FOR KILLING HIS KEEPER.

TRIAL OF SIMMONS, AN INMATE OF THE ELMIRA REFORMATORY.

Three Days in Getting a Jury and Part of a Day in Taking the Testimony—The Story of the Murder—The Prisoner's Actions.

ELMIRA, Jan. 20.—Two murders were committed in the Reformatory in this place last spring within less than a month of each other. On April 10 Joseph Abbott killed George Reed, a fellow prisoner, for which crime he has been convicted, and is now under sentence of death. On May 6 following Edward Simmons killed the principal keeper of the institution, George McKelvay. Simmons was sentenced to the Reformatory by Judge Cowing of New York city for burglary. He was about 19 years of age.

All persons sent to the Reformatory are at first put into what they call the second grade. They wear no uniform or any other distinguishing dress, and are never called prisoners by the Reformatory authorities, especially in their hearing. An inmate has an opportunity to rise to the first grade by good conduct for a period of six months. He has a number of privileges in this grade—better sleeping rooms, better food, and less restraint. Six months of good conduct in this grade releases him on parole from the Reformatory, and six months of good conduct on parole releases him entirely from the control of the Reformatory authorities. But by bad behavior the second grade man may descend into the third grade, where all of the severity common in other prisons is visited upon him.

Simmons's behavior is said by the prison officials to have been bad. He had been confined for more than a year and was still in the second grade—not bad enough to go down and not good enough to go up. He was at work in the hollow ware department. Some of the tools used by the men require to be sharpened, and on Sunday, May 4, 1880, the keeper, seeing that Simmons frequently went to one of the grindstones, spoke to him about it and told him he had never been his place so often. Simmons threw down a chisel with which he was at work and made a dash at the keeper, who pushed him down over a pile of kettles. Simmons got up and made for the keeper again, and he was again knocked down. When he got up he was marched to the overseer's desk. Then Principal Keeper McKelvay was sent for, who ordered Simmons to be put into solitary confinement—that is, he was locked in a cell by himself. This is the severest punishment visited upon a refractory prisoner at the Reformatory, combined with what they call "putting them up." This consists in making them stand up to the cell door with their arms handcuffed to the bars about breast high. They are made to stand so all day, and day after day until they yield, their food being only bread and water.

On Thursday morning, May 6, 1880, two days after the difficulty in the hollowware shop, Principal Keeper McKelvay, accompanied by a first grade prisoner named Burroughs, entered Simmons's cell. Simmons was standing in one corner, the furthest removed from the door. He asked, "What are you going to do?" McKelvay answered, "I am going to put you up." Simmons said, "I won't stand it." McKelvay then stepped forward and took hold of Simmons's right wrist. Simmons is left-handed, and McKelvay knew this, but must have forgotten it at the moment. Simmons resisted. At this McKelvay with the knife in his left hand, Burroughs did so, but Simmons's left hand was still free. McKelvay cried out: "Look out! He has a knife!" Simmons struck Burroughs twice, once in the back and once in the shoulder, and when Burroughs felt the knife he let go his hold. Simmons then struck McKelvay with the knife. McKelvay and Burroughs then left the cell, locking the door after them. McKelvey did not apparently know at this time that he was wounded. The two had walked a few rods only along the hall, when McKelvay quickened his pace and fell to the floor. He got up again, walked a little further, and dropped unconscious. He was taken to the hospital, and died within half an hour. It was ascertained by an autopsy that the knife had pierced a vital point in the breast, touched the heart, and caused internal hemorrhage. His trial began this week, the court having been engaged upon it five days since Monday, and nearly three hundred jurors having been called. The court room has been thronged, and many ladies have been present. The case of the prosecution was closed this afternoon with the calling of only seven or eight witnesses, all of them connected in one way or another with the Reformatory. The widow of the murdered keeper was examined, but her testimony as to his family was barred out by the Court. Burroughs, the first grade man, who entered the cell with McKelvey, told his story, and others corroborated the facts of the killing. All of the testimony will probably be in by to-morrow night.

BARONET AND EVANGELIST.

An Old Offender Caught at Prayer in Baltimore and at Swindling in Washington.

BALTIMORE, Jan 20.—The arrest of Charles Ashley, alias Sir Charles Ashley, in Washington, on a charge of swindling, has caused much comment here, where only six weeks ago he conducted revival services at the Maryland Institute, advertising himself as "the great English evangelist." His labors in this city closed very abruptly and he disappeared. The reason is said to have been that a gentleman, formerly a resident of New York, recognized the evangelist as Sir Charles Ashley, a spurious baronet, who had figured in New York society in 1878, and had been forced to decamp owing to revelations then made. The gentleman waited until after services one night, and then charged Ashley with his frauds, accounts of many of which have been published in the American and European papers. Ashley, after some bravado, signed the following paper:

As my name has been intimately associated with that which I must admit is inconsistent with the proper life of an evangelist, I desire to say that while I have at times fallen from the paths of a Christian, and done those things which I should not have done, I am nevertheless constrained to offer as an excuse the weakness of human nature which I had so frequently alluded to in my public addresses. My faults have been my own, and perhaps I should not have been moved to this open confession had it not been for God's mercy in making known my inconsistencies, using as a medium the publications heretofore referred to. I must ask the Christian Church and community their careful consideration of the frankness which prompts me to this act, as also their prayers that I may be made steadfast to the end. To my friends I ask forgive, divine.

CHARLES ASHLEY.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 9, 1880.

After Ashley's disappearance it was learned that he had misbehaved himself in a hotel and had been ejected. Ashley was arrested in New York in May last at the Grand Union Hotel, under the name of Albert, for swindling several persons by inducing them to lend him money and take as security worthless jewelry, of which he was provided with a large stock. At that time he was not recognized as the spurious baronet who, in 1878, had gained such notoriety in the city. His true character was learned through a publication in the London *Standard* of Feb. 28, giving the account of the arrest of a man answering Ashley's description for swindling. Now, by his own admissions, there is no doubt that the London swindler, the baronet of 1878, the New York swindler, and the Baltimore evangelist are the same person. In this city Ashley affected great eccentricity and devotion, and before he disappeared he had "converted" fifty or sixty persons. His favorite mode of beginning a discourse was to say: "Friends, don't I look like Jesus Christ? Yes, I do. Now, just imagine Jesus is speaking through me, and listen to his truths."

BECAUSE SHE LOST HER LOVER.

The Only Cause Known for the Suicide of Alice Somers in Brooklyn.

Alice Somers, a comely girl, aged 17, committed suicide late on Wednesday night in the residence of Mrs. Amelia Vestreicher, at 62 second place, Brooklyn, where she was employed as a maid servant. She was found dead in her room when Mrs. Dean, one of the family, went to see why she had not come down stairs. The girl came to Brooklyn from Philadelphia about four years ago, and has since been living in different families as a domestic. She received a number of young men at the basement, and was in their company more than was deemed proper, and her mistress on Wednesday discharged her, and gave her instructions to remove her trunk yesterday. She packed her trunk, and it was in the lower hall awaiting removal yesterday morning.

She provided herself with some bi-chloride of mercury, which she dissolved into a poisonous draught. The condition of her room when she was discovered indicated that the poison had made her sick, and that she died in a struggle. The Coroner opened her trunk and searched for some evidence as to the cause of the suicide, but in vain. Before taking the poison the girl had torn some letters, supposed to be love letters, into fine pieces. The pieces were picked up, but they were too small to be arranged so as to be legible.

The girl is believed to have lived under an assumed name, as when she first came to the house she received letters under the name of Ella Keating. After her death it was found that she had the letters "E. K." tattooed in India ink upon her left arm. She once said that she took the name of her stepfather, but as he had gone to Europe she concluded to resume her real name, but this did not explain the letters upon her arm. Her employer relates that she was over-fond of a young man named Eugene Lynch, whose father keeps a butcher shop on Huntington street. She seemed confident that Lynch was going to marry her, but when she heard that he had said that she was not his intention, she became despondent.

DAVID JONES'S WILL.

His Four Sisters and One Brother Get Over Two Million Dollars Each.

The funeral of the late David Jones, the wealthy brewer, took place yesterday from the Madison Square Presbyterian Church. Among others present were ex-Gov. John T. Hoffman and many members of the Board of Directors of the Western Union Telegraph Company and of the Nassau Bank. The employees of the malt houses that belonged to the late Mr. Jones in this city marched into the church in a solid column, keeping step like soldiers. The Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, pastor of the church, conducted the services, and the Rev. Dr. William R. Williams of the Amity Baptist Church, who was an old friend of the late Mr. Jones's father, Daniel D. Jones, also a wealthy brewer, delivered an address. There were no pall bearers. Among those who followed the remains to Greenwood was Miss Green, his former housekeeper. She was dressed in complete mourning, and held a bouquet of yellow roses in her hand as she stood with relatives of Mr. Jones at the grave. When the coffin was lowered Miss Green took her stand at the head of the grave. When the first spadeful of earth struck the coffin Miss Green threw the roses into the grave and put her handkerchief to her eyes.

The last will and testament of the late Mr. Jones was read before the relatives in the Clarendon Hotel after they had returned from Greenwood and had eaten dinner. It was drawn up and signed in 1866, and its provisions have not since then been changed. It was made just previous to Mr. Jones's departure for Europe on a protracted business trip. The will was read by Mr. Martin Keogh of New Rochelle, where Mr. Jones has lived for eight months past. The will contains five trusts, and it names five trustees and executors for the execution of the trusts. These trustees and executors are Wilson G. Hunt, Hamilton Blydenburg, Alexander Thayer, brother-in-law to Mr. Jones, and John J. Jones, Mr. Jones's only brother. The will gives one-fifth of all of his real and personal property to these four trustees in trust for each of his sisters and his brother, John J. Jones. The names of the heirs are Mrs. Mary G. Griffith, 104 East Sixtieth street; Mrs. Susan J. Dannett, 2 West Fourteenth street; Mrs. Mary Jane Thayer, 102 Pierrepont street, Brooklyn; Miss Margaret A. Jones, Clarendon Hotel, New York, and John J. Jones, 638 Sixth street, New York. The estate has been roundly estimated at $10,000,000, but it will be swelled to fully a million dollars more by closer figuring.

The trustees are to collect the rents and interest on the profits and pay them to each sister and the brother during the life of each. At their death the principal sum is to be divided equally among their children. If any heir dies without issue then the principal is to go to the heirs of the remaining sisters or brother. The will is quite long, and contains a repetition of each trust similar in terms and import as to each sister and brother. There is, however, a separate and most important clause in the will, which concerns Mr. Jones's immense brewing and malting business. The clause directs the executors to give to John J. Jones the exclusive and entire control of his business, and to receive for his management a share in the entire profits. This latter interest is in addition to the bequest of one-fifth of all the property to the brother. John J. Jones has for nearly twenty years had exclusive management of the brewing interests and the main office of David Jones, while the owner himself managed the malting interests and the outside business. John J. Jones enters upon his duties. He sided largely in the late millionaire's success. His appointment is satisfactory to the workmen. Application to admit the will to probate is to be made to-day before Surrogate Coffin in White Plains.

A few days before the death of Mr. Jones an arrangement was made, through the efforts of Mrs. Hunt, in order to allow Miss Fannie S. Green the sum of $10,000, in full settlement of their differences, and papers were prepared in the matter and only needed the signatures of the contracting parties, which would have been perfected, had it not been for the sudden death of Mr. Jones.

Miss Green, between whom and Mr. Jones an estrangement had taken place, went to live in Mr. Jones's cottage in New Rochelle about four years ago. She was about 30 years of age, a graduate of Rutgers Female College, and a woman of considerable accomplishments. She had a good deal of influence with Mr. Jones, and in all of Mr. Jones's business affairs she took an active interest. A year ago an estrangement took place between her and Mr. Jones because of village gossip that reached Mr. Jones's ears of her relations with a bookkeeper in the brewery. They became reconciled, Miss Green afterward said, until Mr. Jones went to Europe last spring. She said they were then engaged to be married. Soon after he went away Mr. Jones's brother came to the cottage with a power of attorney from Mr. Jones and demanded possession. She was willing to remove, she said, but when she started to remove the furniture, which she claimed as her own, one of the brewery employees tried to prevent her. Two men whom she employed drove the man away, and she barricaded her doors. One of the men went out, and on their return found men in possession of her house. She got a ladder, climbed into a bedroom window, pistol in hand, and confronted the men. A constable whom she had summoned was let in, and she regained full possession of the cottage. She subsequently had an interview with Mr. John J. Jones's agents, and moved away unmolested. Miss Green always averred that the trouble was all caused by the desire of Mr. Jones's relatives to prevent her marriage to him. Miss Green removed to this city, and her relations with Mr. Jones were never resumed.

FOR THE OLD COUNTRY'S SAKE.

Meetings of the Ward Branches of the Land League in this City.

The Land League of the Nineteenth Ward had a meeting last evening in the large hall under the St. Vincent Roman Catholic Church on the Sixth avenue, near Sixty-fifth street. The hall was filled. Mrs. and Miss Parnell sat in one of the front seats, and listened attentively to the proceedings. Miles M. O'Brien gave an account of the recent meeting of the League in Buffalo. He said that twelve priests attended. The clergy were in favor of the movement in Ireland. Parnell was not on trial in England; it was on the English Government that was on trial and the world constituted the jury. Parnell had told the farmers to feed their families before they paid their rent and then to say only Griffith's valuation. For this he had been brought into court as one of the traverses. No spreadeagleism would answer in the present emergency. Every Irishman must give money in support of his fatherland. He hoped to see the day when the Irish hod carrier would occupy the place his talents entitled him to, and when Americans and Dutchmen would carry the hod in his stead.

Miss Parnell addressed the meeting, and a collection was taken up.

The Eighteenth Ward branch of the Land League met last evening in Academy Hall, Patrick Lamb presiding. One honorary and fifteen active members were admitted, making the total membership 125. The receipts of the evening amounted to $20. A resolution was adopted providing for the establishment of a sub-branch of the organization in the lower part of the Eighteenth Ward, and a committee of eight was appointed to secure a hall to be used for the initiatory meeting some time next week.

The Seventeenth Ward branch of the Land League held its third regular business meeting last evening in Putnam Hall, Third avenue and Twelfth street. This association has over 100 members, although it is not permanently organized. The temporary officers are William Connolly, Chairman, and James Palace, Secretary. A strong appeal was made by Mr. Connolly, and a number of new members signed the list. It is the purpose of the association to obtain Clarendon Hall for future meetings.

A meeting of the Executive Council of the Irish National Land League will be held this evening in Academy Hall to discuss the proceedings of the late Buffalo meeting and other important topics. Large delegations are expected to be present from the branches of the League.

Savannah Races.

SAVANNAH, Jan. 20.—To-day was the second day of the races at the Ten Brock course, and was well attended. The weather was fair. The first race, for the Bonaventure stakes, mile heats, five entries and three starters, was won by Col. Sprague in two straight heats; Emily F. second, Venita third. Time, 1:50, 1:48¾. Second race, one and a quarter mile dash, was won by Ella Warfield; Redman second, Lottery third. Time, 2:13¾. Third race, mile heats, was won by Long Taw in two straight heats; Bonny Castle second, Flit third. Time, 1:49¾, 1:50.

Shooting His Young Wife Accidentally.

POCOMOKE CITY, Md., Jan. 20.—Sewell Payne this morning took his gun to shoot a hawk. He fired off of the window, his wife holding up the sash. The hawk was wounded, and Mr. Payne ran toward the door. As he ran the second barrel of the gun was accidentally discharged, and the load, wad and all, was lodged in Mrs. Payne's left breast, killing her. Force was required to prevent the husband from taking his own life. Mrs. Payne was 24 years of age.

Disastrous Fire in a Small Town.

WILTON, N. H., Jan. 20.—A fire broke out in this place at 2 o'clock this morning, and thirteen stores, a bank, and offices were destroyed. The total loss is about $60,000. The township contains only 1,974 inhabitants.

Foundered at Sea.

LONDON, Jan. 20.—The American ship Forest Eagle, Capt. Woodworth, from Bremen Dec. 16, for New Orleans, foundered at sea in 42° north lat. and 16° west long. The crew were landed at Madeira.

A GREAT BATTLE NEAR LIMA.

The Peruvian Army Reported to be Defeated with Heavy Loss.

BUENOS AYRES, Jan. 20.—A telegram from Valparaiso reports that a great battle has been fought near Chorillos, nine miles south of Lima. The Peruvians were defeated and driven from their positions with heavy loss. The Chilians hold Chorillos.

PANAMA, Jan. 11.—The Chilians in force are at Chilca and Lurin, Peru. The latter place is held by 27,000 of the invaders of all arms. The various divisions which landed at Pisco have united with the last landed at Curayaco, and all now present the front and form of battle to the Peruvian army, which has gone out to meet them. The entire Peruvian army, except 7,000 men under Gen. La Cotera, now in the capital, marched south during the closing days of December, and have taken up what are said to be good positions a little northward of Lurin. The Peruvians are said to number 35,000 men, so that the opposing forces are almost equal in numbers, though in experience in the field, in discipline, arms, and trained and experienced officers, the Chilian force may be deemed superior. President Pierola commands the Peruvians—an officer without practical service in the field, though with great pretensions as a theoretical soldier. His right-hand man is the venerable Gen. Buendia, whose alleged bad management at the battle of San Francisco led to his defeat by a force numerically inferior, and to the loss to Peru of the valuable department of Tarapaca. The Chilians are commanded by Gen. Baquedano, a dashing cavalry officer, assisted by Gen. Villagran, Minister of War; Col. Sotomayer, Col. Lynch, and a number of others, who have served throughout the war. Gen. Baquedano is the hero of Tacna and Arica, and his officers have been under fire. On Christmas Day the hostile forces were so close that a battle was momentarily expected, and no doubt was deemed the decisive struggle has ere this taken place.

The port of Arica was left open, purposely it is thought, by the Chilians, so as to permit the escape of families from Lima. Every northbound vessel carries away its contingent of fugitives, while large amounts of freight are constantly leaving the same port. Business at Lima is paralyzed, anonymous letters are at times that made transactions impossible, and every one save armed soldiers was seeking a safe retreat in case of the Peruvians being defeated. It is feared that the Chilians, if victorious, will sack the city and indulge in wanton violence, cruelty, and pillage. The Chilian commander, in a public speech, exhorted his troops to avoid wanton destruction of property.

The Chilian *Times* of Dec. 4 says: "A representative of Bolivia, Don Ladislao Cabrera, is on his way to the United States to negotiate a treaty of commerce, and to raise, if possible, a loan of $1,000,000 at any sacrifice."

Some Curious Effects of the Protracted War with Chili.

A gentleman who has just arrived in this city from Lima, told a SUN reporter yesterday of the curious effect that the war has produced upon the prices of commodities in Peru. The paper currency of the country has depreciated to such a degree that it takes $11 of that money to buy one of gold; and many articles being purchasable only with gold coin or its equivalent, their cost has been in consequence enormously increased. This is the case with all articles sold by the foreign merchants of the country, they having determined to conduct their business on a coin basis. A pair of shoes, for instance, will cost you the way from $25 to $60 or $70. The gentleman who imparted this information said that the passage for himself and his wife from Callao to New York cost $8,000 in Peruvian currency. Ordinarily the passage would cost in gold for two persons something over $700.

With the exception of the products, however, and with the wages of labor, rents, and hotel and restaurant charges, the case is different. While these have advanced somewhat, the increase has been more trifling in comparison with the depreciation in the currency. Board at the best hotels is not over $4 a day in paper, restaurant charges are in the same proportion, and rents have advanced but slightly. The result of this singular disturbance in the equilibrium of prices is a condition of things decidedly favorable to the foreign mercantile community and to strangers well provided with coin. A shopkeeper offered to sell a lot of silk dresses and get two weeks' board for the same amount at a good hotel, or he will sell a $50 watch for $550, and pay a year's rent of a good house with it.

The experience of a party of officers of the United States war vessel Lackawanna, who took an excellent dinner shortly after their arrival at the best restaurant in Lima, was mentioned in illustration of this peculiar discrepancy. There were six in the party, and they had, besides a very good dinner, several bottles of wine. The bill for the whole entertainment was $60, paper, which they settled by paying less than $15 in gold. The wine alone would have cost more than that in New York.

The native population are compelled to yield to the necessity of the situation, and accept the paper currency without changing their prices in proportion to the market value of the money, but the foreign population refuse to do so. A foreigner going to Lima now with a little gold could live comfortably for a small outlay. He could board at a first-class hotel for 35 cents a day, hire a horse for the same amount, a servant for that much a week, and rent a house for $3 or $4 a month. The Chilian officers whom he met in Lima can get along for the present, since if their rents are cut down so is the cost of food and service; but those who have quit the country in consequence of the Chilian invasion do not fare so well, with their incomes, reckoned by the gold standard, reduced to about one-tenth of what they were a year or two ago.

RIVAL CANAL SCHEMES.

Thompson, Eads, and Grant Working for Isthmus Ship Transit Companies.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Ancient Mariner Thompson was before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs again to-day in defence of the De Lesseps canal scheme. The Monroe doctrine simply asserted the independence of States on the American continent from all interference by European powers in the management of their affairs, and with this the Panama canal enterprise did not conflict.

Capt. Eads made a further argument to-day before the House Committee on Interoceanic Canal in support of his plan for an interoceanic ship railroad. He called the attention of the committee to the practicability of the Tehuantepec project for a railroad both for freight and for a force. The Nicaragua route could only be protected by war vessels, as it would be almost impossible to march troops so far from the seaboard in the interior of a country of such character. In response to an inquiry as to the amount of tonnage which would probably come from the Pacific coast, Capt. Eads singled out the one article of wheat, of which there would be exported this year from California 900,000 tons, and from Oregon 200,000. The receipts from that one product, assuming an annual exportation of 1,000,000 tons, would be $5,000,000. He alluded to the material aid which had been granted his enterprise by the Mexican Government. It had given the company 1,000,000 acres of land, a right of way one-half mile wide across the Isthmus, and the right to import free of duty for nineteen years all the materials necessary for the work. He now asked of the United States Government that it should guarantee $30,000,000 of the capital stock necessary to construct the road. It is stated that the majority of the committee are in favor of the Eads railroad company, and think that the Government guarantee asked for would be constitutional. The Mexican concession is regarded by them as a valuable one.

It is stated that Gen. Grant is to be President of the Nicaragua Canal Company, and that Mr. Romero, ex-Mexican Minister, will be its Secretary.

Fears of Another Ice Gorge.

PORT DEPOSIT, Jan 20.—People living on the banks of the Susquehanna River, in the neighborhood of Port Deposit and Havre de Grace, are apprehensive of an ice gorge on the breaking up of the ice in the river, which may be expected in a few days. Old residents say that such an occurrence would be a disaster as calamitous as that of 1873. Ice blocks are sweeping down the river, and, reaching Watkins Island, they separate, and are driven into the narrow channels on either side, where they become fast. The ice is piling up and completely blocking the river.

Workingmen Prohibited from Meeting.

BERLIN, Jan. 20.—The proposed meeting of workmen to protest against the anti-Jewish agitation has been prohibited by the police in virtue of the provisions of the Anti-Socialist law. The prohibition has caused considerable sensation in view of the fact that the Government has not interfered with any of the anti-semitic meetings. Prince Bismarck has again introduced in the Federal Council the bill to establish fortnightly and quadrennial Parliaments. This bill remained in abeyance last year, owing to the press of other business.

Fifteen Thousand Spinners Affected.

LONDON, Jan. 20.—Bolton cotton masters who own almost three-fourths of the spindles of that place will close their mills if the demand of the operatives for an advance of wages is not withdrawn before the end of next week. The dispute affects fifteen thousand operatives. The Blackburn masters have also refused to grant the advance of wages demanded. The Bolton master cotton spinners have refused the application of the operatives for a 5 per cent advance of wages.

BROOKLYN.

There was a sudden decrease yesterday in the number of new cases of diphtheria in Brooklyn, the reported number being only seven. Three fatal cases occurred on Monday. There were twelve new cases of scarlet fever.

On Wednesday Franklin H. Kalbfleish of 117 Colombia Heights, who recently purchased a costly house and had it refitted by the sanitary plumber of the Brooklyn Health Bureau, lost his second child, Pearl Gertrude, aged 15 months, by scarlet fever. The same disease caused the death of another of his children a few days ago.

The John Steele, whose name appeared on the face and back of the forged check for $1,850 recently cashed by the Commercial Bank in Brooklyn for Mrs. Josephine Tran, has never been found, although diligently searched for. Yesterday Justice Pratt granted an order for the seizure of the accused's property upon him by publication in the suit of the bank against Mrs. Tran and others to recover the $1,800 paid.

When Policeman Anderson, of the Bergen street police, arrested Patrick O'Colligan on Grand and Greene avenues, Brooklyn, yesterday, for assaulting a colored man, he was set upon by the prisoner and Monk Shea, a notorious member of the Jackson Hollow gang, who knocked him down and kicked him, inflicting a number of severe bruises. The policeman clung to his prisoner in spite of the assault and held him until assistance came. Monk Shea escaped.

A WONDERFUL BOY.

Master Maurice Dengremont, the Violinist, Crossing Cues with Mr. Jacob Schaefer.

The members of the Crescent Club were astonished the other evening. A delicate-featured boy with soft, luminous eyes was matched against a well-known amateur at a game of billiards. The boy played with extraordinary nerve and verve and easily defeated the amateur. He readily accepted challenges from other members of the club, and won half a dozen games in succession. The lad was Maurice Dengremont, the young Brazilian violinist.

Yesterday he crossed cues with Mr. Jacob Schaefer, the American champion. The game was played in the parlor of the J. M. Brunswick & Balke Co., at 724 Broadway, on one of their finest tables. Messrs. Koster & Bial, Theodore Hermann, the impressario; J. C. Fisher, John Kaughran, Senhor Dengremont, Col. Freeman, Dr. Newhall, and other well-known gentlemen were among the spectators. A dozen ladies were also present. As Master Dengremont entered the parlor, Col. Freeman presented him with a handsome cue, appropriately inscribed. The lad's eyes sparkled with pleasure. He shook hands with Mr. Schaefer, and eyed him with curiosity. They tried to force a conversation; but as Mr. Schaefer spoke in English and Master Dengremont in Portuguese, the effort was not a success. Jacob offered to give the lad fifty points out of a hundred. The offer was readily accepted. The champion played with a favorite cue and on a favorite table. The boy used a new cue with an untried leather tip. He was totally unfamiliar with the table, and seemed a trifle nervous. Jacob drew off his coat, chalked his cue, and advanced to string for the lead. His sharp grey eyes, straight brown hair, low square forehead, sunken cheeks, and parchment-like skin presented a striking contrast to the brilliant eyes, curling black hair, high forehead, and olive cheeks of the wonderful violinist. There was the same contrast in dress. Schaefer wore a Piccadilly collar, broad black scarf, and dark waistcoat and pantaloons. The boy was dressed in a Prince Albert suit, topped by an enormous Byron collar and a checkered scarf, decorated with a costly pearl. A large gold locket swung from his watch chain, and there was a flash of diamonds about him.

The game did not prove especially interesting. Master Dengremont made several miscues, and seemed anxious to play for safety. His open play was remarkable, and he developed an extraordinary delicacy of touch in nursing the balls, although usually slipping up on easy shots. He invariably used his cue through the curved forefinger of his left hand. A more graceful player never stood at a table. He has a quick of play as Schaefer, in a game of speed, exhorted his troops to avoid wanton destruction of property.

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A gentleman who has just arrived in this city from Lima, told a SUN reporter yesterday of the curious effect that the war has produced upon the prices of commodities in Peru. The paper currency of the country has depreciated to such a degree that it takes $11 of that money to buy one of gold; and many articles being purchasable only with gold coin or its equivalent, their cost has been in consequence enormously increased. This is the case with all articles sold by the foreign merchants of the country, they having determined to conduct their business on a coin basis. A pair of shoes, for instance, will cost you the way from $25 to $60 or $70. The gentleman who imparted this information said that the passage for himself and his wife from Callao to New York cost $8,000 in Peruvian currency. Ordinarily the passage would cost in gold for two persons something over $700.

With the exception of the products, however, and with the wages of labor, rents, and hotel and restaurant charges, the case is different. While these have advanced somewhat, the increase has been more trifling in comparison with the depreciation in the currency. Board at the best hotels is not over $4 a day in paper, restaurant charges are in the same proportion, and rents have advanced but slightly. The result of this singular disturbance in the equilibrium of prices is a condition of things decidedly favorable to the foreign mercantile community and to strangers well provided with coin. A shopkeeper offered to sell a lot of silk dresses and get two weeks' board for the same amount at a good hotel, or he will sell a $50 watch for $550, and pay a year's rent of a good house with it.

The experience of a party of officers of the United States war vessel Lackawanna, who took an excellent dinner shortly after their arrival at the best restaurant in Lima, was mentioned in illustration of this peculiar discrepancy. There were six in the party, and they had, besides a very good dinner, several bottles of wine. The bill for the whole entertainment was $60, paper, which they settled by paying less than $15 in gold. The wine alone would have cost more than that in New York.

The native population are compelled to yield to the necessity of the situation, and accept the paper currency without changing their prices in proportion to the market value of the money, but the foreign population refuse to do so. A foreigner going to Lima now with a little gold could live comfortably for a small outlay. He could board at a first-class hotel for 35 cents a day, hire a horse for the same amount, a servant for that much a week, and rent a house for $3 or $4 a month. The Chilian officers whom he met in Lima can get along for the present, since if their rents are cut down so is the cost of food and service; but those who have quit the country in consequence of the Chilian invasion do not fare so well, with their incomes, reckoned by the gold standard, reduced to about one-tenth of what they were a year or two ago.

BALLOTING FOR SENATORS.

Still Skirmishing in Pennsylvania and Tennessee—No Decision.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 20.—The first ballot to-day for United States Senator resulted as follows: Oliver, 91; Grow, 55; Wallace, 92; Snowden, 2; Brewster, 1, MacVeagh, 1; Baird, 1; Agnew, 1. Messrs. Clark and Huhn of Philadelphia, caucus Republicans, who had previously voted for Oliver, voted for A. Louden Snowden. The loss of one each from Grow and Wallace and two from Oliver on the vote of yesterday was due to pairing between Oliver men and Democrats and Grow men. On the second ballot Clark, Town, Barger, and Hazel of Philadelphia, Oliver men, voted for Snowden, and Huhn went back to Oliver. Montgomery of Mercer, a Grow, and Seely, an Oliver man, cast their votes for Hoyt. The ballot then stood: Oliver, 88; Grow, 54; Wallace, 92; Snowden, 4; Brewster, 1; MacVeagh, 1; Baird, 1; Agnew, 1; Hoyt, 2.

These diversions indicate only the desire of a few individuals to skirmish. There is as yet no decided break in the lines. The convention adjourned until to-morrow. Meanwhile members are much exercised over the Attorney-General's opinion that they have to meet on Saturday and Monday and ballot, as they have been in the habit of adjourning and taking a free ride to Philadelphia on Friday afternoons, returning for a session on Monday evening. There have been rumors all day of conferences to be held to-night between leading representatives of the Democrats and of the different Republican factions, but no material change in the present situation is expected this week.

NASHVILLE, Jan. 20.—Upon the reassembling of both branches of the General Assembly in joint convention this morning, Mr. R. R. Butler, the Republican leader, moved an adjournment until noon, his object being to dissolve the convention, so that the House could take up the Stewart contested case. Considerable opposition was made to the motion by Democrats, and for nearly an hour and a half there was a heated discussion between members of both parties, which was ended by a victory for the Republicans, adjournment being authorized by a majority of two, and the Speaker ruling that debate was out of order.

At 12 the Houses reconvened in joint session. Upon the first ballot, the fifth taken so far in all, Maynard received 38; Bate, 24; Bailey, 23; Harrison, 1; Bailey, 1; Edwards, 1; Wilson, 1; Smith, 1; and R. L. Taylor, 3. Another ballot, on which Bate gained three votes and Maynard lost two and Bailey two, was taken, and the convention took a recess until 2½ this afternoon.

Five ballots were taken in the afternoon; Maynard received 35 on the first, 33 on the second, 35 on the third, 33 on the fourth, and 35 on the fifth. Bate gained one on each ballot, except the fourth, when he lost one. Bailey lost four on the first ballot, two on the second, and one on the fifth. The Democrats prevented the bringing up of the question of Stewart's right to a seat by leaving the hall and causing an adjournment until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THE NAVAL BILL.

An Immense Number of Officers, but Very Few Ships in which to Put them.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—The Naval Appropriation bill was passed by the House to-day exactly as it came from the committee. It appropriates $14,461,000, a net increase of $85,000 over the appropriation bill for the present year. The principal items of increase are $125,000 for the pay of the navy and $13,000 for the Marine Corps. The principal item of decrease in the appropriation is for torpedoes.

During the debate, Mr. Reagan (Dem., Tex.) called attention to the enormous number of officers connected with the service and the size of the pay roll, although there were only forty-three vessels afloat.

Mr. Hiscock (Rep., N. Y.), Chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, admitted that there were too many officers in the navy, and thought that the number might be reduced without injury. The Naval Affairs had made the effort to reorganize the navy, but the action had not met with the concurrence of the House. He believed that the incoming administration ought to reorganize the navy. The Democratic party had no navy, and commence to build, from the bottom up, such a one as the country needed.

Mr. Hewitt (Rep., N. Y.) endeavored, without success, to have increased from $800,000 to $1,000,000 the appropriation for the Bureau of Steam Engineering. Mr. Atkins (Dem., Tenn.), who was in charge of the bill, said that there was no use in increasing the appropriations to patch up old hulks, and the House agreed with him.

The Death of Father Payten.

The Rev. Charles F. Payten, assistant pastor of St. Agnes's Church, Forty-third street and Lexington avenue, died on Thursday morning of bronchitis at the residence of his parents, 155 Henry street. Father Payten was born in this city on Dec. 19, 1853. He got his early education at the Jesuit school in Sixteenth street, and was graduated at the Jesuit College, Georgetown, D. C. In October, 1873, he went to Rome, where he studied for four years in the American College. He was ordained in May, 1877, in the great cathedral of St. John Lateran, by Cardinal Reisach, and the next day celebrated his first mass at the Tomb of the Apostles, a small chapel under the high altar of St. Peter's. His parents and a large delegation of friends from this country were present to witness the ceremonies. After an extensive tour through Italy, France, and Ireland, he returned to Rome and devoted a year to study. In September, 1879, he returned to this city and was assigned by the Cardinal to St. Agnes's Church, where he remained until May of last year, when he was taken ill. A journey to Aiken, S. C., failed to benefit him, and his health gradually failed until his death. He is the only son of Joseph P. Payten, a well-known real estate dealer in the Seventh Ward.

Burning a Barn for Spite.

About two weeks ago James Ackerman, a farmer near Paterson, was in Newark with a load of apples, and a young man named George Harvey applied to him for employment. Liking the looks of the young man, Mr. Ackerman engaged him to work for his board during the winter, with the understanding that he should receive wages in the spring if he did his work satisfactorily. Harvey did his work well, and Mr. Ackerman was pleased with him; but he took a dislike to Mrs. Ackerman, because she made him get up early in the morning. Yesterday morning Mrs. Ackerman called him at 6 o'clock, and ordered him to go out and feed the cattle. He went out grumbling, drove the cattle into the cattle barn, fastened them in, and set fire to the hay in the second story. The building was destroyed. The loss is only $300.

Harvey, who is in jail, confesses the crime. He says he did it purposely, and is satisfied that he did it from spite on Mrs. Ackerman. He says that only for his regard for Mr. Ackerman he would have set fire to the big barn; but he did not want to cause him too much loss, and so he drove the cattle out before applying the match.

Dr. Loring Eulogizes Massachusetts.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—In the House to-day Mr. Calkins (Rep., Ind.) called up the contested election case of Boynton agt. Loring, from the sixth Congressional District of Massachusetts. The report of the majority of the Committee on Elections, signed by Republicans and Democrats, declares that Dr. Loring is entitled to retain his seat. The report of the minority, signed by Mr. Weaver (Greenback, Iowa), is in favor of the contestant. The only object for taking up the case seemed to be to allow Dr. Loring to make a speech glorifying Massachusetts, whose fair name, he said, had been aspersed by the minority report. The speech was a good one, which Dr. Loring ought to be able to use effectively at agricultural fairs hereafter. As soon as he got through the House, without acting, took a recess until evening.

BRIEF MENTION.

Secretary.—Gen. Clingman is at the Riggs House, Washington.

There will be a 25-mile skating race for the amateur championship of America on Saturday evening, at the Windsor Skating Rink, Eighth avenue and Fifty-sixth street.

The new band of the Seventy-first Regiment, under the leadership of Mr. Joyce, will give a concert in Chickering Hall early in February, the profits to go toward paying the expenses of the regiment's trip to New Orleans.

Mr. William Belden's steam yacht Yosemite was put into commission yesterday. Since her arrival in this city, while lying at Roach's dock, she has been fitted out in the most luxurious fashion. She will go out in a few days.

The revival meetings conducted by Mr. Chubbuck in Dr. Tyng's church have continued with success during the past two weeks. Services will be held every evening at 7½ in the basement, entrance on Forty-second street or Madison avenue.

The Richmond County Grand Jury has found an indictment against Capt. Richard Johnson, the steamboat pilot who was accused some time ago of insulting ladies in New Brighton. He was required to furnish $2,500 bail to appear for trial in February.

On Saturday last a large party of men started out to search, under the guidance of a spiritualist from Kingston, for Wm. Lucas, who disappeared from his home in Fersmith, some ten days ago. Lucas was found in the snow banks around Montrose for some time they gave up the search.

The report of the standing committee of the Board of Supervisors of Westchester County regarding the acts of the superintendent of the Penitentiary for the year ending Oct. 31, 1880, shows that there have been overcharges amounting to about $250 for carrying persons from the county house to asylums.

At the annual meeting of the stockholds of the Bleecker Street and Fulton Ferry Railroad Company last evening the