The Sun.

THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR. NEW YORK, TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1871. PRICE TWO CENTS.

JERSEY CITY'S HORROR.

Terrific Explosions and Loss of Life.

SUSPICIONS OF INCENDIARISM.

The Exhumation of the Bodies of the Dead.

WAS IT FOR $8,300 INSURANCE?

The Flight of the Illicit Distillers.

The explosion and fire at Montgomery and Washington streets, Jersey City, soon after midnight on Sunday, was unhappily attended with serious loss of life. Three bodies were taken out of the ruins yesterday, and the search for the missing proprietors, who are supposed either to have fled or to have perished in the flames, has not yet been abandoned. The origin of the explosion remains a mystery, though from what is known of the antecedents of both Duruncey and his partner, McGhee, taken together with their disappearance, it is generally believed that they set fire to the premises, and, on discovering that there had been loss of life, fled to parts unknown. Their barkeeper, Hugh Mulligan, was taken from his bed at 3 o'clock in the morning and lodged in the city jail, on suspicion of arson. Beyond the assertion that he and Duruncey closed the place shortly before the explosion was heard, he refuses to say anything.

The explosion occurred at 12:15 A. M., precisely. Mr. Van Volkenburg, a gate-tender at the Jersey City ferry house, says that at this moment he was closing his gate, looking up toward Montgomery street. The night was very dark, and the flash from the first explosion very brilliant. Hardly an instant elapsed before he saw flames shooting up from the place.

LIKE AN EARTHQUAKE SHOCK.

Mr. Coulter, the night watchman of the Hudson County National Bank, in Washington street, a few doors from Montgomery street, was sitting in the bank. He thought for a moment that the building would tumble down over his ears. He describes the sensation as like that from an earthquake. All the buildings in the neighborhood were severely shaken, and the occupants were rudely startled from their first slumber. The entire front of the store on both streets was blown out. Fragments of wood and glass were hurled in every direction. One of the doors of the store was violently driven through the door of Cyrus Lawrence's grocery, on the opposite side of Montgomery street. The middle of the street and opposite sidewalk were covered with broken bottles, glasses, and *debris* from the saloon. One car was lifted bodily and thrown against the adjoining wall, smashing an opening through it to the stairs leading to the upper part of the house, completely blockading the passageway, and cutting off

THE ONLY MEANS OF EXIT

left to the ill-fated inmates above. Several windows in the Second National Bank building on the opposite side of Washington street were broken. A window in Morrow & Day's store, over 250 feet from the corner, was also broken. Simultaneously with the explosion immense volumes of fire burst forth from all the lower part of the building. Five minutes after the first explosion another explosion was heard, and the east wall of the building was demolished. All the adjoining premises were unsightly wooden rookeries, and the flames leaped into and through them with marvellous rapidity. It was at one time feared that the whole block fronting on Montgomery, Washington, York, and Warren streets would be enveloped. Under the direction of Chief Engineer Farrier, the firemen worked skilfully and energetically to confine the fire to the three buildings then in possession of the flames. In this they were successful, and by 1 o'clock they had obtained a complete mastery.

THE FEARFUL BLUNDER OF THE POLICE.

Jersey City's pride paid Fire Department is a new institution. So is her fire alarm telegraph. Neither of them is yet in good effective working order. The police officers labor under a curious delusion, that whenever a fire is discovered in any part of the city it is the duty of each man to run to the nearest signal box in his beat and sound the alarm. This criminal blunder has been committed on several occasions, and was repeated at the fire yesterday morning. Officer Ryan gave the correct alarm from box No. 7, at Washington and York streets. Officer Donnelly, not hearing the bells, struck box No. 13, at Montgomery and Greene streets, which disarranged the striking of the bells and created much confusion, which was not diminished by another stupid watchman striking an alarm from box No. 4, at Hudson and Grand streets. The Hell of all this stupidity was, that the firemen had to find their way to the fire by the light from the burning building, and were several minutes behind time.

THE FAMILY THAT WAS BURNED TO DEATH.

The building in which the explosion occurred was an old two-story frame. The lower part was for many years occupied by Lewis K. Wood, the well known architect. About a year ago Messrs. Duruncey & McGhee leased the property. The upper portion was let to a family of the name of Smith. Duruncey & McGhee stocked their establishment with liquors and fruits, but did not carry on a very lucrative business. The family residing above consisted of Mrs. Mary Smith, aged 70; her son Henry Smith and his wife; her niece, Emeline Vreeland, aged 18; her nephew, John Perrine, aged 9; and Mary Jane Martin, James Lynch, and William Lane, who boarded with her. Of these, Jenny Smith, the wife of Henry, Emeline Smith, and John Perrine perished in the flames. Their bodies were all recovered yesterday burned to a crisp. Emeline Smith had groped her way down stairs, and was overcome by the flames and smoke just as she reached the door. The charred remains of Mrs. Jenny Smith were found soon after daybreak. They were at first thought to be the remains of a child, so much of the flesh and bones had been burned away.

A HORRIBLE SPECTACLE.

At 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon the remains of the third victim were discovered under the debris. They proved to be those of the boy John Prinn. They were also burned almost beyond recognition. One foot was entirely gone, and the hands were almost burned off. When the fire burst forth, the utmost anxiety was exhibited by all to ascertain the fate of the inmates. So intense was the heat from the burning building, that it was impossible to approach it within twenty-five feet. The unfortunate inhabitants of the place had no time to escape, and so rapid was the destruction of the building, that they were quickly beyond human rescue.

LEAPING FOR THEIR LIVES.

Mr. Smith's mother jumped from a first-story window and escaped badly burned about the shoulders, neck, and breast. Mary Jane Martin, her boarder, leaped from a shed, and besides being severely burned, her right leg was broken. Mr. Henry Smith escaped by leaping off an awning. He was burned slightly about the right hand and his eyebrows were singed. Lane and Lynch, the two male boarders, escaped unhurt by climbing over an adjoining roof. The house adjoining the corner and situated on Washington street was occupied on the upper floor by Mr. J. P. Townsend as a meat market, while the other portion of the building lived Robert Sharp, a news dealer, his wife and children. They were unable to save anything and barely escaped with their lives. Mrs. Sharp was rescued by means of a ladder from an upper window. She was badly burned and living only the day previous given birth to a child, was in a very weak condition. Immediately after her rescue she was seized with convulsions, from which she continued to suffer throughout the night. All their are indigent. Mr. Sharp, who is seriously ill with consumption, is unable to do any very hard labor, and for a few weeks past has been trying to eke out a subsistence for his

WIFE AND SIX LITTLE ONES

by selling newspapers at Washington and Montgomery streets. Among the saddest facts connected with the fire, excepting the loss of life, is the destitution of the Sharp family.

Duruncey & McGhee, the proprietors of the saloon, were insured for $5,000 on stock, and $1,300 on their fixtures and furniture. Mr. Wilson, the real estate agent, estimates his loss at $300, which is fully insured. Mr. H. Poole, jeweller, estimates his loss at $2,000, on which there is no insurance. Mrs. Haynes, the milliner, loses $500; uninsured. J. W. Ellison, books and stationery, had all his stock destroyed, loss $800; insured. A. Abrens, fancy goods, suffered damage to his stock to the extent of about $1,000. H. Springman, barber, loses about $500. The latter speaks very bitterly of the police and firemen, whom he accuses of stealing 150 razors, and all the movable stock in his store. Townsend, the proprietor of the meat market, sustained a loss of $600, which is fully insured.

THE ORIGIN OF THE FIRE

is enshrouded in the deepest mystery. Numerous theories were in circulation concerning it. The proprietors of the liquor saloon were not seen since they closed on Sunday night. They were seen going from the store, and McGhee was at his house in York street after the fire broke out. He came from Whitehall, N. Y., and was in business with his father there. He was burned out a short time before he quit Whitehall, and allegations of incendiarism were freely made against him. In the absence of positive proof of arson, the conclusion arrived at was that the fire originated from spontaneous combustion. Young McGhee had considerable difficulty in obtaining the insurance money. He finally succeeded, and with this money purchased his interest in Duruncey's establishment. Duruncey has sold liquor in Jersey City a long time, and was formerly from New York city. He was arrested at one time for illicit distilling. It is believed by some persons that he was

RUNNING AN ILLICIT DISTILLERY

in the basement of the burned building, and that the explosion had its origin in this distillery. Duruncey is well known as a sharp customer to deal with, and surprised everybody when he obtained a lease of the premises that have been burned. The corner was much sought as one of the best in Jersey City. Owing to some legal difficulties, it could not be improved. Duruncey was often heard to say that he would like to put up a better building in its place, but was debarred by his lease from so doing.

THE DEAD VICTIMS,

three in number, were taken in charge of by Coroner Wandle, who will begin an inquest on Friday next. Mrs. Mary Smith and Miss Martin are lying in the City Hospital, and will recover.

All day vast throngs of people visited the ruins and looked upon the unsightly black mass of charred timbers and watched the labors of the men who were digging out the *debris*. Women and girls were largely in the majority among the spectators.

Mr. Henry Smith says that he reached his home between 10 and 11 o'clock. He saw Duruncey and McGhee on the sidewalk and bade them good night. When he entered his room his wife complained that she was unwell. He then went down to the liquor store and bought some ale for her. The night being warm, he lay on the floor and fell asleep. He was awakened by a loud report, and was thrown to his feet at the same instant. He and his wife then started for the staircase. Before he had reached the street door he heard the second explosion, and the fire drove him up stairs. Here he

LOST SIGHT OF HIS WIFE.

He rushed out of a window, and, dropping on an awning, rolled into the street. He asserts distinctly that he smelt burning gunpowder immediately after the explosion.

Miss Martin detailed her experience as follows:

I retired last night at 11 o'clock. I slept in the same room with Mrs. Smith and her little grandson, John Perrine. As it was very warm I pulled a mattress off one of the beds and threw it upon the floor and lay upon it. Johnny Perrine lay by my side. About 12 o'clock I was awakened by a loud report as though a gun had been discharged in the room. I felt Johnny crawl over me and lost sight of him in the darkness. A second explosion occurred, and I felt a rush of hot air and then a stream of cold air poured in upon me. As soon as the second explosion occurred I smelt smoke, but did not yet realize what was the matter. But I was not long left in doubt, for a stream of fire burst through the floor. I saw Mrs. Smith disappear through the door. I followed, but could hear nothing of her. I started for the stairs and tried to go down, but the flames came through the wall and cut off my retreat.

MY HAIR CAUGHT FIRE,

and I almost lost my senses. I struggled back to the door of the room I had just left, but found the room filled with fire and smoke. All around me then was nothing but fire and smoke. I knew I must get to the open air soon or I would die. I gathered my clothes about me to protect me as much as possible, and dashed through the fire across the room, and jumped from a window to the ground. My right leg was broken by the fall, and my back was hurt also. My face, hands, and neck were burned shockingly as I ran through the fire. I was taken to Laird's drug store, and then to Mercein's, where my nurse were dressed. In this place I was taken to the hospital. I suffer very much, but am grateful to have escaped w ta my life.

Mrs. Smith says:

I was sleeping in the room with Mary Jane and my grandson, Johnny Perrine. I was awakened by an explosion beneath me, and knew that something had had happened. I arose up and ran out of the room and along the hall to the back window. I was so terrified that I did not know what to do. I stepped out on the roof of Mr. Alexander Wilson's real estate office. Then a thought of the child I had left in the room behind me, and I tried to go back. God knows how I tried. But I couldn't get back, for the flames burst out upon me and burned me awfully. I cried out for the child, but heard no answer. I was obliged to go away, for the fire was burning, and I could not stand it. I got down off the roof, I don't know how, and got out into the street, and was taken to this place.

WHAT THE EYE-WITNESSES SAW.

The first scenes are thus described by an eye-witness:

I was standing on the corner in front of the Second National Bank. It was about ten minutes after 12. Suddenly I heard a loud report, quickly followed by a second detonation. The wall on Washington street gave a blow, half way across the street, filling the air with flying bricks and pieces of wood. I was stunned by the concussion, but quickly recovered. I looked across the street and saw the corner building in flames. Ran to box No. 7 and found it had been pulled. I ran back to the burning building, and dashed into the butcher shop, and ran up stairs. There I found Mr. Sharp and family bewildered and packing up their furniture. The children were standing around crying. I knew that the flames would spread rapidly from the nature of the materials of which it is built, so I pressed two of the children and carried them to the street. All of the family escaped, as did the family over the barber shop. One man had to jump out of the second-story window over the liquor store. We heard screams inside the building. It was impossible to reach the interior of the corner house, as the flames had wrapped completely around it. The Fire Department arrived shortly after the explosion, and in a short time the fire was under control.

SEARCHING FOR THE DEAD.

Darkness last night stopped the work of searching among the ruins. At dusk the laborers had cleared nearly all the débris away down to the first floor. The latter fell entirely into the cellar. If the bodies of the missing men are in the ruins at all, they will be found under this sunken floor, which will be taken up this morning. Only one clue has been discovered to the movements of Duruncey and McGhee, and that only points to the conclusion that the latter completed a hurried departure. He went to his boarding house at the corner of Washington and York streets immediately after closing his place, and took his little son down the street to the house of Mrs. Duruncy, in Bright street, who had recently separated from her husband. After leaving the boy there he returned to his boarding house. Since that time nothing has been heard of him.

Several persons who saw Duruncey shortly before the saloon was closed, aver that he was under the influence of liquor. One man saw him dispose of five glasses of brandy in fifteen minutes. It is said that he left in company with his partner, but concerning this there are contradictory stories. Some darkly hint that there was a quarrel between them, and threats of violence.

DID M'GHEE MURDER HIS PARTNER

and fire the building to conceal his crime? was a question asked by many last night. The fact that there was a heavy insurance upon the stock above its value gives color to the supposition that a deliberate attempt had been made by the partners to swindle the insurance companies, and their disappearance is accounted for by the supposition that, becoming alarmed at the fatal consequences of their work, they fled to escape punishment.

Mrs. Smith, Miss Vreeland, and Master Perrine are to be buried to-day.

Buffenbarger's Widow to be Arrested.

COLUMBUS, Aug. 14.—Mrs. R. T. Colburn is to be arrested to-morrow on a charge of poisoning Buffenbarger. The authorities will admit her to bail until Monday, and then a preliminary examination is to be begun. This arrangement was made between the counsel of both parties to-day.

The Italians' Procession.

The Italian General Committee met last night at Prammagiore's, 407 Broome street, to arrange the various minor details of the proposed procession on the 25th inst. President Coradi occupied the chair. The sub-committees reported that everything was progressing favorably. The report of the Committee on Subscriptions showed that $80 had been added to the fund since the last meeting. The Italians do not apprehend an interference with their parade.

The Withdrawal of the New Loan.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C. Aug. 14.—GENTLEMEN, I have deemed it advisable upon further consideration, to withdraw the loan for the present from the market, with the exception of the five per cent. bonds, as offered to the National Banks by the circular letter of the Secretary of the Treasury, dated 10th inst. This communication relates to the four per cent. and the four and a half per cent. bonds, in combination with the five per cent bonds.

Very Respectfully, GEORGE S. BOUTWELL, Secretary of the Treasury.

To agents designated by the Secretary of the Treasury to negotiate the new loan.

The Red Bank Robber's Escape.

John Morsh, confined in the Monmouth county jail on a charge of stealing $5,000 worth of goods from Corlie's store in Red Bank, has escaped, taking a boy who was imprisoned for stabbing J. Browne Reid at Black Mills on the 4th of July last. The prisoners escaped by sawing their way through the base of their cell window. It is supposed a saw was conveyed to Morshu in a paper of tobacco.

A Sixth Ward Wife Murder.

Last night James Hoolahan, of 11 Mulberry street, quarrelled with his wife Margaret, while both were under the influence of liquor. He knocked her down and kicked her about the body, and it is thought mortally wounded her. Officer Hughes arrested him in the act of stamping on his wife.

Not the End of It.

Martin Goss, the assistant foreman of 32 engine, was dismissed from the Fire Department yesterday, for robbing the bodies of the dead when they were passed to him after the Westfield explosion.

Who will Get the Pension Money.

WASHINGNON, Aug. 14.—The Seton House, owned by John B. Semmes, has been leased by the Secretary of the Interior for the use of the Pension Office. Semmes will receive $10,000 a year.

New Census List for the Custom House Ring.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—Col. Harrington, acting Superintendent of the Census, has gone to New York city for several days on business connected with his office.

AN AWFUL MINE DISASTER.

AN EXPLOSION OF FIRE DAMP IN THE EAGLE SHAFT.

Eighteen Men and Boys Known to have been Buried Two Hundred Feet under Ground—Possibly a yet greater Number—The Recovery of some of the Bodies.

PITTSTON, Pa., Aug. 14.—About 9 o'clock this morning the miners were startled by an explosion of fire damp in the Eagle Shaft, about a mile from Pittston, operated by Alva Tompkins. The shaft is some two hundred feet deep. The explosion was followed by a fall of the roof, in which at least eighteen men and boys have perished. Their names are Evan E. Jones, Benjamin Davis, Thos Legshon, Richard Owen, James Morgan and son, David Harris and son, David Owen, James Jones, Robert Hughes, Benjamin Williams, John Morgan, Edward Owens, Thomas Reese, Martin Mangan and John Reese.

The disaster is rivalled only by that of the West Pittston shaft on the 27th of May; but in this case it is certain that all in the mine, with the exception of two or three who were near the bottom of the shaft, have perished.

Some time must elapse before the bodies can be reached, owing to bad air and the vast amount of debris to be removed. At 9 P. M. only the bodies of Benj. Davis, Evan E. Jones, Thos. Leyshon, Jas. Morgan, and David Harris have been brought out, all dead. The majority of the volunteers have come up much exhausted by bad air.

This mine has always been endangered by gas to a greater extent than any other in this region, and for a long time the gas has been at places walled in and burned in pipes like ordinary illuminating gas.

Mr. Tompkins, the operator, has always endeavored to comply with all the provisions of the mine-ventilation law, and this calamity cannot be attributed to any neglect on his part.

Patrick Blewitt, the mine inspector for this district, was telegraphed to by Mr. Tompkins soon after the explosion. He arrived here at noon, and has been at the scene of the disaster all day, superintending operations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT.

A fire damp explosion occurred this morning in the Eagle shaft, operated by Alva Tompkins. Twenty men were working in a new gangway at the time of the explosion, which tore away the timbers supporting the roof, causing it to fall and leaving the men imprisoned behind the rocks, with no means of escape until the removal of the *debris* shall be cleared away. Benjamin Davis, who was working outside of the gangway, was instantly killed by the explosion. The men imprisoned are, most likely, dead, or will be before they can be reached.

Of the twenty men working in the mine sixteen were employed on the new gangway, and are imprisoned by the falling roof. Three others, working in other parts of the mine, escaped uninjured.

THE APOTHECARIES' WAR.

Objections to the Law.

To the Editor of The Sun.

SIR: 1. It does not provide any remedy against carelessness, which is the cause of nine-tenths of the accidents or mistakes made; for it is "carelessness" which commits these accidents, and not "ignorance," as has been maintained by those who favor the law.

2. It does not provide against ignorance; for an applicant may successfully passed examination before the Board of Examiners with a theoretical knowledge, without having practical knowledge enough to make a common pill.

3. It is unjust in its administration in imposing a fee of $50 on proprietors, while the fee of prescription clerks is but $10; for it takes no more time to examine a proprietor than it does a clerk. The standard of requirement should be the same.

The clerks derive no benefit from this law. It is a law made for the purpose of protecting the lives of the people of New York; and as they are to be made the beneficiaries, why should not the funds necessary to enforce the law be taken from the public treasury, and not forced from the pockets of the clerks, whose salaries at the best are but a pittance? A. T. JOYCE.

A Druggist who Stands by the Law.

To the Editor of The Sun.

SIR: The law itself is a good one. Being a druggist myself, although out of the line for some time, I had during a period of over twenty years ample opportunity to judge the scientific standard of the profession. I readily admit there are numerous apothecaries who are an ornament to their calling, while as to others it might be decidedly better for the public good if they would quit the business at once.

There are too many without the slightest idea as regards the maximum of a dose of drugs of the most energetic and poisonous character. They are utterly ignorant of the relative strength of tincture of opium U. S. and paregoric (tinct. opii camph.), or of sol. morph. sulph. U. S. and sol. morph. sulph. mag., the latter being sixteen times stronger than the former. Comparatively few druggists understand how to test their goods, and must solely depend on the wholesale men for their purity and genuineness.

If the law would sanction the examination of the stock kept by druggists, as it does in Prussia, we might find in some places calomel containing corrosive sublimate, powder of opium made by the dried and ground-up residue of opium tinctures and a little fresh opium powder; in fact, some of the shops would stand little to be closed as a public nuisance. The present law, if rigidly enforced, will give us better and more reliable dispensers; it will raise the standard of the profession, and enable clerks who have passed examination to command higher wages.

One point in the law, however, might endanger its execution. The license fee, $10 for clerks and $50 for proprietors, is an extortion, and is my opinion not even constitutional. It savors very much of Hall, Garvey & Co., and the Commissioners, for their own sake, should come down to about $5 indiscriminately for proprietors and clerks. There need be no money in this business. Let the examination be of first importance; the money part the second consideration. D. B. R.

An Apothecary's Customer.

To the Editor of the Sun.

SIR: Your correspondent E. W. B. has been around after the drug clerks. He wants *Natrum bicarbonicum*. A sloop load of onions lay at one of our wharves. The captain had a customer asking for onions. He replied that he had none. But after a while a notion seemed to strike the captain, and turning to his boy he said: "Josh, I guess the darned fool wants inguns." Tell E. W. B. that after a little too much whiskey soda water is the thing. If E. W. B wishes the official Latin for it in the U. S. Pharmacopœia he wouldthave found *soda bicarbonas*, our recognized term for that valuable antacid. If E. W. B. had been educated up to the modern chemical nomenclature, he might have asked for the monosodic carbonate, hydrosodic carbonate, hydrogen and sodium carbonate, or if he wished it carbonated still more highly, the dihydro tetra sodic carbonate.

I had a customer last week after E. W. B's. own style. An old lady came in and asked for a dose of salts. I asked her if she wished Rochele or Epsom.

"An a mighty foine docthor I see's been not to know what salts is," and she went out in disgust at my ignorance. J. S. H.

The Harlem River Races.

To the Editor of the Sun.

SIR: When the Sylvan Glen on her way to Harlem touches at Astoria, a deck hand at the side of her plank cries "all ashore," and the passengers crowd on the plank and try to get ashore so as to be the best place for a Morrisania to Harlem. I am an old man. One of my girls and myself came up in the boat on Saturday night, and she came very near being pushed overboard. If it had not been for the timely assistance of a young gentleman she probably would have been overboard. H. T. S.

BASE BALL NOTES.

To-day Mutuals and Athletics, Union ground.

Wanted—To see a base ball game that is not a champion game.

The Forest City Club of Rockford, Ill., beat the Maple City Club of Ogdensburgh yesterday, 28 to 0.

The Niagaras play the Dauntless to-morrow, the Orientals on Thursday, and the Monitors on Friday, on the Capitoline.

HOURS OF LEISURE.

The Crescent Club announce their annual reception in Harlem Music Hall to-night.

The Ancient Order of Red Men's picnic in Rheinhart Park, foot of Sixty-second street, to-day.

ZEIGENMEYER'S CRIME.

The German's Act Contrasted with that of Foster—The Extraordinary Verdict of a Chicago Jury—If Zeigenmeyer Escapes Death, why not Foster?

To the Editor of the Sun.

SIR: Allow me to call attention to the case of Zeigenmeyer, who has been recently tried and convicted of the murder of M. W. Gumbleton at Chicago. It would be vain to search the annals of crime for anything exceeding in brutal and cold-blooded atrocity the murder in question; yet look at the conduct of the jury, where the evidence adduced points unerringly to the prisoner as the guilty party. The following newspaper report of the manner in which a verdict was arrived at furnishes a sad commentary on the administration of justice in this country:

At 4 o'clock on Friday evening the jury retired. Their first ballot was a unanimous expression of the prisoner's guilt. The second, for the measure of punishment, stood for death eight, imprisonment four. A compromise on imprisonment for life was effected, and at 8:30, after an absence of four hours, a verdict of guilty was returned, and the prisoner's doom was fixed at imprisonment for life

The following remarks of the newspaper reporter upon the above facts may be read with interest by those who are not perhaps aware of the extent to which political considerations are allowed to influence the actions of those placed in the highest positions of trust and emolument in the State:

The chances are of course that he will be pardoned out after a year or two by the Radical Governor, who wants to conciliate the German vote, and is willing to play Pontius Pilate and release Barabbas.

I am not a German, nor in any way connected with Germans, but I should be sorry to think that the German vote could be conciliated by permitting one of the worst criminals on record to escape the punishment due to his crime. Such a statement is, I believe, a libel on our German population, and it is to be regretted that no one of their number has thus far appeared to vindicate their character from what I cannot but hope to be a foul aspersion.

It appears that Zeigenmeyer soon after his arrival in his native land, did, with the proceeds of his diabolical crime, open a starch factory, which business he was carrying on at the time of his arrest, so that should he be released in the manner above hinted at, he may go on his way rejoicing that his little enterprise in this free and enlightened country has been so successful, and congratulate himself that a crime for which he would have paid the penalty of his life under any one of the effete governments of Europe, can be committed under our republican government with comparative impunity.

While on this subject permit me, by way of contrast, to remark on the vast difference that exists in point of guilt between the crime of Zeigenmeyer and that of Foster, who lies under sentence of death. That the latter committed a great crime no one can doubt, but I would ask those who have been loudest in their denunciations of the man and of his crime, whether there is room for any comparison between the guilt of the two men. Foster killed Putnam, whom he had never seen before, while crazed from the effects of liquor. While it cannot be claimed that drunkenness should furnish an excuse for crime, it is nevertheless abundantly clear, or at least but fair to assume, that Foster would have shrunk from the commission of the deed in question when sober. And yet Foster's counsel, and the Judge who, from motives that cannot be impugned, granted a stay of proceedings, have been bitterly assailed on all sides, while the criminal Zeigenmeyer goes almost unscathed. The jury, in bringing in a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree against Foster, did so under the impression that the accompanying recommendation to mercy would have the effect of saving his life, but so strongly has the tide of public feeling run against this man, that little or no hope seems to be left him. This is not the mercy that "droppeth the gentle dew from heaven." All that can fairly be urged in Foster's behalf is that justice be done, but let it be justice in mercy uninfluenced by passion. FRED'K WM. COLLINS.

HOBOKEN, August 14.

THE OLD WORLD'S NEWS.

BATTLE BETWEEN THE AMERICANS AND THE COREANS.

Six Thousand Coreans Armed with Gingals—Deadly Fire of the American Rifles—Corean Armor, Padded with Cotton—Plan to Surprise the American Fleet.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 14.—Later despatches have been received from Japan. In the second battle between the American squadron and the Coreans the latter had six thousand men armed with gingals, and their bullets fell short, while the deadly fire of the American rifles told fearfully on the enemy. Under the cover of the rank vegetation and the shoulder of a hill the Americans advanced within one hundred and twenty yards of the forts before they came within range of the Corean musketry. The Coreans resisted desperately till the last. Lieut. McKee was killed as he entered the intrenchments.

When the Americans reached the intrenchments the Coreans succumbed. A number of prisoners were taken, including the officer second in command, who was badly wounded, the Commander-in-Chief having been killed.

On the 10th of June the American force bivouacked in the forts, and next day demolished the forts and spiked all the guns.

The fleet returned to the Boize anchorage two days later; the Coreans sent on board a letter filled with the most insulting and abusive language, to which no reply was made. Admiral Rodgers, however, sent to the Coreans to know what he should do with the prisoners.

The Coreans answered he might do what he liked with them. Two days later he set them at liberty and sent two messages ashore, but the local authority refused to receive them, saying it was as much as his head was worth to send them, and it was no use to attempt to communicate further with the court. Mr. Low, the American Minister, then sent a formal protest that his mission was peaceful, and that the American attack was not for a refusal to negotiate, but because the Coreans had treacherously fired upon the boats. The steamer Millet was then despatched to Shanghai with despatches for Washington.

The Monocacy and Palos will return to Shanghai and be docked, and the rest of the squadron will return to Che oo and await instructions. One hundred thousand rations were sent to Chefoo. The Coreans fought like men. Their weapons are wretched old flrelocks and their cuirasses made of soft iron which bent like old hoop. They were dressed in armor of nine thicknesses, cotton padded, so that only rifle balls could penetrate them. Their swords produced no effect.

Documents captured snow that the Corean Government had planned the surprise of the American fleet, and were astonished at the failure of the forts to annihilate the foreign vessels at the first fire. The expedition has accomplished no change in the relations of the two countries, and Minister Low and Admiral Rodgers will await instructions from Washington before proceeding to further hostilities. Twelve native Christians came alongside the Admiral's flagship in a junk and begged to be taken to Shanghai, and that their junk be burned to prevent its falling into the hands of the native authorities, who would thereby discover from what village they came and punish their relatives. The request was granted.

Two Englishmen and one German engaged in saving materials from the wreck of the German schooner Chusan, on Sir James Hall's Island, have been captured by Coreans, bound hand and foot, slung on bamboos, and packed off to the interior of Corea. The British fleet has sailed from Japan to inquire into the matter.

The Mohammedan insurrection in North China is still formidable.

The Trial of Communists—Defence of Gustave Courbet—French Refugees.

VERSAILLES, Aug. 14.—The defence of M. Gustave Courbet, which was submitted to the court martial to-day, is to the effect that he joined the Commune for the purpose of endeavoring to effect a pacification between its members and the Versailles authorities, and that to his personal exertions was due the saving of many objects of art from destruction during the siege of Paris.

LONDON, Aug. 14.—The French Government is reported to have requested the extradition of the Communists who have taken refuge upon British soil, and the reply of the British Cabinet is said to be a decided refusal.

The Riots at Londonderry—The Amnesty Association of Dublin and the Police.

LONDON, Aug. 14.—But few arrests have been made at Londonderry. The Amnesty Association of Dublin have taken action, condemning as unreliable the representations made by the Marquis of Hartington, Chief Secretary for Ireland, as to the cause of the prevention of the meeting on the 12th in Phœnix Park, and have also resolved to bring a criminal action against the police for committing assaults upon the people who assembled on that occasion.

LONDON, Aug. 14.—The city corporation has commenced an investigation into the occurrences at Phœnix Park on Sunday, the 5th.

The magistrates have granted summonses against members of the police who took part in the affray.

The friends of "Home Rule" in Ulster have made arrangements for a formidable demonstration to-morrow.

They intend to march in procession from Newry to Dundalk, and a collision with the Orangemen is apprehended.

Queen Victoria is indisposed.

Narrow Escape of Victor Emanuel.

LONDON, Aug. 14.—A despatch from Rome reports that King Victor Emanuel has had a narrow escape from death while hunting wild boars.

Attempt at Lynching in Rockford, Ill.

CHICAGO, August 14.—Several demonstrations have been made upon the Rockford, Ill. jail for the purpose of seizing and lynching the negro who committee an outrage upon the little daughter of the Rev. Mr. Walton, but none proved successful. It is said that other attempts will follow. On Saturday the Sheriff swore in as special deputies several men who were engaged in the first attempt to secure the negro for the purpose of lynching him.

Murder in Washington City.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—In an affray between one McCarthy and one Darden to-night, five pistol shots were fired by Darden. Three of them took effect, and McCarthy died a few minutes afterward. There had been an old fend between the two, and when they met on the street to-night they came to blows almost instantly. Harden was terribly beaten about the head, and after having his wounds dressed was taken to the guard-house.

SPARKS FROM THE TELEGRAPH.

A dense smoke has impeded navigation on Lake Huron for five days.

The Polaris was at Holsteinberg on the 31st of July, awaiting the Congress.

John T. Taitt, of the tobacco house of Dohan & Taitt, died in Philadelphia yesterday.

Capt. Daniel B. Norwood of Bangor, died yesterday of a kick in the groin in an affray with Elijah Watson, who is said to have acted in self-defense.

John Currill, a sheriff, was shot and dangerously wounded in a row at the junction of Lake Superior and the Northern Pacific Railroad, on Friday.

Sheriff Wade, of Trempealeau county, Wis., shot and killed W. B. Wright, and wounded John Smith, both suspected thieves, while attempting to capture them.

The mystery attending the Fallsfield tragedy has been cleared up by the arrest of the person who took the gold watch and chain she went over the bank. Several persons are under arrest.

The Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin* charges that the special State agent has collected war claims from the General Government amounting with interest to over $865,000, which have not been accounted for.

Two brothers named Hardwick recently attacked a party of Chippewa Indians, who were accused of stealing, near Lake Darling, and killed two of them. The Hardwicks delivered themselves to the authorities

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Secretary Robeson has returned to Washington.

Senator Morton of Indiana will deliver an address in St. Louis on Wednesday evening.

The wife of the Hon. Richard Yates has sued for a divorce, and a grand jury in that State has indicted the ex-Senator for adultery.

The Hon. Eugene F. Weigel, Secretary of State of Missouri, the Hon. Denis Devoy of the Missouri Legislature, and John J. Day of St. Louis are in town.

The Patrick McCauley Association have their afternoon and evening festival, including foot races by women and men, at Sulzer's East River Park on Wednesday, Aug. 23.

The Hon. James Cusick, trainer of Mr. Mace, and the Hon. Don Dooney Harris, yesterday spent $100 for Heidseck, with which to wet the whistles of their friends. The Hon. Dooney has just come into a fortune in England.

Deputy Sheriff Nell Bryant has lost his cat. The cat is a blonde. He called it Lydia Thompson. He brought it from his uptown place to his new saloon in Duane street. The cat apparently didn't like Nell's partner, who strikingly resembles Peter B. Sweeny, so the cat left. Nell is disconsolate.

Capt. J. P. Donnyghan of the *Irish Democrat* is to be Major of the Eighty-eighth Regiment, now being organized. The captain is a gallant fellow, and ought to be a Major-General. If he fights a duel with Capt. M. J. O'Rourke, let him refuse to accept broad-words for weapons. O'Rourke is said to be the greatest broad-swordsman in the city.

A small boy visited the Thirtieth street police station last evening with a six-toed pigeon, and asked if it was Sergeant Bulling's canary. He said he had found the bird asleep on a lamp post. The Sergeant examined the bird very carefully, and finally concluded that it was not his. All the barbers in the Sixteenth Ward are making wigs.

AN OUTBURST OF ENTHUSIASM.

The Great East Side Going En Masse for its Favorites, the Puissant Boss Tweed and the Genial Justice Shandley.

The new Thirteenth Ward Social-political club, the Tammany Association, having its rooms in the Walton House, Grand street, near Norfolk, met last evening. The Committee is still at work, and having so far displayed excellent taste in their labors, will have the satisfaction of presenting for the inspection of the public when their work is finished a suite of rooms second to that of no other East-Side organization save the great Oriental Club. Probably seventy-five names were added to the list of members last evening, and very many were proposed for future consideration. During the evening hundreds of East-Siders visited the rooms, and at the conclusion of the reading of the Tweed-Shandley resolutions by Marshal Tooker, it fairly rang with the rousing cheers of the delighted Democracy.

After the adoption of a resolution complimentary to Boss Tweed, and recommending his renomination as Senator, the following were unanimously agreed to:

Resolved. That in just recognition of the desire of the Democracy of the county of New York, now being so unmistakably expressed at their nightly gatherings, and with so much unanimity and enthusiasm the proper convention of Tammany Hall nid place in nomination for Register Justice Edward J. Shandley of the Seventh Ward.

Resolved. That aside from the expediency of choosing a standard-bearer so popular among all classes of his fellow-citizens, we urge the selection of Justice Shandley on the ground of his loyalty to his party, devotedness to the interests of the people in the administration of the affairs of his present office, and of his undoubted fitness for the position to which we seek to promote him.

The Association is arranging a mass meeting, and then the Walton House and neighboring buildings are to be illuminated, and a grand banner with portraits of Tweed and Shandley on it is to be stretched across the street. Among the distinguished citizens who were in the Walton House last evening were the Hon. M. J. Shandley, the Hon. Timothy J. Campbell, Judge Tracy, Coroner Keenan, John Byrns, State Inspector of Gas Meters, Col. Alexander H. Stewart, Matthew Patten of the Sheriff's office, Fire Commissioner Blair, James Donahue of the Free Labor Bureau, Alderman Healey, and Assemblyman Hill. Alderman Hill and Hon. Timothy J. Campbell seconded Marshal Tooker's resolutions in very neat speeches, Mr. Campbell concluding by giving the Association his check for $200.

JOSEPH MILLER.

The Worst Puss that were Ever Made, Even by Von O'Hall.

In relation to the report that Mayor Hall had saved a child from a watery grave, the Mayor says:

The newspapers have put me in a good deal of hot water lately, but I must disclaim the cold water heroism they have so generously given me credit for. I claim no merit for my romantic bravery is simply a clever hoax of that king of practical jokers, Benjaman Jerome. I am an expert swimmer, and have often jumped off piers and other places and fished out drowning persons, but I do not claim credit for an act not performed. The whole story is founded upon the simple incident of two little children floundering in a brook. They were in no danger and were brought ashore without any display of heroism. If a bad pun will punish the not punny act of the Alderman in relating his yarn, I will characterize it as a (Je)-romantic story.

Notwithstanding Mayor Hall's puerile and silly letter, he did a noble act, which Mr. Fry, the father of the rescued child, has recognized by presenting him with a beautiful gold-headed walking cane. At the head of the cane is a crown, covered with a thick crystal, under which is a miniature timepiece. Below is a concealed spring. On pressing it, double doors open at each side; on one side, a golden bird flutters out and sings, and swans are revealed in the background on a lake of silver. On the other side, the open doors discover a tiny compass, thermometer, and barometer.

Let the Superintendent Dismiss the Ruffian.

Last night a gray-headed, venerable gentleman entered car 43 of the Bleecker street line near Broadway to come down town. When the conductor appeared, the gentleman sought for his fare. Holding out his hand, he said:

"I have got only four cents, unless you can change a large bill."

The conductor jerked the bell and shouted, "I know you well enough,