Rasmussen's irrational course was to credit him with an ambition to get into the limelight. "But need an explorer stoop to the depths of a literary muckraker to get public attention?" he asked.

DELAWARE BRIBERY CASES

Senator Du Pont To Be Summoned as a Witness.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Wilmington, Del., Dec. 25.—The election bribery investigation now being conducted by Attorney General Gray was marked today by a development of importance. In Delaware the Attorney General as the state prosecutor has inquisitorial powers, and can summon witnesses at will prior to any intended action. He is preparing summons, it is stated, for Henry A. Du Pont, United States Senator, and his cousin, T. Coleman Du Pont, president of the Du Pont Powder Company and former Republican state chairman, and all members of the Republican State Committee within the last two years.

MAY ISSUE $1,250,000 MORTGAGE

Niagara and Erie Power Company Gets Consent from P. S. Board.

Albany, Dec. 25.—Consent has been given by the Public Service Commission to the Niagara and Erie Power Company to the issuance of a mortgage on its property, rights and franchises, to the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, to secure the payment of $1,250,000 in 5 per cent thirty-year bonds. The company is authorized to issue presently $510,000 of its bonds for cash at not less than 85 and $100,000 of its capital stock at par. The proceeds are to be used for proposed improvements.

MRS. STETSON IS READY

Continued from first page.

terial organization should be largely discontinued.

This came in the form of a quotation from Mrs. Eddy's book, "Miscellaneous Writings," in which she wrote: "Material organization is requisite in the beginning, but when it has done its work the purely Christly method of teaching and preaching must be adopted," and in other books of her writing the same sentiment was found repeated many times.

Mrs. Stetson's claim that the Boston board of directors was not qualified to spiritually interpret Mrs. Eddy's work was first advanced at the time of her trial before that board last year. Speaking then of their understanding of the laws of Christian Science, she wrote:

"Only the works will prove whether it is I or the directors of the Mother Church who understand this law sufficiently to demonstrate it. There is no evidence as yet that the directors are the demonstrators of the teachings of 'Science and Health' or that their judgment is infallible. They have up to this time been good business men, who have conducted the temporal affairs of the material organization in a thoroughly satisfactory manner. Now they are called upon to show their understanding of divine metaphysics. . . ."

Not Hostile to Trustees.

The woman who built up the First Church in New York, and who was practically Mrs. Eddy's first emissary to this city, still believes, as she wrote last year, that the directors are not qualified to be the supreme ecclesiastical power of Mrs. Eddy's Church, but she also holds just as firmly to the determination to let them work out their own problem without hostility from her.

As a student of Mrs. Eddy for more than twenty-five years, and as one who was for a long time almost a personal and daily attendant at her shrine, Mrs. Stetson believes she herself is better qalified to interpret the writings of Mrs. Eddy from the spiritual standpoint than any other Christian Scientist, but she is known to have repeated, even since Mrs. Eddy's death left the spiritual headship of the Church in a measure vacant, her former statement that she would not turn her hand in the way of furthering any personal ambition looking toward that leadership.

More than that, she expressed to her closest friends her belief that the directors—bound as they were by many of the by-laws and by the deed of trust conveying the property of the Mother Church in Boston to await the "written consent of Mary Baker Eddy, the Pastor Emeritus,' and by a clincher by-law which forbade selections to fill vacancies in their board or any attempt to amend the by-laws without the "written consent of Mary Baker Eddy—" would not be able to conduct the material and temporal affairs of the Church with the success which attended their efforts when supported by Mrs. Eddy herself.

She consistently refused, however, to take any part in any movement looking toward dispute of their authority, and in the present instance, it was understood that the people behind the prospective fight on Mrs. Eddy's will requested her to ally herself with them but she again refused.

Eugene R. Cox, chairman of the Publication Committee for New York, said yesterday that he did not believe any legal battle on Mrs. Eddy's will would ever be brought to court.

No News as to the Will.

Mr. Cox said that officially he had received no word from Boston, indicating that such action was contemplated.

"I believe that the best legal talent was employed in the drafting of the will," said Mr. Cox last night, "and it was afterward submitted to very eminent counsel, and so far as the Church is concerned, if the entire will should fail, if none of the money should go to the Church, it would not affect it in the slightest.

"The whole genius of Christian Science is for individual improvement, each one solving his own problems. Mrs. Eddy has always taught this, and as Scientists follow that teaching they lay less stress on church organization than other denominations.

"The organization as devised is simple yet effective, and though there were restrictions of authority retained by Mrs. Eddy, yet there are no actual limitations on the operations of Church activities, and the directors are in no sense hampered in their work under the manual as it now stands. The fundamental law of the Church is opposed to personal interpretation or direction by any teacher of a student, by any practitioner of a patient. Science and Health is the foundation, is complete in itself, and does not need any interpretation.

"From a personal acquaintance with the directors, I know them to be not only good business men, with broad experience in larger affairs of life, but each and every one of them is a metaphysician of a high order, having had the benefit of close association for years with Mrs. Eddy, imbibing her ideas and methods.

"Neither do I see any difficulty in the operation of the bylaws with reference to the appointment to fill vacancies in the board. The manual provides that the board shall fill vacancies occurring, with the approval of the pastor emeritus.

"There now being no pastor emeritus, well known interpretation of the law would hold the clause calling for approval to be inoperative, and therefore unnecessary, and in my opinion other provisions of the manual would be construed in the same way."

SAVES $40,000 AT FIRE

Jersey Family Then Rescued by Means of Ladder.

Bloomfield, N. J., Dec. 25.—Francis B. Hobson, his wife, a son and Mrs. Hobson's mother, Mrs. J. W. Ma shall, of St. Joseph, Mo., were caught on the second floor of the Hobson home in Franklin street by flames this afternoon and had to be rescued from a window by means of ladders. Their rescue was effected by a son of the Hobsons, aided by another young man.

Before descending Mr. Hobson hurled a bag containing $40,000 worth of securities out of a window. The bag was kicked about the street and yard for half an hour before he thought of it again, and when he sought it he found it crushed and ruined, but the contents undamaged.

The loss was about $7,500. Mr. Hobson is a mining engineer of Mexico City. He came here some weeks ago to establish his family here that the children might be educated. He was to leave here for Mexico next week.

HAD FED NEARLY A MILLION.

Pittsburg, Dec. 25.—Mrs. M. A. Danner, a widow, seventy-two years old, who kept a boarding house in Allegheny for the last sixteen years, died to-day. It was her boast that she had fed nearly a million persons and that she had given away hundreds of meals to the unemployed.

"COUNT" CHANGES FRONT

When Trying to Sell or Borrow Here Vouched for Paintings.

STATEMENTS IN CATALOGUE

Vainly Tried to Get $40,000 from Vanderbilts on His "Old Masters."

"Count" d'Aulby de Gatigny on Saturday at his trial at Tours, France, for conspiring to defraud the Duchesse de Choiseul-Praslin out of $200,000 in the sale of spurious paintings declared he had never guaranteed the authenticity of the pictures he offered for sale, but relied largely on the opinion of American art experts.

This statement was not borne out by records left behind by the "count" when he departed from New York after an unsuccessful effort to sell his collection or borrow money on it.

The "count" also told on Saturday of paying $12,000 in customs duties to bring his pictures into this country. This was already told in The Tribune on Friday in an account of the "count's" doings while in this city and was true, although he later tried to get back the money.

Certain records at hand show that "Jean Edouard Comte d'Aulby," as the accused man called himself when he was here in 1895, was personally responsible for the accounts of his pictures, for he furnished the history of each canvas in a typewritten catalogue.

The "count" was a voluble person, and succeeded in making many Americans believe his representations.

The catalogue of "Count d'Aulby" became an interesting document because in it several of the paintings which have figured in the case against him in France were described. One of these was "Diana at the Bath," "by Titian." Of this canvas the "count" said:

"This has been acknowledged by many art lovers and competent connoisseurs as the second chef-d'œuvre of this great idealist; that is to say, after his 'Three Graces' the finest of his works, although to the uninitiated very many of the same master's works would in all probability appeal more strongly. This subject, termed 'The Study in Curves,' has scarcely, if ever, been rivalled as a reproduction of flesh tints and in its extraordinary methods of drawing the human figure. As a great masterpiece of genre painting it has been acknowledged faultless."

"Pictures of Historic Value."

This entry in the catalogue of "Count" d'Aulby was one of those marked with an "X," which, according to an explanatory note in his own handwriting, meant:

"The pictures marked with an 'X' are of historic value and can be traced as they are catalogued."

Another in the latter category was "L'Antiope," "by Sir Joshua Reynolds" (after Correggio). The "count" described it as follows:

"This large canvas is a magnificent replica of Correggio's chef-d'œuvre, now in the Louvre, Paris, where it was placed by Napoleon. King George having visited the Louvre, was so fascinated with this superb creation that he commanded his court painter, Sir Joshua Reynolds, to 'make such a copy that none could tell which was which in point of authorship.' The painting teems with beauties, and the fact that it is the copy of Correggio's greatest work by perhaps the greatest of English masters gives it a unique place in the picture world."

There were also in the list "Noli me Tangere," "by Guido"; "Christ Before Pilate," "by Honthorst," "the last one added to the d'Aulby collection"; "Rembrandt's Mother," "by Rembrandt," and "The Smoker," "by Hals."

One of the believers in the genuineness of the "count" and of his paintings was a friend of the Vanderbilt family, whom d'Aulby met here, and who interested himself in a vain effort to obtain for the "count" a loan of $40,000 on his collection. This champion of "Count" d'Aulby, in writing about the desired loan, said, referring to five of the paintings:

"The above five are great works, the gems of the collection. They were worth over half a million, and Mr. —— is confident that they can be sold here for $250,000. Mr. —— is of the same opinion. They would fetch double that in London."

Despite the latter statement about the market for the pictures in London, the fact was that they had been brought here from Europe not long before.

Referring to a Murillo, the same man said that a replica of this canvas was on exhibition in the Dulwich Gallery and was valued at £7,000.

A curious difference of opinion arose between "Count" d'Aulby and an expert who was called in to value the collection. The "count" said the painting, "Head of an Old Man," was by Rembrandt.

The "Count" Absolutely Sure.

The expert insisted it was a Velasquez. This difference of opinion was, in fact, amusing, because the "count" represented that his great-grandfather was Daniel Daulby, "art author and collector and cataloguer of Rembrandt."

It seems that even at the time of the visit of "Count" d'Aulby to New York there was some question about his identity and of the genuineness of his art collection.

In another letter written by the "count's" friends apropos of the loan he took exception to the report of the expert sent to view the pictures by the man who was to advance the $40,000. The trusting