The Sun.

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MR. D. D. FIELD AND THE BAR

A BOMB SHELL IN THE CAMP OF THE CONSPIRATORS.

A Stormy Session of the Bar Association—David Dudley Field Tells Some Plain Truths—The Conspirators Exhibited to Public Gaze—A Secret Investigation.

The meeting of the Bar Association last evening was as largely attended as the limited accommodations of the rooms and adjoining hallway would permit. The old-established lawyers gathered for the most part in the back room, while the callow ones crowded together into the front apartment, and occupied positions near the window. In the middle stood the President's table, at which sat the Hon. Wm. M. Evarts. Mr. Evarts seemed to have gained flesh during his European tour, and there was a healthier flash in his mild hazel eyes. His hair was smoothly combed, and his face as smoothly shaved. On a settee to the right of the President sat Mr. David Dudley Field. Mr. Field was alone, and did not seem to be acquainted with many members of the association. He looked perfectly calm as he stroked his military moustache, and kept his keen eyes bent on Wheeler H. Peckham, who sat opposite. In the assemblage the SUN reporter noticed Mr. Samuel L. M. Barlow, Mr. Phelps, District Attorney elect, Wm. C. Barrett, Col. Ethan Allen, John E. Parsons, and a number of other distinguished practitioners.

THE BAR CONGRATULATED.

In calling the meeting to order Mr. Evarts returned thanks for the honor of his reelection to the Presidency of the Association. He added:

Allow me to congratulate the Association upon the great public services it has been able to perform during the last year. No news was more interesting or welcome to me in a foreign land than the news of the great steps and the great success attending the steps of the Bar Association, in improving the administration of justice in the city of New York. No one felt more interest in the proceedings going on and more satisfaction in their result than myself.

In conclusion, Mr. Evarts expressed a hope that a building might soon be erected worthy of the Association.

Mr. Nicoll read the report of the Executive Committee, recommending that the evening of Friday, Dec. 13, be set down for the consideration of the report of the Judiciary Committee; that the special meeting in question be held with closed doors, and that a committee of five members be appointed by the Chair to urge upon the Legislature the adoption of certain amendments to the Code which had been recommended by the Association and had passed the Senate. The report was laid over.

Mr. Nicoll also read a proposed amendment to the Constitution, that the Executive Committee, and the Committee on Admissions, shall be divided into three classes of equal number each; the first class to be elected for three years, the second for two, and the third for one year, and each annual election thereafter shall be for five members of the Executive Committee, and seven of the Committee on Admissions.

WALL STREET'S MONOPOLY.

Mr. David Dudley field moved that only one person from any office shall be a member of a committee, and that one person shall not be on more than one committee. It was well known, he said, that six or seven offices engrossed all the offices of this association, and that the same persons were on two or three committees. He did not think the association so poor in talent and executive ability that it was necessary for half a dozen offices on Wall and Pine streets to engross all the offices of the association.

Mr. Nicoll replied that the standing committees had no duties of an administrative character to perform, and that this amendment referred solely to the Executive Committee and the Committee on Admissions.

Mr. Field—It is not a question of the Committee on Admissions or the Executive Committee. Let me give you an instance.

OFFICES NOT PERPETUAL.

Mr. Field was interrupted by the Chair, who ruled him out of order. The proposed amendment was further amended to provide that no member of a Committee shall be eligible for reelection at the first annual election succeeding the termination of his office. The report of the Committee on Constitution and By-laws was then approved.

Mr. Nicoll again read the resolution of the Executive Committee providing for a special meeting on Friday, Dec. 13, to consider charges in connection with the recent Judiciary trials, and that no reporters be admitted to the meeting.

Mr. Peckham moved that the time for the meeting be changed to such further date as might be decided upon. His reason was that the report of the Judiciary Committee was not yet ready.

MR. FIELD READY FOR THE FIGHT.

Mr. Field—I arise to object to that motion. It would be affectation on my part not to understand the meaning of all this, and I object to any postponement from from the date mentioned lest resolutions be intended to be faked by the Executive Committee hereafter. We have had enough of these delays, and of postponements from time to time. It is a little remarkable here to-night that it is proposed to dispense with the presence of reporters. For one I object to the association pursuing a course so unjust and improper. I make stand, sir, and every person within the sound of my voice understands, that this movement is directed against me. I regard it as such. I mean to meet it as such, and meet it now and here. It is very well for gentlemen who have written against me in the newspapers for the last two years to ask for a special meeting, without the presence of reporters. I do not wish the facts of this special meeting to be reported, though they have been spreading throughout the whole world denunciations of me.

A Voice—I know nothing of what the gentleman is referring to, or to what gentleman he refers. But I presume that I speak in sense of the great majority of those present in saying to his making indefinite charges against persons not named.

A PERFECT UNDERSTANDING.

Mr. Evarts said he understood the point of order to be that whenever a member of the association desired to complain against the professional character or conduct of members, the place for the investigation of his charges was the Committee on Grievances.

Mr. Lowery—Exactly.

Mr. Evarts requested Mr. Fields to place before the Chair and the association, with some definiteness, what his resolution was.

Mr. Field—I am opposing the resolution introduced by Mr. Peckham, and giving my reasons.

Mr. Peckham—May I ask if you are debating the whole resolution, or only the question of the day of adjournment?

Mr. Field (tartly)—I beg not to be interrupted. (Confusion.)

Mr. John E. Parsons—I hope Mr. Field will be permitted to proceed. Let us hear what he has to say. (Cries of "Go on!" "Go on!")

Mr. Field—I am much obliged to you. I beg to say that anything of undue warmth which I may display will be displayed unwittingly, and if I say anything to offend any member of this association, it will have been said unwittingly. I should not venture to transgress on the time of the Association, were it not to defend myself against what I conceive to be a gross, malignant, and wicked attack. Such is my right, and no body of lawyers—certainly not this association—will, I am confident, prevent me from exercising that right. These persons who have been and are assailing me——

Here Mr. Field was interrupted by cries of "Specify! specify!"

THE NAMES ANNOUNCED AT LAST.

Mr. Field—Do you want me to specify?

Voices—Yes, specify!

Mr. Field (speaking with deliberation)—I will specify Francis C. Barlow, Albert Stickney, Joshua M. Van Cott——

Voices—Good men; pretty good men.

Mr. Field—James C. Carter. [A voice—A good man.] and Wheeler H. Peckham, five persons, who are, to begin with, my personal enemies. Now, I ask of you, gentlemen, whether any of you would be willing that your personal enemy should sit in judgment upon you? [A voice—No.] Is it fitting, is it decent, that charges should be made here at a committee of grievances, and met there, and should then be sent before a committee of whom one half are your sworn enemies? I ask if there is a sentiment of justice in any breast to repel that? You want specifications? Do you want specifications against Barlow?

Cries of "Yes!"

Mr. Field—Do you?

Mr. Lowery—I again rise to a point of order. I do not think that any gentleman wants specifications against a member here, when the by-laws provide for the proper way of bringing charges. Does Mr. Field mean to challenge the Grand Jury?

Mr. Field—I do not desire to go into specifications against this gentleman, nor do I wish to say anything personal of any gentleman. But this I have the right to say—I have the right to say, first, that these gentlemen are my enemies, have I not?

A Voice—No!

Mr. Field—The gentleman says I have not. I say I have; and another thing I say, that they are not competent to judge the question referred to them.

MR. FIELD'S RIGHTS.

Mr. Price—That is to be determined by the Association.

Mr. Field—Exactly. I am debating that question. Take Barlow, Van Cott, and Stickney, for example. Am I not at liberty to say that they are not competent to judge the matter referred to them?

A Voice—No.

Mr. Field—To them has been referred the task of considering the propriety of certain orders made in very difficult lawsuits. They have neither the knowledge nor the experience to judge whether the orders were right or wrong. [Laughter.]

Mr. Lowery again arose. He did not wish, he said, to embarass Mr. Field.

A voice—Let Mr. Field proceed without interruption

Here Mr. David Dudley Field, Jr., arose and called Mr. Lowery to order, on the ground that he had no right to discuss a point of order.

Mr. Evarts—The Chair does not understand Mr. Field's remarks as encroaching on the field of charges against these gentlemen's character or standing in such a way as would make the subject a proper one for the Committee on Grievances, but rather as an argumentative statement of why this committee should not have further time to report. The point of order not well taken.

Mr. Field—I hope that the gentleman, having risen to a point of order for the fourth time, will now let me proceed.

Another member rose and questioned Mr. Fields's right to discuss the composition of a standing committee of the Association.

Mr. Evarts—That is a question rather of the weight and the value of the remarks.

Mr. Field—These men are not only incompetent, but they are interlopers. The gentlemen who were counsel in the cases in relation to which these charges have been brought have no complaint to make. But these men come in as volunteers and try to persuade the uncomplaining ones that they have been injured.

A COMMITTEE OF INTRUDERS.

Now gentlemen, these men who compose your committee are not only intruders, but are intruders in litigations not yet concluded. These suits are many of them now pending in the courts. I ask you, gentlemen, and I ask it in a spirit of all due respect, is it within the province of this association to pass judgment upon cases which the courts have not yet decided? Are we to have two sets of men to pass upon our litigations? The bar association and the Courts of law as well?

But I will pass from the consideration of who these men are, and ask you to bear with me patiently while I review very briefly the accusations themselves. I have seen this investigation conducted, and I have seen that nearly every charge brought against me by my enemies has been disproved in their presence. First, it is said that I was instrumental in procuring the issue of certain improper and corrupt injunctions by Justice Barnard in the gold cases. In the investigation by your committee, how did this charge turn out? Why, gentlemen, it appeared that I drew the series of orders and injunctions but one was granted to me, and one of your own body was forced to admit that that one was properly asked for.

A Voice—Name the man.

Mr. Field—Judge Bosworth. I didn't get even that injunction personally. But no matter. It was obtained through my firm, all the responsibility.

The voice—What Judge Bosworth on the bench when he gave you that opinion?

THE SECOND CHARGE.

Mr. Field—No. I didn't ask the opinions of Justices on the bench. Now then, the second charge is that I compelled the Gold Exchange Bank to day unjust demands. How did this turn out? It was found upon examination that I refused to recognize these demands. They were made by members of your own body, this man, Judge Emmet among others, and I would scorn to mention the name if he were not present to hear it. The order which my enemies tried to prove was procured through me, turned out to be obtained from a firm which those men knew was substituted as attorneys before the orders were made. So that charge is virtually disposed of.

THE TWO BAD CLIENTS.

Then again. It is said that I had two bad clients, Fisk and Gould. It is said that I placed them in power in the Erie Railroad, and that I used my power by means of corrupt influence with Judge Barnard. I will not stop now to argue the point whether it is proper for me to try my client's character before I try his case. I have that to offer for others. But in the first place I absolutely deny that I had anything to do with putting them in power. I was in Europe at the time they were installed in power. The contest for Erie I did not keep them in power, unless the fact that I defended four of their great litigations is to be so construed. The litigations were known as the Vanderbilt, the Belmont, the Erie and Erie Railway, and the Railway cases. Now I propose to give this body a brief history of my connection with these cases.

IN THE VANDERBILT CASE

I was honored by being associated with Judge Parker, Mr. Evarts, Judge Pierrepont, and several other eminent counsel. In the Belmont suit Judge Bosworth, Judge Fullerton, and Mr. Seward were associated with me. In the Erie & Erie Railway case ex-Judge Curtis was one of the counsel, and Judge Gray was one of my associates in the Ramsay suit. These are all honored members of the bar, and most of them belong to this Association. What I did personally was sanctioned by them, and if anybody claims me for defending my clients I can only say that I pity them for the darkness of their ignorance and the dullness of their common sense.

In fact, gentlemen, this Committee on Grievances found that of all the Erie suits, or ring litigations upon which Judge Barnard was convicted, there were only five which could be construed as operating to keep Fisk and Gould in power. With these five, neither I nor my partners had anything to do. So that of all this cloud of calumny raised about me in this association, in public and private, by men whom I repeat are my sworn enemies; of all the complaints in the newspapers, which these men have circulated, there was nothing whatever which can in any way attach to me, except the Union Pacific and Susquehanna Railroad litigations.

SPEAKING BY THE RECORD.

How do these suits stand on the record? Judge Barnard was impeached on thirty eight charges. On twelve of these he was acquitted. Of the other twenty-seven, it was alleged that I was concerned in twelve in the Union Pacific litigations. Of the seven orders relating to Susquehanna, one were granted while I was out of the state. Don't misunderstand me, gentlemen. I am not seeking any respectability. I stand boldly by all that my partners have done. But I wish you to understand all the facts, that you may judge correctly of this attack which is now made upon my character. I had personally to do with only two of these orders; and I only ask you to contrast them with two orders which I shall present at the proper time, which were granted in the same court on the very same day that these were granted. If those were right, I shall ask you how mine can be wrong. If mine are wrong, I shall ask you to pronounce his equally wrong and wicked. Now with these orders I have no actual recollection of having had anything to do. He says they were prepared in Albany on the night of the 18th of March, and I know I had anything to do with it, it was after consultation with my associate counsel. The appellate court moreover, the highest court known to us, has declared in its decision that I was perfectly right, and that any fair minded man to read that decision and then say that I was wicked or corrupt, in all decency, I say, after reading that decision, can you commit a blunder, lawyer for anything he did in that case? And yet the air is still ringing with the denunciations hurled against me by these men who assume to be my judges, and the public prints are filled with scandalous paragraphs based on that. When you consider that I only had to do with two of these orders, I ask you, friend or foe, can you say in your heart that there is anything in the case for which you will censure your product myself?

THE UNION PACIFIC LITIGATION.

There remains only the Union Pacific litigation. In this there were three orders objected to. The first was granted March 9, 1869, and was an injunction to enjoin the election of directors. The second, granted on the 18th of March, provided for the appointment of a temporary receiver of the property of the Credit Mobilier of America. The third granted authority to force open the safes of the company. Let me say, to begin with, that these orders were obtained by myself and my associate counsel. I thought that all these were right then and I think so now, and I insist that, whether right or wrong, I had a perfect right to think them properly granted from numerous legal precedents. So much by way of introduction.

The circumstances upon which the order of the 9th of March, prohibiting the election of directors, was granted were these: The plaintiff in the action claimed to be lawfully possessed of 2,500,000 shares in stock, and by a legal trick and a gross paradox for using the term, he was deprived of his right to vote. I was applied to for advice, and the question was put to me, if, in my judgment, an injunction would lie against the election. I answered that in my judgment it would. And in expression of my opinion was the beginning and the end of my connection with the order of March 9.

THE CREDIT MOBILIER RECEIVERSHIP.

With the other two orders in the case I had more to do. Despite the injunction which restrained them from removing their property from the city, the directors of the Credit Mobilier were continually sending off their books and chattels. On the 18th of March I accordingly applied for the appointment of a temporary receiver of the property of the Credit Mobilier of America. I will add to this statement that it does not become those men to complain of any action in this case who, after buying a few shares of Erie stock, went into the interior of the State and secured the appointment of a receiver of over $10,000,000 of stock.

The last order gave to the receiver power to open the safe of the company. Why this is objected to passes my comprehension. Here is a foreign corporation who has forced one of our State Judges to appoint a receiver of its property. It refuses to open its safe, so that the receivership is virtually null. The officers go away with the key and the combination. What was the Judge to do? What do you suppose Judge Nelson, one of your idols, would have done? I'll tell you. He would have maintained the honor of his court, and he would be perfectly right.

WHAT HAVE YOU TO SAY, GENTLEMEN?

These, gentlemen, are my answers to the only things which can be objected to in my official action, so far as my knowledge goes. Do you tell me that these orders have been condemned by the High Court of Impeachment as illegal? I tell you that I thought them legal, and the test of my restitude is not what the Court thinks, but what I think. [Laughter.] The objection made to me that these orders are declared illegal, seems to my mind perfectly untenable.

And, then, do you say, gentlemen? Because a Judge is condemned for corrupt practices am I to be considered implicate? Whatever were his motives, I had nothing to do with him. I didn't elect him. I didn't even help to elect him. Some of you did. I didn't keep him in power; some of you did. He was there, and all I could do for my client was to state to this Judge whom you made what I believed to be the truth, without any attempt to deceive him. All these have I done. I never asked for any order when I did not think it right that it should be granted. Whether my ethics are such as you approve or not, I cannot say. I am not apt to boast, but I would like to read you some of the opinions of prominent lawyers. I will not trouble you by reading entire letters. Only listen to one or two extracts. I have these letters, which have been sent to me since these proceedings began, all printed, and they are at your service.

JUDGE BLACK'S INDORSEMENT.

Mr. Field then read an extract from a letter by Judge Black, in which he said that the measures taken by Mr. Field, through strong and sharp, and perhaps harsh, seem to have been warranted by law. Even if it could be shown that the Court committed an error in making the order, Judge Black says it would not follow that Mr. Field did wrong in applying for them, unless he was guilty of wilful falsehood. Judge Black said he believed Mr. Field followed the broad line of duty with a vigor, fidelity, and steadfastness which entitle him to the respect of the profession. Mr. Field continued:

"I hope I have shown no apprehension in my remarks. I certainly feel none. I think I have lived long enough and well enough to make my reputation safe against such attacks. For my assailants I have no respect, and shall expect none. They have fought me, not like men, but like cowards and assassins. For the body of the association I desire to express all due respect. I hope I have said nothing I should not say. I know I have said no thing I do not feel."

At the conclusion of Mr. Field's defence Judge Peckham spoke half an hour. His speech reflected severely upon Mr. Field, and he urged the Association to grant the committee further time. The vote was finally taken, and the request of the committee was granted, only one vote being cast in the negative.

The order of business was then resumed and a nominating committee was appointed. Some exciting discussion followed, and the Association adjourned at half past eleven.

WHO KILLED MRS. MOORE?

The Alleged Murderer Accuses a Neighbor who has Disappeared.

David Moore, the alleged murderer of his wife, Mary Ann, at Irishtown, near Dover, N. J., on Thursday night, Nov. 28, was arrested at Phillipsburgh, N. J., on Saturday night last. He was taken to the Morristown jail, where he was visited by a SUN reporter yesterday. Moore was anxious that the world should know his side of the story. He said on the day of the murder he stayed at home sleeping off a debauch, but that his wife went out and became intoxicated. She returned about dark with one Thomas Madden, who was also drunk. They persuaded Moore to get them some more whiskey. He went to the saloon, drank, and on his return found that Madden had terribly beaten Mrs. Moore. She complained to Moore, and Madden seized a butcher knife and threatened them both if they molested him. A brother of Madden and his mother entered. To them both Moore and his wife complained of Madden's behavior, Mrs. Moore describing how he had kicked and beaten her.

To quiet them Madden gave Moore a dollar and sent him to the grog shop for liquor, leaving his wife, Thomas Madden, and his mother in the shanty. Moore did not return until a very late hour. He says that he was so drunk on returning that he staggered at once to his bed, and did not notice the absence of his wife and daughter. He slept until near daylight. Then he was aroused by his wife's groans, and discovered her on the floor. He put her on the bed, and saw that her face was frightfully battered. He asked her who did it. She replied that it was Thomas Madden.

Toward morning she grew worse and said she was choking. Her mouth and nose were covered with clotted blood, and she asked for water to wipe it away. He carried her to the brook which runs near the house and where they always washed. On the way he fell several times, and at the brook he slipped, and, stumbling into it, fell on the opposite bank. Then he changed his clothes and went to the saloon, and told the woman there that his wife was gone. He then took to the woods in a crazed condition, and cannot account for his actions from that time until the next evening. That night he slept in a barn, and the next night he thinks he was somewhere near Newark. On Sunday he applied at the Jersey City police station for money to pay his ferriage to New York. It was given him.

On Monday he worked on the piers in New York, and then made up his mind to return to Dover, give himself up, and charge Madden with the murder. He walked to Dover and reached his house on Tuesday night, and remained there over Wednesday and Thursday, no one visiting the shanty. His determination to give himself up cooled away, and he went from his house on Thursday evening. He was seen by Morris Lucas, a neighbor, who told him that Madden had gone from the neighborhood, and that he (Moore) was wanted by the authorities. Moore arrived in Phillipsburg on Saturday night and asked for a shelter from the police. He was searched, and his naturalization papers found upon him revealed who he was. The constables are searching for Madden.

REPUBLICAN BLOODSHED.

Disgraceful Scenes at the Grant Primaries Last Night.

The Republicans held their primaries last evening.

In the first District, where there is a split, the rival associations held separate primaries.

In the Third District there has long been a contest, and at one time three men claimed to be president of the association. The one having the largest following was James L. Costello, and he was the ruling spirit at the primary last evening, which was held at No. 160 Hester street.

Two tickets were run, one headed by Geo. W. Olmstead and the other by James Fleming. Costello was on both tickets, on the Olmstead ticket for a delegate to the Central Committee, and on the Fleming ticket for first vice-president. The adherents of the candidates on both tickets were extremely disorderly, and fighting was continually going on.

The desk in which the ballot box was placed was literally covered with the blood of the combatants. At length the police took possession of the room, excluding all but the tellers and a representative of each party to watch the count.

The counting of the ballots was begun about 9 o'clock, although under the call it was the duty of the inspectors to keep the polls open until 10 o'clock. The disorder was so great that it was useless to attempt voting after the former hour.

Costello, who was one of the tellers, announced that the Olmstead ticket received 29 votes, and the Fleming ticket 53. On being asked by a reporter whether these were all the votes that had been cast he replied in the affirmative. The defeated party announced their intention to contest the election.

In the Fifteenth District there was a split, and two tickets were elected.

Joseph Coburn, the noted pugilist, had a large crowd present who obeyed his instructions to the letter, pushing men out of the line who were known to intend to vote the Oadyke ticket, and placing themselves in their places. By this means the Darling ticket was elected, and it is understood that the defeated party will contest the validity of the election.

Another Pacific Mail Steamship Lost.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 10.—Yesterday afternoon the second officer of the Pacific Mail Company's steamship Sacramento, due at San Francisco from Panama on Wednesday, arrived at San Diego in an open boat, with the news that the steamship had struck a reef two hundred miles south of that port, off San Antonio, Lower California. When the officer left the ship the Captain was making preparations to land. The passengers were all safe by that time.

The Sacramento had 150 passengers and 200 tons of freight. The agent of the company at San Diego will go to the wreck and do all in his power to relieve the passengers.

The steamship Montana sailed from San Diego to-day for the wreck. The Senator will wait at San Diego for the passengers of the Sacramento, and will bring them to this port.

Another U. S. Senator from Alabama.

MONTGOMERY, Dec. 10.—Mr. F. W. Sykes was nominated and elected United States Senator to-day by the Legislature at the Capitol. Mr. Sykes was a Union man during the war, and a member of the first session of the State Senate, subsequent to Lee's surrender, in which he has voted for ratifying the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. He was a Greeley elector at the late election, and is a popular man in North Alabama, where he resides.

Resolutions looking to the impeachment of Gov. Lewis were offered and referred to a committee of five, to report at noon on Thursday.

The Court House Legislature elected State Treasurer Bingham public printer and adjourned.

The Missing Steamship.

E. E. Morgan's Sons, agents for the missing ship Scanderia, reported last night that no intelligence of the vessel had reached them. They think that the vessel has foundered, and gone down with all hands on board.

FIFTH AV. HOTEL ON FIRE

FROM FIFTEEN TO TWENTY GUESTS BURNED TO DEATH.

Several Maid Servants and a Fireman Injured, the Latter Seriously—The Furniture and Building Badly Damaged by Water—Loss About $100,000.

Further particulars in an extra edition.

About half past eleven o'clock last night one of the steam pipes in the laundry, situated in the fourth story on the left hand side of the corridor running through the Twenty-third street wing of the Fifth Avenue Hotel, bursted and set fire to the wood work. This, at least, is the account given by Capt. Burke and the employees of the hotel.

The flames spread until they reached the elevator in the centre of the building. They then ran rapidly upward until they came to the space between the ceiling of the top story and the roof. Here they spread eastward until the roof of the whole wing was burning.

BURSTING THROUGH THE ROOF.

The roof is coated with tar and pebbles, and after the fire had eaten its way through the rafters and boaring this fell an easy prey to the flames, which burst up to the height of eight or ten feet, and filled the sky with their glare.

The firemen were quickly on the ground, and soon ran their hose up to the roof over the magnificent Brussels carpets covering the broad staircases. They poured a deluge upon the burning mass, and a Niagara descended upon the costly furniture of the three floors below.

THE FIREMEN'S STRUGGLES.

The fire was very tenacious of its hold, however, and for several hours baffled the efforts of the department. It was difficult to get at it, and in many places the ceilings had to be broken away.

The servants who slept on the top floor were with difficulty awakened from their beds. At length some seventy or eighty of them, in all stages of dishabille, were gathered and hurried down stairs to a private room on the street floor back of the office, where they were huddled together like a lot of sheep. Their clothing was utterly ruined.

THE SERVANTS SCALDED.

It was found that three of the girls were badly scalded by the escaping steam. Margaret Fagan and Mary Denny were injured on the back, and Mary Ann Heavy on the face and arms. They were carried down stairs, and Warden Brennan arriving shortly afterward they were conveyed to Bellevue Hospital.

Later a fireman named Reavy, a member of 3 Truck, while getting out of a rear window of the fourth story on to the roof of an extension, slipped and fell through a crevice to the pavement below and was seriously injured. He was taken to his home.

THE FLIGHT OF THE GUESTS.

Meantime the guests were aroused from their slumbers and began to gather up their effects in the greatest alarm. Covered with boxes, trunks, and bundles, they hurried pell-mell down stairs to the parlors on the first floor. Many kept on until they reached the street, and jumping into carriages sought another shelter for the night.

THE BAR-ROOM DESERTED.

Large multitudes gathered from all parts in the neighborhood of the fire, and gazed open-mouth at the burning roof. Several carriages filled with fast women and their gallants drove up, and the occupants alighted and took positions as near as they could to the burning building.

The office was filled with gentlemen smoking and chatting, as though nothing was happening. The clerks sat smiling behind the desk as usual, and the telegraph operator was busy sending off despatches. The barroom was deserted.

The head clerk said that the furniture was worth $400,000. At 1 o'clock, when the firemen began to get the flames under control, fully one-fourth of this was utterly ruined by the deluge which had streamed down upon it. The water lay in the corridors of the three upper floors a foot deep, and was pouring through the ceilings in a thousand rivulets.

SCENES IN THE STREET.

The square and streets adjacent to the hotel were filled with small knots of spectators watching the spread of the flames.

There were a great number of fashionably dressed gentlemen in the crowd who were on their way home from the theatre and parties in the neighborhood, when their attention was arrested by the fire. The triangular space at the junction of Broadway and Fifth avenue was black with speculators, who gazed on the burning roof with absorbing interest. Every one was discussing the firemen's chances of saving the costly edifices, and fervent wishes for their success were frequently expressed. One bystander said that he had never seen so much interest for a burning building since the great fire at the Academy. The crowd increased very rapidly, and every car and stage brought fresh numbers to the scene. There was a large outpouring of the inmates of the stylish betting houses in the vicinity, and some of these manifested a desire to make wagers on the extent of the fire.

THE FIRE UNDER CONTROL.

Later—1.45.—The fire is now under control, and it is thought that in a short time it will be extinguished. Great streams of water are still being poured over the roof of the hotel and those of one or two of the adjoining houses.

Many of the hotel guests are leaving, and a long line of coaches is drawn up just outside the fire limits. Many are flocking to the neighboring hotels, and some few are being taken into the private residences. In the corridors, reading rooms, and saloon are smal knots of men discussing the probable loss, but as yet it is utterly impossible to give any estimate of the damage done. The greatest damage will of course have been done by water.

THE DINING ROOMS FLOODED.

In the great dining room streams of water are pouring through the ceiling, and the stairway landings are almost blocked up with baggage.

The fine stairway at the ladies' entrance in Twenty-third street is nearly ruined.

The splendid carpets in the hallways are destroyed, and a greater part of the furniture in the bedrooms on the third and fourth floors is so much damaged that it can never be used. A large number of valuable painting have been ruined by water.

The firemen and policemen are doing their utmost to save the property, and blankets, tarpaulins, and everything available was thrown over the beds and other furniture.

A large volume of smoke is still pouring out of the laundry elevator and filling the hallways in the upper stories.

A Score of Dead Bodies Found.

2:20 A. M.—Fifteen or twenty bodies have just been found in the servants' room, where they were smothered to death. Commissioner Nicholson has counted twelve, and another Commissioner says there are thirteen.

Warden Brennan has three ambulances on the ground taking the bodies to Bellevue Hospital.

THE ORIGIN OF THE FIRE.

The fire originated, it is said, in the carelessness of one of the servants. Commissioner Nicholson was one of the first who entered the burning rooms, and discovered the scalded servants.

The owner of the hotel, Mr. Amos R. Eno, appeared, accompanied by his two sons. Mr. M. P. Bemis of Mayville, N. Y., a guest, and who occupies room 362, on the floor beneath the fire, was obliged to leave his room so suddenly being aroused from a sound sleep by the news that he left his valuables amounting $50, behind him. When he returned a few moments later his money was gone.

Just before the alarm Mr. Chaffee, the obliging room clerk, assigned a room on the fifth floor to a gentleman, who immediately returned to the office and told Chaffee the room was on fire. Mr. Chaffee told the house was full and he had no other room vacant. Nothing was known of the man after he left the office at that time.

[illegible] the amusing incident was an old gentleman seated in the ladies' parlor in his night shirt, holding a large bottle of whiskey.

Everytime a lady entered the room frightened he offered her a drink. The employees of the house, under the direction of Mr. Griswold, one of the proprietors, worked manfully aiding the firemen in saving the furniture and the luggage of the guests.

AN AGED MISER'S FATE.

Another Mysterious Tragedy in Massachusetts—A Shocking Murder in Acton—An Aged Man Beaten and Stamped to Death.

Correspondence of The Sun.

BOSTON, Dec. 9.—The inhabitants of the quiet town of Acton, on the lines of the Fitchburg and Framingham railroads, were shocked on Saturday morning by the announcement that an atrocious murder had been committed in their midst, a deed that never before was known in that town since its incorporation. Aaron Wood, 73 years of age, who was born and had always lived in Acton, was the victim. About 40 years ago he built a shanty at Cold Stream Brook, for a wheelwright shop, that being his trade, and he has lived there ever since. It is a small structure, without a clapboard to protect the inmate from the cold blasts of winter, while the interior is neither plastered nor ceiled. The furniture consisted of a couple of old benches and a broken chair. A ladder leads to the loft which is divided into two rooms by a rough board partition. In one room was found a chest and an old box, and in the other a sort of bench (on which was a coarse mattress), an old chair, a box or two, and a little stove.

THE AGED VICTIM.

Mr. Wood was eccentric and penurious, and many supposed that he had hoarded up a considerable amount of money. About a year ago he was robbed, and he afterward said that the robbers did not get all, as he had $100 in gold. This probably gave rise to the rumor that he was rich. He owned twenty-five acres of land, through which the Framingham Railroad passed, and a portion of this was woodland. It was his habit to rise early, take a hand sled and go into the woods and chop firewood for the market, and such was his rigid economy that he burned only the twigs and chips which [illegible] after the salable wood had been carefully selected. This débris he hauled home on his sled, coming home sometimes after dark, and piled it up close to his hovel or on the floor inside. Acquaintances in the neighborhood had often urged him to take some more fitting place for his abode, but he persistently pleaded that he could not afford it. This, however, could not be the fact, for he had an income by a brother's will of $2 per week, besides which he carried to the market considerable quantities of farm produce, and employed his winters in the woods, as above stated. This mode of life he had persisted in for years. He very rarely left his premises. Although living for twenty-five years within sound of the whistles on three railroads, he never rode on a railroad car or saw a locomotive until the Lowell and Framingham road was built in 1870, the rails of which were laid within ten feet of his humble dwelling.

THE DISCOVERY OF THE MURDER.

The old man was in the habit of getting his neighbors to procure what little he wanted from the store, and to this fact is due the early discovery of the murder. On Friday morning he went to the house of Mr. Horace Hosmer, and requested him to purchase a pair of shoes and to bake him a loaf of bread, saying that he would call in the evening at 7. Mr. Hosmer waited till some time after 7, and then went to Mr. Wood's house. On nearing it he found the door had been wrenched from the hinges, and was leaning against the house. On opening the door he beheld Mr. Wood's feet and his wig, the rest of his body being hid behind a pile of brushwood. Thinking Wood was murdered, and being afraid of meeting a like fate if he entered, he ran to the house of his nearest neighbor. Returning with George and Charles Handley, he found Mr. Wood lying upon his back, with the back of his head completely crushed in, while the front of his face was so horribly jammed as to make it unrecognizable as the face of a human being. From the nature of the wounds, it was evident that the murderer must have stamped with his heavy boot on his victim's face, after felling him with a club. The lower portion of the hovel was spattered with blood and flesh. Everything was found in great confusion, the cupboard door being wrenched from its hinges, that being the seat of the battle struggle. Up stairs in the attic everything was scattered, showing how thoroughly the assassin searched for the money Mr. Wood was reputed to possess. In his breast pocket was a wallet containing $5, and a similar one in his pantaloons containing $11. This would imply that the murderer was frightened away before he had completed his search for money.

THE TRACK OF BLOOD.

The retreat of the assassin was marked by bloody tracks for more than a mile. He first followed the railroad track in a southerly direction nearly half a mile, then turned off to the right a little, to a shanty, proceeded to another shanty nearer the road, then crossed the railroad track and made his way into a field and a piece of woods until he came to a place on the highway known as Gallagher's crossing, where all trace of him was lost. The clue, if any exists, to the assassin is fragmentary and wholly of a circumstantial character. About 150 laborers are employed on the railroad, and occupy the shanties which are looked upon as being visited by the murderer in his flight. About a fortnight ago, it is alleged, these men began to find fault about their supplies, and threatened to leave unless they were furnished immediately with necessary articles. These tactics succeeded, and the men got plenty of boots. They were stout and solid, being made with thick tap soles, and the heels being protected by heavy clog nails. The tracks correspond exactly with these boots. The officers who are engaged in investigating the case aver that they think the deed was committed by some straggler. One or two French Canadians have been seen in the neighborhood of Wood's shanty, and they are suspected of having committed the murder.

THE MOST PROBABLE THEORY.

In the light of existing facts it is conjectured that Mr. Wood went home to his shanty a little past 6 o'clock. A man who had pried open the door was inside, up the ladder, and had ransacked the loft. The sled of faggots was drawn in near the foot of the ladder, and the old gentleman probably standing by its side when he was surprised by the robber. Then occurs was a struggle, a death-blow, and a stamping on the head of Mr. Wood. The broken door was then put back, and a hasty exit made from the premises. The murderer ran southward, taking long leaps over the ties of the Lowell and Framingham Railroad. Then he is traced to the right from the track to the shanty of the railroad laborers, from one shanty to another. Then the trail of blood makes across the field through woods to Gallagher's crossing and there it was lost. All this was left by one person, and suspicion is cast he was employed on the railroad named. At various times the railroad hands had visited him in numbers. Several times they had stolen his tobacco, gin and tools. He was afraid of them, and had said so. The footprints are of a large tapped boot and a new one. And a strong piece of circumstantial evidence, as above stated, is found in the fact that the laborers last week received a supply of similar boots. The question is, who is missing of the 150 laborers employed in that section, and where did he go from Gallagher's crossing? The authorities offer $500 reward for the detection of the murderer.

A Chicago Bank Closed and its President a Fugitive.

CHICAGO, Dec. 10.—The *Times* to-day publishes an exposé of the affairs of the Scandinavian National Bank of this city, from which it appears that Ferd. S. Winslow, the President, has been guilty of fraudulent transactions which will result in the closing of the bank to-day, with a heavy loss to the stockholders and depositors. Winslow has been in Europe for the past two months, and it is confidently asserted that he will never return. He is alleged to have been engaged in various speculations, all of which appear to have proved unsuccessful. The bank did a very large proportion of the business of the Scandinavian population of this city, and its connections extended to every Scandinavian community in the West.

The Hudson River Closing.

KINGSTON, Dec. 10.—The intense cold of yesterday and to-day is fast closing up the river at and about this point. The Albany steamer encountered a great deal of floating ice to-day. The steamer Martin, of the Albany and Newburgh line, made her last trip to-day. The ferryboat between this city and Rhinecliff found great difficulty to-day in crossing on account of the ice. The New York steamers still make their trips, but if the weather continues as severe as at present they will make but one more trip.

Reports this evening from all along the river to Poughkeepsie indicate a river full of floating ice, and the cold increasing. A heavy northwest wind has been blowing all night and day, and adds to the difficulty of navigation.

Greeley Monuments.

BOSTON, Dec. 10.—The day after the death of Horace Greeley several well known gentlemen in Boston held a consultation upon a Greeley National Monument Association. It is not confined to Boston, but will embrace well known citizens of all parts of the country. It is proposed to raise $500,000, of which $175,000 has already been guaranteed.

A GREELEY MONUMENT IN PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 10.—The Philadelphia ironmasters propose the erection of an Iron monument to Horace Greeley in Fairmount Park.

Serious Accident to Judge Asa Packer.

MAUCH CHUNK, PA., Dec. 10.—Judge Asa Packer, President of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, broke his arm near the shoulder by a fall on the ice this morning. His age is near seventy, and his friends are apprehensive of serious consequences.

THE DIAMOND FRAUD.

Lent Bringing Suit Against Arnold in Kentucky for $350,000—Arnold's Safe and Valuables Attached.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 10.—A sensation was created this morning at Elizabethtown, Ky., forty-five miles from this city, by the commencement of a suit on behalf of Wm. M. Lent, of San Francisco, against Philip Arnold, John Slack and other parties engaged in the recent diamond operations in Colorado, for $350,000.

A safe at Elizabethtown, and valuables in the bank at that place, have been attached upon the affidavit of Lent, through his counsel, alleging that the above sum was obtained from him by Arnold and Slack, by means, in the language of the affidavit, of fraudulent representation by them to plaintiff, in reference to diamonds, rubies, and emeralds being found upon lands in certain districts of the country, to wit: In Colorado Territory, which representations were in pursuance of a conspiracy between Arnold, Slack and their allies, for the purpose of deceiving and misleading the plaintiff and the public generally in reference to the value of