The Sun.

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WALL STREET OPERATIONS.

AN IMMENSE POOL FORMING TO CORNER GOLD.

Locking up Gold and Greenbacks—An Appeal to the President—Secretary Richardson's Opinions—What Wall Street Men Say—A Warning to Small Fry.

For some days rumors have been current on the street respecting the formation of an immense pool to corner gold. Some of the wealthiest and heaviest operators are said to be interested in it, and as usual in the absence of positive information, the chief operator is believed to be Jay Gould.

The following special despatch appeared in Monday's Chicago *Tribune*:

THE LOCKING-UP PROCESS.

NEW YORK, Aug. 18.—A very bitter conflict between speculators in gold is anticipated in a short time. Jay Gould and his associates in bulling gold are contemplating the locking-up process, by which they precipitated the Black Friday panic of the fall of 1869. Their late pool, it is now certain, closed last week at 115, and a new one has been formed which proposes to affect the market about the time the banks will be called on to advance heavily to move the Western crops. The strength of this pool can hardly be exaggerated. It is perfectly competent to lock up greenbacks sufficient to derange the whole market at a critical time. So timid are the [illegible] and money lenders generally [illegible] settlement last week at 115, [illegible] they ad- [illegible] It was the fear that the late month in the year would not be unlike those of last, when the pool in gold so manipulated currency as to seriously derange the market. Although the advance of the lending rate to 4 and 5 brought out capital on the street, the price again fell fast and 4. There is less disposition to accommodate borrowers at prevailing rates. This extreme nervousness on the part of lenders was increased by the manner in which bulls yesterday twisted the bears of gold. The latter were offering carelessly on Friday at 115¼ to 115¾, and the takers; but yesterday, suddenly, but generally, the bull brokers took everything that was offered. One prominent bear was caught for $2,000,000, another for $1,000,000, and many others in lesser sums, until the total purchases footed up $100,000,000 in few minutes. The street was hardly aware of what had been done until the bears began to look blue at the advance from 115¾ to 115¾, and the prospects of being higher to-morrow. A few more purchases would have forced the price even higher. This revelation of the bull policy caused astonishment and nervousness, and the money lenders are in a panic for higher prices.

There is a steady daily demand for coin from importers, so that the bulls find a sure market for their wares at prevailing prices, be the same more or less.

COUNTER MOVEMENTS.

The best evidence of the nervousness of the bears and indication of the strength of the bull move is found in the following appeal to the President. It is known that it emanates from the office of Rufus Hatch, and it is believed that has been largely signed by the bears. It has not yet been forwarded to the President, one of Hatch's clerks being engaged in quietly securing additional signatures to it. The object is to counteract the operations of those engaged in bulling gold and locking up money:

To His Excellency U. S. Grant, President of the United States:

We, the undersigned, merchants, bankers, and others, doing business in the city of New York, have suffered serious losses from the operations of a few speculators, by combinations of Wall street speculators to lock up greenbacks at these seasons when the demand for funds is heaviest to meet the legitimate requirements of trade. As a natural result of combinations in business men in other want of coin, in the future, and a well-grounded fear that these combinations will remain unbroken, the greatest difficulties are felt in business circles that there is now, and has been for some time past, a clique of unscrupulous capitalists having for its object the locking up of gold and greenbacks at the time of the fall demand, and upon us for moving the crops begin, and claiming that the Government may be induced to relieve them in such case of embarrassment, by selling gold, as it has been to cripple trade and prevent that activity in the general business of the country which would otherwise prevail. Such is the present condition in this city, which, if continued, will be productive of results of influence felt in every city and state. What we require is faith in the financial stability of the future, and to secure this we ask your Excellency to make it known to the Government that its power will be used promptly and effectively to break up and destroy all such or combinations of a character to derange the business of the country, and that the assurance may be given from the head of the nation, which will assure more confidence and restore business to its natural channels.

FORMING A COMBINATION.

From the best information obtainable from various sources it is believed that some weeks ago several millions of dollars were subscribed to be used in affecting the price of gold, but the parties concerned in it have been remarkably reticent, and the present condition of their enterprise it is impossible to state; but that they have a considerable amount of gold locked up and contracts for the delivery to them of more is beyond a doubt. Their original plan was to buy all the gold and gold certificates in the market, and as much more as the bears could be trapped into selling short. The necessities of importers they believed would create a large demand, while the policy of the Government was not to interfere with the gold market in any way. Indeed Secretary Richardson is personally of the opinion that a high price for gold is productive to the best interest of the country, as shown by the following letter which appeared in the *Journal of Commerce* yesterday:

A TALK WITH SECRETARY RICHARDSON.

WILLOW BRANCH, Aug. 19.—Your correspondent, in a few minutes' chat with Secretary Richardson last night, elicited a few points of his policy that may be made public without hesitation. In commenting upon the gold market, the Secretary of the Treasury seemed to think that his action now should not affect it in the slightest degree. He said that he sold an average of $17,000,000 a month in gold from imports and miscellaneous gold receipts, and selling about an average of $6,000,000 of gold a month for specie, he has use much gold till November, and he is sure that the current receipts between now and then will keep up the necessary averages. Gold is accumulating in the Treasury, he says, to the amount of the $64,000,000 there is represented in part by $55,000,000 in outstanding coin certificates, it is better that it should be so. He would look for trouble if he had only the amount of certificates out. He adopts this view on the basis both of past experience and financial theory. He is empowered by section 5 act of March 3, 1863, to issue gold certificates to an amount not exceeding the amount of coin and bullion in the Treasury. Certificates are used by importers in preference to gold because more convenient, and generally the actual coin is not desirable for much else besides shipment. As regards the wants of the Treasury in connection with the market price of gold coin the Secretary has peculiar views. He says the result would be better for the business of the Treasury, and better for the mass of the business community, if a higher price for gold were established by importers, but that, while it would increase the price of imports, it would give the farmer more currency for his grain. His view is identical with the old Fisk and Gould idea in May, 1869, and he doubtless stands alone in it.

MR. JAY GOULD A PUBLIC BENEFACTOR

so far as his efforts in bulling gold this summer are concerned. Mr. Boutwell's theory of finance, however, suited the President, and Judge Richardson has frequently remarked that he would not, if he could, and could not, if he would, depart from Mr. Boutwell's policy in the Treasury Department, because he deemed the President's letter of appointment a set of instructions for his guidance in administering the office of Secretary of the Treasury. This may explain why secretary Richardson, believing Mr. Jay Gould a public benefactor, nevertheless follows the Boutwell plan and sells gold to break the back of his bull combination, and otherwise acts as though it were his earnest wish to see greenbacks at par with gold. With one eye on the bonds they have to sell, and the other on Wall street, Judge Richardson, and Mr. Boutwell before him, have indicated that, no matter what they think, every ordinary effort they make is, and will be, against an increase in the market premium on gold. The present Secretary does not expect to run his department with heroic firmness and boldness of adhesion to his own principle, but will rather, in the future as in the past, obey the mandates of his chief, and be Secretary of the Treasury under instructions from the President to pursue a conservative policy that shall be felt, if felt at all, only in the supposed interest of the bonds he has to sell.

OPINIONS OF WALL STREET MEN.

It will be seen from the following interviews with certain prominent Wall street gentlemen, that those most likely to be interested in an immense speculation maintain a profound secrecy, or profess an absolute ignorance of any scheme to affect the price of gold, but many other operators, who are disposed to close observation and equal sagacity, think that Gould & Co. have control of the gold market, and that when the contracts for the delivery of gold to them become due, somebody will get badly squeezed. If they mean to send gold up suddenly, it must, however, be done soon, as the marketing and exportation of the cotton crop will produce a large balance of exchange in favor of this country, which will enable those short of gold to fill their contracts without loss. It is also believed by some that the rumor in regard to the gold corner was allowed to leak out only when it became evident that the scheme was a failure, and Gould & Co. desired to unload to those desirous of taking advantage of the anticipated rise.

JAY GOULD KEEPS IN THE SHADE.

A reporter of THE SUN called at the office of Messrs. Osborn & Chapin, brokers for Mr. Jay Gould, at Broad street and Exchange place, yesterday afternoon, to see the magnate in regard to the new movement in gold, of which he is said to be the head and front. His doorkeeper handed the reporter a small card on which was printed at the top, in big black letters, "Name," and below the words, "Nature of business." The reporter filled in the blank spaces, and the frisky young doorkeeper entered his master's room. He soon returned with the message that "Mr. Gould is too busy to see any one." An assistant doorkeeper volunteered the information that Mr. Gould had given orders to admit no newspaper men.

The reporter then visited Mr. Henry Clews's office, and learned that that gentleman had gone into the country and would not return until Monday.

WHAT A KNOWING GOLD BROKER SAYS.

The manager of one of the large gold broking firms told a SUN reporter that the clique which is manipulating gold is one of the strongest ever known on the street, but that Jay Gould was the only man whose connection with it was known.

Said he, "They have the power to get up a panic at any time, and they are twisting everything to blazes to get up another Black Friday. They operate in three ways. They keep foreign exchange down, bear the stock market, and bull gold. To-day you know they have been knocking thunder out of stocks. Why, that false rumor of Vanderbilt's approaching death at Saratoga was for the purpose of breaking Central, and if Central goes, Lake Shore and all the stocks that are not fancy will have to follow. Then in gold that purchase of $10,000,000 by H. K. Enos & Co. was a part of their operations. That was three or four days ago. We can't tell anything for a day or two, but we are all prepared for it. They may put on the nip at any time."

WHAT RUFUS HATCH SAYS.

Mr. Rufus Hatch, in a conversation with a SUN reporter yesterday afternoon denied the possession of any knowledge relating to the "corner."

"I have heard the talk about it on the street," he said, "and that is all."

"Do you know who are engaged in the scheme?" asked the reporter.

"I do not," was the reply. "Any broker on the street can tell you as much as I can about it, and probably more, for I have no knowledge whatever."

"Then your firm is in no way interested?" suggested the questioner.

"We are neither buying nor selling gold," said Mr. Hatch. "and shall have nothing to do with the matter."

"Do you think there is nothing in all the talk about the threatened corner?"

"I do not say that. I only say that I have no reliable information about it, and have had nothing to do with it."

Mr. Fisk, of the firm of Fisk & Hatch, was equally strenuous in denying that he knew anything of the "corner." He had heard only the rumors of the street.

"We are doing no speculating in gold," he said, "and are not interested in any of the gold operations."

BREAKERS AHEAD.

Other brokers with whom the reporter talked credited the rumor, and thought that the mine would be sprung within a few days. Jay Gould was generally named as the head of the movement, but there was more uncertainty as to his associates. His own ability to control twenty millions of gold was asserted.

"And when the big move is made," said an old operator, "we small fry must stand from under."

Mr. George Opdyke was questioned, but he professed his entire ignorance of any corner in gold. He said that it was well known that there had been a gold clique operating for some two months past, but they had made no important move lately to his knowledge. Jay Gould was the only member of the clique that was known, and the amount of gold controlled was not known.

Does the Treasury Department Supply the Syndicate with Gold? The Ten Million Deficit still Unexplained.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20.—A Washington despatch to Gen. Butler's Boston organ says of the ten million deficit:

The secretary of the Treasury has not yet succeeded in discovering the author of the story that the amount of coin in the Treasury a fortnight ago was ten millions less than is shown by the books of the Department. Mr. Richardson himself is extremely reticent on this subject, but I am reliably informed that the story was true, and fears were entertained that it might lead to certain monetary complications, besides the Secretary intended to have the matter investigated. Don't know the amount of coin held by the Government. One of the four is by consequence the author of the story, and as he is not the Secretary, the question is ciphered down to three. Each one of the three has made the most solemn protestations of innocence.

After the admission of the truth of THE SUN'S statement, the despatch proceeds to explain how this deficit occurred. The next phase in the case was a heavy demand for gold to carry on the operations of the syndicate. The amount required is estimated at from eight to eleven million dollars. Of course the withdrawal of so large a sum from the immediate treasury, if it was done, would have intensified the severe scarcity of money by the unscrupulous Wall street speculators, and as the money was really in the hands of the Government, only so removed *pro tempore* as to place it beyond instant availability, it would be considered bad form to loan it from the statement of coin in the Treasury.

This is not the true explanation of the deficit, but it is a disgraceful confession that the Treasury Department is in the habit of supplying the syndicate with gold to enable them to carry on their operations. Advices received intelligence from Prussia that a large fortune was awaiting Bousoe and much landed estate had been willed to him. The news of his death had not reached his friends in Prussia, and through the above firm they hoped to gain some information of the sailor here.

The fortunes of the crew of the Haskine are remarkable. Captain Wakeman, formerly poor, became wealthy on his return to America. John Erskine, a Scotchman, was last seen floating away on a raft which he had pieced together. The Grasmere hailed him, but a fierce gale swept her far away, and Erskine is supposed to have perished. Hardly had the Haskine cleared her moorings when the news of an inheritance for Erskine arrived. An uncle in Scotland had willed him many thousand pounds. There is none to believe that Erskine survives except his mother who still clings to the hope that her son drifted to land somewhere and will yet appear to claim his wealth.

A Brooklyn Druggist's Suicide.

Last night Charles Marsh, a druggist, residing over his store at 641 Myrtle avenue, Brooklyn, committed suicide with a surgeon's knife by stabbing. He was 66 years old, and subject to fits of insanity. He was well known as the manufacturer of root beer, and was well to do pecuniarily. He leaves a wife. His children are all married.

A Fight for $50.

Yesterday morning Patsy Ryan and Frank Corrigan fought near Hunter's Point for $50 a side. After pounding each other an hour and ten minutes, Corrigan was declared winner. Ryan was terribly beaten on the body and face, but Corrigan escaped with a few bruises. A large crowd witnessed the fight, and all returned to the city without being molested by policemen.

78 CENTS ON THE DOLLAR.

THE ONLY OFFER FOR A DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOND.

The Unhappy Experience of a Correspondent who Tried to Raise $100 on a Special Improvement Certificate.

Correspondence of The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—The *Daily Chronicle* of last Saturday denies the statement published in THE SUN a few days ago, that the District special improvement certificates were worth only 50 cents on the dollar, and makes the broad statement that these certificates are readily selling at 92½. The quotation of 50 cents on the dollar as published in THE SUN was for a lot of $6,000, actually offered for sale, that being the only bona fide offer the party holding them could get.

Desiring to know the exact truth with regard to these certificates, I obtained one of the par value of $100 and started out among the bankers to sell it. Knowing that a small denomination would bring a higher price than a large amount, and desiring to give the Board of Public Works credit for the highest market rates they would bring, I made a faithful effort to sell, with the following result:

I first called at the banking house of Middleton, on F, near Fifteenth street. Approaching the teller, I addressed him as follows: "What are you paying for the eight per cent. special improvement certificates of the Board of Public Works?"

Teller—We don't buy them.

Correspondent—What are they worth?

Teller—Don't know. We don't touch them at any price.

The next parties visited were Nourse & Middleton, on Fifteenth street, under the Metropolitan Bank. Entering the room where the proprietors were seated, I said: "Mr. Middleton, what are you paying for the Board of Public Works' two-year eight per cent. certificates?" Mr. Middleton—We don't want to buy. Correspondent—What are they worth. Mr. Middleton—We think they sell for about 80 cents. We bought a few of the one-year certificates to fill an order this morning at 84. Correspondent—Will you give 80 cents for some? Middleton—We don't want to buy. We have all we care to have in them at present, though we think they will do better in the course of thirty days.

WHAT JAY COOKE & CO. SAID.

The next place visited was the banking house of Jay Cooke & Co., with the following result: Correspondent (addressing the teller)—What are the Board of Public Works certificates worth? Teller—We don't buy at any price, and I don't know what they are worth. The Governor has decided not to dabble in District securities. Correspondent—But can't you tell what they are worth? Teller—We think they are worth about eighty cents. Correspondent—Do you know of any one that will pay eighty cents? Teller—I do not. Correspondent—Do they buy them up above in the First National Bank? Teller—I think they do, but I don't know what they pay.

Feeling somewhat encouraged, I wended my way to the banking house of the First National Bank, of which Gov. Henry D. Cooke is President. Approaching the counter where the assistant cashier was seated I addressed him with the oft repeated question, "What are you paying for the Board of Public Works eight per cent. two-year certificates?" Assistant Cashier—We don't buy them at all, and I don't know what they are worth. Correspondent—I thought if I could not sell these certificates here I could at least find out their value. I think the Governor ought to be able to state their true value. Assistant Cashier—I think they are worth about eighty cents. Correspondent—Will you pay eighty cents, or can you tell me of any one who will? Assistant Cashier—I cannot.

MR. RIGGS DIDN'T WANT IT.

Feeling a good deal discouraged at not being able to obtain any information at the house of Jay Cooke & Co., or their First National Bank, I concluded to try Mr. Riggs. Finding that able and industrious banker at his desk seated in his back office, I put the question to him: "Mr. Riggs, I called to ascertain the value of the Board of Public Works 8 per cent. two-year certificates. Can you tell me what they are worth?" Mr. Riggs—I cannot; I do not deal in them, but I see parties who say they are worth seventy. Correspondent—The *Chronicle* of last Saturday quoted them at 92½. Have you known of any being sold at that? Mr. Riggs—I have not, and if such were the case, I think there would be a great many sold. Correspondent—Mr. Riggs, you say you cannot sell them at any price. Can you inform me of any one that will buy them? Mr. Riggs—I cannot.

I next called at the Bank of the Metropolis, in which Boss Shepherd is a stockholder and a director, and Moses Kelly, Cashier. Mr. Kelly is also connected with the Board of Public Works, and is one of the signers of these certificates. Mr. Kelly was not in, but the teller at the counter politely said: "The Bank is not dealing in Board of Public Works certificates." Correspondent—What are these certificates worth? Teller—I don't know, but think they are worth about 80 cents. Correspondent—Do you know of any person or any bank that will pay that price? Teller—I do not.

AN OFFER AT LAST.

I next called at the banking house of Lewis Johnson & Co., when the same question was asked. Taking the certificate in his hand the teller retired into a private room here the members of the firm were seated. The certificate was closely scanned by the gentlemen, followed by a conversation carried on in a low tone, and then the teller returned saying, "We will pay you $78 for this $100 certificate."

Correspondent—It that the most you will pay?

Teller—That is the highest rate we can pay.

I afterward visited the Bank of the Republic, the City Savings Bank, the Bank of Washington, and the banking house of Fant, Washington & Co., at all of which places I received substantially the same reply as at the other places.

The Bank of the Republic and the City Savings Bank knew nothing about the worth of the certificates, and could give no information in regard to their value.

The Bank of Washington and Fant, Washington & Co. thought they were worth about 80 cents, but knew of no one that would pay that price for them.

ALL TELL THE SAME STORY

about these certificates. Only one would make an offer, and that was only $78—less by $12.50 than the *Chronicle's* quotations. The quantity offered for sale was only $100. If ten or twenty thousand dollars had been offered, I am satisfied that no offer could have been obtained at over fifty cents on the dollar. There was no time during the administration of any of the Mayors of Washington under the old corporation that the contractors' bills for grading streets, which bore no interest, sold so low as $78 on the hundred, which was the highest, and in fact the only price I could get offered for the Board of Works eight per cent. two-year certificates. What a commentary is this upon the financial integrity of the Board of Public Works!

THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT RING.

No Money to Pay the Teachers in the Public Schools—A Proposition to Close the Schools the Coming Winter.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20.—The teachers in the public schools of Washington and Georgetown have not been paid three months of their salary earned before the summer vacation commenced. On the first of next month the schools should be again opened. There is, however, no money to the credit of the school fund, and it is doubtful whether the schools can be carried on this winter. The Board of School Guardians of Georgetown held a meeting last night to consider the situation. Mr. Hyde, one of the Guardians, said that they had been promised by the Board of Public Works and by Gov. Cooke that as soon as the new appropriations became operative the money would be forthcoming, but up to date they had received no money. He had seen the Governor, and he promised to do something by the 15th; but nothing had been done. He had seen Mr. Cluss, and was told by him that he did not believe anything could be done. He should propose to abandon and close the schools and let the responsibility rest where it belongs. He offered the following:

Whereas, In consequence of the inability of the board to obtain the fund collected for the purpose of erecting a schoolhouse,

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to prosecute the work further, and that all work on the building be suspended.

Resolved, That for the same reason in reference to the taxes for the support of the schools, and the inability of the board to pay their running expenses, it is inexpedient to open the schools the coming year.

This caused quite a debate. The friends of the District Ring fought desperately to prevent the passage of the resolutions. Mr. Hyde showed that they had no funds to meet necessary contingent expenses, and that a temporary loan secured for that purpose in the early part of the summer was over due and the note protested. However, the resolutions were withdrawn, and the following adopted as a substitute:

Resolved, That in all future contracts for contingent expenses, as well as salary expenses, notice be given that bills will be paid when the money is obtained from the Treasurer of the District without limit as to time.

This places the responsibility on the Governor and the Board of Public Works. The teachers are therefore notified in advance that they will be paid whenever the board can raise the money.

The Weather To-Day.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20.—The Signal Office predicts for New England and the Middle States light easterly to southerly winds, with continued cloudy weather and light rain on the coast to-night, followed by partly cloudy weather and rising temperature on Thursday.

EXILED FROM GERMANY.

The Sisters of Christian Charity—Establishment of a Convent in Wyoming Valley by the Prussian Countess Von Mallinckrot.

Correspondence of The Sun.

SCRANTON, Pa., Aug. 18.—Wyoming Valley is about to become the asylum of a religious order expelled from Germany. The religious order to which I refer is that of the Sisters of Christian Charity, founded exactly twenty years ago at Paderborn, in Westphalia, by the Countess Pauline Mallinckrot, sister to Count Herman Mallinckrot, under the rules of the Augustinians.

These ladies come from their far away Germany to find a home in Wyoming Valley, in consequence of the recent edict of Prince Bismarck against the Jesuits and kindred societies. The Sisters of Christian Charity coming under the head of kindred societies were made the first objects of special imperial attention for suppression; and accordingly the Countess Von Mallinckrot, who by the way retained her family name, accompanied by another sister of her order, Sister Kraemborg, came to this country a short time ago with a view to purchasing a suitable site for a convent.

Although the principal house of the order is situated at Paderborn, it has branches throughout Germany; one at Constance, under the supervision of Sister Kraemborg, which is spoken of as one of the most delightful places in Baden, and several academies in and around Dresden, the capital of Saxony. The schools under their charge are called parochial schools of a semi-public character, were situated principally in Catholic localities, and as a matter of course giving a religious as well as a secular education.

EXILED FROM HOME.

When the edict of Bismarck was promulgated and confirmed by the Reichstag, the Sisters of Christian Charity were notified that they should leave all the schools in Germany. This was rather a sudden blow to them, and the Countess Von Mallinckrot at once obtained an interview with the Empress Augusta, who received her very kindly.

The Countess explained the harshness of the edict promulgated against her order, and begged of the Empress to use her influence to have it revoked. The Empress replied that she regretted exceedingly her helplessness to aid the Countess, and advised her to send a petition to Falk, the Minister of Education, through the hands of the Empress, who promised to have it forwarded by the Marshal of the Imperial Household with a recommendation, and after that go and see the Minister in person.

The Countess very kindly thanked her Imperial Majesty, and withdrew. Shortly after this time she forwarded the petition as directed by the Empress, and also had a personal interview with Falk. His reply was that

HE COULD DO NOTHING FOR HER.

He said that her recommendations were the very highest, and after a little time added that he would see what he could do for her. She returned to her home not much encouraged, and in a few days she received a letter from the Minister stating that she would have permission to teach private classes, but that she could not teach the parochial school.

Simultaneously with this action against the house at Paderborn, that at Constance received a notification from the Premier Minister Jolly of Baden ordering the Sisters to evacuate the institution. The sisters at Paderborn received all the liberty possible, that at Constance would be suppressed by the order from Baden. Upon this the convent at Constance was immediately sold for 20,000 francs, and Countess Von Mallinckrot, accompanied by Sister Kraemberg, set out for this country.

They travelled all over the United States and Canada with a view to purchasing some property, visiting in their travels New Orleans, Cincinnati, Michigan, Chicago, St. Louis, and many other places, without finding such a place as they desired to obtain. At length they heard of the beauties of

WYOMING VALLEY,

and resolved on going there. On arriving at Fairview, which overlooks Wilkesbarre, and the loveliest spot in the valley, the Countess exclaimed, without having been apprised of her proximity to the place she sought, "Oh, if this was only Wyoming Valley!" She was delighted beyond measure on being assured that it was, and after a short stay in Wilkesbarre she effected a purchase of five acres of beautiful land as a site for her proposed convent.

The land is situated on the south side of the city, has a delightful natural grove attached, and overlooks the entire city and Kingston suburbs. Here the Sisters propose to erect a stately convent, to which will be attached a graded school, where young ladies will be taught in all branches of education. Work on the building will shortly be commenced, and it will be pushed to a speedy completion. The money will be endowed from the private property of the Countess Von Mallinckrot and her sisters in religion.

THE POOR CHILDREN'S PICNICS.

The Excursion of Seventeen Hundred Boys and Girls to Oriental Grove—The Feeding of an Army—Fun Despite the Storm.

Seventeen hundred future citizens were happy yesterday. Five hundred from the west side went on board the barge at an early hour, the most of them belonging to the Wayside Industrial School; and twelve hundred boys and girls waited in the street around the Seventh Ward police station for more than two hours before the time of starting. When at last an omnibus containing Gen. Williams and a band of music drove up, the twelve hundred future citizens greeted them with loud and prolonged cheers. The order of march was then taken up for the barges, which lay at the foot of Market street; Commander-in-Chief Williams, the band, a policeman, the girls, and the boys, smaller children being in advance. Great numbers of children, youths, and mothers were left on the wharf, anxious to get on board.

Berdan's sharpshooters and a mounted policemen for the *Times'* excursions this summer, viz., Roundsman Mead, Officers Bender, Fisher, O'Conner, Speight, and Hunt, there were Sergeant Slater, Officers Carns, Bearn, Lahart, O'Connell, Swarz, Christopher, Stanton, Shelby, and Detective Jarboe. This force found no end of employment during the embarkation of the seventeen hundred, making them approach the plank in line, and whipping out the big ones who prematurely took a place.

Meanwhile the guards of the upper deck were crowded with spectators, boys, who were greatly entertained with the spectacle below. The policemen were armed with supple rattan whips. Said the boys above, "Look at 'em, ready for the snatchin' and pullin' 'em out an' clubbin' 'em." "See the pile comin' up now!" "What a chebing of 'em! I bet half of 'em don't get on." "Well, there's some fun pullin' out fellers." "They go from the first all the way down, gettin' welted." "See that feller with a box of lozenges under his coat. Oh, that's rough." "See Mrs. Donovan." Twenty voices solicited their acquaintance, Mrs. Donovan, below. "Look at that gal cryin' because she can't get on."

As the barge started from the pier the boys began to stamp the Broadway march. The individuality of the crowd was intense; every one for himself, and all intoxicated with the idea of an excursion. Some little pale faces got a glow on their cheeks from the stimulating sea air. The dampness and frequent rain seemed not to have any effect upon the irrepressible overflow of childish happiness. A little boy standing on a bench, and protected by a policeman on each side, led some songs, to which the boys joined in tremendous chorus. Roundsman Mead separated two benches, whipped off the crowding boys at each end, thus leaving a vacant area, in which a lad of downright talent performed acrobatic feats. This was William Phillips of the Seventh Ward, the same who led the songs—a slender boy, who can make two ends meet, the foot and the head, starting in any way; roll himself into any shape; and, putting on his soft cap, literally "walk on his ear," dragging himself along with his hands. He is also an expert jig dancer.

Steward Charlie Smith displayed the generalship necessary to manage 3,000 rolls, 2,000 plates of ice cream, 1,800 cakes, 1,500 pounds of ice, 60 pounds of ham, 50 pounds of butter, 40 pounds of tongue, &c.

Dr. Thoms, the physician of the excursion, had an easy time, as no accident occurred except a hard-knocked nose, whose bleeding was quickly stopped by a medical student, Surgeon Joseph S. Stiles.

Mr. Geo. F. Williams, to whose physical energy, managing ability, and whole-hearted labor the success of the *Times'* excursions is wholly due, was suffering severe pain from a poisoned and swollen finger, but he marched the children back to their starting point, where, after three rousing cheers for the bank clerks who had given $650 for the excursion, they dispersed.

An Ex-Christian Statesman's Defence of the Salary Grab.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20.—Harlan's *Daily Chronicle* of to-day has a column and a half editorial article in defence of the salary grab. It argues that it was not a steal, but a perfectly honest and very honorable transaction. As conclusive proof of this proposition it cites the fact that all of the members are regularly drawing their pay at the rate of $7,500 a year. It closes by charging that the motive of opposition papers in denouncing the salary grab so fiercely is to bring disgrace upon a representative form of government, and to pave the way for the purse proud aristocracy of the North and the late leaders of the southern Confederacy to establish a monarchy. Harlan no doubt believes that the men who defeated his reelection as United States Senator from Iowa, by proving him guilty of all manner of corruption while Secretary of the Interior, by bringing home to him the reception of the $10,000 bribe from Dr. Durant and various other disreputable transactions, were laboring to overthrow the republic. They certainly brought him into great disgrace, but it will take several organs like the *Chronicle* to convince the people that it was not doing the country God's service.

AN AUBURN JAIL TRAGEDY.

SHOOTING A PRISONER TO DEATH IN THE STREETS.

A Jailer who Understood his Business—Desperate Criminals in the Auburn Jail—A Plucky Man Rewarded.

Correspondence of The Sun.

AUBURN, Aug. 19, 1873.—Abe Benson, a prisoner in the Cayuga county jail in this city, in attempting to make his escape this morning was shot by one of the keepers and died in the jail within five hours afterward. The affair, occurring as it did in broad daylight and upon the principal avenue of the city, has naturally created a great commotion and is the universal topic of conversation. The circumstances will justify a more extended notice than the ordinary telegrams will furnish you.

Benson was committed to jail last February from Port Byron on a charge of embezzlement. He was employed as a stage driver between Port Byron and Red Creek, and in that capacity was intrusted with a check for $175 for collection. He collected the money on the check and decamped with the proceeds. Subsequently he was arrested and locked up to await the action of the Grand Jury.

KILLING A KEEPER.

On the evening of March 14 he, in company with Perry, Stanhope and Prime, three other prisoners, made a concerted assault on the jail keeper and escaped. The jailer, Fields, was knocked down with a bar of iron, which crushed his skull, and caused his death a few days later. The death blow was given by the prisoner Perry, who for a number of months eluded pursuit, and was only retaken a few weeks ago, when he returned to this place and was recognized before he could get away, after learning then for the first time that the blow he had given the keeper had resulted fatally. Benson had been recaptured the day after his escape, and the whole party except Stanhope, who is yet at large, were held for his murder.

Besides these rascals the jail contains three or four other murderers awaiting trial, an unusual number of desperate cases for the common jail of a rural county.

In consequence of the character of its inmates unusual care has been taken in guarding them, and special aids have been employed by the Sheriff for that duty. Michael Boyle, a constable, was employed as one of the special guards, and was required to occupy the corridor in front of the cells at night, where he was allowed to sleep. Special surveillance had been kept on Benson because of a second attempt made by him to escape, when a saw, file, and other tools were found in his cell, and the bars of his apartment were discovered to have been tampered with.

PLACED IN IRONS.

He was then removed to another cell, and put in irons for some days as a punishment. Later a club was found concealed in his cell, and taken from him. He was a reckless and desperate fellow, and frequently vowed that he would not be tried, threatening to escape on the first opportunity, but had been cautioned by the keepers not to make the attempt.

The prisoners are all secured in cells at night, but those of them who are tractable have the freedom of the corridor during the day. During Monday night Boyle says he became convinced, from certain indications, that some scheme was at work among the prisoners, and took occasion to say to them that if they undertook to play any tricks on him he would be prepared and make warm work for them. Because of these premonitions he slept but little, and noticed every noise during the night. But nothing alarming happened.

At 6:30 this morning Jailer Beckes entered the corridor as usual, and proceeded to unlock the prisoners. Boyle, whose bed was laid near the door of the corridor, began rolling up and putting away his bedding. The jailer had unlocked the door of Mr. Perry's cell, who was confined for

KILLING HIS MISTRESS,

and was at work at the doors of some drunken cases, not yet having reached Benson's cell, when Boyle, stooping over his bedding, heard stealthy and hasty footsteps behind him. Straightening himself up and turning about he merely caught a glimpse of a prisoner behind him toward the door, when a handful of salt was thrown into his eyes, which partially blinded him. But courageously disregarding this embarrassment, and brushing the salt from his eyes with one hand, he drew his revolver with the other and ordered the prisoner back. But by this time the prisoner was well out the door, and making rapid tracks through the hallway to the court yard. Boyle gave vigorous chase, cautioning the fellow to halt or he would shoot, but without avail. Once in the court yard the fugitive had but a short distance to a gate and it seems had no time in doubting or studying his course, but ran directly for the gate, with Boyle after him. As he passed through the gate into Court street the constable fired his revolver, purposely avoiding the man, but intending to frighten him. Still the prisoner ran, regardless of his danger. It is but a few rods from the jail entrance on Court street to Genesee street, the point of confluence being the very heart of the city. At that early hour in the morning there were fewer people passing, of course, than at other times; but still there were many people in the street. The fugitive ran directly to Genesee street, and was about crossing that thoroughfare obliquely, in the direction leading out of town, when Boyle, fearing he would lose his man,

FIRED IN EARNEST,

though, as he says, only with the design of crippling the runaway. The ball entered the back of Benson's head behind the ear, passed through the brain, and lodged in the forehead. Benson ran a couple of steps after he was hit and then fell. He was taken back into jail and medical assistance promptly summoned, but his consciousness never returned. He lingered until noon without speaking and then died.

Coroner Foster impanelled a jury of intelligent citizens, consisting of Hon. B. F. Hall, Esq., Chief Justice of Colorado under President Lincoln, was foreman, who investigated the circumstances, and returned a verdict that Benson came to his death by a pistol shot discharged by Michael Boyle, a constable, while the deceased was in the act of escaping from jail; that the shooting was justifiable; that no more force was used than was necessary, and that the promptness of Boyle's action was very commendable.

In the evening a number of citizens met at the office of M. S. Myers, Esq., where Boyle was brought before them and presented with a handsome gold-mounted cane duly inscribed, as an indication of popular approval of his conduct.

Benson was 27 years old, and an entire stranger in this part of the country, save that he had been employed as a stage driver, as mentioned above. It is supposed that he came originally from Canada.

Two Georgia Ladies Falling Heirs to $12,000,000 in France.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Aug. 20.—Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Chambers of Madison, Ga., have fallen heirs to twelve million dollars in France, and leave here next Tuesday to claim the inheritance. The property is inherited from the estate of Bonaparte. This is from a receipt of a letter from Judah P. Benjamin to the effect that there will be no obstacle in the way of obtaining possession of the property.

The Chicago and Alton Railroad Disaster.

CHICAGO, Aug. 20.—The Coroner's jury investigation in the case of the Chicago and Alton Railroad disaster closed to-day. The jury rendered a verdict after several hours deliberation. They find that the collision was caused by the criminal carelessness of Edward Bean, the conductor, and Joshua Puffenberger, the engineer of the coal train, in violating the rules and regulations of the railroad company governing the movement of trains. The Coroner has issued a mittimus for the arrest of both men.

Special Cable Telegram from the World's Exposition.

VIENNA, Aug. 19, 1873.

The Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Company has been awarded the grand medal of merit, the grand medal of progress, and is the only sewing machine company recommended by the International Jury for the grand diploma of honor.

(Signed) WOODS.

FLASHES FROM THE OCEAN CABLE.

The cholera has broken out in the Province of Bosnia.

The steamships Italy and Palmyra have arrived out.

The United States steamer Congress, of the European station, has arrived at Great Grimsby.

The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone presided at the opening of the Welsh Musical Festival at Mold on Tuesday.

Three more petroleum incendiaries have been condemned to death by the Tribunal of Justice at Seville, Spain.

The members of the Iron and Steel Institute of Liege have accepted the invitation to meet in the United States in 1875, and have designated Philadelphia as the city in which they will assemble.

Bombay despatches report that destructive floods have recently afflicted the Province of Agra. Thirty-five hundred native houses had been swept away by the waters, and there had been some loss of life.

It is said that in the event of a recess or adjournment of the Spanish Cortes Señor Castelar will visit London, Berlin, Vienna, and Rome, to endeavor to bring about the recognition of the Spanish Republic.

At a meeting of the Sunday School Union of London on Tuesday night the Rev. Mr. Hartley, who has just returned from an inspection of the school systems of the United States, spoke in terms of high praise of the efficiency of American educational facilities, as to both sacred and secular instruction.

AN OIL EXPLOSION IN PITTSBURGH.

The Burning Oil Spreading in Every Direction—Several Buildings Consumed, and One Man Burned to Death.

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 20.—An explosion occurred about 2 o'clock this morning in one of the stills of the Commercial Oil Refinery, at the crossing of Thirty-second street and the Allegheny Valley Railroad. The burning oil scattered in all directions, portions flying into the Petrolite Oil Works of Warmsey, Meer & Co. adjoining, and setting fire to the cooper and paint shops there, and went spreading from these to the bleaching house and tanks. Four men were working in the cooper shop at the time. Three of them escaped, but the fourth, James Metta, was burned to death. The cooper shop, paint shop, and two tanks of the Petrolite Works, and a six hundred barrel tank of the Commercial Refinery were consumed.

The loss of the Petrolite Works is estimated at $7,000, and of the Commercial Refinery between $3,000 and $5,000, on neither of which was there any insurance. The fire raged with great fury, and threatened a general conflagration. The heat could be felt for several blocks away. The Fire Department were promptly on hand, and succeeded in checking the fire before it communicated to other buildings.

THE OLD WORLD'S NEWS.

A Lockout of Iron Workers in Manchester—A General Strike Probable.

LONDON, Aug. 20.—The iron masters